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University of London

REPORTS

FROM

COMMISSIONERS:

TWENTY-FOUR VOLUMES.

—*(14.)*—

ELECTIONS (REIGATE BOROUGH).

Session

5 February —— 21 *August* 1867.

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TWENTY-FOUR VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

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N.B.—*THE* Figures *at the* beginning of the line, *correspond with the* N° *at the foot of each* Report; *and the* Figures *at the* end of the line, *refer to the* MS. Paging *of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

ELECTIONS (REIGATE BOROUGH):

[3774.] REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS appointed to inquire into the existence of CORRUPT PRACTICES at the last ELECTION for the BOROUGH of REIGATE, together with the MINUTES of EVIDENCE - - - - - - - - - - - p. 1

REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONERS

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO

THE EXISTENCE OF CORRUPT PRACTICES AT THE LAST ELECTION

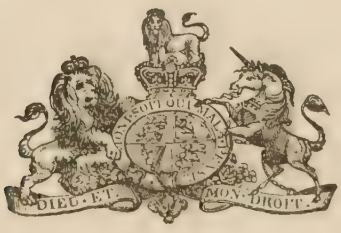
FOR THE

BOROUGH OF REIGATE;

TOGETHER WITH THE

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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COMMISSION

TO INQUIRE INTO THE

EXISTENCE OF CORRUPT PRACTICES AT THE LAST ELECTION FOR THE BOROUGH OF REIGATE.

VICTORIA R.

Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith :

To Our trusty and well-beloved Thomas Allen, Esquire, Frederick James Smith, Esquire, and Michael William O'Brien, Esquire, Sergeant-at-Law, greeting :

Whereas the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled, have by a joint Address humbly represented unto Us that a Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to try a Petition complaining of an undue Election and Return for the Borough of Reigate, have reported to the House that corrupt practices have extensively prevailed in the last Election for the said Borough, and have humbly prayed that We will be graciously pleased to cause Inquiry to be made pursuant to the provisions of the Act of Parliament passed in the sixteenth year of Our reign, intituled " An Act to provide for " more effectual Inquiry into the Existence of Corrupt Practices at Elections for Members " to serve in Parliament," by the appointment of you, the said Thomas Allen, Frederick James Smith, and Michael William O'Brien, as Commissioners for the purpose of making Inquiry into the existence of such corrupt practices :

Know ye, that We, in compliance with the Prayer of the said joint Address, have authorized and appointed, and do by these Presents in pursuance of the powers vested in Us by the said Act, authorize and appoint you, the said Thomas Allen, Frederick James Smith, and Michael William O'Brien, to be Commissioners for the purpose of making inquiry under the said Act into the existence of such corrupt practices in the said joint Address referred to.

Given at our Court at Saint James's, the Sixteenth day of June One thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, in the Twenty-ninth Year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,

G. GREY.

REPORT.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

1. We the Commissioners, whose names are hereto subscribed, having been appointed under Your Majesty's Royal Sign Manual to inquire into the existence of corrupt practices at the last election for the borough of Reigate, and having completed the inquiry, humbly submit this our Report to Your Majesty.

2. The Commission was opened by us in the town-hall at Reigate on the 22nd of August, 1866, and was continued day by day (with the exception of an interval of adjournment from the 28th of September to the 29th of October) up to the 31st of October, when, as regards the examination of witnesses, it was closed.

3. The borough of Reigate is an ancient borough, and up to the passing of the Reform Bill in 1832 used to return two members to Parliament; since then it has returned but one. There were at that time not more than 152 electors in the borough, but of late years their number has considerably increased; in 1861 the electors were 697, the population being about 10,000; and in 1865 the number of electors on the register was 912, and the population estimated at 12,000.

4. The limits of the borough and parish of Reigate are the same; but the borough is divided into two parts, one called the "Old Borough," the other called "Reigate Foreign," which includes the Redhill railway station and most of the houses built in connexion with it. To the establishment of the railway the increase in the population and large extension of the number of electors are mainly owing, as many London merchants have in consequence become residents at Reigate, and many of the railway officials and workmen inhabit houses within the borough, and thereby obtain a qualification to vote. There are no freemen in the borough, the register consisting exclusively of householders.

5. From 1857, down to the last election in 1865, the electors were apparently subject to no intimidation or local influence, and so far as concerns the election of the members of Parliament the expression used by one of the witnesses of long electioneering experience was borne out by the evidence,—"Bribery is all we fear, for intimidation, that is gone from Reigate, and so is landlords' influence."[a]

[a] Job Apted's evidence, p. 614.

6. The following list shows the dates of the several elections into which we inquired, together with the names of the candidates and number of electors on the register, and votes polled at each election:—

—	Candidates.	Votes polled.	Electors.	Returned.	Majority.
Feb. 1858 -	Rawlinson - -	212	505	Rawlinson -	94
	Monson - -	116			
	Doulton - -	95			
	Wilkinson - -	—			
	Walters - -	—			
Oct. 1858 -	Monson - -	225	505	Monson -	15
	Wilkinson - -	210			
1859 - -	Monson - -	260	548	Monson -	99
	Wilkinson - -	161			
1863 - -	Gower - -	346	737	Gower -	13
	Wilkinson - -	333			
1865 - -	Gower - -	473	912	Gower -	197
	Monson - -	276			
	Richardson -	11			

7. With the view of ascertaining the nature and extent of the corrupt practices reported by a Committee of the House of Commons to have prevailed at the election of 1865, we felt it our duty to call before us nearly 500 witnesses, and, in prosecuting the early part of our inquiry, encountered considerable difficulty in our endeavours to draw from them the information we had reason to believe they could supply touching the bribery and treating which had taken place at that election.

8. In pursuance of "The Corrupt Practices Prevention Acts," Mr. Smith, solicitor, was appointed by Mr. Gower, and Mr. Hart, solicitor, by Mr. Monson, as their respective agents at the election, and from them we received accounts in detail of the monies that had been expended by them on either side with reference to the contest of 1865; and by means of the clue afforded us by these accounts we were enabled to trace out the intermediate or sub-agents, through whose hands disbursements had been made, the purposes for, or the pretences under which, they were made, and the names of the voters to whom the money, so disbursed, found its way.

9. With respect to the election contest of 1863, the death of Mr. Wilkinson, who then contested the borough against Mr. Gower, and of his agent, Mr. James, shut out from us the means of discovering and following out in detail the manner in which the large sum of 3,150*l.* had been expended on his side; but sufficient came out during the inquiry to satisfy us that the agencies employed on his behalf were of the same corrupt character as those found to have been brought into play in 1865.

10. As to the general election of 1859, and the elections of October and February 1858, we came in the course of our inquiry upon numerous broad and distinct marks of the existence of bribery and treating at one and all of these election contests.

11. At the election of February 1858, a few days before the nomination a ballot was proposed in order to determine which of three of the candidates, Mr. Doulton, Mr. Wilkinson, or Mr. Ralph Walters, should be selected to fight the battle against the Hon. Mr. Monson (now Lord Monson) and Sir Henry Rawlinson, and as soon as balloting tickets were issued, men were sent round to buy them up, and were detected in the act.[a] From that election we found the influence of corrupt practices becoming more and more active and powerful every succeeding contested election up to the last occasion on which the voters of Reigate had the opportunity of exercising the franchise.

[a] Truman's evidence, p. 855.

12. At the election 1865 the expenses returned by Mr. Smith, and published by the Returning Officer, on the part of Mr. Gower, amounted to 1,356*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*; but the actual expenses incurred and paid were 600*l.* in excess of that amount, and in his return a large portion of these expenses was alleged to have been paid as fees to canvassing sub-agents taken from the tradesmen voters of the borough, but the account purporting to specify the application of these payments was framed in such a manner as to disguise their real character, and keep out of view the mode in which, in many instances, the money had been expended. We succeeded, however, in tracing, through the payments to voters and for other purposes incidental to the election, the expenditure of all the monies charged in Mr. Smith's account; but we found in the course of the inquiry that it was by no means an adequate measure of the corrupt practices adopted on behalf of Mr. Gower, as it was proved by several of his voters, who were examined, that they had been promised sums of money as inducements to vote, and that, having voted, they could afterwards obtain from his agent or sub-agents, in many cases only a portion, and sometimes no part at all, of the monies so promised, the dread in the first instance, and subsequently the pendency of that petition which unseated Mr. Gower, being alleged as the reason for postponing the day of final settlement. An instance was brought before us of a voter who, smarting under such treatment, had sued one of the sub-agents in the county court, not in the hope of being able to sustain his claim as a legal debt, but for the purpose of exposing the system of deception which had been practised upon himself and others. "I thought," said the witness, "that I would go through the form (of suing), "and expose the practices of Apted, Joyes, Buckland, and Smith. I thought it would "be a means of opening the eyes of many persons who were in the borough and "unacquainted with it."[b]

[b] Mitchell's evidence, p. 94.

13. Mr. Monson's expenses returned by his agent, Mr. Hart, and published by the Returning Officer, were 1,232*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*; but the actual expenses were 1,367*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*; over and above that amount Mr. Monson advanced, on account of the election, the large sum of 1,730*l.* to a Mr. James Nichols, who was not his duly appointed agent, and whose name and address were not declared in writing to the Returning Officer on or before the day of nomination,[c] in contravention of "The Corrupt Practices Prevention Acts,"[d] which prohibit any advance of money by a candidate to any person other than an agent duly appointed in pursuance of those Acts.

[c] Monson's evidence, p. 883.

[d] 26 & 27 Vict. c. 29. s. 2.

14. On Mr. Monson's side the system of engaging and paying voters as sub-agents and canvassers was similar, but the payments were on a higher scale, and made only in a few instances through his agent, Mr. Hart. Mr. Monson, at the earliest date at which the

event of a general election became probable, put himself, or was brought into communication with Mr. James Nichols, an elector holding various offices and possessing considerable influence in the borough,[a] to whom, without the knowledge of Mr. Hart, he from time to time advanced various sums of money amounting, in the whole, to 1,730*l.*, and in a manner further referred to in a subsequent part of this our Report.

[a] Nichols's evidence, p. 716.

15. For the mode in which that sum of 1,730*l.* was expended we were dependent on the recollection of Mr. Nichols, aided by that of some of the persons who had received money from him before, during, and after the election. No account, in any shape, of the monies so received, nor of the monies he paid away, appeared to have been kept by him; neither voucher nor receipt was produced before us, and from the evidence of Mr. Nichols and Mr. Monson we find that no account of that large expenditure was ever asked for by Mr. Monson, or by any one on his behalf, and no account of it was ever rendered by Mr. Nichols.

16. When before us as a witness Mr. Nichols made[b] the following statement from a paper purporting to show the way in which nearly all of the 1,730*l.* had been applied by him:—

[b] Nichols's evidence, p. 720.

Dr.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Total amount trust - -	1,730	0	0
	£1,730	0	0
Deadman - - -	7	10	0
T. Steer - - -	15	0	0
Harman - } (in pencil)	5	0	0
Finch - - }	10	0	0
37*l.* 10*s.* (in pencil).			

Cr.		£	*s.*	*d.*
Self - - - - -		210	0	0
Langridge - - -	180*l.* to	210	0	0
Francis - - - -		60	0	0
Corderoy - - - -		80	0	0
Apted - - - - -		80	0	0
Ireland - - - -		45	0	0
Read - - - - -		50	0	0
Holdsworth - - - -		60	0	0
Moody - - - - -		30	0	0
Wallis - - - - -		25	0	0
Jordan - - - - -		130	0	0
Rose - - - - -		21	0	0
Grutchfield - - - -		15	0	0
Turner - - - - -		7	10	0
Bolster - - - - -		2	0	0
Houlton - - - - -		5	0	0
Westlake - - - - -		4	10	0
Barker - - - - -		10	0	0
Specials - - - - -		110	0	0
Gilbert - - - - -		5	0	0
Fuller - - - - -		5	0	0
Ridge - - - - -		50	0	0
Clark - - - - -		35	0	0
Cotton - - - - -		12	0	0
Howell - - - - -		15	0	0
J. Brown - - - -		10	0	0
Woodhouse - - - -		3	0	0
Kenward - - - -		5	0	0
Woodman - - - -		35	0	0
Cook, (in pencil 8*l.* 10*s.*) - -		6	10	0
Miller - - - - -		25	0	0
Heather - - - -		7	0	0
Buck - - - - -		7	10	0
Sheppard - - - -		10	0	0
Sheppard - - - -		9	0	0
Atkinson - - - -		8	0	0
Carden & Co. - - -		12	0	0
A. Joyes - - - -		20	0	0
Upton - - - - -		1	0	0
Steer - - - - -		50	0	0
"Grapes," refreshment - -		119	13	1
	£	1,647	13	1
		37	10	0
		1,685	3	1
	(in pencil)	50	0	0
		1,635	3	1

17. Upon referring to Mr. Hart's account of Mr. Monson's election expenses, we found that several of those persons, set down in the above statement as having received money from Mr. Nichols, had sent in election bills to Mr. Hart, and were paid by him such

amounts as he, in going through those bills with Mr. Nichols, deemed it to be fair and reasonable.

	£	s.		£	s.
James Brown - -	5	0	Alfred Joyes - -	4	19
Thomas Cook - -	2	0	Thomas Jordan - -	15	0
Thomas Corderoy - -	12	0	Joseph Kenward - -	5	0
Henry Francis - -	5	0	William Langridge -	44	14
George Grutchfield -	5	0	Robert Miller - -	8	10
Henry Heather - -	5	0	James Nichols - -	105	0
Thomas Ireland - -	7	10	Robert Ridge - -	10	0

and these sums were paid by Mr. Hart to the persons above mentioned in ignorance of the fact that they had received any money from Mr. Nichols on Mr. Monson's behalf.

18. Some of the items in Mr. Nichols's account represent alleged payments for canvassing; some, monies advanced to be paid away to voters, and it will be seen that in it he has taken credit (independently of the 100 guineas paid him by Mr. Hart after the election) with a payment to "self" of 210*l.*, which he stated was for remuneration for his trouble in getting up a requisition inviting Mr. Monson to become a candidate for the representation of the borough. Such an appropriation Mr. Monson repudiated; it was made without his knowledge or authority, and the first occasion on which he had heard of it was when Mr. Nichols produced his detailed statement before us.[a]

[a] Monson's evidence, p. 885.

19. With regard to two other payments for which Mr. Nichols takes credit, namely, "Ireland, 45*l.*," and "Miller, 25*l.*," we found that both these men were dead before Mr. Nichols's statement was prepared; and upon our examination of their widows we had ample grounds for concluding that no such sums had ever been paid by Mr. Nichols; and that, as respects the payments made to Ireland or Miller on account of Mr. Monson, they had been made by Mr. Hart, as appeared by his account and the vouchers produced by him.[b c]

[b] Mrs. Miller's evidence, p. 842.
[c] Mrs. Ireland's evidence, p. 840.

20. Mr. Nichols charges Mr. Monson with 110*l.* for "specials." These "specials" were neither voters, nor in any way connected with the borough, but men usually known under the designation of "*roughs*," collected from the neighbouring towns, and hired to swell the mob, increase the show of hands at the nomination, and attend the proceedings on the polling day.[d]

[d] Nichols's evidence, p. 724.

21. One other head of the alleged expenditure appears to us deserving of notice. Mr. Nichols, in accounting for the mode in which the money was used in the business of the election, stated that he had, with Mr. Monson's knowledge and sanction, advanced monies to voters to satisfy alleged outstanding election claims, these claims having been repudiated by the agents of the respective candidates at previous elections; and it was proved that Mr. Nichols had in one instance paid a voter named Clark 10*l.* which Mr. Smith, Mr. Gower's agent in 1863, had, on his part, refused to allow; and that 30*l.* out of 50*l.* advanced to a voter named Ridge was appropriated to satisfy claims arising, as alleged, from elections as far back as 1858. Mr. Monson when examined did not deny that statement.[e]

[e] Mr. Monson's evidence, pp. 884–5.

22. These, with other facts, seem to account for the adoption of a contrivance, by means of which Mr. Monson was enabled to transfer to Mr. Nichols the sum of 1,730*l.* without leaving a trace of its passage from the one to the other in the bankers' books of either. The contrivance was this,—cheques payable to "self" were drawn by Mr. Monson on his private banker, and in every instance, except one, were handed to Mr. Nichols, who cashed them, paying the proceeds into his private bankers. The exception was in respect of one cheque for 500*l.* drawn a few days before the election to the "order" of Mr. John Humphrey, which was handed by him to Mr. Nichols, and then cashed in the same way as the others. Mr. Nichols, upon being pressed for an explanation, admitted "it was a "blind, and a bad one."[f]

[f] Nichols's evidence, p. 727.

23. These circumstances satisfy us that from the outset of the contest Mr. Monson's hopes of success were based upon the effect which a large and reckless expenditure of money would produce upon a corrupt constituency; and that he knew, or wilfully kept himself in ignorance of, the uses to which Mr. Nichols was applying the monies advanced to him.

24. A fact which throws considerable light on the proceedings of this election is this: On the eve of the nomination it was arranged between Mr. Monson, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Nichols that Mr. Richardson should be put up as a third candidate, and he accordingly

went to the poll and obtained 11 votes. Mr. Richardson explained [a] that this was done in accordance with advice which Mr. Monson had obtained from London in these words, "Under the circumstances you had better put up a third party you can trust, and then "we can work the petition after." The expenses attending Mr. Richardson's candidature were defrayed by Mr. Hart, and charged by him to Mr. Monson.

[a] Richardson's evidence, p. 743.

25. Of the voters who were proved to have received in 1865, or to have been promised money for their services and votes, or for services which were merely colourable, the number was 346. Of these so bribed 220 were householders below 15*l.*, 76 between 15*l.* and 20*l.*, and 50 above 20*l.* a year rental.

26. The following Table shows that, of the number so bribed, 104 were tradesmen, and 242 mechanics and labourers receiving daily or weekly wages.

Voters who polled (1865), 760.	Householders from £10 to £15 Rental.	Householders from £15 to £20 Rental.	Householders from £20 and upwards Rental.	Total bribed.
Voters bribed - - -	220	76	50	346
Tradesmen - - -	104 -			
Persons receiving daily or weekly wages -	242 -	- - -	- - -	346

27. In 1863 the electors numbered 737; and it was stated to us by several witnesses that there had been much more treating and bribery at that election than in 1865. We did not, however, bring bribery home to more than 161 of the voters on that occasion, but length of time, changes of residence, deaths, and other causes prevented us from probing the corruption of the borough so deeply as in 1865. Very few witnesses were brought before us to give evidence as to that election exclusively; the cases of bribery proved having been principally elicited from those voters who were examined as to the election of 1865.

28. Of the voters who were proved to have been bribed in 1863, nearly all, except the sub-agents, were householders of from 10*l.* to 15*l.* a year rental; on that occasion the election cost Mr. Gower, the successful candidate, about 2,500*l.*, and Mr. Wilkinson over 3,100*l.*, though the constituency was less than in 1865. "That election," said Mr. Smith, Mr. Gower's agent, "was more expensive than this last; it cost Mr. Gower about 2,500*l.* Refreshments were very heavy indeed; then I took every committee room I could; the sub-agents paid money away, and were paid by me as much as in 1865, but more systematically; I paid the men employed weekly." [b] Although the death of Mr. Wilkinson and of his agent, Mr. James, rendered it difficult for us to arrive at his exact expenditure at that election, the character of the bribery on his part was sufficiently evident from one fact, amongst others, stated by Mr. Frederick Joyes, that Mr. James, under the disguise of "gingerbread," which, he told him, was to be found on the mantelpiece of the committee room at the "Swan" hotel, gave him on the morning of the polling day 100*l.*, which Mr. Joyes immediately disposed of in the purchasing of votes for Mr. Wilkinson. [c] After this election a petition containing allegations of bribery and other illegal practices was presented against Mr. Gower's return, and was withdrawn upon terms arranged between his and Mr. Wilkinson's agents.

[b] Smith's evidence, p. 693.

[c] Joyes's evidence, p. 667.

29. At the general election of 1859 Mr. W. A. Wilkinson and the Hon. Edward Monson, now Lord Monson, were the candidates, but Mr. Wilkinson did not appear in person, and was nominated without his knowledge. Out of 421 electors who voted, 19 only (for the reasons before stated) were proved before us to have been bribed. One significant circumstance, however, was stated in connexion with that election. An elector consented to vote without being paid, provided his doing so was kept a secret, he himself stating that he should be ashamed of having done so if it were known. [d] The contest of October 1858, between the same candidates, had been a severe one. The number then polled was 435, of whom 21 were proved to have been bribed. At both these elections voters were employed as sub-agents and canvassers who paid money to other voters; and the offence of treating was proved to have been systematically and extensively committed.

[d] Job Apted's evidence, p. 621.

30. We now come to the earliest election into which we inquired, that of February 1858. This election was contested at the poll by Sir Henry Rawlinson, the Hon. Edward Monson, and Mr. Doulton. Although only 33 voters were proved to have been then bribed, yet several of the witnesses gave evidence to the effect that it was at that election

bribery "took its rise" in the borough of Reigate; and the proceedings proved before us were sufficient to justify that view, as they were such as to initiate the system if it had been before unknown in the borough. It was stated by Mr. Job Apted, that when Mr. Doulton was introduced to them as a candidate he announced that he meant "to buy the borough, whether or no," adding that he "had money, and meant to use it." This statement Mr. Doulton, upon his examination, denied. Mr. Truman and Mr. Murphy, acting on Mr. Doulton's behalf, employed all the voters they could as messengers, canvassers, bill stickers, and board carriers, and paid them regularly every week from the beginning to the end of the election.

31. Of the election of 1857 it is not necessary to say more than that no evidence was placed before us sufficient to prove that corrupt practices had then prevailed, and consequently our inquiry extended no further than the earliest election in 1858.

32. There seemed but one opinion as to the gross and general venality of the borough at the two last elections. "I asked persons for their votes," said one canvasser who was employed on Mr. Monson's side in 1865, "but you might as well have asked them for their lives unless you had money to give them;"[a] and he added in reference to the previous election in 1863, "money was more plentiful in 1863 than in 1865, and there was considerably more drinking."

[a] Barker's evidence, p. 399.

33. The principal system adopted with regard to bribery was this:—The agent of each candidate employed as sub-agents some of the tradesmen voters, to each of whom a large fee was paid. These sub-agents then "put on" voters, and paid them sums varying from 2*l.* to 10*l.* for services which were admitted in almost every instance to be merely colourable, consisting, as many of them stated, in "doing nothing." Sometimes the amount was fixed beforehand, and sometimes left to be fixed by the sub-agents after the election. When the sum was fixed, a portion was paid before polling, and the residue withheld till after in order to make more sure of the vote. This arrangement led to the result proved before us in many instances, that voters who were "put on" received money from both sides, under the pretext of doing work for each.

34. The placing of voters' names on the list of committee-men was made another source of bribery. The published lists on both sides, in 1865, were exceedingly numerous, being composed of all classes of voters. Many of them we examined, and we found that a large portion were mechanics and labourers, who, with few exceptions, were paid, or promised payment, for their "services on the committee,"[b] such "services" forming a mere plausible excuse for the purchasing of votes.

[b] Harsent's evidence, p. 223. Cheyney's evidence, p. 294.

35. This was further illustrated by the proceedings of the voters who were employed on the railways at Redhill. It was proved that four or five weeks before the polling day 24 out of the 30 who were voters and employed on the railways agreed to be put on Mr. Monson's committee at the rate of 30*s.* a week; and for three successive weeks an amount of money sufficient to pay them was furnished by Mr. James Nichols out of the funds which had been supplied to him by Mr. Monson. At the end of that time, and as the day of election drew near, they caused it to be communicated to Mr. Nichols that they were dissatisfied with the amount of the "wages" they were receiving, and demanded, as a condition of the continuance of their support, a promise that he would make their so-called "wages" amount altogether to 8*l.* a head, and upon his refusal to accede to their terms one of them, with the knowledge and sanction of the rest, waited upon Mr. Gower's committee, saw Mr. Job Apted, and offered to treat with him for the disposal of their votes; but, after a conference with other members of the committee, Mr. Apted declined to enter into negotiation with them, adding as a reason that it would not be prudent nor safe, in the then state of things, to treat with so large a body of voters. These men, including clerks, engine-drivers, stokers, and labourers, were at the time in constant employment upon the railway and in the receipt of high wages.

36. Another feature in reference to bribery at the Reigate elections was this, that mechanics and labourers, who were voters, and who for their ordinary day's labour were earning wages at the rate of from 3*s.* to 6*s.* a day, were accustomed to claim and be paid for their alleged "loss of time" when attending the nomination and polling remuneration at the rate of 1*l.* a day, though such payments were not specified in the agents' accounts returned and published under the provisions of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Acts. The agents and sub-agents who contrived and sanctioned the system of paying for fictitious services were, in most instances, perfectly aware of its extent and illegal character; but it was not proved that the candidates were made acquainted with the *full* extent to which it was being carried on. In no instance was any one employed as a canvasser who

was not a voter, and the conclusion was forced upon us, as well by the evidence as the demeanour of the witnesses, that nearly all those concerned in this practice of "putting on" voters, whether agents, canvassers, or voters, well knew that the one class was engaged in buying, and the other in selling, votes.

37. The evidence given by a voter named Russell furnishes an apt illustration of the manner in which this corrupt traffic in votes was carried on between the sub-agents and voters. At the approach of the election Russell publicly announced that whichever party would buy an old cannon (which then lay buried in a ditch in Reigate Park), should have his vote; and after some bargaining as to the price between him and the district sub-agents of both candidates, he agreed to accept 6*l.* from Mr. Gower's party, and that sum being paid, he voted accordingly. Mr. Durrant, one of Mr. Gower's sub-agents, with full knowledge of the fact, paid the money through the hands of a voter named Williams, and in his account with Mr. Smith (Mr. Gower's agent), set down that sum as money paid for Williams's services as a canvasser during the election.[a]

[a] Russell's evidence, pp. 304–5.

38. As a further instance of the character of this "putting on" voters as canvassers, we have the fact that when the election contest of 1865 was at its height a deputation of Mr. Gower's sub-agents had an interview with him and some members of his committee, and stated that he was "starving the election," and that unless he advanced them 500*l.* to enable them to put on more voters, and thereby counteract the efforts then being made on the other side to secure votes by the same means, the election would be lost. Mr. Gower refused to comply with their demands, but on the following day Mr. Smith, after consulting with the committee, advanced to these sub-agents, to carry out their views, the sum of 100*l.*

39. A few days before this occurred Mr. Gower, at a numerous meeting in the town-hall, had declared "that all those who worked for him should be paid;" a statement that appeared to have had considerable influence upon several voters in creating expectations of employment and money. Mr. Gower's explanation was, that he intended, by making that statement, to discourage fictitious employment, and regretted he had been misunderstood. The fact that in 1863, when Mr. Gower successfully contested the borough against Mr. Wilkinson, the same system of "putting on" voters had prevailed and had been made the groundwork of a petition against his return, coupled with its withdrawal upon terms arranged between Mr Gower's and Mr. Wilkinson's agents, is significant in this, that before 1865 Mr. Gower had had the opportunity and the motive for making himself acquainted with the nature of the means which were being employed to secure his return at the last election. In the subsequent October, however, long after the account of Mr. Gower's election expenses had been finally closed, returned by Mr. Smith, and duly published by the Returning Officer, these sub-agents pressed Mr. Smith for more money to enable them to fufil the promises they had made before the election to pay voters for work done as canvassers or committee-men and for their own services; thereupon Mr. Smith applied to Mr. Gower, who furnished him with 500*l.*, which was distributed among the sub-agents, and by them appropriated to satisfy their own claims and in payment or part payment of some of the voters, to whom promises of money had been made for their fictitious services and claims.

40. But these were not the only forms in which corrupt practices were resorted to for the purpose of stifling freedom of election in Reigate. Hotels, public houses, and beer shops were opened and kept open for weeks previous to the different contests between February 1858 and July 1865, and a system of treating voters and their friends was carried on with the keenest rivalry on the part of the respective candidates. It was there the main battle of the election was fought; and it was almost impossible but that in the course of their canvass the candidates must have had it brought to their knowledge, in one way or another, that the "offence of treating" was generally prevalent throughout the borough.

It remains now for us humbly to submit to Your Majesty the conclusions at which we have arrived:

1. We find that bribery and treating extensively prevailed at the election in February 1858.

2. We find that bribery and treating extensively prevailed at the election in October 1858.

3. We find that bribery and treating prevailed at the election in 1859.

4. We find that bribery and treating *extensively* prevailed at the election in 1863.

5. We find that a sum of about 2,500*l.* was paid by Mr. Gower to his agent, Mr. Smith, for the purposes of the election in 1863, and that part of that sum was expended by him, with the knowledge of Mr. Gower, in bribery and treating.

6. We find that a sum of about 3,100*l.* was paid by Mr. A. Wilkinson to his agent, Mr. James, in 1863, and that a large portion of that sum was expended by him, with the knowledge of Mr. Wilkinson, in bribery and treating.

7. We find that bribery and treating *extensively* prevailed at the election in 1865; that of the 760 who voted at that election 346 were bribed; that of that number 296 were occupiers of houses not exceeding 20*l.* a year rental.

8. We find that a sum of nearly 2,000*l.* was paid by Mr. Gower to his agent, Mr. Smith, and that part of that sum was expended by him, with the knowledge of Mr. Gower, in bribery; that 500*l.*, forming part of the 2,000*l.*, was knowingly paid by Mr. Gower three months after the election to Mr. Smith, partly in discharge and partly in repayment of money expended in bribery at the election in 1865.

9. We find that a sum of 1,376*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* was advanced by Mr. Monson to his agent, Mr. Hart, for the purposes of the election in 1865.

10. We find that a sum of 1,730*l.* was advanced on account and in respect of the election in 1865 by Mr. Monson to Mr. James Nichols, who was not his duly constituted agent, and whose name and address were not declared in writing to the Returning Officer on or before the day of nomination; that this sum was expended by Mr. Nichols, with the knowledge of Mr. Monson, in bribery and treating.[a]

[a] Monson's evidence, pp. 881–5.

11. We find that at the elections in 1863 and 1865 Job Heath Apted, James Apted, Thomas Barker, Thomas Corderoy, David Durrant, Charles Emery, Henry Green, William Holdsworth, Thomas Jordan, Frederick Joyes, Joseph Kenward, William Langridge, James Mazden, James Nichols, Ephraim Rose, and John Shepherd were the persons principally engaged in bringing the poorer classes of voters in the borough of Reigate under the influence of these corrupt practices.

12. We find that the persons named in Schedule A. to this our Report annexed were guilty of bribery at one or more of the elections by receiving money or other valuable consideration for having given, or to induce them to give, or to refrain from giving, their votes.

13. We find that the persons named in Schedule B. were guilty of bribery at one or more of the elections by giving or promising money, or other valuable consideration, to voters for the purchase of their votes, or by corruptly giving money or other valuable consideration on account of any voter having voted, or refrained from voting.

14. We find that the persons named in Schedule C. were guilty of bribery at the elections of 1863 or 1865 by paying money to other persons with intent that such money should be expended in bribery, or by knowingly paying to other persons money in discharge, or repayment, of money expended in bribery.

We subjoin a full statement of the evidence taken before us, which we beg permission to place before Your Majesty as part of this our Report.

All which we humbly submit to Your Majesty's most gracious consideration.

FREDERICK JAMES SMITH.

MICHAEL WILLIAM O'BRIEN, S.L.

Temple,

February 2nd, 1867.

SCHEDULE A.

LIST OF VOTERS BRIBED.

The — under each year denotes the Elections at which the Voter whose Name is opposite to it was bribed.

——	1865.	1863.	1859.	Oct. 1858.	Feb. 1858.
Albuary, George A. -	—				
Allen, John - -	—	—	—	—	—
Allen, Robert - -	—				
Andrews, John -	—				
Anscombe, Edward -	—				
Apps, Thomas -		—			
Apted, James - -	—	—		—	—
Apted, Job Heath -	—	—			
Ashdown, John -	—				
Ashdown, Richard -	—	—			
Atkinson, John -	—				
Attwood, William -	—				
Baggaley, William -	—				
Bailey, Edmund -	—	—			
Bailey, John - -	—				
Baines, Henry - -	—	—			
Balchin, Alfred -	—				
Banks, William -	—				
Barker, John - -	—				
Barker, Thomas -	—	—	—		—
Barnard, Thomas -	—				
Barrett, George -	—				
Bartlett, Alfred -	—				
Bartlett, George -	—				
Bartlett, James -	—				
Batchelor, Richard -	—				
Beale, George Charles	—				
Belcher, William -	—				
Bell, John - -	—			—	
Bennett, Charles -	—				
Bennett, Richard -	—	—			
Best, Thomas - -	—	—			
Best, William - -	—	—			
Bicknell, Henry -	—				
Billcliffe, George -	—	—			
Billcliffe, William -	—				
Bobbins, William -	—				
Bolster, John - -	—				
Bone, William -	—				
Bonny, Frederick -		—		—	—
Bonny, James - -	—				
Boorman, George -	—				
Boscawen, Daniel -	—				
Bowring, George -	—				
Bradford, Thomas -	—	—			
Breeden, Richard -	—				
Brewer, George -	—	—	—		
Briggs, Edward -	—				
Bristowe, William -	—				
Brockwell, George -	—				
Brooker, James -	—	—			
Brooker, John -	—				
Brown, Edward -	—				
Brown, William -	—	—			—
Buck, George - -	—				
Buckland, Thomas -	—				
Bundle, William -		—			
Burge, Richard -	—				
Burlton, Edward -	—				
Burrell, Thomas -	—				
Butcher, Henry -	—				
Butler, James -		—			
Carter, George -	—	—			
Carden, John - -	—				
Champion, Charles -	—				
Chandler, Charles -	—				
Chapman, Thomas -	—				
Charles, Charles -	—				
Charlwood, Joseph -	—	—			
Cheal, John - -		—			
Cheyney, George -	—				
Chilcott, William -	—				
Child, James - -	—	—			
Child, Henry - -	—				
Child, William - -	—				
Chitty, Thomas -	—				
Church, William -	—	—			
Clark, William -	—	—			
Collip, George -	—				
Comber, Edmund -	—	—			
Comber, Charles -	—	—			
Comber, George -	—				
Comber, John -	—	—			
Compton, James -	—				
Cook, James - -	—	—			
Cook, John - -	—				
Cook, Thomas -	—	—			
Corderoy, Thomas -	—	—			

——	1865.	1863.	1859.	Oct. 1858.	Feb. 1858.
Cornish, Rivers	—				
Croucher, George	—	—			
Croucher, Joseph	—				
Culverhouse, Thomas	—				
Dale, Edward		—			
Dale, Thomas	—	—			
Dale, Thomas	—				
Davey, John	—	—			
Deadman, Jeremiah	—	—			
Dealing, Robert	—				
Denman, William	—				
Denton, Thomas	—				
Dickinson, Edmund	—				
Dickinson, William	—	—			—
Digance, Joseph	—	—			
Dod, William	—	—			
Donaldson, James	—				
Dormer, James	—				
Durrant, David	—	—		—	—
Eastmond, John	—	—			—
Easton, Richard	—				
Ede, Edward	—				
Ede, James	—	—			
Ede, Josiah	—				
Elcock, Charles	—	—			
Elliott, Amos	—	—			
Elliott, Thomas	—	—	—	—	—
Ellis, Richard	—	—		—	
England, Thomas	—				
Etcill, George	—				
Evans, John	—				
Eve, William	—				
Farley, Charles	—				
Farrington, John	—				
Featherstone, Thomas	—				
Featherstone, William	—	—			
Feldwick, Edward	—				
Fielder, John	—				
Finch, Henry	—				
Finch, Joseph	—	—			
Finch, William	—				
Flint, John	—				
Ford, Thomas	—				
Francis, Henry	—				
Francis, Robert Rose	—	—			
Fullbrook, Frederick	—				
Fuller, Frederick	—				

——	1865.	1863.	1859.	Oct. 1858.	Feb. 1858.
Fuller, John	—				
Fuller, John	—				
Fuller, Thomas	—				
Fuller, Richard	—	—			
Funnell, Thomas	—				
Gage, Robert		—			—
Geer, George	—				
Gibbs, William	—	—			
Gilbert, Thomas	—				
Gillett, David	—				
Goacher, Daniel	—	—			
Goddard, Thomas	—				
Goldsack, Joseph	—				
Goldsmith, Richard	—				
Gorringe, James		—			
Gower, John		—			
Gray, Henry	—				
Green, Henry	—	—			
Greenfield, Charles	—				
Groom, William	—	—		—	
Grutchfield, George	—	—			
Hall, James	—				
Handscomb, J. R.	—	—			
Harding, Harvey	—		—		
Harman, George	—	—			—
Harriden, Samuel	—				
Harsent, John	—	—			
Hayward, Edward	—				
Heather, Ambrose	—	—			
Heather, Henry	—	—	—	—	—
Heather, James	—			—	
Hentley, Thomas	—				
Hewett, George	—	—			
Hewett, Joseph	—	—			
Hewson, David	—	—			
Hind, William	—				
Hitchcock, William				—	
Holden, George				—	
Holdsworth, Henry	—				
Holdsworth, William	—	—			
Hooper, Ebenezer	—				
Hopper, William	—	—			
Houlton, Robert	—				
Howell, William	—				
Humphrey, Richard	—	—	—	—	
Ing, John		—	—		
Ireland, Thomas	—				
Isted, John	—				

——	1865.	1863.	1859.	Oct. 1858.	Feb. 1858.
Jeal, William	—	—			—
Johnson, Henry	—				
Johnson, Joseph		—			
Johnson, Samuel	—				
Johnson, William	—				
Jordan, James	—	—			
Jordan, Stephen	—	—	—		—
Jordan, Thomas	—	—			
Joyes, Alfred	—				
Joyes, Frederick	—	—		—	—
Joyes, William	—				
Jupp, George		—	—		
Kemp, Charles	—				
Kempsall, William	—	—	—		—
Kenward, Joseph	—	—			
Killick, Frederick W.	—	—			
Knight, Alfred	—	—			
Knight, Richard	—				
Lambert, John	—				—
Lamport, Thomas	—				
Lane, John	—				
Langridge, William	—	—			—
Langton, Edward	—	—			
Latham, Alfred	—	—			
Le Courtois, Thomas	—		—	—	—
Legg, Robert	—	—			—
Legg, William					—
Longhurst, John		—			
Love, W. G.		—			
Loveland, Edward	—				
Lucas, George	—	—			
Lucock, Charles	—				
Luck, George	—				
Manning, Edward	—				
Marchant, James	—				
Martin, John		—			
Matthews, Josiah	—	—			
Mayall, Francis	—	—			
Mazden, James	—	—	—		
McMillan, John	—				
Medhurst, William	—	—			
Mepham, David	—				
Mewett, James	—				
Miles, Philip	—	—			
Miles, William	—	—			
Miller, Thomas	—				
Mills, James	—				
Milner, Charles	—				
Mitchell, George	—			—	
Mitchell, Henry	—	—			
Mitchell, James	—	—			
Monk, William	—	—			
Moody, William	—				
Murrell, Charles	—				
Nash, William	—				
Newman, John	—				
Newnham, John	—	—			
Nice, James	—	—			
Nichols, James	—	—	—	—	—
Nye, James	—				
Nye, John	—	—			
Oram, Charles	—				
Oxtoby, William	—				
Page, Thomas	—				
Palmer, Henry	—	—			
Palmer, John	—	—	—		
Parker, James		—			
Parfitt, George	—				
Parsons, Charles	—	—			
Parsons, George	—				
Parsons, James	—				
Payne, James		—			
Peat, James	—				
Peat, Richard	—	—			
Peeps, Thomas	—				
Pelling, Peter	—				
Penfold, Edward	—	—			
Penfold, Thomas	—	—			
Peters, Frederick	—				
Peters, Joseph	—	—			—
Phillips, John	—				
Pike, George	—				
Pitt, David		—			
Pooley, William	—				
Port, William	—				
Potter, Edward	—				
Pullen, George	—	—			
Puplett, James	—				
Rance, George	—	—			
Razzell, William	—				
Read, John	—				
Redman, Charles	—				
Rees, James	—	—	—		
Reeves, John	—				
Ridge, Robert	—	—		—	
Risbridger, Joseph	—	—			

——	1865.	1863.	1859.	Oct. 1858.	Feb. 1858.
Roberts, William	—				
Robson, George	—	—			
Room, George	—	—			
Rose, Alexander	—	—			
Rose, Ephraim	—	—			
Russell, Edward	—				
Sargant, Amos	—	—			
Sawyer, John	—	—			
Sawyer, Joseph	—	—			
Sendall, Henry	—	—		—	
Scarlett, John	—				
Scougall, Thomas	—	—			
Shaw, William					—
Shephard, John	—	—			
Short, Isaac	—				
Shrubsall, Thomas	—	—	—		
Simmons, John	—				
Simpson, William		—			
Smith, Benjamin	—	—			
Smith, Charles	—				
Smith, Charles	—				
Smith, James	—				
Smith, James		—			
Smith, William	—				
Songhurst, John	—	—			
Sparrowhawk, Henry					—
Spence, William		—	—		—
Spencer, Charles	—				
Stamford, George	—				
Stapleton, George	—	—			
Steer, Joseph	—				
Steer, Richard	—	—			
Stevens, Edwin	—				
Stevens, James	—				
Stevenson, William	—				
Stone, Thomas	—				
Stoneman, John	—				
Street, Alvin	—				
Stuchberry, William	—				
Sumner, James		—			—
Taylor, Henry	—				
Taylor, William		—			
Terry, William	—				
Thatcher, John	—	—			
Thorpe, Edward	—				—
Thorpe, David	—				
Thrift, John	—				
Titchener, Thomas	—	—	—	—	—
Topliss, Henry	—				
Towse, John	—				
Trew, George	—	—			
Truelove, Abner	—				
Trussler, James	—				
Tugwell, Richard	—	—			
Tullett, George	—	—			
Tullett, Thomas	—				
Turner, Henry	—				
Turner, Richard	—				
Turner, William	—	—			
Turner, William	—				
Tyrrell, Jabez, sen.	—	—			
Tyrrell, Jabez, jun.	—				
Tyrrell, James	—	—			
Upton, Thomas	—				
Vigar, John	—	—			
Vosper, William	—				
Waghorn, Thomas	—	—			
Walby, William	—	—			
Walker, George	—				
Wallis, Henry	—	—			—
Walter, William	—				
Warren, William	—				
Webb, Mathias	—				
Weller, John	—				
Wells, Edward	—				
Wesley, William	—	—			
Westbrook, Jacob	—				
Westlake, Charles	—				
White, Abraham	—				
Whitear, John Thomas	—				
Whitmore, John	—	—			
Whitmore, William	—	—			
Wicks, Mark	—	—	—		
Wilkins, Thomas	—				
Wilkinson, John		—			
Wood, James	—				
Wood, Thomas	—				
Wood, Thomas	—	—			
Wood, William	—	—		—	—
Woodhouse, James	—	—			
Woodman, William	—	—			
Worsell, Edward	—				
Worley, James	—	—			
Wornham, Peter	—				
Worsfold, Robert	—				
Wye, William		—			—
Young, Robert	—				
Younger, John		—			—

SCHEDULE B.

LIST OF PERSONS WHO BRIBED.

The — under each year denotes the Elections at which the Person whose Name is opposite to it bribed.

— —	1865.	1863.	1859.	Oct. 1858.	Feb. 1858.	— —	1865.	1863.	1859.	Oct. 1858.	Feb. 1858.
Apted, James	—	—				Kenward, Joseph	—	—			
Apted, Job Heath	—	—				Langridge, William	—	—			
Barker, Thomas	—	—				Mazden, James	—	—			
Buckland, Thomas	—					Mulley, John	—				
Cape, George				—	—						
Champion, Charles	—					Nichols, James	—	—	—		—
Clark, William	—	—									
Corderoy, Thomas	—	—				Peat, Richard	—				
						Penfold, Thomas	—				
Durrant, David	—	—			—						
						Rees, James	—	—			
Emery, Charles	—	—				Rose, Alexander	—				
						Rose, Ephraim	—	—			
Featherstone, William	—										
Francis, Henry	—					Sheperd, John	—	—			
						Smith, Charles Joseph	—	—			
						Stoneman, John	—				
Green, Henry	—	—				Sumner, James	—				
Holdsworth, William	—	—				Truman, John William					—
Jordan, Thomas	—	—				Wilkinson, John		—			
Joyes, Frederic	—	—		—	—	Williams, Thomas	—				

SCHEDULE C.

LIST OF PERSONS WHO BRIBED.

The — under each year denotes the Election at which the Person whose Name is opposite to it bribed.

— —	1865.	1863.
Gower, G. Leveson	—	—
James, Albert		—
Monson, Edmund, Honble.	—	
Smith, Charles Joseph	—	—
Wilkinson, W. Arthur		—

FREDERICK JAMES SMITH.
MICHAEL WILLIAM O'BRIEN, S. L.

Temple,
February 2nd, 1867.

I concur in the whole of the foregoing Report, except the paragraphs numbered 19, 34, 36, and the latter part of the 13th, commencing at the words "who was not his duly."

I am unable to concur in the findings numbered 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, and

I do not concur in Schedule C.

But although the result of the inquiry shows that since 1857 corrupt practices have prevailed at each of the five elections into which we inquired, one or two "other things" still require to be mentioned, whereby "in my opinion the truth may be better known "touching the premises",[a] and a full and fair consideration of the circumstances in which the borough was placed, and of the causes which may have conduced to such corruption as we found, may be ensured.

[a] 15 & 16 Vict. c. 57. s. 6.

In every instance the borough was contested by candidates of similar politics, or distinguishable only by shades of difference. Under such circumstances there would not necessarily be the same abandonment of political principle in the elector who voted for the highest bidder out of candidates otherwise equal; whichever succeeded, the voter might feel that his own political opinions would be advocated, and to increase his own private gain at the same time would be no dereliction of them. Next, the system of employing voters as sub-agents, and paying them for their services as canvassers, seemed to be considered by the sub-agents themselves, as well as by the candidates, to be legal, and it cannot be matter of surprise if this belief extended downwards through the entire constituency.

No elector was paid professedly for his vote, and each, therefore, seemed to expect that he would escape the imputation of being bribed. How far such expectation was justifiable depends mainly on the explicitness of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Acts, on which I desire, before concluding this Report, to make a few observations; such observations, however, have been purposely postponed in order that they may be the more easily rejected, if they should appear foreign to the inquiry ordered, or, on the other hand, if relevant, may be taken into consideration as applicable to all elections, whether in boroughs or counties.

The two questions which seem to require consideration are, *first*, the law as it is, defining corrupt practices; *next*, the penalties imposed by it. The law is to be found almost exclusively in "The Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854," (17 & 18 Vict. c. 102.) which was passed "to consolidate and amend the laws relating to bribery, treating, "and undue influence at elections of Members of Parliament;" and the 26 & 27 Vict. c. 29. (1863), for though the 21 & 22 Vict. c. 87. is directed against corrupt practices, it does little more than prohibit the payment by candidates of the travelling expenses of voters coming to the poll.

It is material then to inquire whether these two Acts of 1854 and 1863 define with sufficient distinctness what corrupt practices are.

The former declares in effect, in section 2, that the following persons are guilty of bribery:—

1. They who shall give money or money's worth to a voter for his vote, or to induce him to refrain from voting.
2. They who shall give money or money's worth to any one to procure votes.
3. They who for money or money's worth shall endeavour to procure votes; and (by sect. 3)
4. They who shall receive money or money's worth for their votes.

At the end, however, of section 2 there is a proviso that what has gone before shall "not extend to any money paid on account of any *legal* expenses *bonâ fide* incurred at "any election," but not stating what expenses are legal; nor is a definition to be found elsewhere in the Act.

This proviso may in my opinion have let in the whole of the system of "putting on" which had prevailed throughout all the Reigate elections into which we inquired. Sitting as a Commissioner, and with the light from numerous other cases thrown on each one which was investigated, I had little difficulty in finding that in nearly all of them the employment of voters was merely colourable and not *bonâ fide*, but whether, if an indictment for misdemeanor had been preferred against any one of the voters employed a jury would have come to the same conclusion, or whether a jury ought to do so in the face of highly penal consequences, may be questionable.

The Act of 1863 (26 & 27 Vict. c. 29.) repeals several sections in the Act of 1854, relating principally to payments made by candidates and their agents; and, by way of substitution, enacts in effect, in sect. 2., that no election payment shall be made by a candidate "*before* or during or after" an election, otherwise than through an agent (or agents, not limiting their number,) whose name *has* been delivered in writing to the

returning officer *on* or before the nomination day, and that any person making such payment otherwise than through such agent shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. To this section there are two objections on the score of indistinctness. First, it is not easy to understand how a payment made *before* an election can possibly be made through an agent not accredited in the way pointed out till the day of nomination; and next, the duty of sending in the agent's name to the returning officer is not cast in express terms on any particular person, though by the repeated section (sect. 31) in the Act of 1854 it was. It is almost needless to observe that, though the intention of the Act may be apparent, these objections would be available on the trial of an indictment for a misdemeanor.

Having thus noticed some of the defects which exist in the law against corrupt practices, I venture to suggest what improvements might be made in it, carrying out at the same time the apparent intention of Parliament when the Act of 1854 was passed.

No borough candidate should be permitted to employ more than one paid agent, whether professional or not; and all payments of money or money's worth by such a candidate should be declared illegal, except payment—

1st. To the returning officer for his election charges (which should include printing and publishing).

2nd. For conveying voters to the poll (if indeed this is to continue legal).

3rd. To his sole agent a fee not exceeding 200*l*. (Such last limitation being obviously necessary in order to prevent money passing into an agent's hands which is intended to find its way ultimately into voters' pockets.)

No qualifying proviso or qualifying epithets should be introduced by which facts may be disguised and consequences avoided, and then no giver or receiver of bribes could easily misunderstand his position.

With regard to county elections, though the same principle might be adopted, the number of paid agents might be larger than in boroughs. A candidate for a county might be permitted to employ three agents, whose fees should not exceed 300*l*. each, and the three kinds of payments authorized should in all cases be paid by the candidate himself, and not by any one on his behalf. The effect of this would be that expense agents would be done away, and all possibility of agents sending in one account of election expenses to the returning officer, another to the candidate himself.

With regard to the penalties for corrupt practices. Without discussing the question as to whether or not the franchise is a trust, and whether, when once given to a man, the Legislature has any right to impose a punishment on him if he does what he pleases with it, it seems clear that the franchise may be given to be held only so long as a man may properly make use of it, and that the proper use of it may from time to time be defined by law. If this is so, then it would seem to follow that any person who receives a bribe for his vote may have the right to vote taken away from him, and that any one who bribes may have it put out of his power to do so again; and the only question would be, whether, in cases of bribery proved, a man should be deprived of the franchise for ever or only for a time.

At present the law on this point also is uncertain. By the 6th section of the Act of 1854 "whenever it is proved before the revising barrister that any person who is or claims to "be placed on the list or register of voters for any county, city, or borough has been "convicted of bribery or undue influence at an election," &c., "then and in that case "such revising barrister shall, in case the name of such person is in the list of voters, "expunge the same therefrom, or shall, in case such person is claiming to have his name "inserted therein, disallow such claim;" but whether such disallowance is to continue for ever, or only for one year, or whether it may be made *toties quoties* on the voter's claim being renewed, is a matter undefined, and one about which we are left only to conjecture by referring to the 36th section of the same Act, which limits the incapacity of candidates convicted of bribing to the duration of the Parliament then in existence, which can scarcely be regarded as an incapacity at all. In theory, and generally in practice, a candidate, on the one hand, can offer himself to be elected, and a voter, on the other, can vote but once during the existence of a Parliament; and the exceptions to this are so rare that probably neither the 6th nor the 36th sections of the Act of 1854 would have any weight in deterring either a candidate or a voter from committing an act of bribery. In effect the candidate may resolve to do the same again at the next election, and so may the voter. The case, however, would be very different if the capacity of the one to be elected and of the other to vote were taken away for ever by a conviction for bribery. 5*l*. for his vote may well satisfy a man who thinks he will have the chance of getting as much more at the end of five or six years, but he might hesitate

to take ten times that amount if he knew that, if found out, he was parting for ever with the right to it and all its incidental advantages.

The same argument would of course apply to a candidate.

On these considerations it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that, to put an end to the system of using money as a means for getting into Parliament, no method will be effectual, unless a permanent incapacity to vote or to be elected a member of Parliament shall attach to every one proved to have been guilty of corrupt practices, and in order to make such consequence more inevitable than it is, the following plan is humbly suggested:—

Within a specified number of days after every election in a borough or county, while facts are still fresh and party feeling still alive, some competent person might give his attendance in the county or borough in which the election was held, and, if a county, in not less than three of the principal places within it, notice having been previously given that any charges of corrupt practices may be brought before him. In case of any being brought, he should hear the evidence and adjudicate upon it. If he decided that a charge was proved, the consequence, namely, the permanent loss of vote and the like incapacity to become a member of Parliament, need not attach at once, but might be suspended until the House of Commons had had an opportunity of reviewing his decision; but if within a month after it had been laid before the House the decision were not reversed, then it should have full force and effect. By some such method as this, other and more expensive ones of investigating corrupt practices would probably be obviated.

I have now set forth not only the systematic corrupt practices which I found had prevailed at Reigate in the elections to which the inquiry extended, but I have appended such palliating remarks on them as to me seem worthy to be urged; I have also ventured to give my opinion on the present state of the law against corrupt practices, and to suggest a means for putting an end to the continuance of such corruption as was discovered.

All of which I humbly submit to Your Majesty's most gracious consideration.

Temple,
February 11, 1867.

THOMAS ALLEN.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

THOMAS ALLEN, Esq., FREDERICK JAMES SMITH, Esq.,

AND

MICHAEL WILLIAM O'BRIEN, Esq.,

SERGEANT AT LAW,

COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED TO INQUIRE

INTO

THE EXISTENCE OF BRIBERY AT THE LAST AND FORMER ELECTIONS OF A MEMBER TO SERVE IN PARLIAMENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF REIGATE.

AT THE TOWN HALL, REIGATE.

ALBERT DE RUTZEN, Esq., Secretary.

FIRST DAY.

Wednesday, 22nd August 1866.

Mr. James Searle called, sworn, and examined.

1. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are the mayor?—I am.

2. Were you mayor during the time of the election?—I was.

3. The election on which this inquiry is now being made, of 1865?—Yes.

4. Who were the candidates at the election?—Mr. Leveson Gower and the Hon. Edmund Monson. There was another candidate proposed on the day of nomination, but it was generally supposed he was no candidate at all, Mr. George Richardson.

5. On what day did the election take place?—I believe on the 12th of July, but I am not quite sure.

6. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did more than two go to the poll?—All three went to the poll. I think it was the 12th of July.

7. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There were three candidates; three went to the poll?—Yes.

8. Have you the result of the poll?—The official documents were sent up to the Crown Office. Mr. Gower polled 473, Monson 276, Richardson 11.

9. What side of politics did these several candidates represent?—All three thorough Liberals.

10. Had you known this borough long before?—Fourteen years.

11. Had either of these gentlemen been candidates before?—Yes, Mr. Gower had been the member; he was elected at a previous election.

12. When did that election take place?—January, 1863.

13. Was he opposed?—He was opposed on that occasion by Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson. It was a close contest. For Mr. Gower 466, Mr. Wilkinson 333.

14. Those were the only two candidates?—They were the only two.

15. Do you know who was mayor at that time?—There was no mayor at that time; the borough was only recently erected into a corporation. The bailiff of the borough was the returning officer.

16. Who was the bailiff of the borough then?—Thomas Martin.

17. In 1863?—Yes, in 1863.

18. Is he bailiff now?—Yes.

19. Does he live here?—Yes.

20. Where does he live?—At the bottom of Bell-street. He is a very aged man. He did not officiate as bailiff at the election; his son Peter Martin officiated for him, and he is dead.

21. Do you recollect the previous election to that; that was not a general election?—No; that was an election consequent on the death of the late Lord Monson and the advance to the peerage of the present lord.

22. That was Viscount Eastnor?—Oh dear no, it is not the same family at all; that is the Somers family. He was then the Hon. Mr. Monson.

23. That was in 1863?—Yes.

24. Which election were you speaking of, 1859 or 1863?—The one you mentioned, 1863. Mr. Gower was the member, Mr. Martin being the bailiff, Mr. Wilkinson was one of the candidates on that occasion.

25. Go on to the previous election?—That was the general election of 1859.

26. Who were the candidates then?—The candidates were Mr. Monson and Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson, but it was only the semblance of an opposition; 260 polled for Monson, and William Arthur Wilkinson was proposed against his knowledge and wish altogether I believe, and polled 161 votes.

27. Who was the returning officer then?—Martin; he had been bailiff for this borough for a great number of years.

28. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How many did Monson poll?—In the general election of 1859 Monson 260, and Wilkinson 161.

FIRST DAY.

Mr. J. Searle.

22 Aug. 1866.

29. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the previous election, 1858 or 1859? was there one in 1858?—We have had a very great crop of elections here. We had four elections in less than two years here. The one before the last I mentioned was October 1858.

30. I am going back. There was one in October 1858?—Yes.

31. Was that contested?—Yes; very sharply indeed.

32. Who contested it?—That was contested by Mr. Monson and Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson. That was a vacancy consequent upon the acceptance of Sir Henry Rawlinson of a seat at the India Board.

33. Can you give me the state of the poll on that occasion?—I am not quite sure whether I am right as to one figure, but for Mr. Monson 125, Mr. Wilkinson 210. I do not know whether it was 210 or 212, but they were about the figures.

34. Was there also an election in January?—In February I think.

35. Who were the candidates then?—Sir Henry Rawlinson, Mr. William Doulton, Mr. Monson, Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson, Mr. Ralph Walters, and, I think, Mr. Edwin James.

36. We have now got some new names. Do you recollect whether these gentlemen were all the same line of politics, or different?—They were, I believe, all of the same line of politics, but Sir Henry Rawlinson was thought by those gentlemen who brought him forward to be a Tory. He was brought here by the old Tory party, and I believe it was a matter of great surprise and amazement, and almost of disgust, to find when he got into Parliament he was a Liberal and not a Tory.

37. Mr. Rawlinson was returned?—Yes. I will give you the numbers. Sir Henry Rawlinson, 212; Doulton, 116; Monson, 95. William Arthur Wilkinson and Ralph Walters retired; they did not contest the borough.

38. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you say were the results?—Rawlinson 212, Doulton 116, Monson 95.

39. There were two did not go to the poll?—They did not.

40. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which Monson was that?—The Honourable William John Monson, now Lord Monson. I may say that Mr. Monson who was the candidate at the last election had never been a candidate for this or for any other place.

41. Is he the son?—No, the Honourable Edmund Monson is brother of the present Lord Monson.

42. The previous election to that was in 1857?—Yes, the general election of 1857, when there were but two candidates.

43. Was there no election in 1859?—Oh yes, the general election was in 1859.

44. Well, now, 1857?—The general election of 1857, when Mr. Hackblock, a gentleman very highly esteemed in this borough, was brought forward on that occasion. There were two candidates on that occasion, Mr. Hackblock and Sir Henry Rawlinson. Mr. Hackblock polled 233, Sir Henry Rawlinson 135.

45. Then Mr. Hackblock was returned?—Mr. Hackblock was returned. He died, unhappily, very shortly afterwards, and the election consequent upon his death took place in February 1858.

46. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Give us those numbers again.—Mr. Hackblock 233, Sir Henry Rawlinson 135.

47. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The previous elections to 1857, I believe, were not contested?—Oh, yes, they were. The general election of 1852 was the first election at which we may say there was any contest in this borough. Previously to that I think you will find gentlemen who will be able to give evidence as to this fact with greater exactness than I can do, as I only came to reside here in 1852. I think you will find from them there was scarcely any contest here for the representation; it was usually divided or arranged between Earl Somers on the one hand and the Earl of Hardwicke on the other. At the general election of 1852 Mr. Thomas Somers Cocks polled 100, and Major Parrott, who contested for the Liberal party, polled 76. At that time the constituency, I should say, only numbered 228. I think those were the exact numbers on the registry. Now we have a constituency of over a thousand.

48. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Up to 1852 the representation was between Earl Somers and Earl Hardwicke?—Yes. Previous and up to 1852. I should like to be able to say, Mr. Chief Commissioner, if you will allow me with reference to a remark that fell from you in the course of your opening observations, I should like to be allowed to say that from my knowledge of the inhabitants of this borough generally that at least 49 out of 50 of every one who has spoken to me, and that is almost every one in the borough, will be most happy that this inquiry should be most searching, and I have heard of no instance of any one saying that they did not intend to give evidence here, and if there are a few who would be so guilty I should not like it to go forth that it was a considerable section of the inhabitants of this borough; on the contrary, all are most willing, nay, most desirous that every information should be given. I should like also to say that I firmly believe the system of bribery that has to some extent crept in at late elections may be said to have taken its rise from the election of February 1858.

49. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The February election of 1858?—Yes, that was on the death of Mr. Hackblock. I may say that this year and last year I accepted the position of mayor of the borough, and have therefore not taken any part whatever in the last election, except so far as my duties of returning officer called upon me to do, yet in every election previous to that I have taken a most active part, and have been either chairman or deputy chairman at every election since 1852 with the exception of the last election.

50. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Now, Mr. Searle, you have been good enough to tell us that you have taken an active part either as chairman or deputy chairman from 1852?—At all elections since 1852, not at 1852.

51. Be kind enough to begin at 1852, and tell us as nearly as you can recollect for whom you acted?—I was one of the chairmen of Mr. Hackblock at the general election of 1857, district chairman.

52. You came into the borough after the election of 1852?—At the time of the election, not after; but I took no part in it.

53. Now in 1857 you took part?—Yes, I was one of the chairmen.

54. Now the next election of February 1858?—I was on that occasion deputy chairman for Mr. Monson's committee.

55. That was February 1858?—Yes, February 1858, on the death of Mr. Hackblock.

56. On the second election; there was a second election in 1858?—October 1858. I was deputy chairman again for Mr. Monson's committee.

57. Then from that time till this, until you were mayor, have you acted for Mr. Monson?—Always. I have always stuck to my man; I never thought of leaving a friend.

58. I put the question to you generally, for I thought it would be so; at the general election in 1859 also?—Yes.

59. There was a petition in 1863?—Yes.

60. Who signed that petition?—I and Mr. North.

61. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On behalf of Mr. Monson?—Oh dear no, Mr. Monson was then Lord Monson. The election of 1863, at which there was a petition, was between Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson. That election was consequent upon the death of Lord Monson.

62. It was on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes, I was chairman on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson's committee.

63. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What became of the petition ?—It was sent to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

64. Was it proceeded with ?—It was not.

65. Have you a copy of the petition ?—No.

66. Who has ?—I have a copy at home ; it was very general in its terms.

67. Will you be good enough to let us see it, if we should want it ?—Yes, with much pleasure.

68. It was a general allegation of bribery, I suppose ?—Yes.

69. And intimidation ?—Yes, and treating.

70. And all the general allegations ?—Yes, and intimidation and treating.

71. Why was the petition not proceeded with ?—I can scarcely tell you why it was not proceeded with. Mr. Gower said that he would not present himself again for election here, and, as there was a fear at the time that it might excite a good deal of unpleasant feeling amongst the inhabitants of the place if the petition were proceeded with, it was withdrawn.

72. You say that was in consequence of a letter from Mr. Gower ?—I did not say so, but it was so.

73. Was that the only reason for withdrawing the petition,—in consequence of a communication from Mr. Gower ?—Well, I could scarcely say that was the only reason. One of the chief reasons for the acceptance of the letter from Mr. Gower and the withdrawal of the petition was the great difficulty we found in substantiating the charges that we were likely to bring against them.

74. Did you see the letter ?—Oh yes.

75. I think in fairness to all parties we ought to know somewhat more of the terms on which this petition was withdrawn. Perhaps you will give us your recollection of this letter ?—I have not got a copy of that letter.

76. But your recollection of it ?—It was a very short letter. As near as I can recollect it was that Mr. Gower would not again contest the borough of Reigate against Mr. Wilkinson, that on the contrary he would do all that he could to unite the different parties in the borough in support of a Liberal, such a person of course as Mr. Wilkinson was. I do not know that there were any other terms.

77. You were going on to say that there was some other reason which induced the withdrawal of the petition ?—Yes. I may say this candidly that up to Saturday night before the Monday, when the petition was withdrawn, we had not decided evidence of any bribery being committed, and it was not until the middle of the day on Saturday that we had got sufficient evidence to warrant us in going forward, but then it was only one or two cases. The parties that we wanted were very skilfully kept out of the way, and we could not find them.

78. Can you give us the names of those parties ?—I really forget who they were.

79. I mean the persons who were said to be kept out of the way ?—I really cannot tell without looking over the papers. Unfortunately Albert James, who was the agent for Mr. Wilkinson here, is dead, and I do not know where the papers are.

80. You have no record of it at all ?—I have no record of it at all. My reason for saying this is, that when we presented our case before parliamentary counsel they told us, and I suppose counsel generally say that, they told us that it was a very strong case, (I beg your pardon, I do not intend to be personal) and that if we could find four or five out of the 50 cases which were alleged, that if we could prove four or five, it was quite certain that Mr. Gower would be unseated.

81. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Forty or 50 cases were alleged ?—Yes.

82. You had to give in the names before the committee ?—They were given in.

83. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) They were given in without having any distinct proof ?—Yes.

84. Eventually you got distinct proof against four or five ?—No.

85. Or what you call strong cases ?—Mr. Clark was the parliamentary counsel who was consulted, and he said, if we could prove four or five cases we should be quite sure to succeed on the petition. Up to Saturday night previous we had not succeeded in obtaining such evidence as to justify us in going on. We did not tell Mr. Gower's friends that, and therefore were very happy to receive Mr. Gower's letter.

86. You left Mr. Gower to suppose the case against him very much stronger than in reality it was ?—I do not think there was much necessity to leave him to suppose so. I think he would know that.

87. Do you mean he would know better ?—He or his agents would have known.

88. Then eventually the petition was withdrawn ?—It was.

89. Well, first of all, can you tell us what is the extent of this borough ?—Do you mean the area ?

90. Yes.—Between 5,000 and 6,000 acres ; 6,000 acres.

91. In what parishes ?—The parliamentary borough is co-extensive with the parish of Reigate.

92. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is the name of the parish St. Mary's or Reigate ?—No, it is the parish of Reigate. It is divided into Reigate Old and Reigate Foreign, but it is all one parish.

93. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Old and Foreign ?—The Old is round about where we are sitting, and the Foreign is extending round further off ; but the qualification is the same for all practical purposes.

94. What is the present population ?—I should think about 12,000 ; it was 9,900 when the census was taken in 1851, and I should think it was now 12,000 or 13,000.

95. Can you tell me the number of names on the register at the time of the election of 1865 ?—912.

96. Since the last general election the borough has very materially increased, has it not ?—Not greatly since the last general election in 1865.

97. Not 1865 ; I am drawing your attention to the previous election ?—At the general election of 1859 the constituency was only about 548.

98. Then from that election it has been greatly increased ?—Yes ; in 1852 it was 228 ; in 1857, 442 ; in 1859, 548 ; in 1863, 760 ; and the last general election of 1865, 912 ; and it is now, I think, over 1,000, between 1,000 and 1,100.

99. Have you so far investigated this fact as to answer me this question—is the increase on the register in as great ratio as the population ?—I think it has been rather more. The population in 1852 was 4,927, and 228 voters only, which would give only about 5 per cent., but now the population being between 11,000 and 12,000, and the constituency amounting to 1,000, it is nearly 10 per cent. instead of five.

100. Of what class of society is this district composed ?—Of all classes ; some very rich, wealthy individuals residing here ; some also very eminent men in the commercial world residing here, and having their business in London ; through all the grades, down to the labouring classes.

101. Has this borough increased more in the population amongst the higher classes than amongst the smaller one ?—No, I do not think it has. It has increased very largely amongst the higher classes, perhaps more in proportion than they increased in the year 1852 ; but still, as to the numbers, it is very much greater as regards the labouring classes, which, I think, is mainly to be attributed to the junction at the Redhill station having brought a large number of working people here, so as to more than counterbalance the richer class.

102. I suppose the place has very much increased in building ?—Oh yes, no doubt.

FIRST DAY.

Mr. J. Searle.

22 Aug. 1866.

103. That would bring a large number of artisans to work?—Yes, quite so.

104. Do you find many houses in the borough which pay from 10*l.* to 15*l.*?—Yes, a great many.

105. What do you put as the largest number of that class of house as to rent?—That is a question I am really not prepared to answer; the overseers would be better able to answer that.

106. I thought you might give us a general notion?—No, I should be afraid to say; I might perhaps mislead you.

107. Are there many houses in the borough which are rated simply at 10*l.*, and not higher?—Yes, I think there are several.

108. I mean rated?—Yes, I should think a great many. The town clerk here knows the rating, and can answer that question. He would know it by the rate book.

109. Now, the poll book I suppose you do not have the custody of, but it goes into the town hall?—As returning officer I have to send it to the clerk of the Crown.

110. Do you receive officially the return of the election expenses?—From the agent? Yes.

111. Who was the expense agent for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Charles Joseph Smith.

112. Who was the expense agent for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Thomas Hart, and for Mr. Richardson Mr. John Ferney.

113. Does Mr. Ferney live here?—No, I think he is a gentleman living at Canterbury. Oh! Ashford I hear.

114. There is a Mr. John Ferney, solicitor, at Ashford?—He is the son; the agent for Mr. Richardson.

115. Have you got those returns, or have they been handed to the town clerk?—The town clerk has had them in his possession, holding them for me. I have the return of the expenses of Mr. Monson and Mr. Richardson, but those of Mr. Gower were produced before the election committee of the House of Commons, and they retained possession of them, and never returned them to my custody.

116. Can we have a copy; were they advertised by the press?—They were.

117. You may have the paper?—The town clerk has the paper. I may say that all these papers are in the custody of the town clerk.

118. I simply wish to trace them?—Quite so, I can produce them. Would you like me to put in all the papers? (*The papers were handed to the Commissioners*).

119. Here is the borough of Reigate election, re-election of Mr. Gower, and expenses of returning officer?—That is the returning officer's expenses.

120. Perhaps you had better formally put them in. They are the returned and advertised expenses. I see here is one signed "John Furley;" I take this first. Schedule of bills and expenses incurred by George Gibson Richardson, returned by John Furley at the borough election of 1865; the whole expenses are 47*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*?—Yes; he was proposed on the day of nomination, I believe, quite unbeknown to the agent of Mr. Monson, Mr. Hart, and though Mr. Richardson was deputy chairman of Mr. Monson's committee, yet the chairman I think was as much surprised as anybody in the hall to hear his name proposed.

121. And being proposed it made him liable for the expenses?—Yes, and as mayor I was obliged to go through the necessary preliminaries.

122. This other paper is the return of Mr. Thomas Hart, the agent for the election expenses of Mr. Monson, and making the sum come to 1,232*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*?—That is the correct copy of what was returned to me; but I think it right to say we have never received the vouchers for these items of expenditure in the case of Mr. Monson; but that is a correct return of what was given to me by Mr. Monson's agent, Mr. Hart,

123. You never received the vouchers?—No; I merely say that we have no means of testing whether they have been paid. I do not know whether it was part of my duty to do so.

124. Now, Reigate election 1865, statement of account of expenses incurred by W. G. Leveson Gower at the election of member of Parliament, July 1865, signed by Charles James Smith,—that account came to 1,306*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*; is that the correct copy of the account which was returned to you on behalf of Mr. Gower?—It is, and we have the vouchers for those sums.

125. You allowed that statement?—Yes.

126. What became of the vouchers; were they returned?—I believe they were.

(*The Town Clerk.*) They were handed over to the clerk of the committee of the House of Commons.

127. I want to know now whether there are any other of those documents which came into your hands that it is right the Commissioners should have?—I do not know of any. I think I have produced all the documents that I have relating to it; but if there are any others I should be very happy to send them to you, or any documents relating to previous elections.

128. No other public documents suggest themselves to my mind, therefore I ask you the question generally?—Certainly.

129. Now, during this last election were you moving about the town at all so as to see what was going on?—Yes, I was in all parts of the borough.

130. And having had that experience in the town before, and taking an active part, I suppose you were enabled to observe what was going on?—Yes, I kept my eyes open pretty well as I went about; it was part of my duty to do so.

131. Did you at any time during the election take any part at all in the canvassing?—I was returning officer.

132. And therefore you took no part?—Certainly not. I should think it very improper in any returning officer to take any part at all.

133. Whatever you did see you simply saw in walking past as a quiet observer?—I saw it as mayor of the borough, and nothing more. I wish it to be distinctly understood that I did not take the slightest interest in the election; all three of the candidates were personally known to me, and were gentlemen for whom I had a high regard. I had no party or personal feeling in the matter whatever, not the slightest.

134. I put that question to you because I was quite certain I should receive that answer, and I gave you the opportunity of answering it in that way. Now, having had the experience of an electioneer, you could barely walk about with your eyes shut?—No.

135. Now, in walking about in that kind of way did you notice anything which would strike you as mayor as not being quite correct going on in regard to the mode in which canvassing was done?—I did not follow any of the canvassers about. I did not see any canvassing. I saw a great many public houses. I do not know whether I ought to say open, but I saw a great number of visitors more than ordinarily at the public houses; and at the last few elections it has been rather too common here in this borough for a great deal of treating to be going on. I think I may say I have never, during the many weeks that I have been engaged very actively in contests here,—I have attended vast numbers of meetings,—I have attended five or six meetings every week,—and sometimes the contest has lasted seven or eight weeks, from circumstances over which we have had no control,—I may say I have never seen any liquor or any treating at any of the committee meetings which I have attended. Whenever there has been any drink on the table, everybody has paid his 6*d.* for his glass of grog, or whatever it may be, as it came in, and I have never seen anything brought in by the committee. I may say I should have set my face very strenuously against anything of the kind, and nothing has disgusted me

more at the elections of this place than the frightful state of debauchery which has been produced since February 1858, at the election which then took place here.

136. I take it from that answer of yours that, so far as any individual case of treating goes, you were not present?—Certainly not.

137. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You knew that houses were open?—I did not say that I knew they were open, but I suspected they were open. May I be allowed to give Mr. Commissioner the reason why I think since February 1858 there has been more bribery here?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) By all means.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We shall be much obliged to you.

(*The Witness.*) I give it only as my opinion, and you must take it only for what it is worth; but at the election of February 1858, consequent upon the death of Mr. Hackblock, when Sir Henry Rawlinson was again brought forward, Mr. Doulton, Mr. Monson, Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson, and Mr. Ralph Walters being the other candidates, there was a very great commotion in the borough. It was not very long after the general election had taken place when the notorious William Roupell was returned for Lambeth, and I have every reason to believe that Mr. Roupell, out of a feeling of personal hostility to Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson, sent Mr. Doulton down here to contest the borough against him.

138. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that the gentleman who represents Lambeth now?—Yes, certainly. Throughout the whole of my experience I never saw such scenes of drunkenness and debauchery as during the time that Mr. Doulton was the candidate, and after Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson had retired, in all my life. It was the universal opinion of every respectable person in the borough that the whole of the lower class of the constituency was being utterly debauched. I believed so then, and I believe so now. But I am firmly of opinion that had it not been for the unhappy state of things that had occurred, and had it not been for the unscrupulous way in which that unhappy man, Roupell, behaved, who has since been so notorious that it is not worth the while of anybody to allude to it further, I do not believe that this borough would have obtained the character it has done; and I think the whole of the proceedings, whether of bribery, or corruption, or treating, or anything of the kind, ought to be dated entirely from the day when Mr. Doulton was here as a candidate for its representative. I beg to say that I merely give this as my opinion.

139. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That opinion is founded on your observation?—It is my belief and the belief of every other gentleman in the place so far as I know.

140. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You took a very active part in that election?—I was deputy chairman for Mr. Monson's committee, and I was a good deal engaged. Mr. Monson with all his influence at that time only polled 95 votes.

141. You say you never saw such a state of debauchery and drunkenness as since the year 1858?—No; men and women both at that time.

142. Is not a portion of the railway station in the parish of Reigate?—No, it is a part of the Foreign portion.

143. Was your attention drawn as much to that portion of the borough then as to this?—Rather more. I reside in that portion.

144. Does your observation apply to the whole of the borough without any distinction whether it was Old or Foreign?—To the whole of the borough, but more so to the Foreign round Redhill and down Nutley-lane.

145. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where the small class of voters were?—Yes, Nutley-lane.

146. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you give me any information at all with reference to the actual state of debauchery and so on? who were the parties who incited it? (*Here the Commissioners consulted together.*) I will not ask you now that question, because probably I am not at liberty to ask you as to who were the parties with reference to 1858; but having become acquainted with those circumstances, and whilst you were walking about during this recent election, did you see any of those parties taking an active part in the late election?—There were one or two.

147. Can you give me the names of one or two?—Henry Green, who was an active supporter of Mr. Doulton, and also actively engaged in this last election, and resident here.

148. For whom did he act?—For Mr. Gower.

Mr. Green was here heard to say that he had never acted for Mr. Gower.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien informed Mr. Green that he would have an opportunity of denying anything the witness had stated.

(*The Witness.*) I beg to say that I should be very sorry to say that Mr. Green was one, if it was not so, but I have a very strong recollection that Mr. Henry Green was amongst the list of names returned as Mr. Gower's agents, as having received money of Mr. Gower.

Mr. Henry Green here again objected.

(*The Witness.*) Amongst the names down at the election in February 1858 on behalf of Mr. Doulton was a man of the name of Truman who was very active here.

149. Is he now a resident?—No, a stranger.

150. Do you recollect any of those persons taking an active part in the previous election that you saw in the late election of 1865 also act?—I think that that question may be more certainly answered by some of the witnesses who may be called.

151. Can you give us the names of any person who will give us that information?—I cannot without thinking it over. I will refer to some of my papers at home.

152. Will you be kind enough to treat that question as postponed, and give us an answer at a future opportunity?—I am not quite sure; but I think Mr. Featherstone was a very active supporter.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We will not take that at present.

Mr. Commissioner Smith intimated he had nothing more to ask.

153. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you reside in the town?—Yes.

154. Then I presume in case we wanted you we shall have no difficulty in communicating with you?—Not at all. I am residing here, but I should like to have a day's notice, because I am generally engaged in London.

The witness withdrew.

Mr. John Tollhurst called, sworn, and examined.

155. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are overseer of the parish of Reigate?—I am one of the overseers of the Old borough of Reigate. The parish, as has been observed, has been divided into two parts, the Foreign and the Old. I am overseer of the Old borough.

FIRST DAY.

Mr. J. Tollhurst.

22 Aug. 1866.

156. What is the number of voters in that part of which you are overseer?—I have not the books with me. I have an assistant overseer in the person of Mr. James Nicholls, and without the book I can scarcely tell you.

157. Mr. James Nicholls is here?—Yes. (*The rate book was produced and handed to the witness.*) This is the rate-book.

158. Are you at all acquainted with the book yourself?—No, I am not.

159. Nor with the rating?—Yes; once or twice a year we go round to re-rate fresh property, but having an assistant overseer—I will not say the office is a sinecure, but still we do not take the interest in it that we should if we were doing the work ourselves.

160. Taking the 10*l.* house rental, what would the proportion of that be for rating?—I should suppose about 7*l.* or 6*l.* 10*s.*

161. In that part of the borough?—Yes.

162. 6*l.* 10*s.* rate would represent 10*l.* householder?—Yes; but many of the houses in the Old borough of Reigate being the property of Earl Somers, the rents are rather low, being taken upon a lease, and hence the rating is greater than the rental. That refers only to the old houses in the town.

163. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The rentals were fixed so long ago?—Quite so.

164. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are not able to tell me the number of borough electors belonging to that part of which you are overseer?—I am not, but I should be pleased to supply you with the book. The book is sent for.

165. Have you taken part at all in the election?—Yes, I was a voter at the last election. I have not voted at two or three elections.

166. I mean, have you taken an active part?—Not at the last, but at previous elections I have.

167. I am speaking of the last election?—Not at the last. Although I voted I took no active part. I supported Mr. Leveson Gower.

(*A book was here handed to the witness by the assistant overseer.*)

168. Is that the list of voters?—This is the list of the voters of the Old borough, the borough in which we are now situated.

169. What is the number of voters? Have you a copy?—Yes, that is a correct copy, subject to a few additions; but it is pretty much the same.

170. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Leveson Gower.

171. Have you voted for him before?—No, I opposed him before. I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

172. You have heard what the mayor has stated with regard to the opening of public houses; do you concur with him in that, that there has been a great increase in the amount of debauchery since the election of 1858?—I would not willingly go so far as the mayor has gone, with all respect for him.

173. I am not speaking about willingly; none of us would do it willingly?—Then perhaps I might say, as freely as he has gone; but the remark is almost synonymous.

174. But have you not observed that public houses have been opened, and that treating has been going on?—I do not know but what public houses are generally open during the day-time.

175. Do you mean you observe no difference between public houses being open during the election and at any other period of the year?—They seem to be more busy, consequent upon public meetings. I have attended very many in this parish for the last 10 years. I have been upon three or four different occasions a check-clerk at the election. In fact, I may say that for a period of 10 years there has scarcely been a public political meeting that I have not attended.

176. Do I understand you to say that, having attended public houses, there was no such thing as a house open for treating?—I never saw it in my life.

177. And you have attended them all?—Yes, every one of any importance at Redhill and Reigate. The principal meetings or the largest meetings I certainly have attended.

178. Do you apply that remark to the election of 1858?—I do. I was check-clerk for Mr. Doulton. My father voted for him.

179. What connection had Mr. Doulton with the parish?—He came down here under circumstances I should think——

180. I mean, was he in any way connected with the borough by business, by property, or by family?—Not at all. I have known him since I was a boy. I have come from Lambeth.

181. Then I suppose you supported Mr. Doulton?—I was not a voter upon that occasion. My father, I believe, voted for Mr. Doulton.

182. You had not a vote?—I was not a voter at that time; but I believe my father supported Mr. Doulton.

183. When did you become a voter?—About four or five years ago. I voted for Mr. Wilkinson on two occasions. I have voted three times; twice for Mr. Wilkinson, and, at the last election, for Mr. Gower.

184. Mr. Wilkinson not being then a candidate?—No. Mr. Monson opposed Mr. Gower at the last election.

185. Do I understand you to say that you saw nothing in the election at all that would indicate the public houses being open for corruption?—Nothing, only just such as might be expected to arise, I will not say from a meeting of this kind; but when a circus comes into the town the public houses are necessarily more busy,—anything that draws together a crowd. I never saw any treating, such as has been spoken of. I would not say that it has not taken place, but I have never seen it.

186. Of course, of your own knowledge you know nothing about bribery?—Certainly not.

Mr. T. Page.

Mr. Thomas Page called, sworn, and examined.

187. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you assistant overseer?—I am overseer, not the assistant; one of the overseers of the Foreign borough, as separate from the Old borough.

188. You have an assistant overseer, but do you do any of the duties yourself?—Yes.

189. Do you do them jointly with the assistant overseer?—With the assistant overseer, and with the assistance of the vestry clerk.

190. Who is your assistant overseer?—He is not assistant overseer, he is the collector; I beg to correct that. He is not the assistant overseer, except that he is the collector; and we have a vestry clerk besides.

191. Who is the collector?—Mr. George Holding; he is here.

192. And the vestry clerk, is he here? Who is he?—George Carter Morrison; he is here.

193. There are three of you, in fact?—There are four; I have a colleague.

194. What is his name?—Henry Summers.

195. Have you got your rate books here?—Yes.

196. Are you able to inform me, by looking at the rate book, or do you know without looking at it, whether in what is called the Foreign Reigate there are any 10*l.* houses, and no houses of a higher value than 10*l.*?—I cannot tell you the exact number.

197. But can you tell me at all, probably you cannot, what proportion they bear to the other houses?—Do you mean those under 10*l.*?

198. No. Say at 10*l.*—There are very few at 10*l.*

199. That is what I wanted to know. You know 10*l.* is the lowest value for election purposes?—Yes, it is so.

200. I want to know whether there are many houses of the lowest value?—No, very few.

201. You are not able to tell me how many?—I could not tell you.

202. I suppose I must get that out of the book itself?—I will furnish you with it to-morrow.

203. I should be very much obliged to you if you would do it.—I will give it you to-morrow morning.

204. You understand me perfectly; I am now speaking of the houses of the lowest value?—Are you speaking of the gross estimated rental, or the rateable value?

205. The gross estimated rental. Would you be able to furnish me with the number of houses between 20*l.* and 30*l.* value?—Yes.

206. Above 30*l.* I suppose the houses are inhabited by what are called the upper classes?—Yes, generally; but not always so.

207. If you would give me, as well as you are able, those lists I should be very much obliged to you: the houses worth 10*l.*, say between 10*l.* and 12*l.*, the houses between 10*l.* and 20*l.*, and the houses between 20*l.* and 30?—Very well, I will. I understand, as a rule, those houses below 10*l.* are compounded for by the landlord. We get no rates from the tenants.

208. I do not want them at all. I do not want anything below 10*l.*; I only want to have those above 10*l.*, because they become inhabited, so to speak, by public characters; and I want to find what proportion they bear to houses of other value?—I will give it to-morrow morning.

209. Now then, will you tell me, were you here at the last election in 1865?—Yes.

210. Did you take part in it?—Yes.

211. Were you on anybody's committee?—Yes.

212. Whom did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

213. Were you chairman or deputy chairman of Mr. Monson's committee?—Neither.

214. Only a member of the committee?—Yes.

215. Where did Mr. Monson's committee sit?—At the "White Hart."

216. Where did Mr. Gower's committee sit?—I do not know of my own knowledge where they sat.

217. At all events Mr. Monson's committee sat at the "White Hart"?—Undoubtedly.

218. Did they meet every night?—No, not every night.

219. Did they meet three or four times a week?—I think about twice a week as near as I remember.

220. When the election drew nearer did they sit oftener, nearly every night?—Yes, nearly every night.

221. About how many sat in Mr. Monson's committee room as members of the committee? I do not want to know the number exactly.—A score, I suppose, at times.

222. You sat round a table, perhaps a score of you?—Yes, perhaps a score; sometimes more than that, sometimes double the number.

223. At what time in the evening did you meet?—I think about seven, or from seven to eight.

224. Did Mr. Monson ever attend himself?—Oh, almost always.

225. And about how long would you sit in the evening?—About a couple of hours sometimes, sometimes not so long; on an average an hour and a half.

226. Perhaps from eight to ten, or eleven?—Yes.

227. I do not want to bind you at all to the exact time?—I do not remember exactly.

228. I suppose most of you had, during the time you were sitting, some little refreshment?—No, I think not.

229. But did not you notice there were glasses on the table?—No, not in the committee room.

230. Not at all?—No.

231. How far is your house from the "White Hart"?—I should think about a mile and a half.

232. I suppose you usually had something when you went to the "White Hart"?—I did, for which I paid.

233. Out of your own pocket?—Out of my own pocket.

234. When you had anything was it with other people or by yourself?—Sometimes.

235. Where did you generally get "refreshed," in a room below or in the bar, or how?—In the bar sometimes, sometimes in the room opposite; sometimes I did not have refreshment there at all, and I went over to the "Grapes" or to the "Swan."

236. When you say "the room opposite" which do you mean?—That is a room opposite the door of the committee room.

237. In the room opposite the door of the committee room were there refreshments generally every evening?—That I do not know; I was not there always.

238. But you went in there occasionally?—When I was there there were refreshments brought.

239. Would you see as many as from 10 to 20 persons there?—I do not think the room would hold 20. There would perhaps be four or five.

240. Are you able to tell me this,—whether the persons who were taking refreshment in that room were exclusively committee men, or were there other men besides committee men?—I think, generally, they were committee men.

241. I suppose the servant brought up whatever they took; each man ordered his glass or whatever it might be, and the servant brought it up?—I believe so. He always did for me.

242. I am asking about the others as well as yourself?—I do not know.

243. I am only asking you what you saw. We shall find out what you know. I do not want you to tell me more than you know. Did you ever see the servant receive money for the refreshments he brought up?—Yes.

244. Did you never see any refreshment brought up that was not paid for in the room?—Yes.

245. Frequently?—No, I did not frequently. On one or two occasions I may have seen it. In fact, I am sure of it.

246. Try and recollect whether you did not see it in a great number of cases,—refreshment brought up and not paid for at the time. By refreshment I mean anything to drink?—In several cases I believe it was not paid for at the time, that is, I did not see any money pass.

247. That is exactly what I mean. When you had refreshment in that room did you pay for it?—Yes.

248. At the time?—At the time, or if I did not pay to him I went to the bar and paid it.

249. That is what I wanted to know. Did you go occasionally to take refreshment in the room, and not pay for it at the time?—Yes, I did.

250. Did you ever go out of that room accompanied by any of the persons who had been taking refreshment there; do you recollect?—Oh, yes! several times.

251. Did you see them, when they went out of the room with you, stop at the bar and pay for their refreshment?—Never; I did not look. Directly when I went out of the room I went away.

252. Do you remember in particular the night previous to the election?—I remember the night very well.

253. Do you remember being at the "White Hart" that night?—To the best of my recollection I do not think I was there.

254. Do you remember meeting one or two members of Mr. Monson's committee that night?—No.

255. Perhaps I shall be able to remind you of it by and by. I am not impugning your word the least in the world; I only want to lead you up to a circumstance which, perhaps, requires leading to?—I will tell you all I know.

256. Do you recollect hearing in the committee room any talk—not on this last night previous to the election, but before that—about money; I do not say what it was, but any talk about money?—No.

257. Did you see any money put on the table of the committee room?—No.

258. Not on any occasion?—No.

FIRST DAY.

Mr. T. Page.

22 Aug. 1866.

259. Was the committee usually attended by Mr. Monson's agent?—Mr. Hart?

260. Yes?—Yes.

261. I suppose nearly always?—I think always.

262. What did he sit in,—a chair or something of that kind?—No, the chairman sat in the chair; he sat on the right of the chairman as far as I know.

263. Did Mr. Monson usually stay the whole time the committee sat, or did he retire, and then did the committee sit after he retired?—He stayed the whole time.

264. Do you recollect when Mr. Monson was present seeing any money put on the table?—Never.

265. Do you recollect any orders being given in the room—try and recollect that—about refreshments?—I do not.

266. I do not mean about refreshments in the committee room, but about refreshments in the other room, or anywhere?—Never to my knowledge.

267. Do you think you would recollect?—I am sure I should if I heard it, and I would say so.

268. I wanted you rather to recall any of those things that passed at the committee room if you can; but you do not recollect any orders being given by Mr. Monson or Mr. Hart about refreshments?—There never were any in my hearing.

269. Was any other agent of Mr. Monson's present besides Mr. Hart?—I do not know that he had another.

270. Did you know Mr. Hart before the election?—A very long time.

271. Where does he live?—He lives here. I have known him these 20 years.

272. What is Mr. Hart?—A solicitor.

273. Do you recollect on the morning of the election being at the "White Hart" very early, between 7 and 8 o'clock?—I was not there.

274. Were you early at the poll?—I was, at Redhill.

275. Where did the election take place?—The polling places were at Redhill and here.

276. Did you remain at Redhill at the polling place?—I did; not at the polling place, but in the committee room.

277. And previous to the election had there been a committee sitting at Redhill?—Alternately with here.

278. Where did the committee sit at Redhill;—At the "South-eastern" hotel.

279. And did you see refreshments being taken at the "South-eastern" hotel?—Only in the same way as I saw here.

280. Exactly. Did you see refreshments in the committee room there?—Yes, I did.

281. Did Mr. Monson and Mr. Hart attend there?—Frequently; not always.

282. Can you tell me from what you saw or from what you know whether some of the committee men were paid, and what they were paid?—I cannot tell you.

283. Were you paid anything for acting on the committee?—Yes, I was.

284. Were you paid by the day?—I was paid so much money.

285. So much in the lump?—Yes.

286. Was that at the rate of so much a day?—No; I was paid so much money.

287. For acting as committee man?—For acting as committee man and for my services in the election.

288. You were paid in a lump?—Yes.

289. Previous to that had you come to any terms as to how much you were to be paid for attendance per day as a committee man?—Not per day. Oh no! I was to have so much money for my services, which I was paid.

290. You are sure that you do not remember having any agreement about how much you were to be paid per day as a committee man?—Such an agreement never was made.

291. Then you cannot remember it. How much money were you paid altogether?—Fifty guineas.

292. And I dare say you did a good deal of work?—I did all I could.

293. Are you a professional man at all?—I am a surveyor and auctioneer.

294. Did you see any money,—mark this question!—did you see any money paid to any other committee men for their services as committee men?—Never.

295. Did you see any other committee men paid at all for whatever it might be?—No.

296. I suppose Mr. Hart paid you?—Mr. Hart paid me.

297. And you considered what you did was fairly worth, of course, the fifty guineas?—I believe it was worth a good deal more.

298. You tell me then at the committee room of the "South-eastern" hotel there was refreshment going on; just let me ask the same question I asked with reference to the committee here,—did you ever see money here paid by any one except yourself for refreshments?—Yes.

299. I suppose there as here you have gone out of the committee room with people who have not paid?—The committee room and the smoking room were one and the same place. Some of us are fond of a pipe and cigar, and after the business was over we did it in that room. But here we could not smoke nor could we drink, so went to the room on the opposite side. The committee room and the smoking room at the "South-eastern" hotel were one and the same room.

300. But you know you would see refreshment ordered for the man sitting next to you?—I saw lots of people having refreshment.

301. Did you ever see them pay to the waiter the money for the refreshment?—Yes.

302. Did you never see persons take refreshment who did not pay?—Yes, I have.

303. It is the same question I have asked you before?—I never saw the money pass.

304. That is all I am asking; you did not see the money pass. Well now, when you have seen persons take refreshment without paying the money over the table for it, so to speak, have not you seen them leave the house without seeing them pay for that refreshment?—I never looked after them. My business was to get away as soon as I could, because we had a consultation, and we had to go and do what we could to influence a voter or two.

305. You understand my question; it does not follow that all committee men were like you?—I am only answering for myself.

306. I want to ask you this in reference to the money which you received from Mr. Hart for the services you performed,—Was that a sum agreed upon beforehand, or did he value your services after they had been performed?—I believe they were valued after they had been performed.

307. You had no agreement as to the amount?—No, I was to be paid what they considered my services worth; that was the understanding; it was not a set agreement.

308. Who asked you originally to give your assistance?—Mr. Monson himself.

309. He of course knew that you had a vote as well as that you had an ability to help him?—I suppose so.

310. Did Mr. Monson say anything to you about acting on his committee?—He asked me to act on his committee.

311. And you did it at his request?—Yes, and also because I wished to do so.

312. No doubt. I suppose of course he asked for your vote?—He asked me for my vote.

313. Was anything said by him about remuneration for your services?—Not a word, not a syllable.

314. That you are sure of?—I am sure of.

315. Did he refer you on that subject to Mr. Hart?—He did.

316. Can you tell me on what occasion that was? Was that the first time you talked to him?—No, I think not.

317. Are you able to recollect who first mentioned

that subject about your remuneration, Mr. Monson or you?—Neither of us mentioned it.

318. Then it was mentioned in your presence?—Mr. Hart mentioned it. I had some conversation with him about it, and the conversation was that I was to be paid something for my services. I could not afford to work for nothing.

319. Certainly not; I understand?—At the same time I did it quite *con amore*.

320. What I wanted to know was when you had a conversation with Mr. Monson himself, and Mr. Monson referred you to Mr. Hart on the subject of compensation?—He did not refer me on the subject of compensation.

321. I understood you to say so.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I have taken down "He referred me on the subject of remuneration to "Mr. Hart."—That is true.

322. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is all I wanted. Can you tell me on that occasion when he referred you on the subject of remuneration to Mr. Hart whether it was you or he that first mentioned the subject? Perhaps you do not recollect?—No, I do not.

323. Do you remember where it was you had the conversation with him?—I think here at Reigate.

324. You do not remember whether it was at the inn or where it was?—No, I do not.

325. About how long before the election came on, the election itself?—Several months, I should think.

326. Did the committee meet some months before the election?—Oh no, I think not.

327. How long?—I forget how long they did meet before; I suppose a couple of months, perhaps.

328. I do not want to bind you?—I do not know.

329. At any rate you worked all the time the committee was sitting?—I worked as hard as I could.

330. All the time the committee was sitting?—And before the committee did sit.

331. Can you tell me whether your conversation with Mr. Monson was before the committee began to sit or not? Perhaps you cannot recollect?—No, I do not.

Adjourned for a short time.

332. We were talking to you about what you witnessed at the last election. Did you know a man named Relf?—Yes.

333. Is that Samuel Relf?—Yes.

334. Did you know him previous to the last election?—Oh, yes.

335. Is he a Reigate man?—Yes.

336. What is Mr. Relf?—An independent gentleman, I think.

337. Do you remember seeing him the night before the polling commenced?—No.

338. How recently before the day of the election did you see Mr. Relf, do you recollect?—I should think it might be a fortnight.

339. You think you did not see him later than that?—I do not think I did.

340. Did you canvass him?—No.

341. Did he canvass you?—No.

342. Did you meet him in a committee room in the first instance?—No.

343. How did you meet him, casually in the street, or how was it?—Casually in the street.

344. Then you saw him most days?—No, I did not see him most days; I told you I did not see him for a fortnight before the election.

345. You know a man named Nicholls; you have mentioned him?—I have not mentioned him.

346. I thought you mentioned him as an assistant overseer?—He was not mentioned by me.

347. You know him?—I know him very well.

348. Do you remember having been in company, previous to the election, with Nicholls and Relf together?—Oh, I remember being in their company many times.

349. With these two together?—Shooting.

350. I said before the election?—Just before the election, sir, shooting.

351. You mean target shooting?—No, sir, shooting in the fields, game shooting.

352. Which way was Relf in politics?—I cannot tell you.

353. Do you know which way he voted?—I believe I do.

354. Which way did he vote?—I believe he voted for Mr. Gower.

355. Do you know which way Nicholls voted?—He voted for Mr. Monson, I believe.

356. Was he on a committee?—I believe so.

357. Was he on Mr. Gower's committee?—Certainly not.

358. At the last election?—On Mr. Monson's.

359. But you think Relf voted for Mr. Gower?—I am as nearly sure as any one can be that he did vote for Mr. Gower.

360. Was he on Mr. Monson's committee?—No.

361. Did he take any part for Mr. Monson?—Not that I know of. He signed the requisition for him to come forward.

362. Do you recollect the date of that?—I should think it would be September a year ago.

363. September 1865?—1864 I mean. I think that was the time the requisition was drawn up.

364. But subsequently to that you say he did not canvass for him?—I do not believe he did; I never saw him. By report I think he did not.

365. I want to know this,—do you remember being at a public house a few nights previous to the election, at the "White Hart" in company with Relf?—I think it is very likely I might have been.

366. Recently, before the election?—I think it is very likely.

367. The night before do you mean?—I am sure it was not the night before.

368. Two nights before?—I am sure it was not two nights before.

369. Three?—I cannot tax my memory.

370. Is it possible it may have been three nights before?—It might have been five or six.

371. But it may possibly have been as little as three?—It may have been.

372. Did you hear at that time in Relf's presence some talk about money?—No.

373. Did you hear Relf saying anything about money?—Never.

374. Did you see Relf hand over any money on that occasion?—Never. If he did he did not communicate it to me, because I thought he behaved badly in having signed the requisition to Mr. Monson and having voted the other way.

375. I distinctly understood you to say that you did not hear anything said by Relf at the "White Hart" about money?—Never.

376. Did you see Relf produce any money?—Never.

377. Did you see any produced to him?—Never.

378. I will ask you this,—did you see a sum of 400*l.* produced?—Never; I never saw a shilling produced.

379. Very likely, but did you see a sum of 400*l.* produced?—No, nor any part of 400*l.*

380. Pray do not fence with me?—I answered the question; I said never; I never saw it.

381. Did you hear anything at the "White Hart" about a sum of 400*l.*?—Never.

382. You would remember it, I suppose, if you had?—I should have done if I had heard it.

383. Previous to the election did you hear anywhere of a sum of 400*l.*?—I did not.

384. Not confining my question to the "White Hart," did you see anywhere else a sum of 400*l.* produced?—I never did.

385. Did you see any payment made by Relf to any person previous to the election?—I never saw any payment made by Relf.

386. Not in any shape, either coin or paper?—I never saw anything.

387. Do you remember anything of a sum of 400*l.*

FIRST DAY.

Mr. T. Page.

22 Aug. 1866.

in connexion with Nicholl?—No. I may state from a paper I have in my hand that the number of houses under a 10*l.* gross estimated rental are 193, and those over 10*l.* are 1,404.

388. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is in Reigate Foreign, making a total for Reigate Foreign of 1,597?—I will give you to-morrow morning what I have promised.

389. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Let me ask you one question. Did you yourself pay over any money to any person previous to the election?—No.

390. Did you subsequent to the election?—No.

391. Were you desired to do so by any one?—Never.

Mr. T. Dann.

Mr. Thomas Dann (having been previously affirmed) examined.

392. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you been mayor of this place?—Yes.

393. In what year?—The first year, 1843.

394. Was that the time of one of the elections?—No.

395. Were you mayor during the time of any election?—No.

396. I was under the impression you had been mayor during one of the elections?—No.

397. You have long been an inhabitant of the borough?—Upwards of 60 years. I have lived here all my life.

398. Have you taken any part in election matters? Yes.

399. Have you taken any active part?—Yes.

400. I do not ask you on which side, for they are both on the same side; but for which of the candidates did you generally act?—On the last occasion I voted for Mr. Leveson Gower.

401. And on the previous election did you vote for Mr. Leveson Gower?—No.

402. Or for Mr. Wilkinson?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

403. Did you take a part as committee man?—Yes.

404. And in canvassing?—And in canvassing.

405. At the last election were you on the committee of Mr. Gower?—Yes.

406. What part did you take on the committee? Were you chairman or deputy chairman?—There were two committees; one at Redhill and one here. I was vice-chairman of the western ward.

407. Did you canvass any other part of the district?—No, the other men did.

408. This last election?—Yes.

409. How many wards are there?—Two, the east and west.

410. Is this called the west ward?—Yes; but the town embraces the west ward and a portion of the Foreign.

411. You are speaking of the corporate division in speaking of the wards; of the election of the corporate body?—Yes.

412. You were on this part as committee man?—Yes.

413. But acted in the other portion also?—Yes, I occasionally went there.

414. Were you much with Mr. Gower when he canvassed?—Not a great deal.

415. You were with him at times?—Yes, he was with me at times.

416. Who formed the body of canvassers?—A small portion of the committee; very few.

417. Was Mr. Smith much with you in canvassing?—Not a great deal; he was with us when I went with Mr. Gower.

418. How many times will you say you went with Mr. Gower canvassing?—Six or eight times, all about the neighbourhood.

419. Are there many outlying voters beyond the town, or are they concentrated within the town?—No, they are all over the neighbourhood.

420. Does the parish extend as far as Earlswood Common?—Yes.

421. Are there many houses about there?—Not the lower part of the common, the upper part.

422. What class of houses?—Small tenements.

423. Ranging from what rent?—I should think from 10*l.* to 15*l.*

424. Was there a committee at Earlswood?—I really hardly know.

425. Did you attend any meetings there?—I did one evening.

426. Do you know of any committee meeting there?—I do not really know of any committee meeting specially for that part; the only part in which I acted was occasionally when a committee was sitting here, and I did once or twice go over to Redhill.

427. You reside at Earlswood?—Yes.

428. What time of day was it?—It was rather towards the afternoon or middle of the day.

429. You were not there in the evening?—No.

430. Was there any public house you went to there?—No.

431. You did not go into one?—At Earlswood there was a meeting once which I attended; that was at the British school, that is in the boundary of Earlswood. That I do state I wish to state correctly; that could not be called Earlswood though in its neighbourhood.

432. Do you know of any houses of entertainment open at that time?—No.

433. Or persons taking refreshments there?—No, nothing that I had anything to do with.

434. You do not know of it?—No.

435. Who else went with you in the district of Earlswood, if any?—I think Mr. Smith and Mr. A.

436. Which, Apted?—James Apted, whom you are going to call to-morrow.

437. And how many voters did you canvass on that occasion?—On that occasion we did not canvass any; it was merely a meeting.

438. A general meeting?—Yes.

439. Were there any refreshments at that meeting?—No.

440. You say it was in the school?—At the British school.

441. Did you attend any meetings in this portion of the town?—Yes, in the "White Hart."

442. I presume there would be no refreshment in the "White Hart"?—No.

443. Did you attend any committee meetings in the houses of the town?—No, where there were no refreshments. I attended one or two committee meetings at the "White Hart."

444. Was that the only house where the committee had meetings?—Yes, Mr. Gower expressly engaged this hall so that he might not be accused of having public houses for his committee rooms.

445. Were there any meetings at the houses?—I believe there were, there were reports of such; but I never attended any myself.

446. Where did Mr. Gower's committee sit?—At the "White Hart."

447. Why should he not have a public house if he had the "White Hart"?—At the "White Hart" he had a private room.

448. And a committee room as well?—It might be called a committee room, a private room where his friends met, where they would meet and consult.

449. How many of his friends would meet in his private room?—I think there might be 20.

450. Did you meet there yourself?—Yes.

451. Were there any refreshments going on in this private room?—No; I might have seen some of them have some soda water or something of that kind.

452. Did it not strike you as rather extraordinary to find soda water brought into Mr. Gower's private room?—Not when his friends were there. I merely

said I might have seen such a thing occur as soda water being brought into the room.

453. And nothing further than the soda water ?—No.

454. Was the soda water paid for ?—It believe it was.

455. Who brought it in, the waiter ?—Yes.

456. Did you see it ordered ?—I believe it was ordered by private individuals, but I am not sure. I did not pay any attention to it.

457. How was this done in this private room of Mr. Gower's ? Did the gentleman who wanted the soda water get up and ring the bell ?—I believe he did, to the best of my knowledge. I do not know whether it was brought in at all on Mr. Gower's account, but I could not say. I did not see soda water brought in in the course of the morning.

458. Did they ever meet in the evening ?—I never did.

459. Did you ever go to any meeting of an evening ?—No.

460. You are not able to inform us what took place of an evening ?—No ; the meetings I attended to were held here.

461. You never attended any of those meetings which took place elsewhere than here ?—No.

462. When you went down the town you told me you went to Redhill ; what time of the day was it you were at Redhill ?—To go canvassing ?

463. Well, to go canvassing first of all ?—In the middle of the day.

464. Did you stop there any afternoon ?—No, I went there one evening when there was a meeting there.

465. Where was the meeting held ?—At the public hall, the market hall. I never attended any public house of any kind, or any hotel at Redhill in connexion with these meetings.

466. Do you know there was a meeting at Redhill ?—Yes, at the public hall.

467. Was the public hall hired for the whole time ?—I suppose it was.

468. So far as you know was it ?—I really cannot say, because, I tell you candidly, I had nothing whatever to do with the monetary transactions at any time whatever.

469. When you say that the hall was hired you believe as a committee room, you merely say that was so by guess, and not of your own knowledge ?—Only from having heard that it was so rather than hire a public house.

470. Do you know of any committee room being at Redhill at any public house there ; at the "Railway" hotel or any other house ?—Not on behalf of Mr. Gower.

471. You say this room, so I understand you, was hired by Mr. Gower ?—I do not say it was hired ; it might have been hired.

472. To whom does this room belong ?—To Lord Somers. I say that the only part I have ever taken has been simply in canvassing occasionally with the candidates, and attending at the town hall when the election has taken place ; that is the only part I have taken.

473. In canvassing round here. Where is Mr. Apted ? Does he live here ?—Close by.

474. Can you give me the names of any persons that you canvassed ?—With Mr. Gower ?

475. With Mr. Gower, or with Mr. Smith, or Mr. A., with whom you went round ?—Mr. Richardson in Reigate Park.

476. He is a gentleman of some position ?—Yes. And Mr. Austin.

477. He is a gentleman of some position in life ?—A linendraper.

478. Of some position ?—Yes, decidedly. And some of the working people, mechanics, and so on. I cannot really recollect their names at the present time ; if I had the book where their names were mentioned I could perhaps recollect.

479. Did you canvass with Mr. Joyes at all ?—No, I did not.

480. Or with Mr. Green ?—No ; I believe I never canvassed but when I was with Mr. Leveson Gower himself. I do not recollect canvassing at all with Mr. Green.

481. You never canvassed without Mr. Gower ?—Not without Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith. I think those were the only parties who have ever been with me when I have canvassed.

482. You have given us the names of parties you canvassed in some position in life ?—Yes.

483. Do you know Joseph Apps ?—Well, I cannot say, I hardly do.

484. You never canvassed him ?—Not that I am aware of.

485. In what position in life is he ?—I believe a carpenter ; I really do not know, but I believe he is a carpenter.

486. A journeyman carpenter ?—I think he is, but I do not know.

487. Was Apps sitting on any committee ?—I am not aware whether he was or not ; I would tell you directly if I was, but I do not really hardly know the man.

488. Do you know of any arrangement as to the men like Apps who did sit on the committees, those men who were working men ?—No.

489. Do you know whether they were to be paid anything for sitting on committees ?—No.

490. Did you never hear of any arrangement ?—No ; I only understood, and that by general report, they would expect to be paid something.

491. Do you mean all those who sat on committees ?—No.

492. Of course you were not to be paid ?—No.

493. And of course you were not paid ?—No.

494. But you heard, from general report, that some parties would be paid ?—Yes ; I heard from general report some parties would be paid for canvassing, not for sitting on committees.

495. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you mean voters ?—Yes.

496. In the double capacity of voters and canvassers ?—Yes, as canvassers ; I was speaking on report. I know nothing of the transaction myself.

497. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know a person of the name of Thomas Chitty ?—No.

498. David Durrant do you know ?—Yes.

499. What is he ?—A brewer.

500. What class of brewer ?—He is a very respectable man.

501. Is he a large brewer ?—Not very large.

502. Did you canvass with him at all ?—No.

503. Did you see him on the committee ?—Most likely I did. I will not say I did not. The committee was very large.

504. Was it in this ward or in the other ?—It would be in my own ward ; I have seen him most likely there. I only say so because I believe it most likely he would come here.

505. Do you know George Collins ?—No.

506. Alexander Rose ; do you know him ?—Yes.

507. What is he ?—A gardener.

508. A working gardener ?—Yes.

509. Was he on the committee ?—Yes.

510. This committee ?—Yes.

511. The committee of this ward ?—Yes.

512. Was he to be paid ?—I suppose he was as one of the agents and canvassers.

513. Now, Frederick Joyes, what is he ?—A grocer.

514. In this ward ?—Yes.

515. Was he on the committee ?—Yes.

516. Was he to be paid ?—I suppose he was as one of the canvassers. I merely go by report, because I tell you that I have no positive knowledge by seeing them paid.

517. Was it a matter of general conversation in the committee room that those persons were to be paid ?—No, certainly not.

FIRST DAY.

Mr. T. Dann.

22 Aug. 1866.

518. Where did you get your report from ?—Out of doors in general conversation.

519. Not in the committee room, but by general conversation out of doors ?—Not in the committee room. Mr. Gower expressed himself particularly desirous that no more agents should be employed than were allowed by law, and he expressly stated in the committee room, which I attended at the "White Hart," that he would have no money spent at all in bribery; that he would prefer throwing up his position as a candidate rather than any steps of that kind should be taken. I have not seen from beginning to end a single shilling passed to any one in a matter of that kind; the only thing was, some years ago a man asked me for something, and I declined to give it to him.

520. That was some years ago ?—Yes, for one shilling; that is the only thing. So little knowledge have I of anything passing, or any money being paid; that is the only instance in which I recollect a voter applying, and in which instance I declined to give him anything. I expressly made a point of not having anything to do with money transactions.

The Commissioners adjourned further proceedings until 11 o'clock the following morning.

SECOND DAY.

SECOND DAY.

Thursday, 23rd August 1866.

Mr. T. Gilbert, jun.

23 Aug. 1866.

Mr. Thomas Gilbert, Jun., sworn and examined.

521. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you a Parliamentary agent in London ?—I am, sir.

522. Do you remember some time subsequent to the last election some steps being taken respecting a petition to Parliament ?—Yes.

523. Against the return of the then sitting member for the borough of Reigate ?—Yes, sir.

524. Did you come down here for the purpose of getting up evidence ?—I did.

525. Did you make application to certain persons who were on the list of voters ?—I did.

526. Are you able to tell me from your recollection or from any list that you have who the parties were ?—There was James Hall, James Peters, James Bonny, James Apps, Thomas Cotton, William Johnson, William Monk, John Bailey, Allen Edwards.

527. They signed ?—Yes.

528. Richard Batchelor, John Farrington, Thomas Chitty ?—Yes, all of these.

529. Thomas Wilkins, George Charles Beales, John Evans, Richard Goldsmith, Barron, William Beale, James Apted, John Palmer, George Rance, George Collett, George Mitchell, Edward Langton, and William Wesley and William Bobbins ?—Yes.

530. Will you tell me first with reference to James Hall ? Did you see him sign that statement (*handing a paper writing to witness*) ?—I did.

531. Is that his handwriting ?—It is.

532. And is that yours witnessing it ?—Yes.

533. Was he aware of the contents of the document when he signed it ?—Yes.

534. How was he aware of the contents of the document ?—I read it over to him before he signed it.

535. And then he signed it ?—Yes.

536. Look at that,—James Peters; that, I see, is marked ?—Yes.

537. Did you see him make his mark ?—I did.

538. And is that it ?—Yes.

539. And is that your signature ?—Yes, it was read over to him before he put his mark.

540. So that he could understand it ?—Yes.

541. And did he ?—He did understand it. I think, sir, I can save you some labour if I were to look through the list and make one answer do for the lot.

(*The Commissioner.*) No, I do not think it will.

542. Look at James Bonny ?—Yes.

542*. Is that his signature ?—Yes.

543. Did you make all those men whose names you have mentioned all aware of the contents of the document before they signed it ?—I did. I read it distinctly over to every one of them.

544. James Apps, is that his signature ?—Yes.

545. Thomas Cotton, is that his signature ?—Yes, it is.

546. Are you able to tell me whether those different persons knew what you were engaged about at the time those statements were made ?—Oh, yes, they certainly did; there is no doubt about it that they did know.

547. They did know ?—Yes.

548. Did you say anything to them at all about whether their evidence would be required afterwards, do you recollect ?—I do not know; I cannot recollect that, but it was very evident. I may have said they would be required in case the petition was proceeded with. I have no doubt they understood that if the petition was proceeded with their evidence would be required before the committee.

549. You did not refer to or say anything likely to do away with that impression ?—No.

550. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had the petition been spoken of before ?—The impression seemed to be in consequence of the petition in 1863 being compromised that this petition would be compromised in the same way, and when I heard such remarks I assured them that nothing of the kind would take place, and that there would be no compromise whatever.

551. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) William Joyes, is that his signature ?—It is.

552. I do not put the question, but you distinctly understand I put the general question that they were aware of the contents of the documents they signed ?—I am quite aware of that; all the contents of the documents were read distinctly over to them.

553. William Monk ?—The same remark applies to each.

554. Then I will not repeat it, but I will go through them. Now, look at this one; here is one, John Bailey. Did John Bailey have that read over to him ?—He read his statement.

555. Here is Cotton ?—Yes, it was read distinctly over to him, but he refused to sign it, for he told me he would sign it some other time; he said he would sign it at some future time; he told me every word of it was true.

556. I see there is a signature of Cotton's ?—That is as a witness; he was there as a witness.

557. Is that the Cotton whom we have had mentioned ?—Yes, it is.

558. Now, tell me about this Allen Edwards ?—That is his signature; it was read distinctly over to him, and, in order that there might be no mistake about it, I obtained the signature of a party there as a witness.

559. It was read over ?—Yes.

560. Is this Apted's name ?—Yes.

561. James Apted ?—Yes, he was present when it was read.

562. Did you see Apted sign that?—Yes.

563. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Allen Edwards treat the statement as a matter of business; did he make the statement seriously?—Yes, he made the statement willingly; I took it down and it was read to him.

564. Did he say it in such a way as to lead you to believe what he said was true?—I believe every word of it, and I would not have entertained it unless I believed it.

565. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Richard Batchelor?—Yes.

566. That is his signature?—Yes.

567. There is no witness there?—No; but it was read in my presence.

568. By him?—By him.

569. Farrington, John?—Yes.

570. Look at that?—The same there, sir.

571. Thomas Chitty, (I will call the names out), did he sign that statement?—He did, sir.

572. In your presence?—In my presence.

573. Did Thomas Mitchell sign that?—Yes.

574. In your presence?—Yes, sir.

575. Did John Evans sign that?—He did, sir.

576. In your presence?—In my presence.

577. Did Thomas Cowdell sign that?—He did, sir.

578. In your presence?—He did.

579. George Charles Beales, did he make that signature in your presence?—He did.

580. And read over before?—Oh, yes, every one.

581. Richard Goldsmith, is that his signature?—Yes.

582. In your presence?—Yes.

583. Charles Barron, is that so?—It is.

584. James Apted, did he sign that in your presence?—Yes.

585. John Palmer did he sign that in your presence?—Yes.

586. George Rance, did he sign that in your presence?—Yes.

587. Did George Collip sign that in your presence?—He did.

588. Did George Mitchell sign that in your presence?—He did.

589. I see at the end of the statement of George Mitchell there is a statement made with the word "further;" when was that made?—At the same time. Mitchell made it out himself at the same time as the signature was given there.

590. Did you take it down?—I did, sir.

591. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When he made that statement to you did he make any other observation to you that would lead you to suppose anything he stated there was doubtful as a fact?—No; I had every confidence in it.

592. Before the committee he denied the statement here that he had received 5*l.* from Gower and Smith?—I do not recollect that.

593. He made no observation?—No.

(*Commissioner Smith.*) We understand there was a denial of what he said, and of course both statements cannot be correct.

594. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is that his signature to a statement?—It is.

595. Look if that is another?—It is his signature.

596. Did he make it at the same time or at a different time?—Different, because you will see it is the 1st of February and the 2nd.

597. Were they both made to you?—They were both made to me.

598. How did he come to make a second statement, do you recollect at all? have you any recollection of the circumstance of his making a second statement?—Oh, yes, I know he did make a second statement.

599. Do you recollect whether he came to you the second time to make it or whether you went to him and said, "I think you have more to say"?—No, he came to me.

600. Look at Edward Langton?—The same remark applies to that.

601. It is his signature?—It is his signature.

602. And in your presence?—And in my presence.

603. Tell me as to William Bobbins, did he make that signature?—Yes, he did.

604. And in your presence?—Yes, in my presence.

605. Now, I think this is the last, William Westley?—Yes, that is his statement and his signature made in my presence, and this he told me after he signed it.

606. That is what I am coming to; is that your handwriting?—It is my handwriting.

607. Where did you get the statement from?—The very same day, the same evening from Westley himself. Allow me to look at the list (*he did so*). That note is a note of my own.

608. Now, I am coming to that, you say this statement was made by Westley?—Yes.

609. Williams or William?—William.

610. I do not know that it is here?—It is William; I saw the man sign it.

611. Subsequently to his signing that statement did he come to you?—The same evening, if I recollect rightly.

612. After he had signed that statement did he make a further statement?—In the course of conversation he told me that, and I added it.

613. Confine yourself to answering the question, if you please. Did he make a further statement to you after he had signed that?—He did.

614. Did you take a note of what he said?—I did.

615. Can you, by looking at that, tell me what it was he did say to you; just read it. (*The document was handed to the witness*)?—"I know Mr. J. Stevens, "and had repeated conversations with him before the "day of polling; he said to me he wished he could "poll according to his inclinations; if he had not a wife "and family he would vote for Monson, but he was "obliged to vote for Gower."

616. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was a statement affecting Stevens.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Yes, implicating him; however, whatever it was he made it?—Yes.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Those are all the questions I have to ask.

617. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You took all this as an outline of evidence which they might be called upon to prove on oath?—Just so; that was the foundation of my case before the committee.

618. You had no connection here except in your private capacity as conducting this petition?—Just so. I never was in Reigate before.

619. We may possibly want you again; you can come here?—I am at your service, but I should be glad if you would not require me until after Saturday.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) We will endeavour to consult your convenience.

JOHN HAMBLIN sworn and examined.

J. Hamblin.

620. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where do you reside, Mr. Hamblin?—At No. 99, Shoreditch.

621. What is your business?—I am a licensed victualler.

622. Are you at all acquainted with Reigate?—Very little.

623. Just take that book in your hand (*handing book to witness*). Is that your book?—It was a book I had to write in.

624. Are the entries there in your handwriting?—No.

625. In whose handwriting are they?—I never

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J. Hamblin.

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made any entries with a pen whatever. I never did any writing.

626. Who did the writing ?—My clerk.

627. In your presence ?—In my presence.

628. What is your clerk's name ? — Frederick Hinde.

629. Where is he now ?—I cannot say ; the last I heard of him was that he was in London ; a few days ago he was in London.

630. Did you bring Hinde down with you for the purpose of writing ?—I did.

631. And it was all done in your presence ?—Yes, it was all done in my presence.

632. Did you meet a voter named Thomas Dale when you came down ?—Yes.

633. You came down for the purpose of making inquiries with reference to the election, did you not ? —I did.

634. Did you announce that you came down to clear off old scores ?—Precisely so ; that was the ruse that I thought the easiest way of getting information.

635. That was the ruse you adopted in order to get the information you required ; had you a large levy as you had come down to clear off old scores ?—I found several claims that had been neglected.

636. Amongst those did you see a man named Thomas Dale ?—I did.

637. We will see whether Mr. Thos. Dale is in the list of voters, and for whom he voted. I see here that he is the first of the D's ; 65 is his number ; house London-road ; do you know for whom he voted ? —I should imagine for Mr. Gower.

638. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Why should you imagine that ?—Because calling upon him of course it was with reference to the claim ; he had performed some labour, and had been unpaid for it by Mr. Gower.

639. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You called upon him with reference to a claim that he had against Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

640. Was that in reference to the election that had taken place in the previous autumn ?—Yes.

641. Where did you see him ?—At his house. I should think it must have been at his house.

642. How did you know him ? what was your reason for calling upon him ?—I was furnished with the address of him and others.

643. By whom ?—By my employer.

644. Who was that ?—Mr. Gilbert.

645. When you called upon Mr. Dale your clerk was with you ?—Yes.

646. Did you see him the first time you called ?— I really cannot remember, I think I did. I took no further notice of the thing ; in fact, I had to take a deal of trouble in getting the names.

647. Did you inquire of him what money was due to him ?—Yes, I made inquiry of him.

648. In reference to the election ?—In reference to the election.

649. And what money he had received ?—Yes.

650. What money did he say he had received in reference to the election ?—That is right what you will find in the book.

651. Just refresh your memory and answer the question ; look at the item ?—The item is correct.

652. Well, how much did he say he had received with reference to the election ?—He had received 1*l.* 10*s.*

653. What did he say was due to him ?—It was 3*l.*, and 1*l.* 10*s.* received ; possibly it would be 1*l.* 10*s.*

654. That was due to him ? Did he tell you who promised the 3*l.* ?—It is under that heading.

655. Look at the book and refresh your memory ? —William Joyes.

656. Did he tell you who Joyes was ?—I understood him to be an agent for Mr. Gower.

657. That you understood from Mr. Dale ?—Yes.

658. Did he tell you when he had received the 1*l.* 10*s.* ?—No.

659. Did he tell you whether he had made application for the 1*l.* 10*s.* that was due to him ?—He told me he had.

660. Did he tell you why it was not paid to him ? —He thought it was through the dishonesty of Joyes.

661. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he say so ? (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Yes, did he tell you that ?—He did.

662. What did he tell you he was to receive the 3*l.* for ?—For labour or work done in Gower's behalf at the election.

663. What labour did he say he had done ?—He was canvassing. He had been I suppose soliciting people to vote for Mr. Gower.

664. Did he tell you how long he had been canvassing ?—No, he did not.

665. Did he tell you when the promise was made to him to give him the 3*l.*, how long before the election ?—No, I did not ascertain that. I should not think a very great time by the amount he earned. I should think it would be a very short time, there only being 3*l.*

666. Do you recollect anything else passing between you with reference to the election, between you and Dale ?—No, I do not, any more than that I promised to pay him, which I unfortunately failed to do.

667. Did you ask him then for any account of what work he had done, or how many days he had been employed ?—No, I did not go into that, I made him sign for the amount claimed, for which you see his signature in the book.

668. You promised to pay him the 1*l.* 10*s.* that would be the balance of the account ?— Yes, the balance of the account.

669. Was he aware then that a petition was pending ?—He told me that he had been told that such a thing might occur.

670. He informed you he was told a petition might be presented ?—Yes.

671. And did you promise to pay him after the petition was disposed of ?—I asked him to be very careful about what he was doing.

672. You told him to be very careful ; what did he tell you then ?—He told me he had been employed by Joyes, and that he had been paid 1*l.* 10*s.*

673. Did he give you any other information ?—No.

674. Now just look at the book again. Look at Elliott's name ; did you see a man sign of the name of Amos Elliott ?—Yes.

675. Nutley-lane, house ?—Yes.

676. You saw him ?—Yes.

677. Did you see him at his house ?—Yes.

678. Upon the subject of his claim for payment ? —Yes.

679. Did he tell you he was employed and was promised anything ?—Yes.

680. How much was he promised ?—3*l.*

681. For what purpose ?—For the same.

682. For working at the election ?—For working at the election.

683. By whom ?—Alexander Rose.

684. Who was Alexander Rose ? did he say he was an agent ?—He was an agent for Mr. Gower.

685. And did you promise to pay him the balance that was due to him ? I beg your pardon, I find it stated here that he was employed as a messenger. Did he give you any account of the days he was employed ?—No.

686. He only received 1*l.* 10*s.* ?—The same.

687. Did he tell you how much he was promised ? —3*l.*

688. You promised to pay the remainder ?—Yes.

689. Was anything said about the petition then ?— Not in his case.

690. What is the next name you have there ?— Mr. Culverhouse.

691. Culverhouse, Thomas, Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

692. I see he has put his mark here ; he could not sign his name, I suppose ?—No.

693. You saw him put his mark ?—Yes.

694. Who wrote the word "canvasser" here ?—My clerk.

695. Was that from what Mr. Culverhouse had said ?—Yes.

696. That he had been employed as canvasser, and promised 3*l.* ?—Yes.

697. Did he express any dissatisfaction at not being paid ?—Oh, yes, and great annoyance ; in fact, it was pretty well understood by the whole of these men that Mr. Joyes was retaining the money for his own use. In some instances I was informed that complaints had been sent to Mr. Gower that the money had not been paid, and Mr. Gower would refer them to the separate agents, whoever they might be, Mr. Joyes and others.

698. Did you hear that from Culverhouse, Elliott, or Dale ?—No, from Turner.

699. We will come to that presently. He is put down as canvasser. Did you tell him if he had canvassed you would examine the accounts to have it right ?—I had no accounts.

700. Did he tell you how many days he was employed ?—No, I did not go into those questions ; it was quite enough for me to know that he was employed and had received money.

701. You knew he was a voter ?—I should expect he was by this being sent to him.

702. Look at Henry Baines ?—Yes.

703. He is a general shopkeeper, house Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

704. Did you see him at his house ?—I did.

705. What money was he to receive ?—5*l.*

706. Had he received it, by his statement ?—No ; he had received 3*l.*

707. From whom ?—Oh, he had received 2*l.*

708. From whom ?—By Mr. Apted.

709. By whom was he promised the 5*l.* ?—By Mr. Apted, agent for Mr. Gower.

710. What did he say he was to do for the 5*l.* ?—He had been canvassing.

711. I do not see any mark down here. Did he tell you he had been canvassing, or was it for his vote ?—It was not for his vote ; it was either for canvassing or labour of that description, but I did not inquire particularly for what.

712. There is no mention how he was employed there ?—No.

713. Did you promise him the 3*l.* ?—I did.

714. Did you fix any date when you were to pay him the 3*l.* ?—Yes, I said the following day.

715. You asked for no particulars of payment ?—I did not.

716. I suppose in reality you thought the whole of the employment a sham ?—Well, I had no right to doubt his word.

717. But you did not ask for any particulars ?—No.

718. Is that name Scarth in your book ?—No, Charles Smith.

719. Charles Smith, Nutley-lane ? they are all in a cluster there together, I see ?—Oh, yes.

720. What was he to receive ?—3*l.*

721. From whom ?—Alexander Rose.

722. He had received how much ?—1*l.* 10*s.*

723. Did he tell you how he had been employed ?—In the usual way.

724. What as ?—As canvasser.

725. About how much was due to him, 1*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes.

726. What is the next name in your list ?—William Turner.

727. Mead-vale,' house and garden ?—West-square I should imagine, by the note here.

728. William Turner is in the Mead-vale list of voters ; he qualifies out of Warwick-road ?—Yes, No. 221.

729. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is William Turner, West-street, here.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Oh, he is quite right, it is the Old borough.—Yes.

730. House, West-street, in the Old borough ; what was he to receive ?—4*l.*

731. By whom was he promised the 4*l.* ?—Frederick Joyes.

732. How much of it had he received ?—1*l.* 10*s.*, and 2*l.* 10*s.* was due.

733. What did he say he had been employed in doing ?—Turner was a messenger.

734. Is it marked down there ?—No, it was not, but I understood it perfectly well, because I thought it was rather a peculiar thing that he was employed as a messenger, because he was not well on his legs.

735. But a messenger ; he was an active strong young fellow, I suppose ?—He may have been strong, but he was not at all lithesome.

736. You do not think it was a happy choice to appoint him as a messenger ?—No.

737. He received 30*s.* ?—Yes.

738. And 2*l.* 10*s.* was due ?—Yes.

739. Did any of these men give you any details at all of what they had done for the money received, or that was to be received ?—The most of the details I had were their complaining of the accounts having stood so long and the trouble they had to get them.

740. Did they tell you they had applied often ?—Oh, yes ! In some cases they had taken tea and sugar for it, and stationery.

741. But that might have brought them under the Truck Act. Where did they get the tea ? Do you mean that they got their tea from Dakin's ?—No, they were separate agents.

742. I should like you to fix upon the names ?—I cannot.

743. You have no doubt that that had been stated to you ?—No, I heard it.

744. By more than one ?—Yes.

745. That for this money they had taken it in grocery ?—Yes ; they were supplied with tea by the agents who employed them.

746. What is the next name ?—Thomas Wood ; he is of the same street, West-street.

747. No. 233 ?—That is right.

748. Who employed him ?—William Joyes.

749. On behalf of Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

750. What was he to receive ?—5*l.*

751. In what capacity was he engaged ?—The same.

752. As what ?—As messenger.

753. Have you any mark ?—No.

754. But you recollect that ?—Yes.

755. How much was he paid ?—30*s.* ; 3*l.* 10*s.* due.

756. Did he tell you he had taken any means to get the balance ?—I do not recollect that he did.

757. You told me that some of them had said they had applied to Mr. Gower. You do not recollect the names, do you ?—No, I do not in particular.

758. Did more than one tell you ?—Yes.

759. Mr. Gower referred them to the sub-agents ?—No. Mr. Smith, I think, was the person referred to.

760. Mr. Smith is general agent ?—Yes.

761. What is the next name on your list ?—Mr. Farrington.

762. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) John ?—John.

763. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is it not Benjamin ?—No, John.

764. Nutley-lane, house and garden ?—Yes.

765. What was he employed as ; just let me see the book ; what was his employment ?—A canvasser.

766. You have an independent recollection of that ; there is nothing down here ?—No, I have a recollection of it.

767. What sum was he to have been paid ?—5*l.*

768. By whom was he employed ?—By Frederick Joyes.

769. How much had he received ?—3*l.*

770. Did you ask them whether they had given any receipt for the money ?—No. I never asked them, and I never heard that they had.

771. They did not tell you that they had ?—No.

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772. What is the next name in your list?—John Palmer, 180, Netley-lane.

773. By whom was he employed?—Frederick Joyes.

774. How much was he to receive?—5*l.*

775. Was he employed as canvasser?—Yes.

776. How much had he received?—2*l.*

777. 3*l.* is due to him?—Yes.

778. What is the next name in your list?—John Whright, of Reigate-heath.

779. What number is it?—I have not the register number here.

780. How is it spelt there?—Whright. I think it is Thrift, yes, it is Thrift, instead of Whright.

781. Thrift, John, Reigate-heath, is written here? That is it.

782. Number 817 on the list?—Yes.

783. By whom had he been employed?—William Joyes.

784. In what capacity?—As messenger.

785. Have you the mark down there?—No.

786. But you recollect it?—Yes.

787. What was he to receive?—3*l.*

788. What kind of man was he? was he very active?—No, he was just the reverse of active.

789. Was he an old man?—An elderly man.

790. Was he, in your opinion, very fit for the duty of messenger?—It depends upon what he did.

791. Was he fit to carry about messages?—I think he might do that.

792. Do you mean he was active?—That is to say, he could have walked.

793. Oh! he could walk?—Yes.

794. How much had he received?—30*s.*

795. He was to have received 3*l.*?—Yes.

796. Did he tell you that he had carried any message, or that he had done anything?—No, he did not, either that he had done or had not done anything. He told me nothing more than that he was employed.

797. Do you know for whom Thrift voted?—Mr. Gower.

798. You went to him as one of Mr. Gower's voters, that is all?—Yes.

799. Who employed him? What agent had he been employed by?—Mr. William Joyes.

800. What is the next name on your list?—Thomas Stone, Reigate Heath, No. 797.

801. By whom was he employed?—Mr. Alexander Rose.

802. In what capacity?—As messenger or canvasser; I cannot say which.

803. What was the amount of remuneration he was to have received?—3*l.*

804. What had he actually received?—1*l.* 10*s.*

805. Who is the next on your list?—Thomas Best.

806. I see "Best, William" on the first list?—No. 282, near Redhill Church.

807. I have "Best, Thomas," but he is struck out here. What is the meaning of that?—282 is the number.

808. Well, I suppose there is an objection to that. This is near Redhill Church, house and garden. By whom was he employed?—Mr. Thomas Penfold.

809. On behalf of whom?—Mr. Gower.

810. In what capacity?—As messenger.

811. What was he to receive?—3*l.* promised; 1*l.* 10*s.* received.

812. What is the next?—Robert Rose Francis.

813. No. 456. By whom was he employed?—Mr. Buckland.

814. On behalf of whom?—Mr. Gower.

815. In what capacity?—As canvasser.

816. What was he to receive?—To receive 6*l.*

817. Now, that being a different sum, did he tell you how it came to this, or how many days he had been employed, or whether 6*l.* had been fixed on originally?—No. I should have thought at the time he was calculated to have more interest in the borough.

818. Do you mean more influence?—Yes.

819. His support is worth more, then?—Just so. Perhaps he is better known.

820. Was he a man in a better position? Do you know what position in life he occupied?—I do not remember what he was. He was a working man.

821. A labourer?—He was.

822. As far as you could judge, were all these men that you had seen labourers?—In some instances they were carpenters.

823. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What was this man that you are speaking about?—A carpenter.

824. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had he a yard for himself?—Yes, if it is the same I am alluding to, he is a master man. I hear some gentleman suggest that he is a tailor. I may be mistaken. It occurs to my memory now that he is employed at the Union.

825. As a matter of course you may have been mistaken as to that. He is a tailor at the Union?—Yes.

826. How much had he actually received?—He had received 2*l.* 10*s.*

827. Who is the next on your list?—James Nice, Earlswood-common.

828. Do you know what class of man he is; is he a labourer or what?—He is employed at the Asylum.

829. Do you know in what capacity?—A carpenter, I believe.

830. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At the Union?—At the Earlswood-common Asylum.

831. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) By whom was he engaged?—He was engaged by Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower.

832. He was employed on their behalf, but by whom?—And by them.

833. Now just recollect, if you please, the particulars about this man?—He was employed to act for Mr. Gower by Mr. Smith, and by Mr. Gower himself, and Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland and several others waited upon him to try and solicit his influence.

834. I am referring to when he was employed?—I am speaking of that time.

835. What was he employed as?—As a canvasser.

836. What was he to receive?—He was promised that he should receive for his labour 5*l.* It appears he received 2*l.* from Mr. Smith, and was satisfied. He had no further claim.

837. He said he was satisfied?—Yes.

838. Had you called upon him?—I called upon him on this occasion to get this information.

839. Was he one of the latest you called upon?—It was the second day.

840. You called upon him on the second day?—Yes.

841. Was it known you were down in the town?—It was known when I was at his place, because it was dinner time.

842. Had you called upon him before?—The evening before.

843. And left word you would call again?—Yes.

844. Was he the only one you called upon the second day?—Oh dear no!

845. You called upon several others?—Yes.

846. But you found him perfectly satisfied?—Yes.

847. Did he tell you when Mr. Smith had paid him?—No.

848. Did he tell you when he had seen Mr. Smith?—No.

849. Did you learn from him that he had seen Mr. Smith since you came down?—No.

850. You came down ostensibly on the part of Mr. Gower, to clear off all these old scores?—Yes.

851. I suppose it very soon got known that you were employed for that purpose?—It did very soon get known.

852. When you came down the second day you found that it had been known in some cases, did you not?—No, it was only doubted.

853. Oh, only doubted. Doubt was the prelude to knowledge. Doubt took place first. What time of the day did you call upon this man?—Between 12 and 1.

854. Did you learn from him whether he doubted. Do you know whether he began to doubt or not; by his manner I mean?—He had no occasion to doubt, because he had no expectation.

855. He told you so?—Yes.

856. Do not be so sure of that. Now, you were to pay them on the second day?—No; on the third day I was to pay them.

857. You put off the evil day. Then they did not expect anything the second day?—No.

858. I thought you said there were some you called on on the first day that you were to pay on the second day?—It was late in the evening when I first called.

859. You were to ascertain all?—Yes.

860. To get a list of all?—Yes.

861. Then to come down and settle with them?—Just so.

862. You were to bring down the sovereigns and distribute them after you had made the list?—Yes.

863. What is the next on your list?—Mr. William Church.

864. William Church, Hollis-row; house and shop. Is he a shopkeeper then?—Yes.

865. In what line?—The general line; a grocer and that.

866. It is No. 359. By whom was he employed?—By Mr. Smith.

867. As what?—He was employed with his horse and cart, for the purpose of fetching voters from the different parts of the town up to the poll.

868. What was he to have received?—He was to receive 10*l.*

869. For the day?—Day or days, as it might have been, I do not know which.

870. Well, there was only one; but you say it was to bring voters to the poll. Where is Hollis-row? is it in Reigate?—Yes, close by Church's house.

871. How far is the place from this?—Well, I should think Hollis-row is more than two miles.

872. He was to receive 10*l.*?—Yes.

873. Well, that was a contract. How much did he receive?—7*l.* 10*s.*

874. He told you he had contracted with Mr. Smith for the use of his horse and cart?—Yes.

875. Did he tell you whether he had been employed that day or not?—Oh, yes; represented that his horse got very tired, and was then labouring under some severe cold in consequence.

876. What time was it when you came down?—When I went to him?

877. Yes.—About half-past 11.

878. I mean what time of the year?—In March.

879. And the election took place in the July previous?—Yes; the horse had never been well since.

880. From July to March?—He was obliged to treat the horse with mustard poultices.

881-2. Did he tell you whether he expected the 2*l.* 10*s.* more, or was he satisfied?—He told me he always felt confident that Mr. Gower was a gentleman, and would pay him. He knew that it was only a delay, and a matter of time; he felt certain he would pay him.

883. Did he say anything about the petition?—No, I heard nothing of the petition.

884. Mr. Church is a man tolerably well-to-do in the world?—Yes, as people generally are about that quarter. They all appear very respectable.

885. One other question. Did he take you to see the horse?—Oh, yes. I saw him administer the mustard to him.

886. That was preparatory to your administering a dose to him himself, you know?—Mine was not supposed to be mustard; it was sugar.

887. What is the next name?—James Smith.

888. Is that 4, Rees-cottages, near Brighton-road, No. 768?—Yes. Rees-cottages, Reigate-town.

889. What was he employed as?—As messenger, with two sons-in-law, I find.

890. What are they?—This is merely a note showing the amount of interest he used.

891. Were they voters?—I do not know whether the sons-in-law were voters.

892. Who employed him?—Mr. Mulley.

893. On behalf of Mr. Gower, I suppose?—Yes.

894. What was he to receive?—4*l.* 10*s.*

895. As messenger?—Yes.

896. How much had he received?—I find that his claim had been settled for his sons-in-law and all. He was paid the whole amount of 7*l.* for the services of himself and sons.

897. He received a first payment of 4*l.* 10*s.*?—No; he was promised 4*l.* 10*s.* in the first instance for himself. Then he obtained the assistance of his two sons-in-law, for which he was paid 7*l.* in all.

898. 7*l.* included all?—Yes.

899. Did he tell you by whom he was paid? Was it by Mr. Smith himself?—Yes.

900. Mr. Smith the agent?—Yes.

901. I see there is Mr. Gower mentioned here?—That implies that he was solicited by Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith personally.

902. He was waited upon by Gower and Smith?—Yes.

903. Now look at the name of William Roberts, Linkfield-row, cottage, and garden?—I have nothing against it.

904. Yes, you have. Look at the book. Look at the other side and you will see a signature. Do you recollect seeing him?—Yes.

905. His signature is in that book?—It is.

906. As attesting the truth of the statement?—Yes.

907. By whom was he engaged?—By Mr. Frederick Joyes.

908. What was he to receive?—He was to have an account of 5*l.* that was due to Mr. Joyes settled. Mr. Joyes would be satisfied.

909. He owed Mr. Joyes 5*l.*, and Mr. Joyes was to cancel that debt?—Yes, and to be satisfied.

910. Did he tell you whether Mr. Joyes had advanced him the 5*l.*, or on what account he owed it to him?—No.

911. What is Mr. Joyes?—A stationer, I think.

912. How was Roberts employed?—As canvasser.

913. Was he satisfied with that arrangement?—Yes.

914. Then you have another name on the list?—Mr. Scowgall.

915. Linkfield-lane, house and garden?—Yes.

916. Do you recollect having seen him?—No, I do not.

917. A memorandum there tells you that you have? Yes.

918. What was he employed as?—Messenger.

919. Did he explain to you what messages they were to be carrying?—I do not know the nature of the labour.

920. Do you know where they were to go to?—No, I do not know where they were sent to.

921. By whom was he employed?—Green.

922. On behalf of Mr. ——?—Mr. Gower.

923. What was he to receive?—1*l.* 10*s.*

924. What was it that he did receive?—That is what he was to and did receive.

925. He was not among the dissatisfied persons?—No.

926. Are there no other names on your list that you called upon?—No, that is all.

927. You did not come down again?—No.

928. It was not intended?—I had no desire, till you sent for me.

929. We had great difficulty in finding you out?—Indeed. There are a great number of inhabitants of Reigate who know my address.

930. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You only made inquiries on one side. You did not make inquiries about persons on the side of Mr. Monson?—Oh, no, I was not employed for that.

SECOND DAY.

J. Hall.

23 Aug. 1866.

JAMES HALL called and sworn.

931. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where do you reside? Is it Lesbourne-road?—Lesbourne-lane.

932. Is that in the Old borough?—Yes.

933. You were here at the last election?—Yes.

934. And you voted, did you not, for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

935. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Apted.

936. Did anybody else?—Mr. Buckland.

937. Did you know them before?—Yes.

938. Is Mr. Apted a leather seller?—Yes.

939. Mr. Buckland is an agent?—Yes.

940. An estate agent?—Yes.

941. Where was it that they came to you, do you recollect?—I saw Mr. Apted in his own house first.

942. Did he send for you?—No.

943. How did you happen to go there?—I happened to go for an article out of his shop, and he asked me who I was going to vote for.

944. Have you any dealings with him in leather or anything else?—Oh, yes. I frequently used to go in there for things, or anything like that.

945. You mean to purchase anything he could provide you with?—Yes.

946. Was there an account between you at this time, do you recollect?—No, I think not.

947. Are you sure?—Not when he asked me for my vote.

948. You went in there you know?—I went in there for the purpose of purchasing an article, and he asked me who I was going to vote for.

949. Only let me know distinctly,—at that time had he any account against you?—No, not to my knowledge; I do not believe there was.

950. He asked you to vote?—Yes.

951. Did he say for whom?—He asked me to vote for Mr. Gower.

952. And where did you see Mr. Buckland?—I think I saw Mr. Buckland in his own house the first time he spoke to me about it.

953. Did he send for you?—No.

954. Do you recollect how you came to go there?—I cannot say that I do.

955. Were you in the habit of going to Mr. Buckland? Who took you there?—I often used to go to Mr. Buckland to pay my rent. He used to collect my rent; and I think that is when he spoke to me first, when I went there.

956. He collects the rent of the house you live in?—Yes.

957. Whose house is it?—It belongs to Mr. Upton of Cuckfield; Mr. Buckland receives the rent of it.

958. How far is Mr. Upton's from here?—I cannot say.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Cuckfield is 18 miles.

959. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When they asked you did you promise, or what did you do?—I promised Mr. Apted that I would vote for Mr. Gower.

960. Did you promise readily, or was there any hesitation about it?—No, he put my name down there and then.

961. Did he tell you you would receive something for it?—He told me every man would be paid after the election.

962. Did he tell you what you would be paid?—No amount was told me at all.

963. Did he tell you on what scale you would be paid?—No.

964. When did he tell you that you would be paid?—I do not recollect that he told me any time.

965. Did he tell you what you would be paid; the same as the others, or anything of that sort? Yes, he told me I should be paid the same as the other men.

966. If you voted?—Yes, if I voted for Mr. Gower.

967. Did your name appear on the list of Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

968. Did you see it yourself?—Yes, I saw my own name on the list.

969. Did you attend the meetings?—Yes, I attended all the committee meetings, and the public meetings as well.

970. No doubt. Did you do any work at all for Mr. Gower?—Well, as to that, I cannot say that I did.

971. And so then the election came on?—Yes.

972. Well, since the election have you been to get your money?—Yes, I spoke to Mr. Apted about it several times.

973. Is that Mr. Job Heath Apted?—Yes.

974. You have spoken to him several times, and has he paid you?—No, when I spoke to him first he did not. He told me that he had not received any himself and he could not pay me.

975. Well then you were not satisfied, and you called on him after that?—Yes.

976. And did he pay you any money?—I went to Mr. Smith after that and asked him.

977. And did Mr. Smith pay you money?—No, he did not; he sent me to Apted or Buckland.

978. He sent you back to Apted?—Yes.

979. Did Smith tell you that they would settle with you?—Yes.

980. And did you go to Apted again upon that for your money?—Yes; at least I did not go that night.

981. Never mind the night; did you go after that?—Yes.

982. For your money?—Yes.

983. And did you get any from Mr. Apted?—Yes.

984. How much?—30*s.*

985. Do you happen to know when that was; how long after the election?—No, I cannot say how long, but I should say about a month after the election; or it might have been a little longer.

986. Was that 30*s.* given to you to satisfy you in full?—Well, he told me when that 30*s.* was given me he would give me that in advance, and most likely there would be more for me afterwards.

987. Did he tell you how long you must wait for the rest?—No, he did not.

988. Did he mention any time?—No.

989. Do you recollect whether he said that you must wait for the rest until after February?—No; I do not recollect that at all.

990. He may have said it?—He may have said it, but I do not recollect.

991. Now just tell me, Mr. Hall, what are you?—A gardener.

992. A working gardener?—Yes.

993. You mean you go out to garden for other people, or do you keep a nursery garden of your own?—No, I go out.

994. At so much a day?—Yes.

995. And do you live in a house in the borough?—Yes.

996. And vote for it?—That was the first time that ever I did vote though.

997. You were on the register?—Yes.

998. What rent do you pay for your house?—6*s.* a week.

999. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is 15*l.* 12*s.* a year?—Yes.

1000. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just tell me whether you are in the Old borough?—I believe it is called the Old borough.

1001. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you living in the place at the time of the previous election?—Yes.

1002. Did you take any part in it?—No.

1003. Did you hear anything of the proceedings at the election of 1863?—No, I do not know anything at all about the previous election.

1004. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you expect to get?—To be paid the same as the others.

1005. How much? Did you know what the others were going to receive?—Some said they required 5*l.* I expected the same as they did.

JAMES NICE called, sworn, and examined.

1006. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A weaver.

1007. In what portion of the weaving trade?—Matting and hearthrugs.

1008. Are you a journeyman weaver or a master?—A journeyman.

1009. What are your wages?—27*s.* a week.

1010. Were you on the register at the last election?—Yes.

1011. Had you been on the register at previous elections?—At one.

1012. Were you canvassed by any persons to vote at this last election?—Yes.

1013. By whom were you canvassed?—Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower.

1014. Were you canvassed by the other party as well?—Yes.

1015. Who canvassed you on the other side?—Mr. Richardson.

1016. He was a canvasser?—Yes.

1017. Whom did he canvass for?—Mr. Monson.

1018. How long before the election did he canvass you for Mr. Monson?—It might be two months, I do not remember the date.

1019. First of all we will take what took place between you and Mr. Gower's party; what took place in that interview?—Nothing, only they asked me for my vote, and I promised it them.

1020. Was anything said about money at that time?—Nothing.

1021. Was there any time afterwards; anything said about money by Mr. Smith to you?—No.

1022. By Mr. Gower to you?—No.

1023. Did you see Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower at any other time than that?—I saw them a great many times; I was backwards and forwards continually.

1024. Was there anything said by them about your being paid?—Not a word.

1025. Did you see Apted or Buckland?—I saw them frequently going to the committee room.

1026. Did anything take place between you and Apted about money?—I will tell you in what form it took place.

1027. Tell me, in the first place, in your own way, in what form it occurred?—I came here, and, in fact, I canvassed a great many, and I was asked by the people I canvassed whether there would be any pay for going backward and forward. I live about two miles and a half from here; and some others live as far off as I do, and Messrs. Buckland, Apted, and Joyes said if the men were taken away from their work there would be a pay, but not otherwise.

1028. Now, did anything of that sort take place between you and Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower?—Not a word.

1029. Well, did you do anything?—I did.

1030. What did you do?—I canvassed. I went to different people that I thought were likely to vote for Mr. Gower, and then if there was any turning I came and told Messrs. Smith and Gower, and Buckland and Apted.

1031. How many people did you see?—It might have been a dozen.

1032. And I suppose it might have been less?—It might have been less; I have not got the numbers. I saw a great many every evening.

1033. What class of people did you canvass?—Working people.

1034. About in your own neighbourhood?—Yes.

1035. Not very far I suppose from your own house?—Not very close to me. There were not many very close to me.

1036. What time of the day did you canvass?—In the evening.

1037. After you had done your work?—Sometimes I would lose a day if I thought it necessary. I was very much interested in Mr. Gower.

1038. Did you lose a day?—Yes, sometimes.

1039. But do you say you lost several days in canvassing twelve people?—Yes, and in attending meetings in the evening.

1040. Did you expect to be paid for attending meetings?—Yes, for canvassing and loss of time.

1041. Did you consider it loss of time to attend the meetings?—Yes, it hindered me from my work.

1042. Was it a sort of understood thing in the borough that persons were to be paid for attending public meetings?—No; but if they lost any time in canvassing.

1043. Now, if you expected to be paid for attending meetings and canvassing 12 people, did you make any promises to those that you canvassed?—I did not.

1044. Did they ask you?—They did; I made no promises; I was in no condition to do so.

1045. Did you hold out any expectation to them?—I did not.

1046. Did you refer them to anybody?—No; I was not authorized to do so.

1047. But you might have referred them to persons who were authorized to do so?—I could not do that.

1048. You were too conscientious, I suppose?—Yes.

1049. Tell me in what way any one voter in particular put the question to you about being paid?—I was not authorized.

1050. You say that some of the voters did say something to you about being paid. I want some specific observations by any one of the voters in reference to being paid?—I cannot remember anything definitely, only that they could not afford to lose the time.

1051. Was that a general observation?—Yes.

1052. They could not afford to lose time, and therefore they expected to be paid for voting?—For loss of time; it always took two days, the nomination day and the election day.

1053. From your knowledge of that class did that appear to be a general feeling?—Yes.

1054. They all expected to be paid for attending the poll and attending the nomination?—Yes.

1055. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much? The sum is not given?—They did not state the sum.

1056. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But surely you have heard it spoken of among your own people. Did you go to any public house for the purpose of smoking your pipe?—No; I do not smoke.

1057. Did you go and have anything to drink?—No.

1058. Have you joined the society of teetotalers?—No.

1059. You are one, only on principle?—Yes.

1060. Did you never fall into any society where they were speaking about the sum to be paid for loss of time in the election?—No; I believe it is generally left to the agents. I never heard a sum specified.

1061. Have you heard previous to this occasion that money has been paid?—I never saw such a thing.

1062. Have you received some before?—No; I beg pardon, I did receive some from Mr. Wilkinson. I voted at Mr. Wilkinson's election.

1063. How much did you receive then?—Two pounds.

1064. From whom?—Mr. Wilkinson's agent.

1065. Does he live in the town now?—He is dead.

1066. What did you do in that election?—Much the same as this; but I did not know as many people then.

1067. But do you say you did not know 12 people then; because, at present, you have only got to the extent of canvassing 12 people, attending a meeting or two, and going to the nomination and polling?—I attended a great many meetings.

1068. What did you eventually receive?—For what?

SECOND DAY.

J. Nice.

23 Aug. 1866.

1069. Now that is a very great question, "for what?" You have told us it was for your loss of time and attending the election; but what did you eventually receive in reference to this election?—Are you referring to the last election?

1070. Yes.—I received 5*l.* from Mr. Gower.

1071. At this present election?—Yes.

1072. Who paid that?—Buckland.

1073. When was it paid?—I have not the date; some considerable time after.

1074. After the election?—Yes.

1075. Tell me whether it was a month, or two months, or what?—About six months after.

1076. Was it before or after the petition?—Before.

1077. Do you recollect when Parliament met?—Yes, February, was it not?

1078. If you attend these public meetings you take a special interest in knowing when Parliament meets?—Yes; but we have had no election meetings since.

1079. You were paid 5*l.* by Buckland?—Yes.

1080. Did you give a receipt for it?—I did not.

1081. What took place between you and Buckland when that was paid?—I only asked for it. I put in my claim for it.

1082. What claim?—For the loss of time and the meetings I had attended, and the messages I attended to.

1083. Did you put it in in writing?—No.

1084. I suppose you saw Mr. Buckland?—Yes.

1085. Did you tell him on what business you had called upon him?—Yes.

1086. How did you set about stating your business? I suppose you commenced by saying, "Mr. "Buckland, I have called about so-and-so"?—Yes.

1087. How did you put the question?—I cannot tell you that now.

1088. Did you tell him the claim was for money he had promised?—No; he never promised anything definitely.

1089. Did you mention it was for money Mr. Gower or Smith or Apted had promised you?—No.

1090. Did you mention anybody's name?—No; I only mentioned that those three said I should be remunerated.

1091. What three?—Buckland, Apted, and Joyes.

1092. That is the first time you have mentioned Joyes, I believe. How long before the election was it understood between those three that you were to be remunerated?—About six weeks before the election.

1093. Were they all three present when you were engaged?—No.

1094. Or did you see them at separate times?—Yes, I saw them at separate times.

1095. Well, had you any sons at work at the election?—No, I had not.

1096. Did you receive any money at all from Mr. Smith?—I did not.

1097. Did you ever apply to him for any?—No.

1098. You know the Mr. Smith I mean, Mr. Smith the agent?—Yes.

1099. Whom did you vote for?—Mr. Gower; I promised him in the first instance.

1100. Before the election were you much in this part of the town of Reigate?—No; I live at a considerable distance, and I seldom came.

1101. Were you at any time before the election at the "Grapes"?—That was not Mr. Gower's place.

1102. I do not know whether it was Mr. Gower's place or not?—I attended the "Grapes" once.

1103. Whose house was the "Grapes"?—Mr. Monson's.

1104. When you were at the "Grapes" did you see any persons belonging to Mr. Monson's party?—Yes.

1105. Well, who was there? Did you know any of them?—Yes; my brother-in-law worked for Mr. Nichols, who was of the same family.

1106. Is Mr. Nichols your brother-in-law?—No; I had a brother-in-law at work for him, and it was him who asked me to come in.

1107. Who is Mr. Nichols?—I think he is Mr. Monson's agent, I am not sure.

1108. Who took you to the "Grapes"? How came you to go there?—I went by invitation of my brother. When I was in the town, after attending one of those committee meetings, he asked me if I would go in.

1109. Was your brother a voter?—No.

1110. Was he employed in the election at all?—I did not see him during the election, except that time.

1111. How came he at the "Grapes"?—He was working for Mr. Nichols's brother.

1112. Does Mr. Nichols keep the "Grapes"?—Yes.

1113. The brother of Mr. Nichols that you are speaking of, the agent for Mr. Monson?—The brother of Mr. Nichols the agent keeps the "Grapes," and it was for the brother who is the agent that my brother-in-law was working; I met him in the street, and he asked me to go in.

1114. Did you see Mr. Nichols there?—Yes, I saw him there.

1115. I mean Mr. Nichols, the agent for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

1116. What is Mr. Nichols besides being agent for Mr. Monson?—I do not know; he holds some office in the parish, I do not know exactly what, sheriff's officer I think, I am not certain.

1117. Is he connected with the county court?—I believe he is; but I know very little about him.

1118. Are you speaking of James Nichols?—Yes.

1119. What room were you taken into there when you first went?—I am not sure that I should know it again.

1120. Was it in a committee room where Nichols was?—No; I think it is one of the public rooms.

1121. Was it in the public room that you saw Nichols, or did you see him walking about the place?—I saw him in one of the front rooms.

1122. You say that you have not for a very long time taken any spirituous liquors, did you have anything to drink at that house?—Yes, I did. I have not for a very long time taken any beer.

1123. Then you had not wholly given up spirituous drinks?—I am not pledged.

1124. But I understand you that you do not object to a glass of brandy and water?—Not much; but I do not take it habitually.

1125. Then you did have something there?—I did.

1126. Was that paid for by yourself?—My brother paid for it.

1127. How long were you in the house?—I do not know; I did not take any note of the time; it may be half an hour.

1128. Well, did this which you drank have any effect upon you?—It did.

1129. What time of the day were you there?—It was late in the evening, after I had attended a committee meeting; it might be half-past eight.

1130. You say this drink had an effect upon you; did you before that notice anything that was taking place there?—No, I did not.

1131. Because, you see, you were something like an enemy in the camp?—Yes, I was.

1132. Were the lights put out? Were you in the dark?—I do not remember that I was; I think not.

1133. Did you hear anything said about money between the parties?—No, I did not.

1134. I do not suppose that brandy and water had such an effect upon you but that you recollect what took place?—Do you mean had I heard anything about money irrespective of myself?

1135. Irrespective of yourself?—No.

1136. Did you hear anything about money in respect to yourself?—Yes.

1137. From whom?—Mr. Nichols.

1138. What took place between you and Mr. Nichols?—He told me if I would vote for Mr. Monson I should be paid; I told him that I had promised Mr. Gower and could not do so. That was all.

1139. Did you tell him that you were under terms to Mr. Gower to vote for him?—Oh, no; only that I had promised him.

1140. Or that you were under terms with his agent?—No.

1141. Did Mr. Nichols offer you any specific sum?—I do not remember that he did.

1142. Then in what way did he offer his money? Were you to do anything for him?—I was to canvass.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What you told us just now was, "If I voted for Mr. Monson I "was to be paid." You said nothing about canvassing.

1143. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you to canvass as well as to vote?—I suppose that rested with me.

1144. Did Nichols simply say that you were to canvass, or did he say you were to vote?—I think he called it "employment," if I would "be employed" by them. I do not remember the exact words. I tell you as nearly as I can remember.

1145. You are sufficiently acquainted with the management of elections, I suppose, to answer me this question,—When a person in your position promises to vote, and is to canvass, is it a generally understood thing that he is paid for his work?—Yes, I think it is.

1146. On both sides?—I cannot tell you exactly, but I believe that is the impression.

1147. Did you take an active part in the previous election?—In Mr. Wilkinson's I did.

1148. Were you at any time in that room at the "Grapes" when you became insensible?—That is the only time that I ever was in the "Grapes" that I tell you of now.

1149. That is not an answer to the question?—Are you referring to any other time?

1150. Well, were you in the "Grapes" at any other time? Why do you suppose I refer to some other time?—You say, was I insensible?

1151. I mean on that evening?—I was very insensible before I got home. I had some one to go home with me.

1152. How much did you drink?—I do not remember having more than an ordinary glass.

1153. Does an ordinary glass have that serious effect upon you?—It did, whatever it might have contained.

1154. Did it have a speedy effect?—It had so much effect that I could not go home at the time.

1155. But I mean while you were in the house?—I did not feel it till I got out.

1156. Is it a fact that you never received 5*l.* or any sum of money at all from Mr. Nichols, or any party belonging to Mr. Monson's side?—Yes, I received 50*s.* from a party belonging to Mr. Monson's side.

1157. When?—Some time before the election.

1158. This last election?—Yes.

1159. From whom did you receive that 50*s.*?—From a man of the name of Rose—Ephraim Rose.

1160. Is Ephraim Rose any relation to the Alexander Rose who canvassed for Mr. Gower?—I think not.

1161. Who is Ephraim Rose? Do you know him?—Yes, he works at the same institution as I do.

1162. What institution is that?—A large asylum; the Idiot Asylum.

1163. At Earlswood?—Yes.

1164. Now you say that you received that money from him on the part of Mr. Monson?—Yes.

1165. Was it in reference to the election; what was it paid to you for?—I cannot tell you, sir, except that it was an inducement.

1166. What was said to you when the 50*s.* was given to you?—Nothing at all.

1167. How came it to be given?—I can only tell you that it might be an inducement; there was no agreement of any kind.

1168. Do you mean to say that Ephraim Rose took those 50*s.* out of his pocket and said nothing?—He laid it on the table where I was at work.

1169. Where is Ephraim Rose? is he at Earlswood at work now?—Yes, he is a carpenter.

1170. What did you do with the 50*s.*? did you take it up from the table?—And put it in my pocket.

1171. Did you see Ephraim Rose put it on the table?—I did.

1172. What time in the day was it that this was done?—Some time in the forenoon. I do not remember the hour.

1173. Was it at dinner time?—During the morning, some time before dinner; I do not remember the exact hour.

1174. When you put this 50*s.* into your pocket did you say anything to Ephraim Rose about it?—I did not.

1175. You did not ask him anything?—No, I did not.

1176. How long was this before the election?—I cannot tell you exactly; it might have been a week.

1177. Whilst you were canvassing for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

1178. Now, you were a supporter of Mr. Gower, and you say in reference to this 50*s.*, which you thought was an inducement, nothing was said at the time you received it. Then how is it that you have come to the conclusion that this money was given to induce you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Rose was a supporter of Mr. Monson, and I simply arrived at that conclusion myself.

1179. You argued in your own mind that it must be for the election?—Yes.

1180. Was Ephraim Rose indebted to you at all?—No.

1181. You had no claim upon him in any possible way?—No.

1182. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Has he ever asked for the money back?—No, I have never repaid it; no one has ever asked me for it.

1183. Although you voted for Mr. Gower?—No.

1184. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say Rose works at the Asylum. Is there any person in the neighbourhood who is likely to have any influence over Mr. Ephraim Rose?—I do not think that there is.

1185. Who is his master?—The same as mine, Dr. Down. We have a committee over us, of course.

1186. Had you done any canvassing at the Asylum for votes?—Mr. Gower had been, and so had Mr. Monson.

1187. But the heads of the Asylum, had they canvassed?—Oh no, they do not take any part in it at all.

1188. Had Dr. Down taken any part in it?—Not at all.

1189. Did you ever have any notion at all where Ephraim Rose got the 50*s.* from?—No.

1190. I may ask you this question,—can you form any possible notion where the 50*s.* came from?—It must have come from Mr. Monson's party, I should think somewhere.

1191. Had Dr. Down a vote?—No, he has not a vote.

1192. Did any person belonging to that establishment vote at the election?—There were several.

1193. You mean the men working there?—Yes.

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1194. I do not mean them?—Oh; none of the leading officers have any votes.

1195. Is there any person in the neighbourhood of that establishment who was voting for Mr. Monson; any of Mr. Monson's party who has any influence there?—No, I should think not; it is principally working people round that neighbourhood.

1196. You can give us no information whatever, as to your belief at least, respecting where the 50*s.* came from; I dare say you know?—I know that I do not know.

1197. I will give you two or three seconds to think now, to recollect?—I can not possibly. I will tell you what has been said. I believe Mr. Nichols said that I made some agreement with him the night I was there, and I wish to tell you candidly that I have not the least recollection whatever of making the least agreement with Mr. Nichols. I remember nothing whatever about it; but if Mr. Nichols wishes to assert that, of course I cannot help it.

1198. What connection has that with Ephraim Rose?—I think it is possible Mr. Nichols might have given Rose the money on the strength of that.

1199. That is the only solution you can give?—Yes; I can give no other.

1200. And that may be fallacious?—Yes.

1201. Was Ephrain Rose a man who would be likely to have 50*s.* of his own to throw away on the table?—Quite the contrary.

1202. It must have come from some other source?—I think so. I should like also to say that if I did make such an allusion I should be very sorry indeed for it. I did not wish to lead Mr. Nichols astray at all under that impression; I do not remember making him any agreement whatever.

1203. At this time you say you were under the influence of this drink, whatever it might have been?—I will call it brandy. I do not know what it was.

1204. For the sake of the house you will call it brandy?—Yes.

1205. Do you recollect Mr. Hamblin calling upon you?—I do not remember Mr. Hamblin.

1206. Or any person calling upon you, and your giving information? Do you recollect any person calling upon you under the name of Naylor?—I do. I have got his card.

1207. You have got his card in your pocket?—Yes.

1208. You saw this gentleman to-day?—Yes. I have never seen him since till now.

1209. I believe he had some conversation with you, "Mr. Naylor, Parliament-street, London"?—Yes.

1210. Well, did he show you that card?—Yes, he presented me with that card.

1211. You have heard what he said this morning?—Yes, some of it. I was here some little time.

1212. Did you tell him that you had been promised for voting 5*l.*, and that you had been promised that 5*l.* by Mr. Smith and by Mr. Gower?—I did not.

1213. Is that your handwriting (*showing witness a book*)?—Yes, it is my handwriting; I signed that.

1214. Was this entry read to you before you put your name to this book:—"Nice, James. Residence: "Earlswood-common. How voted: Gower. Amount "promised for voting: 5*l.* By whom promised: "Smith and Gower, Apted, Buckland. P. more"—"paid more"?—No, it was not.

1215. That was not read to you?—No, it was not. I will tell you the exact words as near as possible.

1216. Let me have your exact version of your conversation with Mr. Hamblin. We will not call him "Naylor" now. Hamblin is his real name. Naylor was a fictitious name for the purpose of getting information?—A few days before I was paid he called upon me as if he had been sent by Mr. Gower, and asked me if I had been paid, and what. I said, "Nothing." He said, "We have come round from "Mr. Gower to all who have not been paid, and we "are in a position to pay you at Mr. Laker's hotel "to-morrow evening if you will only sign this book." That is what he told me.

1217. Did you tell him how much was owing to you?—I made a claim.

1218. What did you claim?—I claimed 5*l.*

1219. Did he ask you who promised you the 5*l.*?—Yes, I believe he asked that.

1220. And you told him?—I told him Messrs. Joyes, Buckland, and Apted. I said probably; I did not give it definitely; but probably it would amount to that, considering the times I had been engaged.

1221. You mentioned those three names—Apted, Joyes, and Buckland. Will you be upon your solemn oath that you never mentioned the name of Mr. Smith?—I did not. He asked me whether Mr. Smith or Mr. Gower ever promised me, and I said, "No."

1222. You say upon your solemn oath that you never mentioned the names of Smith and Gower?—Only negatively; that they did not promise. I would like to say also that I saw him writing in the book after I had signed it.

1223. Was anybody else there with him? Had he got his clerk there with him?—He had got some young man with him. I do not know who it might be.

1224. Who was it wrote in the book?—This young man that was with him.

1225. Did Hamblin tell the young man what to write?—I do not know. They did not speak up. They sort of turned their backs to me.

1226. Did you hear Hamblin tell the young man what to write in the book?—No.

1227. How far were you from them?—About two or three yards. I did not pry into what they were saying.

1228. Were you not sufficiently interested in what the entry was that you put your name to?—No. I thought I did all that was necessary. They asked me for this information. I would like to give you the reason why I did not expect anything from Mr. Gower or Smith. I saw Mr. Gower privately before the election, and he told me that it was not his intention this time to buy any vote whatever; if he got in it would be by purity; and he hoped no one was under the impression that they were to be paid as voters.

1229. Is there anything else that is material that you can inform the Commissioners of in reference to this election?—Nothing that I know of. I would tell them most readily.

1230. Have you stated all that you know of in reference to the conduct of the election? Let me ask you this question: When you were taken into the "Grapes," there was a committee meeting going on there?—There was, late in the evening.

1231. Were you there at the time?—Part of the time.

1232. Was Mr. Monson in the chair?—I really do not know. He might have been in the room. I am not certain.

1233. You are not certain he was in the chair?—No, I am not.

1234. Did you not see him in the room?—I might or I might not. I really am not able to tell you.

1235. I want to know whether you are sure he was not in the chair, or whether you do not know where he was; whether he was in the chair or not?—I think not. I really am not positive whether he was in the room or not. I did not see him in the chair. He might possibly have been in the room, but I did not see him in the chair.

1236. Who was in the chair?—I do not know. There are many gentlemen in Reigate that I do not know the names of.

1237. You live a good way from Reigate?—I do, and very seldom come.

1238. Tell me this. I notice you answer that you live a good way from Reigate, and very seldom come; how far do you live?—Something over two miles.

1239. Your business does not take you to Reigate?—Not at all.

1240. A good many of the Reigate people you do not know ?—I do not.

1241. I suppose there are not many that you do know much about ?—Comparatively few.

1242. I suppose it did not occur to you that you would not be a very good canvasser in Reigate ?—No, sir.

1243. I mean that when you made any agreement about 5*l.* it was in spite of knowing that you were not likely to be a very good canvasser ?—I did not think it would be necessary in Reigate; I went more round the outskirts, such as down to the freehold.

1244. Are there voters there ?—No; I attended the meetings down there.

1245. Did you canvass any other place ?—I did not.

1246. I want to go back to the "Grapes," when you were in the "Grapes." I want to know whether you saw Mr. Monson there ?—I do not remember seeing him there.

1247. Where did you see him ?—I had seen him at the Asylum.

1248. What was he doing at the Asylum ? Was that before you went into the "Grapes" ?—Oh yes, I had seen him there weeks previous.

1249. Then you knew Mr. Monson well enough when you went into the "Grapes" ?—Oh yes, I had seen him. I should have known him.

1250. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you saw Mr. Monson at Earlswood was he accompanied by anybody ?—Yes; he generally came round with Mr. Richardson.

1251. Was that before or after you received the 50*s.* ?—Before.

1252. How long before ?—I do not know the date; it was a considerable time.

1253. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you see Mr. Richardson at the "Grapes" ? Try and recollect ?—I think not. I do not think he was there; I do not remember seeing him there. I cannot say positively.

1254. You are not prepared to say that Mr. Monson was not there ?—No, I am not.

1255. When you went in you were all right ?—Yes.

1256. Now I want you to tell me what your recollection is about Mr. Monson being there ?—He was not there when I went in; there were very few there.

1257. After you had been there some time did the room become fuller ?—Yes; it was not the same room that I went in.

1258. Did you go into one room, and after you had been there some time then go into the committee room ?—Yes, I believe that was it.

1259. When you went into the committee room were there a good many people there ?—Yes.

1260. Tell me, if you please, anybody who was there. Was Nicholls there ?—I think not; I only remember meeting Langridge there.

1261. Were you ever at Mr. Monson's committee room at the "White Hart" ?—I believe I went over that evening.

1262. Did you see Mr. Monson there then ?—Yes, I saw Mr. Monson there.

1263. Who took you over there ? Was that Nicholls or who ?—I cannot tell you.

1264. But somebody, I suppose ?—Somebody did; I went with somebody.

1265–6. Somebody introduced you, I suppose ? I mean you would not have gone into the committee room without being introduced ?—No, sir.

1267. You know this is the same evening ?—Yes.

1268. Can you tell me whether Nicholls was in the committee room at the "White Hart" ?—I cannot.

1269. But Mr. Monson was ?—Yes.

1270. While you were in the committee room at the "White Hart" was there any talk about money ? —I do not remember hearing anything whatever.

1271. What was the talk about ?—I do not remember.

1272. Was this after you had had a glass ?—Yes.

1273. You recollect going there ?—I have a dim recollection of going there, but nothing else, only that I saw Mr. Monson; I recognized his face again; that was all.

1274. "Again" ? Since when ?—Since I had seen him at Earlswood.

1275. As long as you were in the "Grapes," was your head good before you went over ?—I should not like to say.

1276. You think it is doubtful ?—I think it is doubtful.

1277. And if there was any agreement with you, you cannot think whether it was at the "Grapes" or at the "White Hart" that it was made ?—No, I cannot.

1278. You understand my question, that if there was an agreement you cannot tell at which it was made. You do not recollect that it was either ?—I do not.

1279. Had you any conversation at any time with Mr. Monson ?—Yes, I sent for him after I had received this money and told him.

1280. Previous to that had you any conversation with Mr. Monson himself ?—Not a word.

1281. Had you ever spoken to him in your life ?—I do not remember to have done so.

1282. You had no conversation with him at the "White Hart" ?—No, not a word, not to my knowledge; of course I make the allowance for the brandy.

1283. Are you able to say whether you accosted Mr. Monson himself when you went into the room, or whether he accosted you ?—I think not.

1284. Now tell me, when was it that you spoke to Mr. Monson about the 50*s.* ?—After I had received it.

1285. After you had received it from Ephraim Rose ?—Yes.

1286. Did you send to Mr. Monson ?—I did.

1287. What, to your house ?—I sent a note.

1288. Did you have any conversation with him ?—I only told him at the time I sent word I would like to see him.

1289. And then you did see him ?—Yes.

1290. At your house ?—At the Asylum where I work. He came purposely when he received the note.

1291. What did you tell him about the 50*s.* ?—I only told him I had received it, and from whom.

1292. What did he say to that ?—He hardly seemed to credit it. He said he did not believe anything of the kind was going on, but he would go home and make inquiries.

1293. Was that all he said at that time ?—Yes.

1294. Now subsequently did he tell you, or did you go to him, and did you hear that he had made inquiries ?—He came to me after he had made inquiries and tried to bounce me out of it. I do not know any other word.

1295. Just tell us as well as you can what he said. He came to you and said, "Well, about that 50*s.*, "I have made inquiries" ?—And he said, "It is all "humbug and lies. They tell me it is nothing of "the kind." He also went to Dr. Down.

1296. Were you there ?—No, sir.

1297. Who told you what he said to Dr. Down ? —Dr. Down told me in substance what he said.

1298. I want to know what he said to you besides. Tell me if you can recollect the words he used. "I have been about that 50*s.* and made inquiries about "it, and I find—" what ?—"That it is all humbug "and lies." Those are the true words.

1299. What did he seem to mean by that; you had never received 50*s.* ?—I suppose so; he did not define it.

1300. Did he say nothing more than "It is all "humbug and lies" ?—That is all I remember; he might have used another word or two, but that is the substance.

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1301. You certainly had received 50*s.* from Rose ?—Oh, yes, I showed it to Mr. Monson.

1302. Had you kept it in a piece of silver paper ?—I had kept it in my pocket ; the time was very short between the time of receiving it and seeing him.

1303. Did Mr. Monson when you showed him the money seem to be affected by that piece of evidence ?—No sir, he seemed very angry, that is all.

1304. What at ?—Well, I do not know.

1305. Was anything said about which side you were on ?—Not at that time.

1306. At what time ?—Not at his coming ; of course he knew before I was to vote for Mr. Gower, because I had promised it, and it was generally known.

1307. What seemed to you to make him angry ?—He was afraid it would affect his interests, I suppose.

1308. What would affect his interests ?—Money having been given to me.

1309. Not because you were on the wrong side ?—He thought I should talk about it, of course.

1310. Now did he send for Ephraim Rose in your presence ?—No.

1311. Did you see Ephraim Rose and him talking together at this time about it ?—No, I did not.

1312. Was Ephraim Rose at the Asylum at the time ?—Yes, he was there that week generally. I do not know that he was there that day ; he was a great many days away.

1313. You told my friend Mr. Smith that nothing was said by Rose ; he simply said, "Here is the 50*s.*," and put it on the table, and you took it up ?—That is all that passed.

1314. Did Ephraim Rose mention any name in connection with the 50*s.* ?—I do not remember that he did.

1315. You were all right then ?—Oh, yes.

1316. Do you think if he had mentioned any name you would recollect it ?—I should certainly remember it.

1317. But your impression is he mentioned no name ?—No.

1318. Did he say "here is the 50*s.*," or "here is 50*s.*" ? do you recollect at all ?—I do not.

1319. Did he say even that ; or did he simply put 50*s.* on the table, and you without having any right to it whatever took it up ?—That is all.

1320. Have you seen Mr. Monson since about it ?—No, sir, I have not seen him since.

1321. After you had been at the "White Hart" did you return to the "Grapes" ?—No, sir, not to the best of my knowledge.

1322. Where were you when you came to yourself, when your senses returned ?—I was at home.

1323. That is what I wanted to know. You were not at the "Grapes" nor at the "White Hart" ?—No, sir, I was at home.

1324. When you got into the "Grapes" did you notice what persons were doing there ?—I did not, sir. There were very few people in to the best of my recollection.

1325. Not when you went into the other room ?—No.

1326. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 50*s.* you say on behalf of Mr. Monson ; did you communicate that to Mr. Gower's party ?—Yes, I did.

1327. When ?—At the time.

1328. To whom did you communicate the fact that you had received the 50*s.* ?—I do not remember the party, but I believe I told it generally.

1329. You are a worker on behalf of the Gower party, you were employed canvassing ; to whom did you communicate the fact that you had received 50*s.* on behalf of Mr. Monson ?—I do not remember ; I think I spoke of it generally.

1330. You were in the habit of seeing Mr. Smith, were you not ?—Yes.

1331. Did you tell Mr. Smith ?—No, I think not.

1332. Did you tell Mr. Gower himself ?—No, I do not remember doing so.

1333. Why did not you tell Mr. Smith you received 50*s.* for the purpose of voting ? Why did not you tell Mr. Smith that you received 50*s.* on behalf of Mr. Monson ?—I did not know it was necessary.

1334. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Just let me ask you,—have you since having received this 50*s.* of Ephraim Rose had any conversation at all with respect to any moneys which he might have paid in reference to the election ?—No, sir, he has been very shy of me since then.

1335. Have not you heard from Ephraim Rose himself that he has paid other moneys to other electors besides yourself ?—I may have done, sir.

1336. But have you not ?—I will tell you if I have.

1337. Just recollect ; you know it is a circumstance which you cannot forget ?—I remember one instance, to a man of the name of Turner.

1338. We have a particular fact, that you heard from Ephraim Rose that he paid moneys to a person of the name of Turner ; what Turner ?—I do not know his Christian name ; he lives at Mead-vale.

1339. What does he work as ?—Shoemaker.

1340. Is that man Turner's name Richard ?—It may be ; I really do not know his Christian name.

1341. But he lives at Mead-vale and works at the Asylum ?—Yes, as shoemaker.

1342. Did he tell you how much he had given to this man Turner ?—Yes.

1343. How much ?—Fifty shillings.

1344. That was after you had received your 50*s.* ?—Yes.

1345. How long after ?—I cannot tell you that ; somewhere within a week.

1346. Do you mean to say that is the only other case which you have heard from Ephraim Rose that he had paid ?—That is the only other case.

1347. Have you heard from anybody else about there that Ephraim Rose had been paying moneys to any other persons ?—Yes ; there were all sorts of rumours, but I do not remember any other case definitely ; not by name.

1348. Now give me one of the rumours, and we will inquire into it. What had you heard by way of rumour ? had you heard any name mentioned besides Turner as having received money ?—I have heard some man ; I really forget his name, but he lives at Guildford ; he is on the register still.

1349. What is he ?—A wheelwright I believe. Mind, it is only rumour ; I cannot attach any importance to this.

1350. Would you know his name if you heard it ?—Yes.

1351. Is it anybody like Chitty ?—No, sir, it was not.

1352. You do not recollect the name ?—I really do not recollect the name.

1353. Who was it told you ?—Well, I do not remember that ; it is only rumour ; I really do not remember names connected with that.

1354. But you heard somebody speaking about it ; was it mentioned at the establishment of the Asylum amongst your fellow workmen ?—I believe it was, but I am really not certain as to when I heard that, or how.

1355. How many belonging to that Asylum are on the register ?—Four, I believe.

1356. Not more than four or five ?—No.

1357. Was it one of the four or five that spoke to you about it ?—No, sir, it was not, not to the best of my knowledge.

1358. You say there were four or five persons on the register working at the Asylum, give me the names of those men ?—Turner.

1359. You do not know his Christian name ?—I believe it is Richard.

1360. Give me the name of another ?—James Payne.

1361. Another ?—It would be Rose.

1362. What is Payne ?—A shoemaker.

1363. Where does he live ?—Close by Warwick town on the Brighton-road.

1364. Now give me the name of another ?—Rose and myself.

1365. Then there would be Turner, Payne, Rose, and yourself ?—Yes.

1366. Well, if this money was given to anybody there it must have been to Payne ?—Yes. I do not think it was ; I do not remember any money being given there by Rose. I never heard of any being given.

1367. Have you heard, either by report or from Rose himself, that any money has been paid to Payne? —No, I have not heard definitely.

1368. Have you ever heard Payne say anything about voting, whether he received any money ?—No sir, not a word ; I should fancy he did not perhaps.

1369. Who did he vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

1370. Who did Turner vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

1371. And you voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

1372. And Rose voted for ?—Mr. Monson.

(Adjournment.)

JAMES PETERS, sworn and examined.

J. Peters.

1373. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*)—You live at Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

1374. And you have a house and garden ?—Yes.

1375. What occupation do you follow ?—Gardener.

1376. A working gardener ?—Yes.

1377. What rent do you pay ?—About 16*l.* a year; a little over that.

1378. How long have you been an elector of Reigate ?—Well, this is the first time I have been voter for the borough of Reigate of late years.

1379. You have not been on the register ?—Not till within this last two years.

1380. Had you ever voted before for Reigate ?—Yes, several years ago.

1381. You got struck off ?—I left the neighbourhood.

1382. Was this the first contested election that your name reappeared upon the register ?—Yes.

1383. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

1384. Are there a considerable number of gardeners about Reigate ?—A great many.

1385. Did they all vote for Mr. Gower, or most of them ?—I do not know ; I cannot say.

1386. They all voted, did they not, or a great part of them, for Mr. Gower ?—I do not know anything about that.

1387. Do you mean you do not know ?—I do not ; I know a few of them.

1388. A few of them who are on the register ?—Yes.

1389. For whom did they vote ?—That I cannot say.

1390. Do you mean to tell me that you do not know for whom the persons you are acquainted with voted at the election ?—I might know perhaps one or two or so.

1391. For whom did they vote ?—For Mr. Gower.

1392. Did you know Mr. Gower long ?—No.

1393. Did you know him at all ?—Yes, I just knowed the gentleman, and that is all.

1394. Who canvassed you ?—Mr. Apted.

1395. Is that the gentleman we have heard mentioned ?—Yes.

1396. What is he ?—Mr. Job Heath Apted, a currier.

1397. Who else canvassed you ?—I do not know that any one else did particular, sir.

1398. Were you employed as a gardener, or what ? —Yes, as a gardener.

1399. Not for the election. Were you employed upon the election matters ?—Yes.

1400. As what ?—As a messenger.

1401. Now I would like to know when you were employed as a messenger ?—Why, at the beginning of the election.

1402. By whom ?—By Mr. Apted.

1403. How long before the election ?—I do not know how long it might be, perhaps a month or five weeks.

1404. A month or five weeks before the election as messenger ?—Yes.

1405. Did you do any work at your gardening business during that month or five weeks ?—Oh yes.

1406. For yourself, or were you employed by others by the day ?—By the day.

1407. And what were you to receive as messenger ? —I was to receive 4*l.*

1408. A lump sum ?—Yes, of 4*l.*

1409. Did that include your vote ?—That included everything.

1410. Did it include everything ? Were you to vote as well as to act as messenger for the 4*l.* ?—I do not know about that.

1411. Were you not to vote for Mr. Gower as well as to act as messenger in order to get the 4*l.* ?—I was to vote for Mr. Gower.

1412. In order to get the 4*l.* ?—Yes.

1413. And was that conditional, if Mr. Gower won the election ? Was it not only in the case of his winning the election that you were to get the 4*l.* ?—He did not say particular about that.

1414. Was it not in case Mr. Gower won the election that you were to have the 4*l.* ? Be cautious, because I have your signature before me. Is that your mark ? Just look at it, and answer deliberately (*handing a document to witness*) ?—I believe that is my mark.

1415. You made a mark ?—Yes.

1416. And the statement was read over to you, and you made a mark ?—Yes.

1417. Now I ask you, was not it in case Mr. Gower won the election that you were to receive the 4*l.* ?—Yes, I believe so.

1418. Was it not so, in case he won the election that you were to receive the 4*l.* ?—Yes, I suppose so.

1419. He did win the election, did not he ?—I believe he did.

1420. How much did you get ?—2*l.*

1421. You were to act as messenger ?—Yes.

1422. How many messages did you take ?—Well, I do not know, sir.

1423. Oh, yes, you do ?—No, I do not, sir.

1424. I ask you—I have your signature—I ask you, did you take one message during the whole time from the five weeks that Mr. Apted spoke to you up to the time of the election ?—Yes, I did.

1425. Where to ?—Two or three different ones.

1426. To whom ?—To a man of the name of Elliott.

1427. What message did you take to Elliott ?—Why, to attend a meeting.

1428. You told him to attend a meeting ?—Yes.

1429. Where does Elliott live ?—At Nutley-lane.

1430. How far from you ?—Not five minutes' walk.

1431. And you told Elliott to come to attend a meeting ?—Yes.

1432. Did you go to attend the meeting ?—Yes.

1433. Who else did you go with a message to ?—I went and told John Fernicorn.

1434. Is this true, "I never canvassed a single "elector, neither did I act in any capacity as a mes- "senger, or do any work during the election time" ? Is that true ? I have your mark ?—Yes, that is the mark.

1435. Is that true ? I will read it for you again. "I never canvassed a single elector, neither did I act "in any capacity as a messenger, or do any work "during the election time." Is that true ?—Well, that is true, I suppose.

1436. Now I ask you, apart from acting as messenger or canvassing or doing any other work, was not

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the arrangement with Mr. Apted that you were to have the money if you voted for Mr. Gower, and if Mr. Gower won the election ?—Yes.

1437. Did you know that was bribery, I want to know ?—No.

1438. What do you think it was ?—Well, I expected I was to have that for my work.

1439. You had the money to give your vote if Mr. Gower succeeded. When did you receive the 2*l.* ?—I think it was in December ; I am not quite certain.

1440. To whom did you apply for it ?—To Mr. Apted.

1441. When did you first apply to Mr. Apted for it ?—It might be the latter end of November, but I do not exactly remember.

1442. Why did not you apply before ?—Why, sir, I did not trouble the man ; I thought very likely he would bring some when he had got some to spare.

1443. You knew it was not his money. Did you expect Apted paid it out of his own pocket ?—I did not expect he would.

1444. Where did you expect Apted would get the money ?—I do not know.

1445. Did not you know it would come from Mr. Gower ?—I did not know who it was to come from.

1446. From whom did you expect it was to come ? —I do not know.

1447. Did not you expect it was to come from the candidate for whom you voted ?—I must expect so, sir, but I did not know who it was coming from.

1448. Why did not you apply to him before ? you knew Mr. Gower was a man of wealth, and a man of influence ; why did not you apply to Mr. Apted before ?—Well ; I had no particular reason to call upon him ; not before.

1449. He gave you 2*l.* What did he say when he gave you the 2*l.* ? How much did you ask for ?—I never asked for no sum at all.

1450. But I thought you told me the agreement with Apted was that you were to receive 4*l.* ?—Yes.

1451. Did not you ask him for the 4*l.* ?—No.

1452. What did you say to him ?—I asked him if he would let me have a little money on account of the election.

1453. Did he give you 2*l.* then ?—No, sir, not then he did not.

1454. What did he give you ?—He did not give me none at all ; he had not got any.

1455. When did you first call upon him ?—Sometime in November.

1456. He had no money then ; did he tell you when he would have money ?—No, he did not.

1457. You called on him in December ?—I did not call upon him.

1458. What then ?—I met him out in the street and he gave me the money.

1459. He gave you what ?—He gave me one sovereign, and about a week, or it might be a little more than a week afterwards, he gave me the other.

1460. Where did you meet him when he gave you the other ?—At his own house.

1461. You called for it ?—Yes.

1462. Did you give him a receipt at all ?—No, sir.

1463. Was any arrangement made between you and Mr. Apted when you were to receive the other 2*l.* ? —No.

1464. Did he tell you you were to receive no more ? —No, sir, he did not.

1465. Did you apply to him again for the other 2*l.* ?—No, sir, I did not.

1466. Why, you had to receive 4*l.* upon the condition of voting for Mr. Gower, and upon the condition of Mr. Gower winning ; and Mr. Gower won, and you voted for him ; why did not you call upon him for the additional 2*l.* ?—No, sir, I have not called for it.

1467. Why ?—I do not know that I have any reason why.

1468. No reason ?—No.

1469. Did you ever expect to get the other 2*l.* ?— Well, I did expect it, but I do not expect I shall ever get any more now.

1470. You thought yourself entitled to it ?—Well, I do not know about that.

1471. Did you think yourself entitled to it. Was it an understood thing that those who voted for Mr. Gower were to receive money ?—Well, I understood it as such.

1472. Was that a general understanding amongst people ? Where do you live ?—At Nutley-lane.

1473. Did a good many of the Nutley-lane people receive money ?—Well, some have, I believe.

1474. Was there a general understanding among the Nutley-lane people that they were to receive money ?—Not more than in other places.

1475. I am asking about Nutley-lane ?—There may be four or five, perhaps.

1476. Did you know any who voted for Mr. Monson ?—Ne'er a gardener, as I know of.

1477. Was it understood that they were to be paid what you call for their time ?—I do not know whether it is to be paid for their time or not.

1478. Were they to be paid ?—They were to be paid ; satisfied for their trouble.

1479. You talked of paying for their time ; paying for their labour. Let there be no misunderstanding about it. Did you do any work at all except voting ? —No further than I have mentioned.

1480. I have the paper read over to you ?—You may deem that as no work at all.

1481. I am speaking of what you say : "I did no "work at all ; this is a true statement." Is that so, "I did no work at all"?—I did no more than what I told you, sir.

1482. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was to ask that one person to go to the meeting ?—Yes.

J. Apps.

JAMES APPS sworn and examined.

1483. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You live at Mead-vale ?—Yes.

1484. What are you ?—A labourer.

1485. What sort of labourer ?—A carman. I was at the election.

1486. Do you mean you kept at the election a horse and spring cart ?—No ; I was carman for Mr. Holdsworth.

1487. You are a voter ?—Yes.

1488. In respect of a house ?—Yes.

1489. What rent do you pay for your house ?—12*l.* a year.

1490. At the last election you voted for Mr. Monson, did you not ?—Yes.

1491. Did you have an interview with Mr. Monson about voting for him ?—No, sir.

1492. Who did you promise your vote to for him ? —Mr. Holdsworth.

1493. Had Mr. Holdsworth anything to do with the election ?—No, he had not anything to do with it no further than I suppose he mentioned it to me about it. I do not know that he was agent or anything of the kind.

1494. And you told Mr. Holdsworth that you would vote for Mr. Monson ?—I did.

1495. Mr. Holdsworth being your master at that time ?—He was my master.

1496. After that, some time before the election, you were coming into the town ; were not you seen there? —I was watering the town.

1497. And did you see the parties on the other side ?—I saw Mr. Gower, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Joyes. That was before ever I promised Mr. Holdsworth ; a good bit.

1498. Then when you met these gentlemen you were not promised to anybody ?—I was not.

1499. They came up to you and spoke to you, did not they ?—Mr. Smith introduced me to Mr. Gower. Mr. Gower came and asked me for my vote, and if I had promised it to any one. I said, "No, I had not."

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Mr. Smith then said, "You had better promise Mr. "Gower;" and I said, "No." Mr. Joyes then said, "You had better promise Mr. Gower, Apps, and then "it will be done with." I then said, "No, not at "present."

1500. Was anything said about your master?—Mr. Joyes said I was not to mind what my master said. I was not to take any notice of him, for if he turned me off they could find me plenty of work.

1501. And they did not speak very respectfully of the water cart, did they?—No; Mr. Joyes said, "Never mind the water cart."

1502. Did you see them after that?—Yes, I see them several times.

1503. Can you tell me about how long before the election it was that you had this talk with them?—I should say it was something like a week or fourteen days; I cannot say exactly.

1504. You have seen them several times since?—I have seen them several times since.

1505. Have you seen Mr. Gower since?—Yes, I have seen him several times since.

1506. And before the election?—And before the election.

1507. Did you have any talk with him?—Not after that time.

1508. Do you know a man named Mazden?—Yes, I do.

1509. Whose side is he on?—Mr. Gower's.

1510. An active man?—Yes.

1511. A kind of agent for Mr. Gower?—I suppose so.

1512. You had some talk with him too?—Yes, I did.

1513. This was afterwards?—That was before I saw Mr. Gower.

1514. What, before you saw Mr. Gower, with the water-cart?—Yes.

1515. Did Mr. Mazden say anything to you about your vote?—Yes, he asked me for my vote.

1516. And what did he say to you about it?—He said I never got anything the other time, and if I would come this way he would get me *5l.*, the same as the rest were going to have. All that voted for Mr. Gower would have *5l.*

1517. Who said that?—Mr. Mazden.

1518. And you did vote at last for Mr. Monson?—I did.

1519. Did you ever get any money at all from Mr. Gower or his side?—No, not any.

1520. When was it you promised to vote for Mr. Monson?—Not till a very few days before the polling day.

1521. Who came to you to ask you for your vote for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Apted came to Mr. Holdsworth one day after I promised. Mr. Holdsworth asked on whose side I was going, and I said I should go for Mr. Monson, as I was working for Mr. Holdsworth, and he said, "Very well."

1522. Who said "Very well"?—Mr. Apted did.

1523. Did anybody ask you afterwards?—Only Mr. Job Apted.

1524. Mr. Job Apted did not ask you for your vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

1525. Was it at Mr. Holdsworth's that Mr. Job Apted, he asked you for your vote?—Yes.

1526. Had you had any conversation with Mr. Holdsworth about it before that?—Yes, he often asked for the vote before, and I told him that I should vote for Mr. Monson.

1527. When Mr. Job Apted came to you at Mr. Holdsworth's did you know who Mr. Job Apted was?—I did very well.

1528. Did you know he was an agent for Mr. Monson?—I understood he was.

1529. What did he say to you about it?—He only asked me if I had thoroughly promised which way I was going, and I said yes, I had given my promise to Mr. Holdsworth to vote for Mr. Monson.

1530. Did he say anything more?—No.

1531. Did he ask you to do any work for him?—No, not at all.

1532. Was anything said about any?—No, not at all.

The witness withdrew.

J Bonny.

James Bonny sworn and examined.

1533. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you live in Holmsdale-road or park?—Yes.

1534. You voted for Gower at the last election?—Yes.

1535. Who canvassed you for your vote?—Mr. Gower himself and Mr. Smith.

1536. What did they say to you?—Who?

1537. Mr. Gower?—He told me—he called on me—

1538. To ask you for your vote, I suppose?—Yes.

1539. At that time you saw Mr. Gower was anything said about money?—Certainly not.

1540. Subsequently to that did Mr. Joyes and Mr. Rose come to you?—Yes.

1541. They were Mr. Gower's agents?—I cannot say that.

1542. You do not know that?—No.

1543. However, they came to you?—Yes.

1544. Did they ask you to vote?—They did.

1545. For whom?—For Mr. Gower. I did not give them any satisfactory answer. Mr. Joyes and Mr. Rose came to me.

1546. Whom did you vote for? for Mr. Gower?—I gave Mr. Gower my preference.

1547. When Mr. Joyes and Mr. Rose came to you they came about your vote; and whom did they ask you to vote for?—Mr. Gower.

1548. They offered you some money, did they not?—To work for them.

1549. I say first that they offered you some money?—Yes.

1550. Was that to work for them for a time?—Quite right.

1551. Was that so much per week for a month?—As long as it lasted.

1552. Not for a month only?—No.

1553. What was the amount you were to get?—28*s.* a week.

1554. Was it not 30*s.* a week?—I cannot say that, it might have been.

1555. Well, I rather think it was. Did they tell you that they wanted you to work for them because you were a good worker?—Yes, Mr. Rose did.

1556. To work for them; what did they mean?—Canvassing.

1557. How was it that you came to tell them upon that that you could not work very well, for you had a bad arm?—I had a bad arm.

1558. That would seem as if it was not canvassing they meant?—I cannot say what they might mean.

1559. Did your arm prevent your canvassing?—Certainly.

1560. Oh, it was so bad as that?—Quite so.

1561. Oh, I beg your pardon, your arm was very bad, and you told them you had a bad arm and you could not canvass?—No, I could have done it if I thought proper; but as I had got a bad arm, I thought I would not injure myself. My arm was too dangerous, and I thought I had better be laying still.

1562. Subsequently to that you saw them again?—Oh, three or four or five times, six times.

1563. On one occasion they talked about the election?—Oh, every time.

1564. Do you remember Mr. Rose saying to you that if you voted for Mr. Gower he would guarantee you *5l.*?—I do.

1565. What did you say to that?—I said you send, and I will make up my mind by that time. He knew all about what I meant.

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1566. Suppose you tell me what you did mean. Tell me what you did mean, if you please?—What I did mean?

1567. Yes?—Of course I meant if he would send for me he could send 5*l.* and a trap.

1568. A trap to bring you over?—Yes, I was not going to walk.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We have heard of other traps this morning.

1569. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He knew what you meant to say?—I suppose so.

1570. You did vote for Mr. Gower?—Certainly, as I had promised him.

1571. Did you get 5*l.*?—Certainly not.

1572. Did you get anything?—No.

1573. You have not got anything yet?—No.

1574. You ought to have had it, ought you not?—I have not got it.

1575. Have you asked for it?—No, it is useless.

1576. Did you ever ask for it?—No, I should not trouble myself for it.

1577. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before the petition was presented did you ask for it?—No.

1578. Did you ever think of asking?—Certainly not. I thought that if a man promises a thing he ought to perform it without being asked.

1579. You thought it ought to have been brought to you?—Certainly.

1580. As a debt of honour?—Yes.

1581. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You expected the 5*l.* before you voted?—Oh, when the carriage came up I expected it then.

1582. The carriage came, did it?—Yes; and I walked down after that.

1583. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The carriage came?—Oh, yes, it came several times, but I did not go with it.

1584. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You waited till the last?—No, I did not.

1585. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What time of the day did you vote?—About a quarter past three.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then you did wait till the last hour.

1586. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to ask you, did you attend at all at the "Grapes"?—No.

1587. You know the "Grapes"?—Very well.

1588. You have been there?—A good many times.

1589. Were you not there previous to the election?—No; I might have called in going down to town. It is my business to call at every public house; I am in that line.

1590. You are in that line?—Yes; the soda water line, of course.

1591. What are you?—I am a soda water manufacturer and confectioner.

1592. But you did not call at the "Grapes" more than to ask if they would have any soda water?—I merely asked if they had any orders. If nothing was wanted I did not take it, if anything was wanted I took it in.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I need not trouble you any further.—(*The witness.*) I am much obliged to you.

W. Johnson.

WILLIAM JOHNSON sworn and examined.

1593. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Your name is William Johnson?—Yes.

1594. And you are one of the voters of this borough?—Yes.

1595. How long have you been on the register as a voter?—About three years.

1596. About three years?—I will not be sure how long it is, but somewhere about that time.

1597. Were you on the register on the last election?—Yes.

1598. I do not mean 1865, but the one before?—No, not on the one before.

1599. I believe you voted at the last election?—Yes, I did.

1600. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower.

1601. When were you first canvassed to vote?—Well, several weeks before the election came on.

1602. By whom?—Both Mr. Gower and Mr. Monson called, but I was not in at the time.

1603. I mean when you saw somebody?—I saw Joyes.

1604. Was he the first person you saw with reference to your vote?—He was the first person.

1605. Of course he asked you for your vote?—Yes.

1606. Was anything said to you about money?—He asked me if I would take an active part in it, in canvassing, &c.

1607. If you took an active part in it, what was to happen?—Of course I was to be paid for the loss of time and canvassing.

1608. You say of course; why do you say of course?—If I lost the time and neglected my business, I expected I was to be paid for it.

1609. Did you tell those gentlemen so who were canvassing you?—Yes.

1610. What is your business?—That of an upholsterer.

1611. A master upholsterer?—Yes.

1612. Where do you carry on the business?—In Reigate.

1613. In this town?—In this town.

1614. Did you mention that to Mr. Joyes?—I mentioned that to him.

1615. What did he say?—He said that it would be all right, and that he would speak to the others.

1616. Who did he mean by the others?—Mr. Smith and Mr. Buckland, as I understood from him.

1617. How long was this before the election?—A great many weeks.

1618. Several weeks?—Yes.

1619. Before the arrangement had ripened?—Yes.

1620. Did you afterwards see as a matter of canvass either of the candidates?—I saw Mr. Gower.

1621. Did you see Mr. Monson?—No; I have seen him, but not to speak to him.

1622. Not to speak to him as a matter of canvass; but you have seen Mr. Gower?—Yes.

1623. When you saw him have you seen him alone or with others?—Both alone and with others.

1624. When you were canvassed by him?—He did not canvass me himself, because I was going to vote for him.

1625. You had promised your vote before?—Yes.

1626. Where was it you saw Mr. Gower, at a meeting?—The first place was at a meeting down below.

1627. At this building?—Yes.

1628. That was an ordinary meeting of the electors?—Yes.

1629. Where speeches were made, and so on?—Yes; at least a committee meeting.

1630. It was a committee meeting, was it?—Yes.

1631. Now, at that committee meeting was anything said with reference to the conduct of the election with regard to paying the people for their work?—Not at that.

1632. At any of the committee meetings you attended has it been stated at all as a matter of business?—Yes, Mr. Gower at one meeting said all who worked for him should be paid, and well.

1633. Did you hear that said by Mr. Gower?—I heard that said, and a good many men besides.

1634. Was that on more than one occasion?—Only on one occasion.

1635. Tell me upon what occasion that was said as near as you can?—I will not say to a few days, but I think it would be a week or a fortnight before the election.

1636. Were there many present when that was said?—Yes, a room full.

1637. Was it a committee meeting or a general meeting?—A committee meeting.

1638. One of the meetings in this building?—In this building.

1639. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Gower said all who worked for him should be paid, and well paid?—Yes.

1640. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was before the election?—That was before the election.

1641. A few days before the election?—Yes.

1642. Was there any other occasion that you heard the general body of the committee talking about this payment?—Oh, I heard it spoken of several times.

1643. By the committee?—By the committee.

1644. On those occasions, when you have heard it spoken of in the committee as a general matter of conversation, was Mr. Gower present?—I cannot say that he was.

1645. Was Mr. Gower a constant attendant at committees?—Yes; perhaps sometimes he has been here an hour or so; before he did come there was a deal of conversation.

1646. That might be before he came?—Yes.

1647. Did Mr. Gower remain until the committee broke up?—No; he generally went away before the committee broke up.

1648. Did you canvass?—Yes.

1649. Did you canvass much?—Yes, a very great deal.

1650. Now do you recollect on one occasion going to Bickley?—Yes, I do.

1651. Was that to canvass a voter of the name of Knight?—Yes; and to canvass a voter of the name of Turner.

1652. What Mr. Turner was that?—A butcher.

1653. At Bickley?—Yes.

1654. Was he living there?—Yes; he had left Reigate, and had gone to life at Bickley.

1655. What was his name? William?—No, I think it was Henry; he had got the vote for the Old borough.

1656. His name was William?—No; Henry, I think, but I am not sure.

1657. Before you went to Bickley did you see Mr. Smith the agent?—Yes, I did.

1658. Did you receive any instructions from him as to the mode you were to canvass Mr. Knight and Turner?—Well, as for Turner it was no use saying anything about, but Mr. Knight should have the same as the others if he liked to come.

1659. Were those the instructions you received?—Those were the instructions I received.

1660. You were a committee man; did you understand what was meant by Mr. Smith saying that Mr. Knight was to have what the others had?—I understood it was offering them 3*l.* to 5*l.*, and more if you could get it.

1661. Was that whether they did work or no work?—Well it was; all could work.

1662. Do you mean to say then that the term work was merely a fiction?—In some cases; with men who could not get away from their employment in the day-time, of course, it was put down as work.

1663. If they could not get away from their work in the day-time it was put down as work?—Yes.

1664. Though they were to do nothing in fact?—Only attending meetings, and so forth.

1665. We will see about the meetings presently that you speak of that they did attend. Did you see Knight?—Yes.

1666. Did you make the offer to Knight?—Yes; told me that he had promised faithfully to go the other way.

1667. But before that had you known Mr. Knight?—Yes.

1668. I presume you told him that. I presume you told him the allowance what you were ready to offer before you said that. What did you say?—I said "Very well, I will not press you to break your "word."

1669. Before that had you told him that you had had an interview with Mr. Smith?—No; I never told him about it when I found he had promised his vote. I did not offer him anything.

1670. He told you he had promised his vote before you had had an opportunity of offering it to him?—Yes.

1671. So you did not make the offer?—No, I did not make the offer.

1672. When you came back to Mr. Smith did you report what happened? Were you given anything to go there?—I had half a sovereign given to me to pay my expenses.

1673. To pay the railway fare and so on. Did it cost you 10*s.*?—Yes.

1674. Were you to be paid for your work?—I was to be paid for my work.

1675. What were you to be paid for your work?—There was no certain sum agreed upon; I was to be well remunerated for what I did.

1676. Having heard that declaration by Mr. Gower, you believed that you would be well remunerated?—Of course I trusted in it.

1677. Did you receive any money to expend on the election?—No, I never received any, not before the election.

1678. Have you received any since?—I have received some money on account.

1679. How much have you received?—3*l.*

1680. Is that all that you have received?—That is all I have received.

1681. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was for yourself?—Yes.

1682. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you expend anything before the election for election purposes?—Yes.

1683. Of course I mean besides the 10*s.*?—Oh yes, a great deal.

1684. How much?—Several pounds.

1685. Can you state how much?—I cannot say, because I never took notice of how much it was.

1686. Was it as much as 15*l.*?—It would be very nearly it.

1687. In what way was the money expended?—In going about from one place to another. When I wanted to canvass we very often had a glass or two together.

1688. Was the money expended partly in travelling and expenses, such as paying for railway fare and carriage hire?—A good deal of it was paid for carriage hire.

1689. Then you say in canvassing you sometimes had a glass together?—Yes.

1690. Did you pay for the glass when you had it?—Yes, I did.

1691. The glass means two I suppose, one for yourself, and one for your friend you were canvassing?—We generally asked a friend to have a glass.

1692. And with that glass I suppose you could get better over him and succeed in obtaining his vote?—We could talk better over it.

1693. How many occasions have you canvassed over a glass?—I cannot say.

1694. Most of the times?—Oh yes.

1695. How many persons did you canvass?—Very many.

1696. Give us a rough guess?—I cannot tell you; I canvassed a great many, every one whom I knew who had not promised their vote, or if they were of the other side I tried to get them.

1697. Did you canvass both the districts, the Old district and the Foreign?—Yes, I used to go from one to the other.

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1698. Did you know persons in both districts ?—Oh yes, I knew most of them.

1699. Is there any sort of jealousy existing between the two districts ?—I think there is a little between Redhill and Reigate.

1700. Has that at all exhibited itself in a party feeling ?—Of course I only know from report, from hearing what they have spoken about Reigate ; they wanted their own way at Redhill, instead of our having it in Reigate.

1701. Is there anything about the neighbourhood in this way, calling the Reigate people Reigaters ?—Yes.

1702. By whom were they called Reigaters ?—By the Redhill people.

1703. Does that arise from the jealousy between the two parties ?—Yes.

1704. A sort of nickname ?—Yes.

1705. Do you know enough of the election to tell us whether one party, either Mr. Gower's or Mr. Monson's, had the larger majority in the one district or the other ; we will take this district amongst the Reigaters first ?—I think he got the majority here.

1706. Who ?—Mr. Gower.

1707. Now in the other district, the Redhill district, what is your opinion ?—I think Mr. Monson would have the majority there.

1708. To a certain extent we may call Mr. Gower a candidate for the Reigaters, and Mr. Monson the candidate for Redhill ?—Yes.

1709. That is your notion ?—That is my notion.

1710. I asked you because you seemed to have taken a considerable part in the election. Now there is another question : did you apply to Mr. Gower ?—Yes, I wrote a letter to him.

1711. Was that an application for monies ?—Yes.

1712. Not only for the monies which you thought yourself entitled to as a matter of pay for your work, but also for monies that you had expended ?—Yes.

1713. Did you tell him how much you had expended ?—No, I did not.

1714. Did you tell him any sum at all which you had expended for expenses ?—No ; I said after neglecting business several weeks, and the money I had expended, I thought it was time I was paid.

1715. Did you receive a reply to that letter ?—Yes, I did.

1716. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you got it?—No, it was left at the House of Commons.

1717. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I believe that was a letter referring you to Mr. Smith ?—Yes ; he said he was perfectly well aware of the interest I took, and the information I had given, but he could not enter into these matters himself, but that I was to apply to Mr. Smith.

1718. Did you apply to Mr. Smith ?—I did.

1719. And did you get any redress from Mr. Smith ?—I got 3*l.* on account.

1720. Did you get any promise from Mr. Smith of future payment ?—He said he did not know what would be done, but that I must apply to Mr. Gower.

1721. He said you must apply to Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

1722. Was anything said about any time you were likely to expect payment ?—He thought it would not be paid me till after February.

1723. When February came there was the petition, and you got no money ?—I got none.

1724. And you have never received anything since ?—I have not.

1725. Did you send in any specific account ?—I sent in a note.

1726. Did you ever claim any specific sum of money ?—I sent in a note for the work, but not for the other.

1727. What did you claim for the work ?—I think it was somewhere about 5*l.* I forget exactly what it was.

1728. How came you to ask for the magic sum of 5*l.* ?—For the work.

1729. Surely your work was worth a great deal more ?—It was worth more. I sent in a note to claim something. It was told me I should be well paid, but as for the amount they did not know.

1730. Why did you send in a claim for 5*l.* if you were to be well paid ?—Just to remind them of it.

1731. Surely your best remedy would have been to have sent in a claim for the whole amount ?—That I sent in.

1732. Why did you not send in a specific claim ? I do not know why you valued your work only at 5*l.* Did anybody tell you to put it at 5*l.* ?—Yes.

1733. Who did ?—Mr. Buckland.

1734. Did he tell you why you should put it at 5*l.* ?—It would not do to put the money expended, what I spent ; I forget the grounds.

1735. We can perhaps make a guess at the answer. Did he tell you in fact to claim only 5*l.*, and whatever you wanted afterwards would be paid as a difference ?—He stated it should be paid as a difference.

1736. Did you tell Mr. Buckland the whole amount you expended ?—I think I told him what I laid out.

1737. Did you tell him the full amount you expended for your work beyond the 5*l.* ?—I told him I thought about 20*l.* with the money I had laid out.

1738. Then that would have been 20*l.* : 5*l.* laid out and 15*l.* expended. That would be the claim for 20*l.* ; but did not you expend something beyond ?—If they had offered it me I should have taken it, but I did not expend anything only for labour and what I had laid out.

1739. The 5*l.* was for your labour ?—Yes.

1740. Do you mean to say when you discussed this matter with Mr. Buckland in this serious way you only expected 5*l.* during those several weeks you were engaged ?—During those several weeks I did not neglect my business altogether—only for part of the day.

1741. As I understand you, you did. Do I understand you to say you would have been satisfied with 5*l.* for your labour ?—I should have been perfectly satisfied if I had got the money I laid out and the 5*l.*

1742. And that you never expected to have got more ?—No.

1743. Still you were not to return to Mr. Buckland or Mr. Smith the 15*l.* ?—No.

1744. So that the 15*l.* would have been paid afterwards, and would not go into the election expenses ?—It would not go into the election expenses.

1745. I suppose you understood the amount of 15*l.* was not to be made public ?—Not to be made public ?

1746. Was not that portion of the account what you would call in electioneering matters illegal expenses ?—Yes.

1747. And the 5*l.* you would call legal expenses ?—Yes.

1748. Did you see ribbon given away ?—Yes.

1749. Who gave that away ?—Job Apted.

1750. Is he a draper ?—No, a leather currier.

1751. He had the ribbon ?—Yes.

1752. On what day was that given away ?—On the day of the nomination.

1753. Do you know a man of the name of Charles Lucock ?—Yes, I do.

1754. Where does he live ?—In West-street.

1755. And what is he ?—He is a collar-maker, I think, or a harness-maker.

1756. For whom did he vote ?—For Mr. Gower.

1757. Do you know of his receiving anything from Mr. Joyes ?—I heard him say he had received 3*l.*

1758. Is it Mr. Locock or Mr. Lucock ?—Mr. Lucock.

1759. Did you ever see him with a cheque ?—I never saw him with a cheque.

1760. Did you ever hear him say he had got a cheque ?—I heard him say he had got a cheque, or something to let me know he had got a cheque.

1761. Did you canvass Lucock ?—Several times.

1762. Were you able to get him your way ?—He would not give his promise till a very short time before the election.

1763. Did you ever hold out any inducement to get him your way ?—No, not to him.

1764. Or his wife ?—No.

1765. Or his family ?—No.

1766. Or in any way that it should come to his ears ?—No, not at all.

1767. In what way did you try to get him round ? —I only spoke to him about coming our way, and he said he wanted to know what he was going to have ; but I felt rather doubtful about him, and I did not like to say anything.

1768. You felt doubtful about him. Did you represent that to the committee ?—I represented that to the committee.

1769. To whom did you report that fact—to the committee ?—To Mr. Joyes.

1770. And the others who were on the committee—to Mr. Apted ?—Yes.

1771. You canvassed a good deal ?—Yes.

1772. In any one single instance of your own canvassing, did you ever discuss where you were matters of political interest ?—Very little indeed. It was said there was no difference at all between them.

1773. And when you did discuss the question of whether they would come on your side or not, was it a question of the value of the vote and not of political principle ?—It was quite so ; they always spoke of what they were going to have.

1774. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) All you canvassed ?—Most of them.

1775. How many could you say said that ?—About 18 or 20.

1776. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You told us you could not tell us how many you canvassed, but did you canvass many men ?—Yes.

1777. I suppose from some you got the votes ?—I referred them to the others about the money matters, if they wanted it. I said they had better see either Mr. Joyes, or Mr. Apted, or Mr. Buckland, or some of the committee.

1778. You were generally greatly about the borough, and must have noticed things going on. Did you notice whether it was as much on Mr. Monson's side as on your own side a question of value ?—Only from the reports which I have heard.

1779. You did hear it reported ?—Yes, I heard some reports.

1780. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you hear it said by any of the electors ?—Yes, from some of the electors.

1781. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you give me any information at all, any names of persons from whom you had heard that on the other side ?—I cannot think of the names ; if I do happen to think of them I will tell you, but I cannot think of them to-night.

1782. At present you cannot call to your mind the names of any persons who had spoken about money being a consideration in voting on the other side ?—I cannot.

1783. Before you leave the box it may cross your mind. I do not know whether you ever did such a thing as what is very often done in electioneering, but did you ever try to see what was going on in the enemy's camp by going into their committee rooms or public meetings ?—I went to some of their meetings.

1784. I thought it would be so. A great electioneerer like you must have been into your enemy's camp. Where did you ever attend meetings in the enemy's camp ?—At Redhill.

1785. Where ; tell me the spot ?—At the Town Hall.

1786. Also here ?—Yes, at the hall here, the New Hall.

1787. You have only mentioned the two public halls ?—Only the two public halls.

1788. Have you ever been into any of these houses where meetings were going on where they were likely to have liquor ?—Do you mean Mr. Monson's ?

1789. Yes ?—No, I have not.

1790. I am going to yours presently. I want to know whether you were aware of any on the other side ?—No.

1791. Those were perfectly legitimate meetings, without any refreshment at all ?—Yes.

1792. Was anything said at those meetings in the nature of a promise as to the payment for labour ?—I never heard it said at all.

1793. You never were in the private committee rooms, or in any of the houses where there was refreshment ?—I never was.

1794. Were you ever at the "Grapes" ?—I do not think I was in the "Grapes" but twice or three times all the time of the election.

1795. At what time of the day were you at the "Grapes" ?—I was in the "Grapes" one evening and two mornings, and that was about some work that I was at in the morning.

1796. I suppose in the morning would be at a time when very few people would be there ?—There were not such a great many.

1797. Was there anything that you saw going on at the "Grapes" in reference to the election that would attract your attention ?—No, there was not anything ; there were rather more visitors than usual.

1798. Nothing more than that ?—No.

1799. Were you ever in any of the other houses engaged by the Monson party ?—I have been in several.

1800. Give me one or two ?—I went to Mr. Smith's, up in Holmsdale-road.

1801. What was the name of the house ?—I do not know the name of the house ; I believe it is the "Prince of Wales," but I am not sure.

1802. Is that in Nutley-lane ?—No, not in Nutley-lane.

1803. At any of these other houses that you have been to was there anything to attract your attention with regard to drink going on ?—No.

1804. Have you had an opportunity of seeing whether treating was going on ?—I have been where there has been several of their committee men, and each man has paid for what he had himself.

1805. Did you see them pay ?—Yes.

1806. Where did you see them pay ?—Some of them up at Smith's ; they paid for what they had.

1807. Was that when they came and had what they wanted at the bar that they then put their money down and paid ?—Yes.

1808. Was that all the insight you had into the house that was occupied by Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

1809. I presume you never went further than the bar ?—Either the bar or the sitting room several times.

1810. The sitting room, were there many people ?—Yes, a good many people.

1811. And when in the sitting room did you see them pay ?—I saw them pay.

1812. Do you remember walking with Mr. Apted when he dropped a book ?—Yes ; he dropped it one night.

1813. Had you ever seen the book before ?—It was his canvassing book. I had seen him with it several times.

1814. Had you ever seen the inside of it ?—No, I had never seen the inside of it.

1815. You only knew it as his canvassing book ?—That was all.

1816. Was this a dark night ?—No, not very.

1817. Where was it he dropped his book ?—In the High-street.

1818. Did he make any observation about it ?—He said something about it being worth so much money if the other side could get hold of it.

1819. Did he say how much ; about 500*l.* ?—No, I believe it was 50*l.*

1820. Have you seen the book since the election ? —No, I have not.

1821. Have you seen that book in the committee room at the election ?—I have seen him have it in the committee room.

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1822. He always kept it in his own possession ?—Yes.

1823. You have attended the house belonging to your own party ?—Yes, I have.

1824. I do not know whether you will be able to recollect when was the first instance you attended those houses ?—No.

1825. Do you remember being at the "Hoads" beer house ?—Yes, I do.

1826. Mr. Alexander Rose was in the chair ?—Yes.

1827. How many people were present on that occasion ?—I should say 40 or 50.

1828. Who was in the vice-chair at the time ?—I think I was in one room; there were two rooms there.

1829. Did you take the head of one room ?—No; I was in the vice-chair of one room.

1830. Who was the chairman in your room ?—I think Mr. De Gance.

1831. And was Mr. Rose an active agent and partizan of Mr. Gower's ?—Yes.

1832. On that occasion did you hear Mr. Rose say anything about the orders ?—He said it was all right, he had arranged for it.

1833. Were there two Roses there ?—No; only one.

1834. Did Mr Hoads make any application to Mr. Rose about how he was to supply ?—I forget whether he spoke about it.

1835. I forget whether I spoke. There was something said, but I forget what it was.

1836. Was there anything of this sort, that what was to be had that night was to be put down for electioneering expenses ?—I think it was said that it would be paid for when it was finished; when we had finished the evening.

1837. Did you see refreshments brought in ?—Yes, I did.

1838. What sort of refreshment was it ?—Biscuits and cheese, and I think there was cider and beer and ginger beer.

1839. Was there any brandy and water brought in ? No; it was not a licensed house.

1840. Or else perhaps they might have had it ?—Yes, very likely.

1841. How long did you stop there ?—It was somewhere between 9 and 10 when I left. I left early.

1842. Did you go in early ?—It was something after 7.

1843.—Did you see any of those people paying for the refreshment ?—No, I saw no one.

1844. Did you pay ?—I did not pay at all.

1845. You had your share of it ?—I had some of it.

1846. A fair share, I suppose ?—Yes.

1847. You paid nothing ?—No.

1848. Did you ever offer to pay ?—No, I did not.

1849. And you have never been asked to pay ?—I have never been asked to pay.

1850. Did the landlord tell you who was to pay ?—I think he said something about Mr. Rose arranging for it.

1851. Do you recollect going to "Thatchers" beer house with Mr. Rose ?—Yes.

1852. Was that after you had been to "Hoads" ?—I believe it was the day before, I believe there was not so much as a day's difference between them.

1853. I suppose you would find it rather difficult to put all the attendances in consecutive order ?—Yes, I should.

1854. But generally I may ask you, how long before the election it was you had been at "Hoads" and "Thatchers" ?—A very few days before.

1855. Had you been to other houses before those ? Yes, I had been at one that I think was called the "Railway Inn." I think that was the first house I was at.

1856. Let us take the "Railway Inn." Is that a licensed house ?—Yes, it is.

1857. Who was in the chair ?—Mr. Apted.

1858. Is that Job Apted ?—Yes.

1859. Who was vice-chairman; were you ?—I think I was, in one room there.

1860. There was a scond room there also ?—Yes.

1861. Did you call the chairman in the second room vice-chair ?—No; there were two for each room.

1862. How many people were there in the house ?—As near as I can tell, quite 50.

1863. Did you hear anything said by Mr. Apted, or any person in authority, about the payment for the liquor and the refreshment ?—I heard Mr. Apted say he hoped every one would have what they liked, and enjoy themselves.

1864. That was not the only occasion on which Mr. Apted made that observation ?—No; I think it was not.

1865. That was Mr. Apted's favorite speech, was it not ?—Something like that.

1866. Was that just before the writ was coming down ?—No, it was not.

1867. What kind of refreshment was had in licensed house, spirits ?—Oh, plenty of spirits; anything anybody liked to call for; and cider and ginger beer with gin in it.

1868.—Anything they liked to call for this licensed house would supply ?—Yes.

1869. In what way was this brought in ?—In quarts at a time.

1870. They would not bring in the brandy in quarts ?—No; in glasses, what you may call six-penn'orths.

1871. Were the glasses brought in on a tray ?—Yes.

1872. As many as a tray would hold, and then handed round ?—Yes.

1873. Was smoking going on ?—Yes, cigars, &c.

1874. Were speeches made ?—Yes, and there was singing.

1875. How long did that meeting last; till a very late time ?—I think until one or two in the morning.

1876. At what time did you generally meet at these places ?—About 7 or 8 o'clock.

1877. After the day's work had been finished ?—After the day's work had been finished.

1878. Did you attend at these meetings as part of the labour ?—No, I did not.

1879. Some of the gentlemen who have been here this morning considered attending at these meetings was part of the labour for which they were to be paid. Did you pay for anything at that meeting ?—I paid for a biscuit, I think.

1880. How came you to pay for a biscuit ? you had more than a biscuit ?—Yes.

1881. How came you to pay for a biscuit ?—It was when first I went in.

1882. Before you knew the custom of the house ?—Yes.

1883. Upon future occasions I suppose you did not even pay for a biscuit ?—No.

1884. You had learnt better then. Now, we will go to this house "Thatchers," you have spoken of, which was a beer house; by-the-by were you more than one night at the "Railway Inn ?—No, I was only at one of the meetings there.

1885. Was that a house that was engaged by Mr. Gower's committee and his party ?—No, they did not engage any houses; they did not give out by report that they engaged them.

1886. Do you know as a fact that "Thatchers," "Hoads," the "Railway Inn," and other houses you have spoken of were used by the Gower party ?—They were used by the Gower party, and Mr. Gower's bills were in the windows.

1887. You were on the committee, and can probably give me this information: did you know as a fact that those houses were open pretty nearly every night, or every night ?—Certainly not, only at meetings.

1888. How were these meetings called together ?—Generally some of the agents gave it out at the committee at which public house the meetings were to be held on the following evening.

1889. Was there more than one meeting during the course of the same evening; did the committee distribute themselves in several houses, and take the chair, and have several meetings?—No, I do not think that there was more than one meeting held the same night, not in this district; there may have been meetings held in the others.

1890. Oh, then there would be a meeting at Redhill on one evening, and on the same evening a meeting at Reigate?—Yes.

1891. But you think only one meeting of that class in each district?—Only one.

1892. That would make two in fact, but in different districts?—Yes, and there might be another in the freehold.

1893. And there is another district, Earlswood; that is some distance away?—Yes.

1894. There might be a meeting there of the same sort?—Only a small meeting.

1895. There have been meetings there?—Yes.

1896. Have you ever attended meetings there?—Yes.

1897. Let us have an account of your meeting at Earlswood?—It was on the Earlswood-common.

1898. Where did you go to at Earlswood?—On to the Earlswood-common.

1899. Did you retire indoors at the house?—Yes; at least we could scarcely get indoors, and were glad to get out, it was so hot.

1900. If you were glad to get out, I suppose the house was full?—Yes.

1901. Could you see what was going on at the house with regard to refreshment?—There was drinking.

1902. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What was the name of the house?—I know it was kept by a man of the name of Tyrell.

1903. Is he a voter?—Yes.

1904. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is it a beer house or a licensed house?—Beer house.

1905. I suppose the people were only drinking beer?—Beer, ale, and everything they could draw.

1906. Were there many persons in the house at that meeting?—A great many, both inside and out.

1907. Did you yourself see any drinking going on inside?—Yes.

1908. Was there any drinking going on outside?—Yes.

1909. Did you have yours outside?—Yes, I think a glass of ale.

1910. Did you pay for it?—No, I did not.

1911. Did you see anybody pay for any?—No.

1912. Who was taking charge of the meeting on the part of the committee?—There were several down there, but I could not say who took charge; there was Mr. Penfold and Mr. Marsden.

1913. Any influential committee men, like Mr. Rose or Mr. Apted?—There were several there.

1914. Name me one or two?—There was Mr. Apted, and Mr. Joyes, and Mr. Rose, I think he was there too.

1915. Were they taking an active part in the management of the proceedings of the company?—In the meeting on the common.

1916. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were they in the house?—They were outside the house and some of them were inside.

1917. What took place inside I suppose you could not see, but they were there?—Yes.

1918. You saw no one pay for the liquor?—No, I did not.

1919. How many people do you think were at the meeting outside?—A great many, some hundreds.

1920. Did any of them go away from the meeting without going to the beer house?—Some of them did.

1921. Which should you say was the largest number, those who went away or those who stayed?—I could not say whether the largest number went away or stayed, not to be sure of it.

1922. Well, it was about even then?—Yes.

1923. You say some hundreds were there; were there two or three hundred?—Quite that, more than that.

1924. Then there would be from 150 to 200 who would stop at the beer house to drink?—Yes, but some of them could not get in.

1925. You said that some were served outside. Were you present at any meeting that took place in the chapel?—No.

1926. You were not there?—No.

1927. Do you know the house called the "Black Horse," on Reigate-heath?—Yes, I do.

1928. Were you at any meeting there?—Yes, I was; that was the night before the writ came down.

1929. How many had you there, some 50?—Quite that.

1930. Is that a licensed house?—Yes, it is.

1931. Who took the active part there in the chair, Mr. Apted, or Mr. Joyes, or Mr. Rose, or whom?—I think Mr. Rose was in the chair, and Mr. Robert Legg was at the other part of the table.

1932. Mr. Rose was proposed to the chair by Mr. Apted, and was seconded by Mr. Joyes?—Yes.

1933. What time did the meeting commence?—I think it was 8 o'clock.

1934. What time did you go?—At 8 o'clock.

1935. Were you the first or did you find a good many people there?—I found a good number there.

1936. Had they their refreshments when you got there?—Yes, I think there was some on the table then.

1937. How many were there when you got there?—About 12 or 14.

1938. They had begun?—They were having something to drink.

1939. Well, that is what at many of these meetings you would call beginning; they were not assembled there by advertisements for the purpose of hearing speeches and meeting the candidate, and enunciating various political sentiments which should have an influence over the votes of the borough?—No.

1940. I suppose at all these meetings when the candidates spoke they spoke upon the general topics of the country?—Yes.

1941. The voting went on other considerations?—Yes.

1942. How long did this meeting which took place at the "Black Horse" last? when did it break up?—Sometimes it was early in the morning when they broke up.

1943. But on this particular occasion, two or three days before the writ came up?—It was the night before.

1944. Well, the night before?—Not till early in the morning.

1945. What do you call early in the morning?—One o'clock, betwixt one and two.

1946. On what day of the week was it held? I hope it was not on a Saturday?—No, it was not a Saturday; I think it was on a Friday.

1947. Now was the brandy pretty freely sent round?—Yes.

1948. I suppose you did not see anybody pay for it?—No.

1949. You did not pay?—No, I did not pay.

1950. Was it Mr. Apted who made a speech from the chair, and spoke about the writ coming down?—He was not in the chair; he sat at the side of the chair.

1951. Did he speak about the writ coming down?—Yes; he said it was the last meeting at which they could have anything publicly to drink.

1952. Did he use those words, "It was the last "day they could have anything publicly to drink"?—Yes.

1953. Did he say the reason why?—He said because the writ was coming down, and they must be more careful.

1954. Did you attend any of these meetings afterwards; any of these entertainments of company?—After the writ?

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1955. Yes, after the writ came down.—No, I did not.

1956. Did you know of any of them happening?—No, I did not.

1957. If they did happen they were kept very private?—I think I should have known about them.

1958. As you told me, these other meetings were called together by some of the committee giving notice?—Yes, some of the committee.

1959. How were those notices given?—By word of mouth.

1960. Not by a public bill like this; "So-and-so's "committee will meet at such and such a house"?—No, only by word of mouth from one to the other.

1961. At these meetings did anybody stand at the door to see that nobody but friends came in?—It was generally intended to see who did come in, to see that there were not any of the others of the opposite side.

1962. Did you ever admit any person who had not promised his vote?—They were admitted if we thought that there was a chance of getting them.

1963. Did you ever canvass any of them at these meetings?—Sometimes, if I knew they had not promised.

1964. I want to know as a fact, did you?—I did some of them.

1965. Can you name any one that you have canvassed at these meetings?—I spoke to several there; there is one name I can mention. I spoke to a man of the name of Upton.

1966. Had he not promised before?—He had not decided.

1967. Now, perhaps you will be good enough to give me a little history of the canvass of this man Upton?—I only told him he had better decide, and I dare say it would be made all right.

1968. What is his name?—Thomas Upton.

1969. Is he of the Foreign part or Old?—Foreign.

1970. Did you say anything to Upton why it would be better? did you tell him what was meant by its being all right?—I said he had better come; he would be all right.

1971. Thomas Upton, of Reigate-heath, is that the man?—Yes, it is.

1972. Did you explain to him what you meant by being all right?—He knew what it meant.

1973. I have heard that answer given before, that he knew what it meant by being all right; do you mean to say that it was such a common thing in the borough for men to be paid, that when you said it was all right they knew what it was?—They all expected money.

1974. Was that done at times by a simple nod of the head, or a quiet look in the face, which, without your actually saying it was all right, gave him to understand it was all right?—I dare say it was.

1975. Did you ever see any of that kind of freemasonry going on between the parties?—I could not mention any cases, but I am sure of it.

1976. Have you ever seen it done?—I have noticed it done.

1977. I thought you had; just give me a notion of where you have noticed it being done?—At several places.

1798. Would it be a sort of nod of assent?—Yes, something of that sort; of course I cannot mention exactly where it was; I know several parties whom we have nodded to. It was something of that kind. (*The witness nodded his head.*)

1979. I see you nod. Supposing a person were to say to you, I should like to be paid for my work, and you were to give that kind of significant nod you gave to me just now, would that nod of the head to the voter mean anything?—It would mean that he would be paid.

1980. That would mean he would be paid?—Yes.

1981. I suppose in this kind of bribery the thing should be done as secretly as possible?—Yes.

1982. So as not to get the strongest amount of evidence against you?—Of course.

1983. You have seen that done on more than of occasion?—Yes.

1084. On any occasion where you have seen that done have you ever seen money paid?—I have not, not to my knowledge.

1085. Can you name to me any person to whom you have given that significant nod when you were soliciting for his vote; perhaps you can this last election?—I think I did to a man of the name of Apps.

1986. Who is Apps?—He was the last witness but one.

1987. Did you canvass him this last election?—Yes, I did.

1988. Were you the only person who canvassed him; I suppose not?—No.

1989. Were you the first to canvass him?—I do not know whether I was the first or not.

1990. When you canvassed him had he promised his vote?—He had not.

1991. In what way did you canvass him?—I told him he had better come to work for Mr. Gower.

1992. Did he say that he wanted to be paid for it, or did he lead you to suppose that he wanted to be paid for it?—There was something said that led me to suppose he wanted to be paid for the work.

1993. What was it that was said that led you to suppose he wanted to be paid for his work?—Some words were said, but I cannot say exactly what words; but some words were used that led me to suppose he wanted to be paid.

1994. Can you give me at all a very vague definition of what was said, and come rather closer to the fact what it was that led you to suppose he wanted to be paid?—I cannot exactly say the words, it was something to the effect that if he did come to do anything he must be paid.

1995. Now he having told you if he did come he would want to be paid, in what way did you answer him?—(*The witness gave a nod*).

1996. I suppose you consider that as fixing as the shake of a hand in the binding of a bargain?—Yes.

1997. Did you report that to the committee?—I told them I thought they might have him.

1998. Did you tell the committee the way in which you had canvassed him?—I think I did.

1999. Was that in this house you told the committee?—Down below.

2000. Is that the only instance in which you have seen that particular kind of canvassing, and that peculiar assenting?—That is the only case I can remember, to mention the name.

2001. Have you heard any other persons besides yourself in the borough mention or talk of that?—No, I have never heard it talked of.

2002. I do not mean that individual canvassing, but generally have you heard it mentioned?—No.

2003. That quiet mode of canvassing?—I cannot remember hearing it spoken of.

2004. So far as Mr. Apps was concerned, you considered that was a sort of binding contract between you and him?—I nodded my head to him, and of course he never spoke to me.

2005. You nodded, and that assent you considered as closing the bargain?—I did not consider it closed.

2006. You thought that you could rely upon his vote, and so reported to the committee?—I thought we might have him.

2007. When you reported to the committee did you say for what sum?—No, I did not mention the sum.

2008. But that he might be had for payment?—Yes.

2009. Now, at any of these houses were you ever requested to stand at the bar to watch, and see who had refreshment?—I was down at the "Black Horse,"

2010. Tell me on what day that was?—That was the night before the writ came down.

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2011. Never after the writ came down?—Never after.

2012. What were you to do when you stood at the bar, were you to watch the voters?—I was to see who had the refreshments; to see that none but voters had it.

2013. I do not think I have asked you about a person of the name of David Pitt?—You have not.

2014. Did you see Frederick Joyes, and did he give you any directions with reference to David Pitt?—He did not give me any directions; he went to see him himself.

2015. Had you ever spoken to him about him?—Yes.

2016. Did Mr. Joyes go for the purpose of seeing Pitt?—Yes, at the "Black Horse."

2017. He saw him at the "Black Horse"?—Yes.

2018. You were not with him when he saw him?—I was close to him, within a few yards; he was outside.

2019. You know as a fact he did go to see David Pitt?—Yes.

2020. When he returned to you did he tell you what had taken place between him and Pitt?—Yes.

2021. What was that?—He said he was astonished at Mr. Pitt, that he had to be bought the same as the others; he did not think that he was a man like that before; he had promised him a fiver, and more if he could get it.

2022. Now, if Pitt was supposed to be a different sort of person to the others who were bribed, tell me, what is Pitt?—A carman.

2023. Did he go with a car on his own account?—Yes.

2024. As a carrier?—Yes. At that time he had got a van, and used to cart goods from London two or three times a week; to London and back.

2025. Did you canvass any people between the time of the writ coming and the election, excepting Apps; you saw him up to the last?—No, that was a week before.

2026. Did you canvass any people between the writ coming down and the holding of this last meeting, which you attended at the "Black Horse," and the holding of the election?—I cannot say exactly whether I did or not.

2027. I presume that you were about?—Oh, I was about.

2028. Then eventually you voted for Mr. Gower? Yes.

2029. You have told us all that took place afterwards with reference to your application for the money and the payment of the 15*l.*?—Yes.

2030. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have mentioned that Mr. Gower in a speech he made said that all those who had worked for him would be paid, and well paid,—was that a public meeting?—At a committee meeting that was held down below.

2031. Was it early in the election proceedings?—It would be a week or two before the election.

2032. How many persons were there who were present at that time?—I should say that there were quite 100.

2033. Were there any reporters there or anything of that kind?—No, there were not any present.

2034. You know there is a peculiar mode of saying that. Did you understand that Mr. Gower meant by that, that if they worked for him honestly and fairly and properly, that they should be paid, and well paid; was that your understanding?—Yes, that was my understanding.

2035. You did not understand that what he meant by that was that they were to be paid for fictitious work?—Oh no, not for fictitious work. Of course I expected that they must work, those that were to be paid.

2036. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith*). That observation was made generally; when Mr. Gower made that observation, he did not make it with any qualification; that is so, is it not?—Yes, it was not made with any qualification.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN BAILEY sworn and examined.

J. Bailey.

2037. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*). Is your name John Bailey, of the London-road?—Yes.

2038. In the Old part of the borough?—Yes.

2039. How long have you been a voter?—Eight or nine years.

2040. And at how many elections previous to the last had you voted?—I do not know, I cannot tell.

2041. Had you voted at three or four?—Three or four.

2042. You voted for Mr. Gower at the last election?—Yes, sir.

2043. For whom had you voted at the election of 1863?—For Mr. Gower.

2044. How often did you vote for Mr. Gower?—I voted twice for Mr. Gower.

2045. Did you vote in 1858?—I do not know whether I did or not.

2046. Did you vote for Mr. Doulton?—No, I did not.

2047. Where do you live now?—In London-road.

2048. At Cranley?—Yes.

2049. But in '56?—At Cranley.

2050. When you voted?—Yes.

2051. How far is that from Reigate?—About 18 miles.

2052. Then you came up to vote?—Yes.

2053. On the morning that you came up to vote you received some money, did you not?—No, sir.

2054. Do you know Henry Baines of Nutley-lane?—Yes, sir.

2055. Is he connected with you in any way?—No.

2056. Have you seen Mr. Gilbert in reference to this matter?—Mr. Gilbert came to Norwood to see me.

2057. And was Mr. Cotton with him?—He was always with him.

2058. You know Mr. Baines?—Yes.

2059. What is his christian name?—Henry.

2060. He is in no way connected with you?—No.

2061. Had you seen him the morning before you voted?—Yes, I had seen him the morning before I voted.

2062. You saw him in reference to your vote; about your voting?—No, nothing at all, it had nothing to do with the voting.

2063. Did you talk to him about it?—No.

2064. Did he know for whom you were going to vote?—I am sure I cannot tell whether he did or not; I do not know.

2065. Is he a voter?—I believe he is, but I am not quite sure whether he is or not.

2066. Did he not tell you he had received 5*l.* from Job Apted, if you would vote for Gower?—No, sir.

2067. Nothing of that kind?—No, not a word was mentioned about money at all.

2068. Is it now for the first time you hear that story?—It is no story at all.

2069. Did you tell Mr. Gilbert anything about it?—No.

2070. You never spoke to him about it?—Nothing at all about money.

2071. Did you ever speak to Mr. Gilbert about the money you were supposed to receive for voting?—No, I never received any money.

2072. What conversation had you with Mr. Gilbert?—I am sure I cannot tell you what conversation I had with him now.

2073. You do not know what conversation you had with him?—No.

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2074. Did you not tell Mr. Gilbert, be cautious, for Mr. Cotton is here?—I knew Mr. Cotton.

2075. Did you say this: "I voted for Mr. Gower "at the last Reigate election in '65. I was living at "Cranley, 20 miles from Reigate. I knew of the "election, and came up to vote"?—Not that I am aware of.

2076. Did you not tell him that in the presence of Mr. Cotton?—No, I did not.

2077. Will you swear you did not mention that to him in the presence of Mr. Cotton?—No, I did not.

2078. Will you swear you did not mention that to him in the presence of Mr. Cotton?—Yes.

2079. Did he read over any statement to you?—Mr. Gilbert?

2080. Yes.—No, sir.

2081. He never read any statement to you?—Not at all; no statement at all.

2082. Did you not tell him that Henry Baines, of Nutley-lane, had told you he had received *5l.* to give you if you would vote for Mr. Gower?—I never heard a word of it at all.

2083. You never heard that stated before?—No; this is the first I have heard of it.

2084. Did you not tell him you would receive *5l.* from Baines before voting?—No.

2085. Not a word of the kind?—Not a word of the kind at all.

2086. Did you tell him this: "I paid my expenses "to and from Cranley, but that it only amounted to "about 10*s.*"?—No.

2087. Did you pay your expenses?—Yes.

2088. What did they amount to?—I cannot tell.

2089. Did you tell him what the expenses amounted to?—No, I never mentioned the subject at all.

2090. To Mr. Gilbert?—No.

2091. When did you see Mr. Gilbert? did you see him more than once?—Yes, I saw him twice.

2092. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then you know who Mr. Gilbert is?—Yes.

2093. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you see him on the 25th of January 1866?—I cannot say the time.

2094. You saw him twice?—Yes, once at Norwood. I never saw him at Reigate.

2095. Did you make any statement to him?—No, not at all.

2096. Did he ask you any questions about the petition?—I think not; but I do not know what it was now exactly.

2097. You do not know what it was?—I have no recollection at all.

2098. You have not the slightest recollection?—No.

2099. Have you no recollection at all what took place between you and Mr. Gilbert?—No, I have no recollection at all about it, not the slightest.

2100. How is it if you have no recollection at all, if you do not remember anything, that you remember you did not make a statement to him?—I never made any statement at all to Mr. Gilbert.

2101. You never answered a question?—If he asked me questions I might answer.

2102. What questions did you answer?—I cannot say; I was only in conversation with him a little while, and do not know what it was. As to any statement, I did not make any statement at all to him, not a word.

2103. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you asked to sign any paper by Mr. Gilbert?—Yes; but no statement was made to me at all. I was at Mrs. Baines's the morning of the election.

2104. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Baines's wife?—Yes, I went over to breakfast.

2105. How came you to go over to breakfast if you were not connected in any way? I suppose you only met by accident?—His wife and my wife are sisters.

2106. I asked you whether you were connected with him in any way, and you said not; you are his brother-in-law?—Yes, I did not understand you.

2107. You were not connected in business, I suppose?—No, I did not understand you.

2108. You do not mean to tell me he did not know for whom you were going to vote?—Yes, I do, for I never told him anything at all about that.

2109. Did you receive any money that morning from Mrs. Baines?—No; I never received any money at all this last election.

2110. When did you receive money previous to the last election for your vote?—I never did receive any money at all for my vote.

2111. Why then did you say you did not receive money the last election?—I never received any money at any election, not for my vote.

2112. Have you been engaged as a canvasser at any election?—No.

2113. Or as a messenger?—No.

2114. Or in any way?—I never received any money for any vote at all.

2115. Were you in business?—Not here at the last election, but the election before I kept a public-house in Nutley-lane.

2116. In 1863?—Yes.

2117. You had been engaged, I believe, on behalf of Mr. Gower; the house was considered a house qualified?—No, they had a meeting or two there.

2118. Was it Mr. Gower's house?—They had a meeting or two there, and I suppose it was Mr. Gower's house.

2119. You mean you were paid for the refreshments?—I was paid for the room; there were no refreshments at all, they never had any.

2120. In the election of 1863?—Yes.

2121. Is that what you meant by saying you never received any money for your vote?—Yes, that is what I mean.

2122. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you a voter in 1863?—Yes, I was a voter in 1863.

2123. Who did you vote for at the election in 1863?—For Mr. Gower.

2124. Had you been canvassing on the other side for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—No, I never canvassed at all for any of them.

2125. Who canvassed you?—No one.

2126. Why did you vote for Mr. Gower?—I voted for him for the same reason as other people.

2127. For the same reason as other people did; did Mr. Gower canvass you?—Mr. Gower came to me first, and asked me if I would vote for him, and I told him yes.

2128. At that time you were occupying the beer house in Nutley-lane?—The public house.

2129. The public house I mean. Was your house open during all the time of the election of 1863?—It was not open at all; there were two meetings there.

2130. Did Mr. Gower attend the meetings there himself?—No.

2131. Are you certain of it?—I am not quite certain.

2132. Now be cautious; who did you receive orders from about providing beer?—No one at all.

2133. Was no beer provided for people in your house?—No one at all.

2134. Did you receive any money at all in 1863?—Yes, I had *2l.* for the room two nights, a pound each night.

2135. Did you receive no other money at all?—No, no other money at all.

2136. Did you hear Mr. Gilbert's evidence to-day?—Yes.

2137. Did you hear him say you made that statement to him when it was put into your hand?—Yes, I heard him say so.

2138. Was what he stated a mistake or something worse?—A mistake altogether.

2139. Pray do not answer in a hurry; my friend has told you already to be cautious about it: it is a mistake however, it is a mistake altogether I suppose, of Mr. Gilbert's that you made this statement to him?—Yes.

2140. Did you hear it read ?—No.

2141. Listen to this. "I voted for Mr. Gower at "the last Reigate election in 1865. I was living at "Cranley, 20 miles from Reigate. I knew of the "election, and came up to vote. Henry Baines, of "Nutley-lane, told me he had received *5l.* from Job "Apted to give me if I would vote for Mr. Gower. "I received the *5l.* from Baines before voting. I "paid my expenses to and from Cranley, but it only "amounted to about 10*s.* I was not engaged in any "capacity during the election. This is a true state-"ment" ?—I know nothing at all about it. Nothing of that was read to me.

2142. Is this the first time you have heard of it? —This is the first time I have heard of it.

2143. You cannot make a mistake about it?—Not at all.

2144. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was there not another person of the name of Hinde who was clerk to Gilbert ?—There was no one that I knew but Cotton and Gilbert. This is the first time I ever heard of it at all.

2145. If you did not say what Gilbert and Cotton now aver you did say, what is your version of it ?— Cotton and Gilbert came to my house. I kept a beer house at Norwood. Cotton came and dined, but he never said anything about that.

2146. Do you mean to say that he simply came down, dined, and paid you ?—Yes.

2147. And never said anything about the Reigate election ?—No.

William Monk sworn and examined.

W. Monk.

2148. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You live in High-street, Reigate town ?—Yes.

2149. Is that so ?—Yes.

2150. I believe you voted for Mr. Gower at the last election ?—Yes, sir.

2151. Who was it canvassed you about voting for him ?—Job Apted came and asked me which way I was going.

2152. What did you say ?—I told him I had not made my mind up.

2153. And upon that he said what ?—He said he could give me the same he had given me before, and perhaps a little more.

2154. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who said that? —Job Apted.

2155. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you say ?—I said I should not promise, not at present; I did not know who I should vote for.

2156. What would the amount be, the same he gave you before ?—I had *4l.*; I was on the committee then.

2157. That was the election of 1863 ?—Yes.

2158. We are now on the last election, 1865; you had some conversation after what you have told us, you had some conversation after that ?—Yes.

2159. And you asked him whether Mr. Gower was going to withdraw ?—He asked me if he was to take me as a promiser, and I said no; he said he believed there would be no election. I asked if Mr. Gower was going to withdraw, and he said no, Mr. Monson; I said you may scratch me off your list altogether, for I saw my name was on the committee.

2160. He told you Mr. Monson was going to withdraw ?—Yes.

2161. He did not withdraw ?—No.

2162. The morning of the election you came intending to vote—you went from home ?—Yes, I came down town.

2163. Who were you going to vote for when you left home ?—I did not know that I should vote at all.

2164. I know that, but, if you did vote, who did you intend to vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

2165. You were rather thinking I believe of voting for Mr. Monson ?—No.

2166. Not at all ?—No.

2167. Did you never intimate at all your intention of voting for Mr. Monson ?—No.

2168. Were you taken to the tap of some house ?— Yes, the "White Hart."

2169. Who took you in?—A person of the name of Edward Nye.

2170. Who did you see when you got into the tap ? —He called for a pot of beer; he sent for that, and we were going to the tap, and then Edward Stevens came in or was in.

2171. Did you know Stevens?—Yes.

2172. What was he?—A painter or glazier.

2173. Before that?—I do not know; I had seen his name on the list.

2174. You were drinking this pint of beer and up came Edwin Stevens; what did he say?—He asked me if I would vote for Mr. Gower; I said I did not know that I should vote at all, as I was going to Redhill. He said I had better go and vote for Mr. Gower. I said I did not think I should, but I should go to Redhill first, at all events.

2175. What were you going to Redhill for?—On business. I was going to have a ride. There were two or three of us going there.

2176. You thought you would ride to Redhill, but if you voted at all you would have to vote here ?— Yes.

2177. But you were minded to go a ride first ?— Yes.

2178. And what after that did Stevens say to you ? —He asked me what I wanted, and I put up my hand so (*holding up his hand and showing four fingers and a thumb*), and said, "Five."

2179. What did Stevens say upon that?—He said, "Very well, I will give it you out of my own pocket."

2180. What did you say upon that, did you say, "All right, I'll vote"?—No, I said I would give it, but I would go to Redhill first, but he said, "No, you shall "vote first," and I did.

2181. Were you paid ?—No, sir.

2182. Why did you not receive the money first ?— I never thought of having the money; I never asked about it.

2183. Why not? — Because I did not expect I should get it.

2184. You knew Stevens very well ?—Yes.

2185. Did you not think when Stevens made the promise he would perform it ?—He ought to have done so.

2186. Did you vote on the faith of his promise ?— No, because I did not think he had any power to do so.

2187. He said he would pay it out of his own pocket?—Yes, he did.

2188. Did you not vote on the faith of Stevens' promise?—I did give my vote on the faith of Mr. Stevens, but I knew that if I did give my voto it would be that way.

2189. You had not made up your mind to vote at all?—No.

2190. Why did you vote at all? If you do not like to answer my question; I must make my own inference?—I was persuaded at last, and I thought it would not make much difference.

2191. That would be a very good reason for not voting; why did you vote?—I should suppose it was because Mr. Stevens said he would give me the *5l.*

2192. Do you recollect going to a meeting at the "Rose and Crown" ?—Yes.

2193. When was that, can you tell me ?—No, I cannot.

2194. How long before the election; I do not wish to know exactly ?—I should think between two and three weeks.

2195. I believe Job Apted asked you to go there to attend it ?—Yes.

2196. Were many people there ?—Yes.

2197. Did you see Apted there ?—Yes.

2198. Did you see Buckland there ?—Yes.

SECOND DAY.

W. Monk.

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2199. Do you recollect going to the "Bell"?—Yes.

2200. Was that about the same time?—I think it was the next night, but I do not know.

2201. I am quite satisfied. I do not wish to tie you to any particular night, I assure you. Did you notice who was the chairman at the "Bell"?—I think Mr. Rose.

2202. Is that Mr. Alexander Rose?—Yes.

2203. Were many people there?—Yes, a goodish many.

2204. Do you remember going to Peter Legg's at another meeting?—Yes.

2205. Was that the night after?—No, I think not.

2206. Was it two nights?—I think it was more than that.

2207. I believe the meetings were pretty thick about that time?—Yes.

2208. Who was chairman there?—I do not know, but I think a man of the name of Smith.

2209. Did you see Rose there?—Yes.

2210. Alexander Rose?—Yes.

2211. What I want to know is, at these different meetings, at the "Rose and Crown," and the "Bell," and at Peter Legg's beer house, was there plenty to drink?—Yes.

2212. And nothing to pay for it?—I never paid anything for it.

2213. Were you told at the "Rose and Crown" to call for what you wanted?—Yes.

2214. Who told you?—I believe Mr. Apted.

2215. That is Job Apted?—Yes; he took me to the "Rose and Crown," and told me to ask for what I liked.

2216. Mark this: you recollect what passed between you and Stevens about *this fiver*?—Yes.

2217. Did you at any time serve on Mr. Gower's committee?—No, sir.

2218. Did you at any time serve on Mr. Gower's committee?—No, sir.

2219. Did you canvass anybody for him?—No, sir.

2220. Did you do anything?—No, sir.

2221. Were you a voter in 1863?—Yes.

2222. Who did you vote for in 1863?—For Mr. Gower.

2223. Were you canvassed by the other side?—For Mr. Wilkinson?

2224. Who by? I wish to know who canvassed you?—Mr. Norman Wilkinson.

2225. Mr. Norman Wilkinson canvassed you?—Yes.

2226. Was any one with him?—I think his sister came into my house with him.

2227. Never mind that, was there any gentleman with him?—Not that I know of.

2228. What was your work then?—A gardener.

2229. Did you act at that time on Mr. Wilkinson's committee after you were canvassed?—No, I do not think I ever attended one of them.

2230. Before you voted for Mr. Gower do you not remember attending a committee or two of Mr. Monson's?—Yes.

2230*a*. Of course I mean Wilkinson?—No.

2231. Did you attend a meeting of Mr. Monson's at any election at all?—Yes, at the "White Hart."

2232. In 1863, before you voted, who was it you promised your vote to, the vote which you gave afterwards to Mr. Gower?—Mr. Apted.

2233. Did you do anything like that again (*holding up his five fingers*)?—No.

2234. Was there no arrangement at all?—I had 4*l.* after the election for what I had done.

2235. What had you done?—I went once or twice with Mr. Apted to Redhill about several jobs and about the committee.

2236. I should like to know what you had done; tell me any job you had done?—I went the night before the election over to the "Wheatsheaf."

2237. That was to attend a meeting?—Yes; Mr. Apted asked me to go with him.

2238. Did you have any drink?—I think I had one drink out of some one's glass who asked me to drink.

2239. Never mind that, I am not so particular as that?—We were not in the house five minutes.

2240. You sometimes went over with Mr. Apted?—Yes.

2241. And came back with him?—Yes.

2242. How did you go?—In a fly.

2243. Tell me any other job you did in 1863?—I do not know that I can. I was on the committee, and I did what they required me to do.

2244. That was all very well, I dare say, but I do not know what they did require you to do. You attended a committee, and went over with Mr. Apted in a fly. I ask what they required you to do; what did you do?—I cannot remember anything particularly more than that. I remember the time, the night before the election, that I went over with Mr. Apted.

2245. In the fly?—Yes.

2246. You do not remember anything else that you did?—No.

2247. When you attended the committee meetings I suppose you had some refreshment?—Yes, to drink, at the committee meetings.

2248. Who paid for it?—I do not know.

2249. Do you recollect in 1863 who was chairman of the committees you attended?—No, sir, I cannot.

2250. Did Mr. Apted ever attend them?—I do not recollect, but I believe he attended.

2251. But you are not sure?—I am not sure.

2252. I suppose there was then as at the last election, a chairman and a deputy chairman too?—Very likely there was, but I do not recollect who they might be.

2253. Did you ever sit as deputy chairman?—No.

2254. Do you remember Stevens ever sitting?—No.

2255. Stevens knew pretty well what you got the time you had the 4*l.*, did he not?—I do not know.

2256. Was it you that said to Stevens, or Stevens to you, "Not less than you had before"?—It was not with Stevens, it was Apted.

2257. Had Apted known what you had before?—Yes.

2258. He paid it?—Yes.

2259. After the election?—Some time after the election.

2260. Did you see anybody else paid in 1863 besides you?—No, sir.

2261. Not anybody?—No.

2262. Did you pay anybody for Apted?—No.

2263. Nor for anybody else?—No.

2264. Was Stevens active in 1863?—I do not recollect what Stevens was.

2265. Can you tell me any person who was active at the committee meetings in 1863?—No, I cannot.

2266. I dare say you can if I remind you?—I might, but I am not certain then that I should.

2267. William Spence was an agent for Mr. Gower in 1863?—Yes, I know him.

2268. Do you not recollect his being an active man in 1863?—No, not on the committee which I was on.

2269. I suppose you recollect Corderoy?—Yes.

2270. In 1863?—Yes.

2271. He did a good bit of business?—I have seen him at meetings.

2272. Have you seen him order things in the house for people?—No, I have not.

2273. What have you seen him doing? Have you seen him take the chair at meetings?—I do not think I have ever seen him take the chair. I have seen him at meetings.

2274. Have you heard him speak?—Not at the elections, that I know of.

2275. Do you remember Buckland being pretty active in 1863?—Well, I never had anything to do with him.

2276. I did not even hint it. Do you remember him active?—I might have seen him.

SECOND DAY.

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2277. Do you remember Buckland taking an active part in 1863 ?—I cannot say that I do.

2278. Tell me another thing. At the committee meetings in 1863, were they usually attended by Mr. Gower ?—In 1863 ?

2279. Yes.—No, not usually ; I might have seen him once or twice.

2280. Where at ?—That I cannot say.

2281. You know where the committee meetings were held ?—Yes, sometimes at the " White Hart." I did see Mr. Gower there once ; I might twice.

2282. I do not expect your memory to be quite so good for 1863 as for 1865, but I dare say you remember a good deal. What was Mr. Gower doing there ?—He was attending the meeting, and made some observations on the election and what his prospects might be with regard to it.

2283. And they were favourable of course ?—Yes.

2284. Do you remember anything being said about refreshments ?—No, not while Mr. Gower was there.

2285. Did you ever attend a committee meeting when there were not refreshments to all those present ? —I cannot say that I can to a certainty.

2286. But as far as your recollection goes it was the custom to have refreshments at every committee meeting, mostly something to drink ?—I cannot say with certainty whether we had it at every meeting.

2287. Were the refreshments had while sitting round the table below the chairman and the business was being talked about ?—Yes.

2288. When Mr. Gower was there did he sit at the table ?—There never were any refreshments when Mr. Gower was there.

2289. How was that, was he not in a committee room ?—They never were had in the committee room when Mr. Gower was there, not in 1863.

2290. Where were the refreshments ?—In another room, after the committee was over.

2291. Was that in a room opposite ?—At the " White Hart," in a lower room.

2292. Did you ever see Mr. Gower in that room ? —No, sir.

2293. You say you were canvassed on the election for 1863 by Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

2294. At the election of 1863 did you attend a committee meeting or two for Mr. Wilkinson ?—I do not recollect that I did one.

2295. I wish you would try to recollect ?—I cannot, I have no recollection ; but I do not think I did.

2296. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your qualification in the borough ?—I am a working gardener.

2297. That does not give you a vote ?—I have a house.

2298. What is the rent of it ?—10*l.*

2299. Are you only a 10*l.* householder ?—That is all.

2300. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is the rent of your house, is it exactly 10*l.* ?—10*l.*

Adjourned to to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

THIRD DAY.

J. Cheal.

24 Aug. 1866.

Friday, 24th August 1866.

Mr. John Evans was called, but did not appear.

John Cheal affirmed and examined.

2301. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know John Evans, of Reigate-heath ?—Yes, I know John Evans, of Station-road ; I served a summons upon him.

2302. He is on the register as on Reigate-heath ; he is 436 on the register. Did you serve him with a summons to attend here ?—I did.

2303. When did you serve him ? — Last night, about 9 o'clock.

2304. Where was he, at his own house ?—At his own house.

2305. Did you serve him personally ?—Yes.

2306. What did he say to you ? — He could not attend.

2307. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Has anybody been sent here by Mr. Evans ?

(*Mr. De Rutzen.*) James Geare is here.

2308. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Geare ?—A cabinet-maker by trade.

2309. What have you to do with Evans ? —He sent me over with a note.

2310. What have you to do with Evans, anything at all ?—No, sir.

2311. Shall you see him ? — Not before to-night.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had better tell Mr. Evans, if you see him, we will take other means of informing him ourselves, but you had better tell Mr. Evans from me that he had better attend here to-morrow morning exactly at 11 o'clock, or else he will get into difficulty. We will take no excuse that we do not think satisfactory. We have no satisfactory excuse at all for Mr. Evans's absence, and we shall immediately proceed to put in force such powers as we possess, and he will find they are pretty stringent ones, to enforce his attendance here unless he appears punctually by 11 o'clock to-morrow morning. It will be a kindness to him if you will tell him that, and we shall take some means of informing him ourselves.

Mr. Thomas Cotton called, sworn, and examined.

Mr. T. Cotton.

2312. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are on the list of voters ?—Yes.

2313. For Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

2314. How long have you been a voter in this borough ?—Only once ; only last year.

2315. How long have you resided here ?—Seven, eight, or nine years.

2316. But you have only been a voter at this last election ?—Only once.

2317. For whom did you vote at the last election ? —Mr. Monson.

2318. Had you been canvassed before the election? —I had, by both candidates.

2319. Had you been canvassed by any one on behalf of Mr. Gower ?—Not by any one besides the candidates ; Mr. Gower and Mr. Monson both called on me. I promised neither of them.

2320. Do you know a man called Job Apted ?— Yes.

2321. Have you seen him in reference to the election with Mr. Smith ?—Oh ! I have seen him

THIRD DAY.

Mr. T. Cotton.

24 Aug. 1866.

about, sir. I think Mr. Apted was with Mr. Gower that day; I won't be sure.

2322. Had Mr. Apted been speaking to you upon the subject of the election?—No.

2323. Has he never spoken to you upon the subject of the election?—Not to my recollection; I never remember anything, only in a jocular sort of way; not to ask me for my vote.

2324. In a jocular sort of way he said you would do them no harm?—I do not know that ever I said it.

2325. Did not Job Apted say it when you told Mr. Gower you had not made up your mind?—I was in the garden; I was very ill; I do not know that Apted said anything; Mr. Gower was very pleasant.

2326. Did he say he would see you again?—Not that I know of. I do not remember his saying so, but he might have done so.

2327. You made a statement with reference to this, and we have your signature?—Not Mr. Apted, sir, I think. I made no statement with reference to Mr. Apted.

2328. Is that your writing?—I might have said something, but I do not know. That is my writing.

2329. I do not wish to press you, as you are ill?—I shall tell you the truth if I can recollect.

2330. Just let me call your attention; did not you see Mr. Joyes also in reference to the election?—Not then.

2331. I did not ask you "then"?—I met Joyes one day in the street.

2332. Did not you see Buckland?—No, sir, not about the election.

2333. Did Mr. Joyes call upon you?—No, I met him in the street; Mr. Joyes never called on me.

2334. Is it true that F. Joyes,—who is F.?—Joyes the grocer.

2335. "Called upon me and said, 'You have not " 'promised your vote'?"—He met me in the street and called to me; that must be a mistake.

2336. And he said, "You have not promised your " vote, Mr. Cotton"?—He did.

2337. And he said, "If you will vote for Mr. " Gower I will do—" what?—He asked me if I had promised my vote. I said no, I had not, I had not been asked by any one; more I had then before; and he said, "Do you want to get any little employment"? And then he said, "If you want to get employment " I can give you a little employment in canvassing " Nutley-lane and other parts, as you are not very " well." I thought at the time I might canvass a few, knowing some of the people, and then I went across to Mr. Smith.

2338. Is not this what he said, "Now if you will " vote for Gower I will give you 5*l.* for five weeks " work"?—Well, he might put it in that way; I do not remember.

2339. Did not he put it in that way?—I really cannot remember, it is so long ago; I did not think anything about it.

2340. Did you go with him to Mr. Smith's?—I did.

2341. Who was Mr. Smith?—The agent.

2342. Was your name put down?—It was, I believe; by the committee, I think.

2343. Did you go into Mr. Smith's?—I did.

2344. Or did you remain out?—I went in and I saw Mr. Smith; he took my name.

2345. Did you remain in the house along with Mr. Smith?—Not five minutes.

2346. You left Joyes behind you?—I did.

2347. And when he came out what did he say?—I did not wait for Mr. Joyes, not then. When I saw Mr. Joyes again he said, "You must do the best you " can," or something like that.

2348. When he came out did he tell you it was all right?—He might have done; I do not recollect the words. I do not know that I saw him just then, for he was some time in Smith's.

2349. When did you make this statement?—This year.

2350. Your memory was better then than it is now?—I dare say it is there. If you ask me the questions I will tell you; I wish to tell you the truth. I wrote to Mr. Smith afterwards.

2351. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had better answer the questions?—I will answer the questions.

2352. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he say it was all right?—Yes.

2353. What was all right; that you should have the 5*l.*?—No, I do not know what it was. He said my name was down; I suppose he meant that.

2354. Do not you know what you understood him to mean was that you were to have 5*l.* for the work; you went there for the purpose of having your name put down in order to be entitled to get 5*l.* for five weeks' work?—If I canvassed.

2355. Is not that what you went there for?—Yes, if I canvassed.

2356. That was your object in coming there?—Yes, if I canvassed.

2357. When he said it was all right, did not yon understand him to mean you were to have the job?—That I was to be a canvasser?

2358. That you were to have the job?—Yes.

2359. You were then in poor health?—Yes, I was; 18 months I have been in poor health.

2360. And you were to be employed as a canvasser?—As I understood him, canvassing and looking about; anything I saw.

2361. I suppose it was then understood between you that you were to vote for Gower?—Yes.

2362. Who canvassed you afterwards on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Mr. Monson called on me; no one else.

2363. After you had seen Mr. Smith?—After I had seen Mr. Smith, shortly. I do not know as I could tell you exactly whether I had seen Mr. Smith; I do not think I had seen Mr. Smith.

2364. Did you tell Mr. Monson that you had seen Smith, and that your name was put down as canvasser?—No, sir.

2365. Did you tell him nothing at all about your interview with Mr. Smith?—No.

2366. Did you tell him you were to have had 5*l.* for your work?—No.

2367. You told him nothing of the kind?—He was not with me half a minute.

2368. Did you promise him in that half minute?—I did not promise him my vote; not Mr. Monson.

2369. To whom did you promise your vote?—No one at all. I never intended to vote until the last minute, when I came down to the town. I sent a note to that effect to Mr. Smith.

2370. You did not intend to vote at all?—No.

2371. What part of the day did you vote?—Very nearly 1 o'clock.

2372. How came you to vote for Mr. Monson?—I came down with a person named Heather, a voter. He said, "There are three or four of us going in." I said, "I shall not." He said, "Come in with us," and I went in and voted; else I never intended to vote.

2373. Who was the man that took you in?—I went in with Mr. Heather, the carpenter.

2374. Was he agent?—No, he was no agent. He was going in to vote; I believe he was only a voter. He said, "There are three or four of us going in," and he said, "Come in," and I went in with them and voted, or else I should not have gone if I had not seen him.

2375. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Whom did Heather vote for?—He voted for Monson.

2376. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) So you went in, having met three or four persons, not intending to vote, and meeting those men accidentally, they said, "Let us go in and vote for Mr. Monson"?—Yes, they did. I said, "It will help Mr. Monson a " little."

2377. What object had you in helping Mr. Monson?—None at all.

2378. You did not expect anything on the part of Mr. Monson?—I never did, and I never had anything.

2379. You were offered 5*l.* for your work on the part of Mr. Gower?—Yes, if I did anything. I do not know how it is on that paper, but I sent in a note to Mr. Smith to say I was not able to do it, and I should give it up, and I would not promise anybody. I withdrew my name when I found I was not able to do anything.

2380. Do you know a man named Bailey, of Cranley?—Yes, a very old acquaintance of mine. I am better acquainted with him than with any person in Reigate.

2381. An old friend of yours?—Yes.

2382. I am sorry you were not here yesterday; he was examined yesterday?—I was here two or three hours, but I was obliged to go home.

2383. But you were not here when he was examined?—No.

2384. Did you go over to Mr. Bailey, of Cranley, about a month before the election?—Yes.

2385. What did you go over there for?—Only for a holiday; he sent for me to go down and see him, and I went and stopped two or three days.

2386. On his invitation?—Yes.

2387. Was that after Mr. Joyes spoke to you?—Oh! yes, a long time.

2388. Long after Mr. Joyes had offered you the post of canvasser?—I think so.

2389. Did Mr. Joyes know you were acquainted with Bailey?—Yes.

2390. You told him?—No, I did not.

2391. How did he know you were acquainted with Bailey?—From being neighbours; we have been together hundreds of times.

2392. Then he knew that you knew Bailey?—He knew that we lived in the neighbourhood.

2393. Then you went over to Bailey and stayed two or three days with him?—Yes.

2394. You went over and asked him to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

2395. Do not be so sure?—No, I did not.

2396. I will read what you stated yourself: "About "a month before the election I called upon John "Bailey, of Cranley." Is that the man?—Yes.

2397. "And asked him to vote for Monson. He "said he would not." Did you not ask him to vote for Mr. Monson?—No, I do not think I ever said that to him. If I did it was in common conversation. I was not authorized to ask him.

2398. I did not ask if you were authorized?—If I did, I forget it.

2399. But you did not forget it when you made this statement. I remind you of it?—I am on my oath, and wish to speak the truth.

2400. Did you ask him to vote for Mr. Monson?—If I did, I forget it. I might have asked him such a question.

2401. And did he say he could not, he had promised to vote for Gower?—Well, he might, but I do not know.

2402. Did he say so?—I do not know that he did. I cannot remember. I have gone through so much illness since. I cannot remember.

2403. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had better answer the question?—I no not wish to evade any question.

2404. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he say he had promised to vote for Gower?—I do not know if I said so, I really might have said it, it might be true, but I really forget at this moment our conversation.

2405. And did he tell you that his brother-in-law, Henry Baines, of Nutley-lane: do you know him?—Yes.

2406. Is he his brother-in-law?—Yes.

2407. Did he tell you that his brother-in-law, Henry Baines, of Nutley-lane, held 5*l.* for him?—For his expenses.

2408. Yes, for his expenses?—Yes, I believe he did say it.

2409. And did he tell you that he had that 5*l.* for Thomas Buckland?—No; I do not know where he got it from. I do not know whether Mr. Bailey told me that, but I think he did too.

2410. You think he did, too?—I really forget.

2411. And did he not tell you that he had received the cash on the morning of the election?—Yes.

2412. From Baines?—He said he had received it; he did not say whether he had received it from Mrs. Baines or Baines.

2413. That is, on the morning of the election?—Yes.

2414. When did he tell you that?—That morning.

2415. On the morning of the election?—Yes.

2416. Then you met him on the morning of the election?—Yes.

2417. Did you meet him before you voted?—Oh, he came to my house and had his breakfast.

2418. He must have had two breakfasts then?—Lunch, he called it, perhaps. He came round about ten.

2419. Did you breakfast with Baines?—No.

2420. You live near him?—Yes. I had got a beefsteak, and Bailey came round about 10 o'clock.

2421. And then it was he told you he had received 5*l.*?—He told me going along towards my house; he told me of it when we were in the lane conversing together.

2422. Did he show you the 5*l.*?—No.

2423. Just recollect?—I do not recollect.

2424. Did he not show you the money?—He might have done.

2425. He knew you had not voted then?—No.

2426. But did he not show you the money he had received at Baines's house?—No, I really do not know, I forget.

2427. What time did he leave you?—He went down the town when he had his breakfast.

2428. He had not voted at that time?—I do not know.

2429. Look at this (*passing a paper to witness*). Is that your handwriting?—Yes.

2430. I will read this statement for you, and be cautious. You called with Mr. Gilbert upon Mr. Bailey?—Yes.

2431. In January last?—I think it was January.

2432. Now attend. Did you hear Mr. Bailey say: "I voted for Mr. Gower at the late Reigate elec- "tion"?—Yes.

2433. "I was living at Cranley, 20 miles from "Reigate. I knew of the election, and came up to "vote"?—Yes.

2434. "When Baines of Nutley-lane told me he "had received 5*l.* from Job Apted to give me if "I would vote for Gower"?—Yes.

2435. He told you that?—Yes.

2436. "I received 5*l.* from Baines before voting"?—Yes.

2437. He stated that in your presence and Mr. Gilbert's?—I believe those are the same words, I signed my name to them.

2438. "I paid my expenses to and from Cranley, "but it only amounted to about 10*s.*"?—Yes.

2439. "I was not engaged in any capacity during "the election. This is a true statement."?—If my name is there, that is what he said.

2440. Yes, your name is to it?—Then, that is what he said.

2441. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you wrote to Mr. Smith?—I wrote a little note to Mr. Smith.

2442. Can you recollect what was in that note?—Not exactly, but I can tell you the purport of it.

2443. What was the purport of it?—To Mr. Smith, who took my name down as to vote for Mr. Gower, to erase my name from his book, as I did not think I should vote at all.

2444. Had you before that been promised the 5*l.*?—Yes, I told him I was not able to do anything; that was the reason.

2445. Was not able to work?—Was not able to do anything.

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2446. Did you want more than 5*l.* ?—No, I never asked for that. I think Mr. Joyes did it out of kindness to me, knowing I was ill, that if I could canvass I might earn a sovereign as well as anybody else. I believe Mr. Joyes did it more out of kindness than anything else.

2447. You think Mr. Joyes did it out of kindness to you because you were ill, and he had known you a long time?—Yes; and as he knew that I knew a great many electors, and was acquainted with them, he thought I might get amongst them. I really think he did it out of pure kindness to me; and when I found I could not do it I sent a note to Mr. Smith to erase my name.

Mr. E. Rose.

Mr. EPHRAIM ROSE affirmed.

2448. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter and joiner.

2449. Are you concerned a great deal with the Asylum?—I have been for these last 11 years.

2450. During the election; you were connected with the Asylum during that time, and were canvassing in the election of 1865?—Yes, I was.

2451. I believe you promised yourself for Mr. Monson?—In 1865?

2452. Yes, I am speaking of 1865 at present?—Yes.

2453. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

2454. I suppose you voted for him eventually?—Yes, I did.

2455. Did you pay different sums of money to persons for him?—Yes, I did.

2456. Who did you receive the money from that you paid?—From Mr. Nicholls.

2457. What Mr. Nicholls?—James Nicholls.

2458. Are you able to tell us whether you received it in small sums at different times or all at once in one lump?—In small sums at different times.

2459. Are you able to tell us what you received altogether?—I should think about 16*l.* to 18*l.* or 20*l.*; I could not say exactly.

2460. I do not want to trouble you to tell us exactly?—Well, it might be from 16*l.* to 20*l.*

2461. Did you send him in an account of the payments you made out of the money?—I believe I gave Mr. Nicholls an account at the close of it. It was in this way,—as I wanted it, and what I wanted it for at the time I drew it.

2462. Did you subsequently send in any account of it, as a whole statement?—No, I did not.

2463. But when you wanted it you went to Mr. Nicholls and said I should like to have, how much, 5*l.*?—That was the outside that I drew at any time.

2464. Did you tell him what for?—Yes.

2465. Did you say to pay particular persons?—Not to pay to particular persons, I never paid 5*l.*

2466. No, you may not have paid 5*l.* to one person, but you may have divided 5*l.* between two persons. When you went to Mr. Nicholls what did you say to get the money?—Well, for two persons?

2467. No. What did you say to Mr. Nicholls when you went to get any money?—I went and asked for money for certain parties.

2468. Mentioning the parties' names?—Nice and Turner.

2469. Did you go on any occasion and say, "I want "money for Nice and Turner"?—Yes, if you will allow me.

2470. Answer the question first, and then you may state anything that you like in explanation, and we shall be much obliged to you. Do you recollect asking for money for any persons?—I asked for money to go and see any persons that were at a distance, to pay my expenses in going to see them and to pay their expenses.

2471. Just tell me the names of persons you gave money to for expenses?—I paid money to three different persons; to Turner, Nice, and Mewett. I had a long journey to find Mewett.

2472. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Any to Payne?—No.

2473. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me the names of other persons to whom you paid money?—None at all.

2477. You did not pay the whole sum, between 16*l.* and 20*l.*, to those three persons?—There was myself, besides various expenses.

2475. The expenses were your expenses?—The expenses were my expenses.

2476. Are you able to tell me how much was paid to Nice?—50*s.*

2477. How much to Turner?—50*s.*

2478. How much did you pay Mewett?—I will not be sure whether it was 50*s.* or 2*l.*

2479. We will take it at 50*s.* That is 7*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

2480. The residue. 8*l.* 10*s.*, taking it at the lowest amount 16*l.*, would be what you kept for yourself and expenses?—Yes, during the whole of the election possibly I did.

2481. How did you begin your work? who applied to you to do it?—I came down, and I was canvassed by both parties.

2482. By whom?—By Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower too. I did not candidly promise either of them.

2483. After you had been canvassed by them were you sent for, or did you volunteer to come down to the town yourself?—I volunteered to come down to the town.

2484. Who did you see when you came down?—Nicholls. I went to the "White Hart."

2485. You went to him. Tell us what passed between you and him; try and remember as accurately as you can about this part of it?—I came here to-day to give you the truth, and I will give it as nearly as I can tell you it. I went and saw Mr. Nicholls, and asked him if he would place me on Mr. Monson's committee; he said, certainly he would.

2486. In what way?—As a canvasser; I wished to come on to go to work, as I had been on the former election.

2487. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had been on the former election?—Yes. I wanted to go to work; I said, I supposed I should be paid in a reasonable way, provided I canvassed and did all that I could for the return of Mr. Monson. He said, "Yes, "anything reasonable in the shape of canvassing and "loss of time." I said, "Of course I cannot lose my "time for nothing, and my business."

2488. He said yes?—Yes; he would pay me reasonably for my time.

2489. Was any sum mentioned?—None at all.

2490. Do you remember his saying you should be paid like the others?—No, there was nothing mentioned.

2491. Then you wanted to work?—I wanted to work.

2492. I suppose soon after that in the course of your work, after that it was, that you paid Turner and Nice, and also Mewett?—Yes.

2493. Try and recollect and see whether you are quite sure that after you began to work you did not pay any more?—I did not pay any more.

2494. Did you promise any more?—No.

2495. Do you know a man named James Payne?—Perfectly well.

2496. He is a stone-mason living in Brighton-road, Warwick-road?—Yes.

2497. Did you go to him?—I do not know that I talked to him about his vote.

2498. Did you see him in the street afterwards?—I do not know that I had any conversation with him respecting his vote.

2499. Do you not recollect?—No.

2500. Did you pay him 50*s.*?—No.

2501. Not pay him?—No.

2502. You are quite sure of that?—Quite sure.

2503. I suppose you would recollect it if you had done so?—Yes.

2504. You are quite sure you did not?—I paid no other men.

2505. I want to draw your memory to it generally; it may have escaped your memory, and I am now going into particulars in order to help your memory. I ask you, Are you quite sure you did not pay Payne anything?—I am quite positive I did not pay Payne 50*s*., or anybody else but Turner and Nice.

2506. It is only fair to you to ask the question, so don't be angry?—Not in the least.

2507. Do you remember saying either to Nice or to Turner, or to Mewett, supposing you paid them 50*s*.—supposing 50*s*. was the sum you paid to Mewett; never mind whether it was 50*s*. or 2*l*.—do you remember saying that if they promised, or if anybody had promised Mr. Gower already, that they should have 50*s*. more than they had if they voted for Mr. Monson?—I never said any such thing.

2508. You understand me?—Perfectly well.

2509. My question is something to this effect: "Now if you will vote for Mr. Monson you shall have "50*s*., and if you are Mr. Gower's man, and promise "Mr. Monson, you shall have 50*s*. more"?—I never made any such allusion, not to any one of them.

2510. Not to any one of them; but did you make it to any one at all?—Not to any one.

2511. I distinctly understand you to say that, after paying 7*l*. 10*s*. among these three men, the residue you retained for yourself?—I believe I did.

2512. If you did, you paid it to nobody else?—I had expenses.

2513. I am not grumbling as to the amount at all, but I want to get at what you kept for yourself?—I kept it all.

2514. I wish to ask you whether you paid any portion of the residue to some other person, or whether you retained it yourself?—I kept it myself.

2515. I only want a distinct answer?—Yes.

2516. Now I must ask you this if you please; you know Nice very well; he works at the Asylum?—I know him perfectly well.

2517. He came up to the Asylum one day, when you paid him the 50*s*.?—That was at the Asylum.

2518. He was at the Asylum when you paid him the 50*s*.?—Yes.

2519. Just tell me what passed?—I will tell you exactly. I have a great interest in telling you that.

2520. Then please to tell us?—It has been a great deal of bore to the people of this place.

2521. Tell us correctly and shortly, and we will judge what the effect of that was. Did you go to the Asylum?—Yes.

2522. Did you go to him at the Asylum, or did he come to you?—He did not come to me.

2523. Did you go to him?—No.

2524. Well, tell us your story?—I will. If you will allow me, I will make a statement, and after that you may ask me questions in any way you like. The first I ever knew of Nice receiving this was the fore part of the week, about Monday or Tuesday. There was a committee at the "White Hart." I had not, previous to that, asked Nice or Turner, either of them, for their votes, neither of them.

2525. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Very well, go on.

(*The Witness.*) During the committee meeting that was held at the "White Hart" some one came in and said that Nice wanted Mr. Nicholls. Nicholls came across to me and said, "Nice from the Asylum has "come over to see me, what shall I do with him?" I said, "I do not know, I am sure, but put him on "work canvassing." "He has canvassed before very "well," he said, and I left him to do that, but what arrangement there was between the two I do not know. In a short time Mr. Nicholls returned, and after the committee broke up Mr. Nicholls came to me and said, "Nice has come to the committee room." I said, "Is he going to be on the committee?" and he said, "I have nothing to do with his coming on "the committee, not the least." He said nothing to me, and we left the committee room. I proceeded across to the "Grapes," and Nice came over and followed me to it. On going home we went together, he and his brother-in-law, who took him home at the same time that I went home. That was on the Monday or Tuesday in the fore part of the week. He said, during our walk, he thought he would go on to Mr. Monson's committee. Mr. Nicholls said he would satisfy him for what he did if he went to work for him, and he had till the following Friday to make up his mind. On the following Friday it was a wet day, and he asked me whether I was going to Reigate that night, and as I said I was, he said, "I wish you to ask Mr. Nicholls for 50*s*. for me; he "will know what it means." He said, "I feel in-"clined to work for Mr. Monson's party,"—I said, "Very well,"—"and I will speak to Mr. Nicholls "about Turner going to work for Mr. Monson's party "if you wish it." I went down to Reigate and said to Mr. Nicholls, "There is some agreement between "you and Nice, for him to come to work." He said "Yes." I said, "Did you say you would advance "the 50*s*. if he worked upon the election"? and he said, "I did say so;" and I said, "He has converted "Turner to his mind, who would work in the same "way as I do," and he said, "You will advance him "that sum," and I went on the Saturday morning to go to his shop, and put down the 50*s*. on the table and said, "There is the 50*s*. that you asked Mr. "Nicholls for."

2526. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That you asked Mr. Nicholls for?

(*The Witness.*) He said, "Turner will work in "the same way as you do," and he said it was all right, and I gave him the 50*s*. I know nothing more of any agreement between Nicholls and Nice than you do. I knew nothing till I had a note from Mr. Nicholls to say that Nice had written to Mr. Monson to say he wanted to see him, but what his object was I cannot say.

2527. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think I can.

(*The Witness.*) I do not know, at any rate. Mr. Nicholls put it upon me, and of course the thing was put on my back at once, that I had been bribing those two, and I believe it has gone to the inhabitants that I bribed them, and I have had no opportunity of clearing myself until the present moment.

2528. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You consider you have cleared yourself now?—Yes; I have spoken the truth.

2529. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Well, that is the very best way to clear yourself, by telling the truth.

(*The Witness.*) I have always been desirous to state that and clear myself of this, for I have borne the scandal long enough.

2530. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me this?

(*The Witness.*) Yes, anything that is true.

2531. You paid Turner the same day?—Yes, the same day and the same hour.

2532. Now money was pretty plentiful this last election?—No, not over plentiful; not very I believe.

2533. I am speaking of 1865?—Yes, work was very plentiful.

2534. But money was not so plentiful?—No, there was no great abundance.

2535. Was it more light than it was in the 1863 election?—I did not receive great pay in 1863; I worked very hard in 1863.

2536. And you did not receive great pay in 1863?—No.

2537. Were you on the committee in 1863?—Yes, for Mr. Wilkinson.

2538. What I want to know is, did you canvass more men, do you think, in 1863?—I do not know that I canvassed anybody in 1863. I did not canvass anybody. I was elected chairman on the Mead-vale committee, but I do not know that I canvassed a single individual.

2539. Was the money received in 1863 more or

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less than in 1865?—I did not receive anything until after the election; there was no agreement about anything.

2540. Well, was it about the same?—About the same.

2541. So that you had about 20*l.*?—Oh no, I did not receive 20*l.* for that election.

2542. Not for your vote; I do not mean that?—Neither do I.

2543. You had been working hard?—Yes, for less money.

2544. This last election you received for party purposes so much for yourself, and you paid so much money; we have had 7*l.* 10*s.*, and the residue you say you think you kept for yourself; I am not grumbling at that now?—Oh no.

2545. What did you receive for your own services in 1863? was it about the same or more?—I think about 10*l.* for seven weeks' election.

2546. Was it part of your duty to pay persons in 1863?—None whatever.

2547. Did you receive any money to hand over to other agents in 1863?—Not a single shilling.

2548. Who paid away the money in 1863?—I believe there was as little spent as possible.

2549. Very likely; but somebody must have paid it?—I paid none; there was much too little.

2550. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That observation would apply also to 1865; each party would probably pay as little as he could.

(*The Witness.*) After the election was over in 1863, which was Mr. Wilkinson's election, Mr. James sent for me.

2551. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What Mr. James?—Albert James. He sent for me to the "Swan" and gave me a list of men, and he wished I would hand over to them 10*s.* for two days' work; it was 10*s.* a man, and some were under 10*s.*

2552. Do you know the services that these men had performed?—I do not know more than that they were about sticking up bills and such like things in a general way.

2553. Are you able to inform me whether they were voters all of them?—Some of them were, and some were not.

2554. 10*s.* apiece to about 20 men?—To about 30 or 40 men.

2555. Then perhaps you received 20*l.* for them?—Yes.

2556. Of course you must not suppose I want to tie you to a pound or two?—Oh no.

2557. But 20*l.*, there will be no mistake about that at all?—Oh no.

2558. You did hand it over I suppose?—I handed it over and got the signatures of each man, and returned the list back to Mr. James again.

2559. Was Mr. James the agent for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

2560. Where was your committee room in 1863 to which you were chairman?—Mazden's was the chief place where I used to resort to a room, but there was no particular room; I do not know whether it was the principal room or not.

2561. You went into the house?—Yes.

2562. Was that where your committee generally met?—Yes.

2563. Is it a refreshment house?—Yes.

2564. A beer house?—A licensed house, a public house.

2565. I suppose usually the committee sat every night?—Well, perhaps four nights a week.

2566. Did it meet there and here also?—I do not know.

2567. You were only chairman there?—I was only chairman there; but I used to attend meetings at Reigate.

2568. Of course you would. I suppose at Mazden's public house there were refreshments?—At their own expense.

2569. I have not come to that yet. There were refreshments provided for the committee men?—No.

2570. Did the committee men take refreshments at the committee meetings?—At their own expense.

2571. Did they take refreshments?—Yes, they did.

2572. Who paid for the refreshments?—They each paid for themselves.

2573. Where did they pay for them?—They paid for them as they were brought in.

2574. Did they pay 1*s.* a head, and call for a glass of anything they liked, or how was it done?—Each man paid for himself, and called for what he pleased.

2575. Paid for it as it was brought to him?—Yes.

2576. Were the meetings some nights larger than others?—Yes.

2577. You usually had a glass of something?—Very frequently.

2578. For the good of the house?—For the good of myself.

2579. Who paid for that?—I did.

2580. Always?—Yes, some of our committee men had spoken about having refreshments, and I mentioned it to Mr. James, and Mr. James said, "Not 1*s.* will I "pay,not 1*s.* for refreshments will I give."

2581. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was when you were at work?—Yes, he said not 1*s.* will I give; Mr. Wilkinson is determined, he will not give anything, he would not pay 1*s.*

2582. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You must have as a committee man a very good recollection of this. I understand you to say, so far as you were present and able to notice, all refreshments had to be paid for by the persons who called for them; you pledge yourself to that?—I pledge myself to that.

2583. Was Mr. Wilkinson in the habit of attending these committee meetings at Mazden's?—No.

2584. Did he ever attend?—I only saw him once, when he came to address the constituency at Mazden's.

2585. Only once?—Only once.

2586. Now, on that occasion in 1863 had you anything to do with Nice?—Not in the least.

2587. Did you know him at that time?—Perfectly well.

2588. Which way did he vote at the election?—He voted for Wilkinson, I believe.

2589. So he was on your side?—He was, but he was not on our committee.

2590. Did you know Turner at that time?—I knew him, but he had no vote at that time.

2591. Did you know Page at that time?—Perfectly well.

2592. Which way did he vote at the election of 1863?—I am not sure, but I think he voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

2593. If you do not remember for whom he gave his vote at that time, you perhaps can remember on which side he appeared to be?—I do not know that I can; I know there was as little communication between me and Nice and Payne as there was with any one of the constituency—there was no communication at all.

2594. How was that?—Of course I thought they were on Mr. Wilkinson's side, and I did not take any trouble.

2595. You did not take any trouble in canvassing them?—Not in the least.

2596. In 1863 did you give any receipt for the money you received, the 10*l.*?—The 10*l.* for myself?

2597. Yes?—I believe that I did.

2598. That would be given to Mr. James?—Yes, he sent for me some days after the election was over and said, "I wish to make you a remuneration for your "services." I will not be sure whether it was 10*l.* or 12*l.*, but I believe it was 10*l.*

2599. I have not the least objection to take it as you prefer it. You think in the course of business you handed him over a receipt for it?—I am positive I did.

2600. You are positive you did?—Yes.

2601. For what you received?—I believe I did.

2602. Mr. Wilkinson had stood before, you know, in 1859?—Yes.

2603. The Honourable Mr. Monson, afterwards Lord Monson, was opposed to him?—Yes.

2604. You were here then?—Yes.

2605. Which side were you on then?—I do not think I voted at all; I took no interest at all, only in the last two elections.

2606. I suppose you will recollect whether you voted or not?—I do not think I had a vote at that time.

2607. Then you cannot give us much information about the election of 1859?—None at all; I would give it with great pleasure if I could.

2608. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I did not want to anticipate Mr. Allen, but tell me, were you at the "Grapes"?—At the "Grapes"?

2609. After Nice had gone to the "White Hart" you went back with him to the "Grapes"?—Yes.

2610. Were you at the "Grapes" in the evening before you went to the "White Hart"?—No, at least when I say that I believe I called in to ask what time the meeting commenced at the "White Hart."

2611. What time did you call in at the "Grapes"?—About a quarter or ten minutes to 8, the committee sat at 8.

2612. When you were at the "Grapes" did you see Nice there?—No, I did not.

2613. In what room were you when you were there?—I was not in any room at the "Grapes."

2614. You were in neither room?—I was in neither room at the "Grapes."

2615. You were in neither room?—I was in neither room; I simply went to the bar.

2616. Did you go to the "White Hart" and see Nice, and was that the first time you saw him?—No.

2617. You told us you saw him at the "White Hart"?—I saw him come into the committee room; that was the first time I ever met him.

2618. At what time was it you saw him come into the committee room at the "White Hart"?—I should think it was ten minutes or a quarter of an hour before the committee broke up.

2619. That would be about 9 o'clock?—Yes.

2620. Did he appear sober?—I did not particularly notice, but he might have been a little bit on the reel you might call it.

2621. Did you go then from the "White Hart" to the "Grapes"?—I went to the "Grapes" to have some refreshment for myself.

2622. Did Nice go into the "Grapes" again?—He did.

2623. Was it when you were going from the "White Hart" to the "Grapes" that you found that Nice was rather in liquor?—Yes.

2624. Did you go into any room at the "Grapes"?—I believe we did.

2625. Did Nice go with you?—He did not go with me; he walked with his brother-in-law.

2626. You know what I mean, did he go into the room?—He did go in.

2627. How long did he remain in the room before you came out and took him home?—I cannot say positively, but possibly half an hour.

2628. Was there any light in the room?—Yes, of course, we were not in the dark at that time of night.

2629. How many people were there in the room, half a dozen or a dozen?—I could not say, there might be more.

2630. Whilst Nice was there, and whilst you were there on that occasion, was there not conversation going on with regard to money matters and bribery?—Not in the least.

2631. Will you swear that?—Yes, now if you like.

2632. I understand you to do it now?—I do.

2633. I do not want you to swear it 12 months hence. I understand you no money was paid or spoken of?—No money was spoken of; I simply went into the room to get a glass.

2634. And no money was paid?—No.

2635. No money paid or spoken of?—No.

2636. Did you attend the committee meetings of Mr. Monson's party?—Very little.

2637. Did you ever see Mr. Monson there?—I believe I did on this occasion, on this occasion, the very night I think.

2638. Did you ever report in Mr. Monson's presence these communications with regard to the 50*s.* as to Turner and Nice?—No.

2639. Did you only report them to Mr. Nicholls?—I only reported them to Mr. Nicholls.

2640. Are those the only two cases of money being paid on the part of Mr. Monson's party that you know of?—And to Mr. Mewett.

2641. That makes three, so far as you were concerned?—So far I was concerned.

2642. But there were other monies paid to other parties besides those three, I do not care by whom; I mean on the part of Mr. Monson?—No.

2643. Will you swear that you have not heard of other monies paid to other parties but those three?—Yes.

2644. Do you believe now that you are the only person on the side of Mr. Monson's party who ever paid any money for any vote on this last election?—I could not swear to that.

2645. Now I am dropping you aside and asking you about your knowledge of your own party?—You ask me what I think of it. I should not think other persons would work for nothing.

2646. Were there other persons working for Mr. Monson besides yourself?—Yes, but I have no knowledge of any being paid.

2647. You might have heard it?—I have not heard of it.

2648. We have heard a great deal from the other side that persons were to be paid as they were paid before?—Yes.

2649. Now in your canvassing did you never promise parties that they were to be paid as they were paid before?—No.

2650. Did you ever canvass more than these three?—Yes, but I never offered any money.

2651. Tell us any other men whom you canvassed, any one single man whom you canvassed in the class of life as yourself, Nice and Turner, and so on?—I might speak to two or three; well, I will speak to Church as a man I believe I spoke to about that time.

2652. What is he?—A grocer. I understood he was engaged for Gower, and so I did not trouble him any more, but I believe I did speak to him.

2653. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You believe you did?—Yes.

2654. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ever offer him any money?—No.

2655. How came you to offer the money only to those three?—The others had gone the other way, and I did not wish to tempt them.

2656. Cannot you give me the name of any other person that you canvassed?—No, I do know that I can.

2657. Were those the only persons that you canvassed?—Well, I do not know of anybody else; if I did I would tell you with great pleasure.

2658. You were engaged to work; were these the only people you canvassed for the sum of money you received from Mr. Nicholls?—I might have canvassed more, but I do not recollect.

2659. You know very well whether you do or not?—I do not recollect any individual, or I would give his name with the greatest pleasure; that is the candid truth.

2660. Do not consider my pleasure?—I am come here to speak the truth.

2661. But, tell me, had you not heard of it?—I heard nothing. Every word I have spoken to you is the truth to-day; and if I knew of anything else I should be most happy to give it you.

2662. Do you mean to say that Church and these other three men are the only ones you canvassed?—I cannot call to mind any others; I would hold nothing from you in any way.

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2663. You did something else for your money?—I attended various meetings during the elections.

2664. What class of meetings?—Public meetings in the hall, where the candidates would have the pleasure of meeting each other.

2665. Did you make any charge for attending those meetings?—I attended those meetings and I must have thought I deserved something for losing my business, and did not suppose any one else would not have done the same.

2666. What is your business?—Carpenter and joiner.

2667. Were these meetings held in the evening?—Yes.

2668. After your work was done?—Yes, but I may go home in the evening and do something.

2669. Smoke your pipe I suppose?—Do my work or smoke my pipe, whichever I like.

2670. Were these meetings numerously attended?—Yes.

2671. Would there be 200 or 300 or 400 people?—Yes.

2672. Did you think all the rest of the 400 people who attended those meetings expected to be paid?—I do not know what they expected, but I expected to be paid.

2673. Then you voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

2674. I suppose you consider that giving a conscientious vote?—Certainly.

2675. Voting on principle?—Yes. I worked hard during the whole of the election.

2676. Yes, you have described your work, and it is very hard?—I do not expect you would have worked so many nights for that.

2677. You had better be a little quiet. How many of these public meetings did you attend?—Perhaps half a dozen.

2678. All in the evening?—No, at this hall at various times.

2679. Did you attend any private meetings?—I do not know that I did besides committee meetings.

2680. Where was it you attended principally?—At the "White Hart." I do not know that Mr. Monson had any other place.

2681. Did you pay for what you had there?—I had but very little refreshment.

2682. That is no answer to my question. Did you pay for that very little?—I did not.

2683. Supposing you had a biscuit, did you pay for that?—I did not have a biscuit, I had refreshment as regards drink.

2684. What was your drink there?—A glass of brandy and water.

2685. Did you pay for it?—No.

2686. Who did?—I do not know.

2687. To whose account did you put it?—I did not put it to anybody's account.

2688. Where did you get it?—In a small room opposite the committee room. I had a glass of brandy and water several times.

2689. Who did you speak to?—The waiter came in.

2690. Was this a general committee meeting?—Yes.

2691. Did the others have brandy?—The others had drink.

2692. Did you see any pay for it?—I have seen some of them pay for it, but I could not answer for that.

2693. As far as regards yourself, you never paid?—No.

2694. Was that part of your work, attending at the committee and drinking brandy and water?—Yes, I was not particular about that; I can drink a glass of brandy and water as well as anybody else.

2695. At other persons' expense?—Yes.

2696. Did you attend at other houses?—I may have.

2697. I see by the return of the election expenses at the "White Hart" there is a very large sum charged for brandy charged on the part of Mr. Monson?—I had not a considerable deal of brandy and water, though I am not a teetotaller; but I can drink a glass of brandy and water.

2698. Did you have a glass when you were there?—I might.

2699. Did you?—Yes.

2700. Did you smoke?—No.

2701. You only had the brandy and water?—Yes.

2702. Did you attend other committee meetings besides those at the "White Hart"?—No.

2703. Only at the "White Hart"?—Only at the "White Hart."

2704. How many did you attend at the "White Hart"?—Perhaps half a dozen.

2705. Not more?—Not more.

2706. Now we have got the extent of your work; six committee meetings, three or four public meetings, and canvassing four persons?—Yes; and travelling expenses to Cranley.

2707. How much did you pay for your expenses at Cranley?—I had to go to Guildford to find the individual.

2708. You went there by train?—Yes.

2709. Second class, I suppose?—Yes; but afterwards I had to hire.

2710. How far was it to hire?—I had to hire from Guildford to Cranley, little more than 20 miles. I called at every station on the line to find the man I went in search of.

2711. How far on the journey did you go by the train?—From Guildford to Reigate.

2712. Then from Guildford did you post?—Yes.

2713. In what way?—A horse and cart.

2714. What did you pay for the horse and cart?—18*s.*

2715. Was that the most substantial charge you had against Mr. Monson?—Yes. I was gone the better part of two days. I could not come home the same night.

2716. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I have one question to ask you: you say you received 10*l.* or 12*l.* on the former election?—Yes.

2717. You did not canvass on that election at all? No; I was merely a chairman.

2718. Chairman of the committee?—Yes, for seven weeks.

2719. How many chairmen on that election?—There was a chairman and ex-chairman for the meeting. Mr. Penfold acted as the chairman for the meeting.

2720. There were several chairmen for different districts I suppose?—Yes.

2721. Were they all paid?—I do not know.

2722. I thought you charged; do not you think that they would charge?—Of course I did not suppose that they would work for nothing, more than myself.

(*The witness.*) Is that all?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) At present.

The witness withdrew.

J. Payne.

JAMES PAYNE sworn and examined.

2723. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you a shoemaker?—Yes.

2724. And you live at the Brighton-road, Warwick-town?—Yes.

2725. Previous to the last election, I mean the election of 1865, were you canvassed to vote?—Yes.

2726. By whom?—By Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith.

2727. Together?—Yes, together.

2728. Were you canvassed on the other side?—Yes, sir.

2729. By whom?—By Mr. Richardson and Mr. Monson.

2730. Who canvassed you first, do you recollect ?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith.

2731. Did you promise them then ?—Not the first time.

2782. Did you promise Mr. Monson and Mr. Richardson ?—No, not the first time ; I had made my promise to Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith the second time they called.

2733. In the meantime had you promised Mr. Monson ?—No.

2734. After you had made your promise Mr. Monson called a second time on you ?—No.

2735. Who called for him ?—Not any one that I recollect.

2736. Were you only canvassed once for Mr. Monson ?—Only once. I told Mr. Smith and Mr. Richardson I had promised myself for Mr. Gower, and they said "Very well, we do not wish to persuade "you to alter your mind."

2737. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who told you ? Mr. Monson and Mr. Richardson.

2738. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you anything to do with the Asylum ?—

2739. When Mr. Monson called on you to canvass you who was with him ?—Mr. Gibson Richardson.

2740. Was Mr. Nicholls with him ?—No.

2741. Did you see Mr. Nicholls about your vote ?—Not at all.

2742. Did you not do work at the Asylum ?—Yes.

2743. I suppose you know Mr. Rose very well ?—Yes.

2744. Did you have some conversation with him about the election ?—I think I had some conversation, but nothing of any importance at all.

2745. That was previous to the election ?—That was previous to the election.

2746. Do you recollect whether you told Rose you had promised Mr. Gower ?—I might have done so, but I do not recollect that I did.

2747. And you did eventually vote ?—For Mr. Gower.

2748. Had you been looked upon as a person expected to vote for Mr. Monson ?—Not that I know of ; I had given no reason at all to anyone, not to my knowledge.

2749. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But, as you said on the canvass, you told Mr. Monson you had promised ?—I said I had promised my vote to Mr. Gower, and they said at once, as gentlemen would do on such occasions, they did not wish me to alter my mind.

2750. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you go on Mr. Gower's committee ?—When Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith came to me they said they had come to canvass my vote, and I think Mr. Gower said he should like me to go on his committee ; I said I would consider the matter and let him know.

2751. That is not very much ; did you go on the committee ?—No.

2752. Did you give your name ?—I gave my name in.

2753. That is the shorter cut to the answer. Was it put down on the committee ?—I saw Mr. Rose writing, and I believe it was put down on the committee. I went with the intention, believing—

2754. That your name would be put down as a committee man ?—Yes.

2755. Were you to be paid for what duties you were to perform ?—I had no agreement at all.

2756. Were you to be paid for whatever services you performed, whatever they might be ?—I had no agreement with Mr. Gower or Mr. Smith, or any one else. I had understood that those who gave up their time were to be properly paid, liberally paid, and with that understanding, and that Mr. Gower intended to carry on his election in a proper way, leaving public houses altogether, I considered I was justified in giving up my time for his interest.

2757. I am coming to your services afterwards. Were you to be paid ? that is my question, and a very plain one ?—I say in reply, I had no promise.

2758. I did not say you had. Did you understand you were to be paid, or did you expect to be paid for that ?—I did not know.

2759. I did not ask you that ; do attend to my question. I shall be sure to get it out at last, and therefore it is much better to have it at first ; did you understand your services were to be paid for, you say you did not know, because you had no agreement, but did you expect they would be paid for ?—I expected in this way, as I understood it was legal to pay those on the committee, on this ground I expected, with others, that I should receive a fair remuneration.

2760. That is a long answer to a very plain question, and it means you did ?—Yes.

2761. The fairness of it is that with which we have nothing to do, pray do not let us have any more speeches ; why did you expect you would be paid for it, who told you ?—I had heard it from rumour.

2762. Had the agents of Mr. Gower told you that you would be paid for your services ?—No, sir.

2763. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or might expect to be paid ?—Not one of them.

2764. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do pray help us; you are not at all making a clean breast of it. We shall be sure to extract it at last, and it is so much better you should tell us at first ; had you heard it from any person ?—I had heard it from one person.

2765. Tell us who that person was ?—Mr. Turner had said they would be properly paid.

2766. Who is Mr. Turner ?—The name you have had before.

2767. He is an engineer ?—He is working at the Asylum.

2768. Who did Mr. Turner vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

2769. You heard Mr. Rose examined just now ?—Yes.

2770. He spoke of a person named Turner ?—Yes.

2771. Is he the same person you mean ?—He is.

2772. Well, you heard from Mr. Turner those persons who went for Mr. Gower would be paid for their services ?—Yes.

2773. Who else did you hear it from ?—Mr. Francis.

2774. And who else ?—I do not recollect any one else.

2775. Did you know Mr. Mewett ?—No.

2776. You do not know him ?—No.

2777. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) M, e, w, e, tt, that is the spelling ?—I do not know him.

2778. Or any one like that spelling ?—No.

2779. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you, previously to going on Mr. Gower's committee, sent in your name as on Mr. Monson's committee ?—No, sir.

2780. Nothing of that kind ?—Nothing of that kind.

2781. Did you expect to see your name on Mr. Monson's committee ?—No.

2782. And it did not appear as far as you know ?—Not that I am aware of.

2783. You had been canvassed for him ?—Yes.

2784. Did you hear the services performed for Mr. Monson would be paid for ?—I had merely understood the same way as the others.

2785. As you have remembered the names of Turner and Francis as the persons from whom you understood it as to Mr. Gower, who did you hear that from ?—I do not recollect.

2786. But you had heard it ?—I had heard so.

2787. Were you willing to have performed services for Mr. Monson if you could have got fair remuneration for them ?—No.

2788. I believe his politics were much the same as those of Mr. Gower ?—I believe Mr. Gower was the most proper person.

2789. I wish you would do me the favour to answer my question; as far as you knew their politics were all the same ?—I believe there was not much difference.

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2790. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you understand their politics ?—Yes.

2791. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) As you believe their politics were much the same, were you not prepared to perform services for Mr. Monson provided they were properly paid for ?—No.

2792. You did receive some money ?—Yes.

2793. Who paid it you ?—Mr. Smith.

2794. Did you receive anything from the other side, that of Mr. Monson ?—Not a farthing.

2795. Did you not receive 50*s.* ?—No.

2796. Not 50*s.* ?—No.

2797. Were you offered 50*s.* ?—No.

2798. I will ask you this question, Did you ever hear that you were offered 50*s.* ?—No.

2799. You never heard it ?—No.

2800. This is the first time ?—The first time.

2801. Perhaps you are right. Do you know Nice ?—Yes.

2802. Did you not tell Nice you had been paid 50*s.* ?—No, sir, not to my recollection.

2803. You did talk to Nice about Mr. Monson's committee ?—Not that I know of.

2804. Nice and you both work at the Asylum ?—Yes.

2805. You have had conversations with him about the elections, I suppose ?—Yes, we had some conversation.

2806. Do you not recollect telling Nice you had been given 50*s.*, no matter by whom ?—No, I had no reason whatever to tell him so.

2807. I do not say you had. I wish first of all to know the fact, and you can give the reason afterwards ?—No.

2808. You said you had no recollection ; do you think you could forget it ?—I could not tell him.

2809. You told me you did not tell him so to your recollection. Now I wish a more explicit answer than that ; did you, aye or no, tell him you had been given 50*s.* or had been offered 50*s.* ?—I did not.

2810. Had you any conversation with him about 50*s.* ?—I had not any.

2811. Any what ?—That I had received 50*s.*

2812. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I did not say you had.

(*The Witness.*) No, what I mean is, I have no knowledge at all that I ever did say so ; I never had any reason to do so.

2813. I did not say you had received 50*s.* ; you may have had some reason for deceiving Nice ; but did you in conversation tell him you had received 50*s.* ?—No.

2814. You are sure of that ?—I am sure of that.

2815. Then if he says so he makes a mistake ?—A mistake.

2816. What part did you take in the election of 1863, if any ?—Not any.

2817. Were you a voter ?—Yes.

2818. Who did you vote for in 1863 ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

2819. You were on the other side then ?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

2820. You are quite right. But, referring back again to the other matter, you did not tell me the amount of money you received from Mr. Smith ?—2*l.*

2821. That is, you say, for the services you rendered to Mr. Gower ?—For giving up my whole time.

2822. I was going to ask you, my friend has reminded me of it, but you told me you did not know your name was on the committee, but that you saw Rose writing, and presumed from that and other reasons your name was put on the committee ?—Yes.

2823. You did not see it on the table ?—No.

2824. And you did not attend the committee ?—I attended all the meetings I knew of in our district.

2825. What district is that ?—Redhill.

2826. Did you do anything else besides that ?—I canvassed three voters.

2827. Who did you canvass ?—One Mr. Bignell of Warwick-town.

2828. And who else ?—Mr. Beare.

2829. Not Mr. Beare here ?—No, Brighton-road.

2830. And who else did you canvass ?—I have no particular recollection of any one else.

2831. May I say you have no recollection of any one else ?—Yes.

2832. I suppose you did not get paid quite so much as you expected ?—I understood it was more.

2833. You understood it was 5*l.* ?—Yes.

2834. Did you grumble ?—No, sir, I did not.

2835. You are a married man ?—Yes.

2836. Did you not go home and say, "They were "not up to the mark with me at all," or something like that ?—Not that I am aware of.

2837. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose there was a sort of 5*l.* epidemic about ?—That was the understood thing.

2838. Was it simply that or more ?—Yes.

2839. A 5*l.* epidemic ?—Yes.

2840. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I was going on. At the election for 1863 you voted, I think, for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

2841. As far as politics were concerned, Mr. Wilkinson's were much like Mr. Monson's that election, as far as you know ?—Yes.

2842. How came you to change sides ? Mr. Gower opposed Mr. Wilkinson ?—I preferred Mr. Gower.

2843. You did not vote for him in 1863 ?—No, sir.

2844. Perhaps you can give us a reason why you changed politics ?—A man who has been in Parliament before is more qualified to take that position than a scholar.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*) observed the witness meant an apprentice.

(*Witness here repeated his answer.*)

2845. You considered Mr. Gower had got some experience ?—Yes.

2846. And Mr. Monson was the maiden ?—I considered he was not so much qualified.

2847. Do I understand you to say you did not take an active part in '63 ?—Only attending public meetings, hearing the addresses of candidates.

2848. What did you receive in '63 ?—Not anything.

2849. You were not on the committee ?—No.

2850. Who canvassed you ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

2851. Did none of the agents talk to you about it ?—Not that I recollect.

2852. I wish you would recollect ?—I do not know that they did.

2853. You did not know they did not ?—I should not like to tell you an untruth, and that is the reason I say so.

2854. Say what ?—I do not know that they did.

2855. I suppose the first intimation from Mr. Wilkinson that he would be willing to have your vote carried it ?—No, he came once or twice.

2856. Mr. Wilkinson in person came to you ?—Yes.

2857. Did you perform any services for him ?—No.

2858. Were you not employed in the way of your business at all for Mr. Wilkinson ?—No.

2859. You were not ?—No.

2860. You are sure of that ?—Quite sure.

2861. Are you in the regular employ of the Asylum ?—Yes.

2862. Who appointed you to that ?—The committee.

2863. The committee of the Asylum ?—Yes.

2864. Were you recommended by anybody ?—Yes.

2865. Did you solicit a recommendation ?—Yes.

2866. Who recommended you ?—The Rev. Benjamin Slight and three or four more gentlemen.

2867. Did you apply to Mr. Wilkinson about it ?—No, sir.

2868. And do I distinctly understand you to say that in 1863 you received nothing whatever for the services required of you ?—No, sir.

2869. That is Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

2870. Not a farthing ?—No, sir, not a farthing.

2871. Not for anything ?—No, I did not seek for anything; I did not expect anything.

2872. I wish you would give me a distinct answer; I do not care about expectations at present; did any money pass ?—No.

2873. Do you recollect any previous elections to '63 ?—No, sir.

2874. Were you here in '58 ?—Yes.

2875. Had you not a vote ?—I think not.

2876. At any rate, if you had one, did you vote ?—No, sir.

2877. You are quite clear about that ?—Quite clear.

2878. There is no difficulty about that; we can all find that out ?—I do not recollect how many years ago.

2879. I will tell you in a moment; it was in '59 that I am speaking of, and between Mr. Wilkinson and the Hon. Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

2880. Did you take any part in that election ? The Hon. Mr. Monson was returned, if you recollect ?—No.

2881. You took no part ?—No.

2882. Do you recollect whether you voted ?—I believe not.

2883. I should like to know, for I am going to ask you about this ?—I voted for no one.

2884. Cannot you tell me more accurately about this ?—I could not at present.

2885. From whom could you get the information so as to make it positive ?—I should look, I think, to the person of whom I took my house.

2886. Who has got it ?—Mr. Hewitt was not my first landlord; the first I had was Mr. Francis.

2887. We know which side Mr. Francis was on; you let to Mr. Francis; whose side was Mr. Francis on at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

2888. You think at the first election you lived at Mr. Francis's house ?—Yes, the first election.

2889. The first election in '59 ?—And Mr. Wilkinson's last election. Before that I had apartments; so I had no vote.

2890. Not in '59 ?—I think not.

2891. Very well, I do not press you any more upon it; in whose house do you live now ?—Mr. Hewitt's.

2892. What is your rent ?—6*s.* a week.

2893. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you pay the taxes ?—Yes.

2894. All the taxes ?—All except the property tax.

2895. Do you pay it by the week ?—By the month.

The witness then withdrew.

Mr. Rose recalled and examined.

2896. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) After you had paid the 2*l.* 10*s.* put down on the counter to Nice, did Mr. Nichols or Mr. Monson speak to you on the subject ?—No.

2897. Or Mr. Nichols? — No, I remember Mr. Nichols wrote to me to come over and see him, to know what Nice had been saying.

2898. You told him you had paid 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes, except that I did not know anything about it.

2899. Did you ever hear Mr. Monson complained of the 2*l.* 10*s.* being paid, or that he repudiated it ?—I do not know what he said to Mr. Nichols.

2900. He never spoke to you about it ?—No.

2901. Did Nichols tell you to be more cautious ?—Not in the least.

The witness then withdrew.

William Turner sworn and examined.

2902. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You live at Mead-vale ?—Yes.

2903. Does your work take you to the Asylum ?—Yes.

2904. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

2905. Are you able to tell me how long before the election took place it was you were canvassed for Mr. Gower ?—Six weeks.

2906. Previous to that had you been canvassed for Mr. Monson ?—No.

2907. After you had been canvassed by Mr. Gower, or for him, were you canvassed for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

2908. Were you canvassed by Rose ?—No.

2909. By whom were you canvassed ?—By Mr. Nichols.

2910. Did you come to any agreement with Nichols ?—I told him I had promised Mr. Gower.

2911. You told him so ?—I told him so.

2912. You saw Rose about this election, did you not ?—I saw him but once to speak to him.

2913. I mean to speak to him about the election ?—No, sir, only once.

2914. When was the one occasion when you did see him about the election ?—When he brought me 50*s.*; that was three or four days before the election.

2915. Had you been to him about it ?—No.

2916. Had you received any message to go to him about it ?—No, not a word.

2917. You knew something about the 50*s.* ?—Yes; Nice passed the basement of my door, and he said, "Rose, I think, is going to bring you some money "presently," and very soon after the money walked in; I had the money after Rose came in.

2918. Did he put 50*s.* down for you ?—Yes.

2919. You knew at the time Mr. Rose was of Mr. Monson's party ?—I believe he was, but we had no conversation.

2920. Did you tell him you were one of Mr. Gower's voters ?—No.

2921. Did you tell him you were expecting to receive something ?—I never spoke to him.

2922. You were in expectation you were to be paid something from Mr. Gower for services performed ?—I had that expectation.

2923. Who gave you that expectation ? — From general rumour.

2924. Was it said by one of Mr. Gower's people at a committee ?—No, I think I heard it in this hall, that we were to be paid who did work.

2925. Where was that said ?—In this hall.

2926. I thought so. Who said it ?—I cannot say who said it; it was a general thing.

2927. It was said ?—Yes.

2928. Was Mr. Gower in the chair ?—No.

2929. Who was ?—It was a general meeting; we used to come every night nearly.

2930. Was Mr. Gower present ?—No, not then.

2931. Not when ?—Not when I heard this report.

2932. Cannot I get you to fix from whom you heard this; if you won't I cannot help it ?—No, it was a general thing.

2933. Who did you hear say this ?—I cannot tell who it was. I have it from no agent, but there were a lot of us who used to stand at the door and talk about it, and I said "If that is the case, very well."

2934. After you said, "If that is the case, very "well," did you perform services for Mr. Gower ?—No, after I had agreed to do so Apted said, "You may as well sort some letters.

2935. Did you sort some letters ?—Yes.

2936. Did Apted know you at that time ?—Yes.

2937. Well ?—Oh yes.

2938. I mean Apted and you were acquainted before ?—Oh yes, we often saw one another.

2939. When you came up to Apted and he said

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you may as well sort some letters, he knew who he was talking to?—Yes.

2940. He knew you were a substantial man down here?—Yes.

2941. He would know all about you?—Yes.

2942. What are you?—A shoemaker.

2943. You work a good deal for the Asylum?—Yes.

2944. You sorted some letters?—Yes.

2945. Did you carry some?—When I was requested.

2946. A good many times?—Several times.

2947. Three or four?—More than that, a many.

2948. How many?—Perhaps I had only one to go one or two miles.

2949. But you can tell how many times you went?—No.

2950. Did you do anything else but sorting or carrying letters?—Any little matters that were going about wherever I was sent.

2951. When was it about the money; how long was it before the election; was it two days?—Three days I said.

2952. Did you lose three days on committee meetings?—Not committee meetings.

2953. Can you mention any day that you lost in consequence of doing anything for Mr. Gower, where you went to, or what?—Perhaps I might go to Warwick-town with a letter.

2954. Not perhaps, I should like it mere fact. Can you say to whom you were sent to Warwick-town?—No.

2955. What distance is it from your own house?—Two miles.

2956. Where do you live?—At Mead-vale.

2957. And it is two miles from where you live to Warwick-town?—Yes.

2958. Who did you take that letter to?—I took several.

2959. Then you will have less difficulty in telling one?—I took one to Mr. Green, if I remember it; I cannot tell who they were for.

2960. Perhaps you know the house?—I believe I took a letter for Mr. Green.

2961. Who else did you take a letter to?—I cannot recollect any other.

2962. Not one?—No.

2963. Did you do anything else besides carrying letters?—No, principally sorting.

2964. Were other letters sent by Mr. Apted? Was he the immediate person who employed you?—And Mr. Buckland was in the room.

2965. I am taking your answer that you do not recollect any other person to whom you took a letter in particular, except Mr. Green?—No.

2966. Can you tell me any other work you did?—No, only on the polling day I went round the town with my van.

2967. Was that the second day?—The third day.

2968. Did you bring up voters in the van?—I asked Mr. Smith for some money, as I was short, and he gave me 30*s.*

2969. Was that for the use of the van?—No.

2970. Generally on account?—Yes, for myself.

2971. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that the day of election?—The day or the day before, when I received the 30*s.* during the election when I was short.

2972. Did you receive 50*s.* before the polling day?—From whom?

2973. Mr. Smith or anybody else?—No.

2974. You received 30*s.* before the polling day?—Or on the polling day.

2975. I should like to know which?—I believe it was the day before.

2976. Then came the polling day, and then it was you set your man and horse to work?—I was engaged behind, while the man drove.

2977. You have never been paid for that?—Yes, on the 5th of November.

2978. On the 5th of November you received some money?—Yes.

2979. How much?—4*l.*

2980. How much do you consider due to you?—None at all.

2981. You received 5*l.* 10*s.*?—I received 6*l.* 10*s.* I received 4*l.* on the 5th of November, and after Christmas I received another 1*l.*

2982. Who paid you the other 1*l.*?—Mr. Smith.

2983. Now I am coming to this: what I want to know is—oh, I see, I have got it already, this 50*s.* was paid you by Rose four or five days before the election; you told me so, you know; I do not wish to bind you to a day or two?—Yes.

2984. According to you by this time you had been beginning your services to Mr. Gower?—Yes.

2985. Did Mr. Rose say anything after the 50*s.*?—Yes.

2986. What did he say?—I want you to poll early.

2987. What else did he say?—He said "I think "I shall poll early too, and go to the Crystal Palace."

2988. Who said that?—Mr. Rose.

2989. Was any one with you?—No.

2990. What did you say?—I never made him an answer.

2991. But you were not perfectly silent all the time he was in the room?—I said, "Oh!" We were not allowed to go into the room; I stayed there about a minute.

2992. You only said, "Oh!" You put the 50*s.* in your pocket?—Yes.

2993. And there it is now?—I wish it was.

2994. Were you aware at the time who Rose got the money from?—No.

2995. Have you since found out it came from Nichols?—No, I never knew that.

2996. When you did go to the poll did you see Rose?—No, I do not recollect that I did.

2997. Did you see Nichols?—No, sir; if I saw him I did not speak to him.

2998. Nothing passed?—Nothing passed nowhere.

2999. Did you see none of the Monson party yourself?—Not to speak to them.

3000. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I just wish to ask you a question. You say this 50*s.* was paid to you by Rose two or three days before the election?—Yes.

3001. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Three or four? (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Three or four was it?—Yes.

3002. And you had been working for Mr. Gower before that time?—All the time.

3003. Was Rose aware you had been working for Mr. Gower?—He must have been.

3004. Are you the Richard Turner of High-street?—No.

3005. Did you belong to the committee?—That I do not know.

3006. Were you advertised on the committee?—That I do not know.

3007. Do you mean to tell us that Mr. Rose; being acquainted with the fact you were working for Mr. Gower, paid you this 50*s.* without conversation?—I had no conversation, I never spoke to him.

3008. You wish us to believe you received this 50*s.* for no purpose whatever?—I did not know he brought it to me.

3009. You did not know what it was for?—There was nothing mentioned.

3010. What did you understand it was for?—What could I understand it was for.

3011. Why did you receive it?—Because he gave it me.

3012. Simply because he gave it you?—Simply because he gave it me.

3013. Had he ever given you 50*s.* before?—No.

3014. Had he ever given you any monies before?—No.

3015. That was the only occasion?—That was the only occasion.

3016. Did you think it was simple generosity?—I thought it was great foolishness, because I had no agreement.

3017. Did you hear Nice had received it?—He came and told me he expected to receive it; that morning he came and told me as he went by.

3018. Did Rose at that time, or at any other time, tell you if you voted early for Monson you should get more than 50*s.*?—Yes, the other half; when he gave me this 50*s.* he said I should have the other half when polled.

3019. What did you say?—He gave me 50*s.*

3020. You have had ample opportunity for clearing your breast and telling the truth. Do you understand the oath you have taken in this court?—Yes.

3021. It is to tell the truth, and the whole truth?—Yes.

3022. Do you mean to say the keeping the evidence back is telling the truth? You say now you were to have the other half if you polled early?—That was all that passed between us; he never asked me who I was to vote for, and he never mentioned Mr. Gower.

3023. You knew he was acting for Mr. Monson?—Yes; but not long before he was acting for Mr. Gower.

3024. At the same election?—At the same election; when Mr. Gower came round he promised his vote.

3025. Who did you hear say so?—Mr. Gower himself said so.

3026. Did you ever hear from Rose he had promised his vote?—No.

3027. You were to be paid both sides, Monson and Gower?—I cannot tell that.

3028. You did get paid?—I received 50*s.*

3029. What is your qualification?—10*l.* a year; 16*s.* a month.

3030. What did you pay for your house?—16*s.* a month.

3031. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 4*s.* a week?—Yes; but I pay monthly at the rate of 16*s.* a month.

3032. Not 16*s.* the 1st of March and then the 1st of April?—No, every four weeks.

3033. Who is your landlord?—Mr. Burrand.

3034. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) A monthly take or yearly?—By the month.

The witness then withdrew.

JOHN FARRINGTON called, sworn, and examined. *J. Farrington.*

3035. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you, Farrington?—I work at the lime works; a lime burner.

3036. Where do you live; Nutley-lane?—Nutley-lane.

3037. What rent do you pay? what is your qualification?—6*s.* a week I pay.

3038. Do you pay it weekly?—Yes.

3039. Who is your landlord?—My father.

3040. Do you pay the rates, or he?—I have to pay the rates.

3041. Are you married, and live alone in the house?—Yes.

3042. Not with your father I mean?—No; I do not live with my father.

3043. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

3044. Were you canvassed by both sides?—No.

3045. Were you not canvassed by the Monson party?—No.

3046. Had you voted at previous elections?—No.

3047. Had your father?—Yes, I believe my father voted before.

3048. Do you know for whom he voted at the 1863 election? Was it for Gower?—I cannot say.

3049. Who canvassed you for the Gower party? Did you see Mr. Gower?—No; Mr. Rose.

3050. Was Mr. Rose the first person you saw?—Yes.

3051. Did you not see Frederick Joyes?—Afterwards.

3052. Do you mean the Joyes who has just gone out of the box to-day?—No.

3053. Some other Rose?—Alec. Rose.

3054. Did you see Alec. Rose?—Yes.

3055. And what took place with regard to your vote, as far as Alec. Rose was concerned?—He said he would give me 3*l.* if I would vote for Mr. Gower.

3056. Did you agree to that?—No.

3057. Why not?—I gave him no decided answer.

3058. Why did you not give him a decided answer when 3*l.* was offered to you?—I did not know anything about election affairs.

3059. Did you expect you might get more?—No.

3060. Eh?—No.

3061. You did not promise your vote?—No.

3062. Were you promised more than 3*l.*?—Yes.

3063. By whom?—Frederick Joyes.

3064. How long after you had refused the 3*l.*?—Not long, about a week.

3065. And how long before the election?—I cannot say exactly how long.

3066. You do not know?—No I do not.

3067. Was it more than three or four weeks?—Three or four weeks I should think.

3068. Now, when either of these men, Rose and Joyes, offered you, the first 3*l.* and the other 5*l.*, did they ask you to do any work for it?—Did they ask me?

3069. What were you to do for this 3*l.* or 5*l.*?—Mr. Joyes asked me if I could get away to work for them. I told him, no, I could not work for them.

3070. But did you agree to vote for them?—Yes, I told him I should vote for Mr. Gower.

3071. Told whom?—Told Mr. Joyes.

3072. Was that after you had been offered 5*l.*?—He told he would let me have 5*l.*

3073. For voting?—Yes.

3074. And no work?—No work.

3075. And you did no work?—I did not do any work.

3076. Did you attend any public meetings?—No, sir, I went to no meetings. I went to one public house one night.

3077. Have you received any of that money?—I received 3*l.*

3078. Who paid you the 3*l.*?—Mr. Joyes.

3079. When?—I cannot tell you when.

3080. After or before the election?—After the election.

3081. How long after?—I should think about a week after I had 2*l.*, and a week after that he gave me another 1*l.*

3082. Both sums from Frederick Joyes?—Yes.

3083. Have you ever received the whole 5*l.*?—No.

3084. Have you asked for it?—He said he would settle it as soon as he could with me. That is what he said.

3085. Joyes said that?—Yes.

3086. Did he say about the petition against Mr. Gower?—Yes, he said he believed there was a petition against him.

3087. Did he give that as a reason why he could not pay the other two?—Yes. I think that was the reason why he did not.

3088. You think that was the reason; but did he tell you so?—Yes, that was it exactly.

3089. You say you were present at one house; was that the "Bell"?—No, Mr. Muddle's.

3090. Does he keep the "Bell"?—No.

3091. What does he keep?—A house in Nutley-lane.

3092. That is where you live?—Yes.

3093. Did you often go to this house?—No, I was only there that evening.

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3094. Were there any other persons there, any person in the chair ?—Mr. Rose was there.

3095. Alec. Rose ?—Yes.

3096. Was there drinking ?—Yes, Mr. Rose was answerable for what was had.

3097. And was there a great deal of drinking going on ?—I did not stop hardly an hour.

3098. Did you have what you wanted ?—Yes.

3099. Did you pay for it ?—No.

3100. Now, had you been at Hoads' house ?—No.

3101. Just recollect ?—No, sir, I was at no other meeting.

3102. No other meeting but that one ?—No.

3103. No other meeting of voters when Rose was in the chair ?—No.

3104. Not at the "Bell" ?—No.

3105. Never ?—No, I never attended any other meeting.

3106. You signed a paper, did you not, in the presence of Mr. Gilbert, and made a statement to him ?—Yes.

3107. And did you not tell Mr. Gilbert that you had been at a meeting of voters at Hoads' beer house ?—No, Muddle's.

3108. And did you not say Hoads' as well ?—No.

3109. And the "Bell" public house ?—No ; Muddle's.

3110. Did you ever see Mr. Smith with regard to this money ?—No.

3111. Never ?—No.

3112. Only Mr. Frederick Joyes ?—Only Mr. Frederick Joyes.

Mr. Richard Batchelor called, sworn, and examined.

Mr. R. Batchelor.

3113. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your name is Richard Batchelor ?—Yes.

3114. That is your name ?—Represented on the list.

3115. What is your name ?—Henry Bachelor Cranston is my proper name.

3116. How came you to be called Richard Batchelor ?—I cannot help what my mother did.

3117. There is not the slightest reflection intended, not the slightest in the world. Your name is Richard Batchelor ?—It is represented on the list.

3118. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith*). You are known by that name ?—Yes.

3119. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a voter of this borough, your qualification being in Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

3120. You occupy a house, of course ?—Yes.

3121. How long have you occupied it ?—Somewhere about four years.

3122. You have been a voter of the borough four years ?—No, I have not had a vote till last election.

3123. When were you put on the register ?—I think it was somewhere about 18 months ago ; it might be a little over that.

3124. What rent do you pay ?—*5s. 6d.* a week.

3125. What are you, Mr. Batchelor ?—A bricklayer.

3126. What do you generally earn per week ?—About 30*s.*, sometimes more.

3127. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

3128. Who canvassed you, Mr. Batchelor ?—Well, ever so many of them.

3129. Mr. Smith ?—Mr. Smith.

3130. Mr. Joyes ?—Mr. Joyes. They were all together ; there were five or six of them. Mr. Gower was amongst them.

3131. When you were canvassed did Apted or Alec. Rose say anything to you as to employing you ?—No, not just then ; he didn't, nor Rose didn't at all. Rose did not mention about employ at all.

3132. But some time after you had been canvassed did Apted speak to you about giving you employment ?—Yes.

3133. Were you out of employment then ?—No, not particular.

3134. You had your usual employment ?—No particular full employ ; but I was not very busy.

3135. But your usual employment. And he spoke about employing you ?—Yes.

3136. I suppose for odd hours ; for overtime ?—No ; no overtime.

3137. What was he to pay you ?—He did not mention anything particular what he was to pay me, but he said I should be paid for my labour.

3138. Not so much a day, or anything of that sort ?—He did not say, particular, so much a day.

3139. When was he to pay you ?—Weekly.

3140. When the election was over ?—No ; I was to be paid weekly for my labour.

3141. Were you to be paid weekly ?—Yes.

3142. And you did not know how much you were to have ?—Well, it was guaranteed 10*s.* a day first ; then it came down to 5*s.*

3143. Who guaranteed you 10*s.* a day first ?—Mr. Apted.

3144. You were first to get 10*s.* a day, and then it came down to 5*s.* ?—Yes ; I was to receive the remainder after, and I never had it.

3145. After what ?—After the election was over.

3146. You did not engage for that ; you did not agree to accept the 10*s.* a day ?—No, not just then ; it come to 5*s.*

3147. Were you to do anything besides work on behalf of Mr. Gower ; were you to vote for him ?—Of course I had promised my vote when they were all together.

3148. You were to be paid for your work ; that does not include a vote. Were you to vote for him ?—Of course ; I promised to vote for him.

3149. Was that before you were engaged for the work ?—Yes, it was.

3150. You promised to vote before you were engaged for the work ?—Yes.

3151. Now, did he not tell you, that if you voted for him he would give you so much a day, and 3*l.* in addition ?—No, he did not at the time.

3152. But afterwards ?—Afterwards ; I was to have 3*l.* after it was over.

3153. He told you this ?—He did.

3154. That is, if you voted for Mr. Gower ?—Of course ; I should not run from my bargain.

3155. I mean it was a bargain ?—It was a bargain.

3156. Let us understand what the bargain was. You were to receive 5*s.* a day, and 3*l.* after the election was over ?—Yes, of course.

3157. You were to work for Mr. Gower, and you were to vote for him ?—Yes, of course ; I was to vote for him if I worked for him.

3158. I suppose it was not written down ?—Oh, no ; I did not want that.

3159. Nor, I suppose, did Mr. Apted want that ?—I suppose not ; we have known one another too well.

3160. Have you known Mr. Apted long ?—Seven or eight years.

3161. You knew he was very active for Mr. Gower ?—I thought so.

3162. He is well known in Reigate, is he not ?—I suppose he is.

3163. You knew he was a very busy man in election matters ?—I suppose he was.

3164. Is there any election during the eight or nine years you have known him in which he has not been engaged ?—Not that I am aware of.

3165. He has been engaged in every election ?—I believe so ; I am not aware to the contrary.

3166. Did you work for him ?—Yes.

3167. How long had you been at work for him ?—Thirteen days and four nights.

3168. Thirteen days at 5*s.* a day. What were you to be paid for the night work ?—No difference.

3169. Did you send in any bill to Mr. Apted ?—No, I do not recollect that I did.

3170. Thirteen days at 5*s.* would amount to 4*l.* 5*s.* ?—4*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* I received altogether.

3171. Who paid you that?—Well, I did not have it all at once ; I had it weekly.

3172. Were they different sums paid to you ?—Yes.

3173. Paid by whom?—Mr. Apted paid me 1*l.* first.

3174. Before you had done any work?—No, oh no ; I worked. I earned my money before I had it. Recollect I am telling the truth. I earned my money before I had it. Mr. Apted paid me 1*l.* for the first four days ; then he paid me 30*s.* for the next six days ; then Mr. Smith paid me 30*s.* for the next.

3175. That would be 4*l.* ?—Then Bob Lagg paid me 5*s.* 6*d.*

3176. Might I inquire, what were you engaged in the first four days ?—As messenger, delivering circulars, and the next six days delivering circulars ; and during the time that was my occupation.

3177. And the nights ?—The nights ? I will tell you what I was out for; I was out watching to see that nobody else ran away with our voters.

3178. Out all night ?—I was. Sunday night, above all things, I was called on about 11 o'clock to go out.

3179. You were to receive the 3*l.* in addition to your work as a kind of gratuity ?—Yes, I was.

3180. Did you receive the 3*l.* ?—No.

3181. Did you apply for it ?—I did.

3182. To whom ?—To Mr. Apted.

3183. Has he paid you ?—No.

3184. Why did he not pay you the 3*l.* ?—I do not know I am sure ; he said he had no money, or something of that.

3185. Did you apply to him more than once ?—Yes.

3186. Several times ?—Well, I do not know how many times ; two or three times, something like that.

3187. You were not likely to be put off with that excuse, that he had no money, you did not think it was Mr. Apted's money ?—I did not know whose money it was.

3188. You are an intelligent man, and you must know it was not Mr. Apted's money ?—I did not know where it come from, nor did I want to know as long as he paid me.

3189. Did you think it was Mr. Apted's money ?—No, I did not.

3190. You knew it was not Mr. Apted's money ?—I did not think it was.

3191. Did Mr. Apted tell you that you should have the remainder of the money as soon as the petition matter was settled ?—No, he did not ; he never said no such word to me.

3192. Now be careful. Did he not tell you, or had you not been told, you should have it as soon as the petition matter was settled ?—No.

3193. You were never told that ?—No.

3194. You never heard anything about the petition matter ?—I heard about it, but Mr. Apted did not tell me anything about it.

3195. I did not ask you that ; I asked you who told you first about the petition matter ?—I forget who it was.

3196. But you had heard about the petition matter ?—I had heard.

3197. And you had heard that if the petition matter was settled you would have the 3*l.* ?—No, not exactly that; that was not it exactly.

3198. Was it not tantamount to that, that as soon as the petition matter was over you would get the 3*l.* ?—It might be something to that effect.

3199. Was it not that when the petition matter was over you would get the 3*l.*, something to that effect ?—Something to that effect, but I forget what the words were.

3200. Who said that to you ?—I forget who it was particularly; it was all the town talk.

3201. How did they know you were to get the 3*l.* ?—That I do not know.

3202. How did the people in the town know that Job Apted had promised to give you 3*l.* when the election was over ?—That I do not know.

3203. How did they come to tell you that you were to get the 3*l.* ?—They must have known something about it, of course.

3204. And you cannot tell me who told you that ?—I really cannot. It was in everybody's mouth about the petition.

3205. Did you apply to Apted for the 3*l.* ?—I did.

3206. Did you apply to any one else ?—To Buckland and Apted together, and to Mr. Smith upon one occasion.

3207. You applied to Buckland and Apted, and once to Mr. Smith ?—Buckland and Apted were together.

3208. What did you say when you asked Mr. Apted or Mr. Buckland ?—Well, I asked him when I was going to have the rest.

3209. Which of them spoke ?—Both of them I believe.

3210. What did Mr. Apted say ?—I think he said, " Wait until something like February."

3211. What did Mr. Smith say ?—Both alike.

3212. You were to wait till February ?—Yes.

3213. What time was this ?—Well, I do not know, exactly ; it might be a month before that.

3214. When February came round did you apply again ?—No, sir, because I heard it was a bad case in trying for it.

3215. That is to say, you had heard that you would get no more money ?—I did so.

3216. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You heard of others applying and failing ?—Yes.

3217. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You never applied after February ?—No.

3218. I suppose you were considerably disappointed in not getting the 3*l.* ?—Well, they won't have me again on that racket.

3219. Might I inquire, only for my own information and for the information of the Commissioners, what were you to get the 3*l.* for ? you were paid 5*s.* a day for your work ?—That was to make up the rest.

3220. To make up for what ?—For the remainder of my work, because I was not satisfied with the 5*s.* a day.

3221. What do you generally get a day in your usual employment ?—Sometimes I get 5*s.* a day ; when I am at day work I get 5*s.* 6*d.* a day ; when I am at piece work I reckon to get 7*s.* 6*d.*

3222. You are an intelligent man, and I am sure will give me an intelligent answer ; do you mean to tell me that this additional 3*l.* was for your labour ?—Yes.

3223. Why do you not summon them for your labour ?—I thought it was throwing away good money after bad.

3224. If you were to have 3*l.*, why do you not summon them ?—Because I had not money to take out a summons against them.

3225. That is the reason ?—Yes.

3226. And you made them a present of 3*l.* ?—Yes, I gave it up as a bad job.

3227. You say they won't have you again ; that is, you mean you won't vote on that side again ?—I do not mean to say that I shall vote on either side any more ; I will not promise that.

3228. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That will depend on circumstances ?—That it will.

3229. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now be cautious, because we are here to inquire, and you may rely upon it you will not impose upon us. Do you mean to say the 3*l.* was not a consideration for your vote ?—Sir!

3230. Do you mean to say the 3*l.* was not a consideration for your vote ?—No.

3231. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Why did you vote ?—Why did I vote ? Because I took a little interest in it.

3232. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) If you are employed at 5*s.* or 6*s.* a day, and you are not paid by your employer, do you forgive him the amount of wages that is owing to you ?—No.

3233. You can find money then to take out a sum-

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mons against him ?—I should try at it somehow or other.

3234. But you did not try in this case ?—No, because I thought it would be a failure if I did.

3235. Do you know a person named Walker ? George Walker ?—Yes.

3236. I mean the man who is a gardener ?—Yes.

3237. In whose service was he, do you know ?—Mr. Conway's.

3238. Of Wray-park ?—Yes.

3239. Do you recollect meeting him after the election ?—Yes, perfectly well.

3240. He asked you if you had had your money ?—Yes, he did.

3241. You had got your money at that time ; you had got your pay ?—I had got what I have received.

3242. That is what I mean ; what you had been promised for your work ?—Yes, of course.

3243. You told him you had not got your money ?—Not the remainder.

3244. I mean he asked you about your money, and you said you had not got your money ?—Yes.

3245. And I believe you asked him whether he had got his ?—I did.

3246. He was in Mr. Conway's employ ?—I believe so.

3247. Did you ask him whether he had got his money or not ?—I did.

3248. What money was he to get ?—I am not positive I am sure.

3249. What money, did you learn from him ?—I think he got 4*l.* 15*s.* altogether ; I will not be positive.

3250. How much money was he to get ? 5*l.* altogether ; do you know ?—I think it was.

3251. Did you learn from him how he had been employed ?—No, not exactly his employment. I did not.

3252. Had he been employed as messenger ?—I do not know, I do not think he was.

3253. You know he was not ?—I do not think he was.

3254. You sent in a bill, I think you said ?—Me ! No, not me.

3255. Did Walker send in a bill ?—I believe he did.

3256. He told you he did ?—He told me he did.

3257. Who paid him, according to his account ?—He told me it was Mr. Smith.

3258. Mr. Smith, the agent of Mr. Gower ?—Mr. Charles Smith.

3259. Now, did you ever apply to anybody except Mr. Charles Smith about your money ? Did you ever apply to Mr. Gower ?—No.

3260. Do you know whether Walker, according to his own statement, applied to Mr. Gower ?—I do not know whether he applied to Mr. Gower or not.

3261. Did he tell you so ?—No.

3262. Do you recollect about a week before the election being at the " Railway " inn ?—Yes.

3263. Do you know a man named Thomas Fuller ?—Yes.

3264. Was Apted there ?—Yes.

3265. Fuller was a voter ?—Yes, I believe so.

3266. Did you hear Apted ask Fuller for his vote on behalf of Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

3267. Who were there besides you and Fuller and Apted ?—There were several about there ; I do not know exactly who they all were.

3268. There was a large number ?—Not a very large number, five or six perhaps, six or seven.

3269. What did Fuller say ?—I was not exactly close enough to hear candidly what he did say.

3270. Apted asked if he would vote for Mr. Gower. Fuller said, " What will you give ? " Something to that effect ?—Something to that effect.

3271. And Apted said,—what ?—He did not exactly say, he pointed. (*Here the witness held up his five fingers.*)

3272. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Now, just put your hand down and describe what took place ?—He put up his hand, meaning " a fiver " I suppose ; I took it for " a fiver."

3273. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And everybody there took it for " a fiver " ?—I suppose they did.

3274. It was well known in the borough that " a fiver " was the price ?—I suppose it was.

3275. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If a voter put up his hand it was understood that he wanted 5*l.* ?—I should think so ; it was understood so by me.

3276. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) If a voter put up his hand, that meant he wanted 5*l.* ; and if Mr. Apted put up his hand, that would mean a promise of 5*l.* ?—I took it as such.

3277. And did not Fuller say, " You mean by that " 5*l.*, Mr. Apted " ?—Something to that effect.

3278. And Apted nodded his head ?—Yes, sir. Fuller said, " You mean by that 5*l.*," and Apted nodded.

3279. Do you recollect being at the " Railway " inn some time after that when there were 40 or 50 persons there ?—Yes, I was there.

3280. Were there refreshments ordered ?—Yes.

3281. Who ordered them ?—Apted, I believe.

3282. Did you partake of the refreshments ?—I did.

3283. How long was the house open for refreshments that evening ?—Two or three hours, perhaps more.

3284. Did you pay for what you had ?—No.

3285. Who paid ?—I do not know who paid ; I know who ordered.

3286. Who ordered ?—Apted.

3287. Do you recollect attending a meeting at the " Bell " public house where there was a still larger number, when Mr. Rose was in the chair ?—Yes.

3288. How long do you think you were there at that time ?—I might be there a couple or three hours.

3289. Had you refreshments ?—Yes.

3290. Did you pay for what you had ?—No.

3291. Did you see anybody else pay for what they had ?—No.

3292. Who paid for what they had ?—I do not know.

3293. Just let me call your attention now : Did not the chairman, Mr. Rose, say that there had been 5*l.* worth of drink had in an hour and a half ?—Yes.

3294. And did he not say he would pay for that ?—No, he did not say he would pay for it ; I never heard such a word mentioned.

3295. Who was to pay for that according to your understanding ?—I do not know.

3296. How did he know there was 5*l.* worth ? was a bill brought in ?—I do not know.

3297. He merely announced there had been 5*l.* worth of drink had ?—Yes.

3298. In that hour and a half ?—I do not say how long exactly.

3299. Were they all electors there at that time ?—I believe they were all electors.

3300. Did you then adjourn to the " Little Crown " ?—Yes.

3301. Had you more to drink there ?—I did.

3302. Did the electors all have more ?—Oh, yes.

3303. Did you see any one pay for what they had ?—Not to my knowledge.

3304. Do you recollect being afterwards at the " Bell " when Mr. Job Apted took the chair ?—Yes.

3305. I believe he treated you all that day ?—I believe so ; he always was there.

3306. Are those all the public houses you have been at during the time, I mean where there have been meetings of electors. Have you been at others ?—I think I was at a little meeting once somewhere else ; I forget where it was now.

3307. At any of these places did you see who paid for the refreshments ?—I never saw any.

3308. You knew, did you not, and everybody knew, that they were paid for by some person on behalf of the candidate ?—That I am not aware of.

3309. You knew it; I do not say you had knowledge of it?—No, I had no knowledge.

3310. Who did you think was to pay?—I do not know. I was a teetotaller at the time, and now drink nothing but ginger-beer, and a little brandy sometimes.

3311. That was the reason why you attended so many meetings at public houses?—I did not attend but very few.

3312. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was the reason why you attended two in one night?—I was a teetotaller, but I do not know that I attended two in one night.

3313. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you employed by Apted and Joyes to go round to the public houses?—Yes.

3314. Did you see some of the landlords?—I did.

3315. What did you say to the landlord?—I told him he was not to let them have any more beer.

3316. When was that?—I think it was the Tuesday before the polling day; I will not be certain.

3317. Did you tell them they were not to let Monson's party know what beer they had?—I did.

3318. What beer was had for Gower's voters?—Yes, I suppose that was it.

3319. Nor what money was paid?—Yes.

3320. You told me you did not know who was to pay?—I did not know.

3321. Now, do you recollect Muddle's beer house?—I do.

3322. Were you at a meeting there?—I was once.

3323. Who was chairman?—Mr. Alec. Rose.

3324. Who paid for what beer was taken on that occasion?—Rose paid for it as it came in.

3325. Now, do you know any other voters who were to have money for work?—No, nothing particular.

3326. I did not ask you about "particular." Do you know many voters?—No.

3327. Do you know any?—I know one man that was employed the same as me.

3328. Is that your signature (*passing a document to witness*)?—Yes.

3329. Just attend (*reads*): "I know many voters "who were promised money for working who never "were expected to do anything but to go to beer-"house meetings, and to vote for Gower"?—Yes.

3330. Is that true?—Yes.

3331. Now, who were they?—I do not know who they were, not now.

3332. Not now?—No; I do not know who they were.

3333. "I know many voters who were promised "money for working who were never expected to do "anything but to go to beerhouse meetings, and to "vote for Gower." That is true?—Yes.

3334. It was well understood among the voters that that was so? It was known to all?—I expect it was.

3335. It was known to every man of that class?—I expect so.

3336. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You told me a little while ago that it was not the 3*l.* that induced you to vote, because you took an interest in the party?—Yes.

3337. Will you be good enough to tell me what your interest was beyond the 3*l.*?—Beyond the 3*l.*? Why, my interest was to send a good man into the House of Parliament.

3338. And you considered Mr. Gower to be the best man?—I did.

3339. Supposing the other side had offered you 5*l.*, and had given you 5*l.*, would that have altered your opinion?—No; because when I pledge my word I stick to it.

3340. Supposing they had come to you first and offered you 5*l.*?—Well, they did not.

3341. Suppose they had?—Ah! I don't know if they had come first.

3342. Might it have influenced your opinion?—It might have perhaps made a little difference if they had come first.

3343. If they had come first and offered you more money than you might have expected from the other party?—Well, they never came to me.

3344. Supposing they had come to you and offered you more money than you might have expected from the other party, might not that have influenced your vote?—It might have made a little difference.

3345. Would not the little difference have altered your vote?—I do not know.

3346. Or induced you to go away and not vote?—I do not know which way it might be.

3347. You did not like to pledge yourself, to leave yourself open to a further offer for the next election?—I shall not pledge myself to any one no more for the future.

3348. You say you were called up in the night?—No, at 11 o'clock, I said.

3349. You had gone to bed?—Yes, I was.

3350. What were you called up for?—To go and look out and see that no one ran away with Mr. Gower's voters.

3351. How long was that before the day of polling?—It was on a Sunday night; but I will not say whether it was the Sunday before the polling day or the Sunday before that.

3352. Had you known the Monson party were interfering with Gower's voters?—It was thought so.

3353. Had you heard it spoken of?—Yes, I had heard it spoken of.

3354. In what way had you heard it spoken of?—Why, by their going round and canvassing, and trying to get our voters.

3355. Did you hear it spoken of that they were offering money to Gower's voters?—No.

3356. Did you not hear that?—No, I did not.

3357. Not in any one instance?—No.

3358. It was merely getting hold of those voters, putting them into carriages, and taking them away?—I do not know whether it was that or not; I cannot say.

3359. But if you interfered to protect them, there must have been some strength or violence used?—They did not want much protecting; not our voters.

3360. Why not?—They stood their own ground too well.

3361. I suppose they felt sure of their money?—I suppose they did, the same as I did.

3362. Do you know of any voters being taken away?—No, I am not aware of any.

3363. Do you know of any one that was taken away by the Monson party?—No.

3364. You know of no man who had been enticed away by the Monson party?—Not to my knowledge.

3365. When you got up on that Sunday night did you see any voter that was being taken away?—No.

3366. How long did you remain up?—All night.

3367. You remained up all night, and did nothing?—I walked about.

3368. Simply walked about, and saw nobody?—I say nobody; did not look after anybody in particular.

3369. It was quite a false alarm, your getting up?—It was.

3370. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you were out guarding voters did you see any attack upon them?—No.

WILLIAM BOBBINS called, sworn, and examined.

W. Bobbins.

3371. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are on the register of voters for the borough?—Yes.

3372. What is your qualification?—A plasterer.

3373. That does not give you a vote?—Oh, qualification! I rent a house at 6*s.* a week.

3374. Do you pay the rates?—Yes.

3375. Who is your landlord?—Mr. Green.

3376. What Green?—Henry Green.

3377. He was one of the agents for Mr. Gower, was he not?—Yes.

THIRD DAY

W. Bobbins.

24 Aug. 1866.

3378. First of all I will ask you, were you canvassed at all by the Monson party ?—Yes.

3379. Before you were canvassed by the Gower party ?—Yes.

3380. Who did you see of the Monson party ?—Mr. Richardson and Mr. Monson.

3381. Did you see Nicholls ?—No.

3382. Did Nicholls ever see you and canvass you ?—No, he never canvassed me, but I saw him.

3383. Never asked you for your vote ?—No.

3384. Did you see Nicholls after you had seen the Gower party ?—Yes, I see Nicholls several times after I saw the Gower party.

3385. You did promise the Gower party ?—I did not promise Mr. Gower.

3386. The Gower party ?—Yes.

3387. Were you advertised on their committee ?—I never saw my name advertised.

3388. Were you voting in the election before, in 1863 ?—Yes.

3389. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

3390. That was against Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

3391. Were you living in one of Mr. Green's houses then ?—Yes.

3392. Did Mr. Green take an active part in the election of 1863 ?—Yes.

3393. Who for ?—Mr. Gower.

3394. But you on that occasion voted for Wilkinson against Gower ?—Yes.

3395. And against your landlord ?—And against my landlord.

3396. Were you canvassed for the Gower party then ?—Yes, Mr. Gower canvassed me.

3397. Was it Mr. Gower only or Mr. Green ?—Mr. Gower; Mr. Green never canvassed me at all.

3398. Did you receive any money for voting for Wilkinson ?—Not a farthing.

3399. Or for any work done for him ?—Not anything.

3400. Did you have any money offered to you upon that occasion ?—Not a farthing.

3401. By the Gower party or the other side ?—By neither side.

3402. Now on this election did Green canvass you ?—Yes.

3403. Did he ask you for your vote ?—Yes.

3404. Did he offer you any money ?—Yes.

3405. What did he offer you ?—Well, he did not say to the sum ; he offered me money in this hall.

3406. He did not mention the sum ?—He did not mention the sum.

3407. When he offered you the money, how did he offer it ?—Like this. There was a committee meeting in this room underneath. He met me at the door; he called me on one side and said, "I want to speak "to you now;" he says, "You are coming on our side." "Yes, I expect so," I says. "Well," he says, "look "here ! this is the stuff I have got to do it with."

3408. Did he show you the stuff ?—Yes, he pulled out a roll of bank notes nearly as thick as my wrist.

3409. Did he tell you what those notes were ?—No, he did not say what they were.

3410. "This is the stuff I have got to do it "with" ?—"This is the stuff."

3411. Go on, and tell me what further took place between you and Green upon that occasion ?—Why, he says, "Look here ! this is what I have got for the "election, to carry it on with." "Well," I says, "that will do very well ;" and he said, "You can "have something if you like." I says, "No, let us "do something for it first." "Oh, all right !" he says, "you leave it all to me ; I will make it all "right," and we passed on.

3412. Was that all ?—That was all that transpired that evening.

3413. What did you say in answer to it when he said he would make it all right ?—I took the man at his word ; I thought he would perform as he promised.

3414. Did you promise your vote then ?—I promised my vote then. I told him I should come on his side, and I did so.

3415. After he had shown you the bank notes ?—After he had shown me the notes.

3416. What did you expect to get out of the roll of notes ?—I did not make any expectation what I should get. It was to be above 5*l.* though.

3417. You thought ?—I thought so.

3418. You thought he could afford to pay well out of that large roll of notes ?—I thought I was silly I had not some of it.

3419. At the time ?—At the time.

3420. Did he say anything about he would see that you would not be deceived?—Yes.

3421. What was that ?—He said, "You look after "the election. I shall not want to trouble myself any-"thing about you ; you look after the election matters "as far as you can, and I will see that you are paid "when the member is elected."

3422. I think you said you were a plasterer ?—Yes.

3423. What wages do you get ?—I am master for myself, I take work.

3424. Do you employ men ?—Yes.

3425. Did you employ men then ?—Yes, several.

3426. How many men do you generally employ ?—Sometimes four or five, sometimes six, plasterers, besides labourers and boys.

3427. Then, although you paid your rent weekly, you are a man pretty well to do in the world ?—Not so very well; I work for what I get. I do work for labour only ; I have no material.

3428. You work yourself ?—I work myself.

3429. What do you charge a day for yourself ?—For myself I charge the same as if I paid the men, 5*s.* 6*d.* a day.

3430. You did vote for Mr. Gower, I suppose ?—I did vote for Mr. Gower.

3431. Did you do any work for what you were to expect ?—I attended a committee meeting and walked about, the same as other people did. That is all I did.

3432. You did not call that work ?—I did not call it work.

3433. Did you attend any of the meetings at the houses ?—No ; I attended a public meeting on the common once.

3434. Did you apply after the election for your money ?—No, sir.

3435. You never applied for the money ?—I never applied for the money.

3436. Why not ?—Because Green knew where I lived when he wanted me to vote, and sure enough he could know where I lived when he wanted to pay.

3437. You left it to him ?—I left it to his honesty, as we were not strangers to one another.

3438. Did you hear of the petition after the election ?—Not till Mr. Naylor came down.

3439. Mr. Naylor came down ?—Not to me, he did not.

3440. Who was it came to you ?—No one came to me ; Mr. Gilbert I went to.

3441. But before Mr. Gilbert came you had heard of Mr. Naylor being about ?—Yes.

3442. That is the person who turned out to be Mr. Hamblin ?—Yes.

3443. He came down in the name of Naylor ?—Yes ; I said he was a nailer at the time.

3444. You might have thought he came down to plaster up affairs ?—Perhaps he did ; he did not try to plaster mine up.

3445. Were you ever at the "Warwick Arms" ?—Yes.

3446. When was that ?—Several times.

3447. Before the election ?—I have been there before the election ; oh, yes.

3448. Were you at the "Warwick Arms;" do you recollect the writ coming down, the advertisement that the election would take place ?—I do not recollect being at the "Warwick Arms" then.

3449. Just draw your attention to my question,

Do you recollect the writ coming down and the advertisement being put out, that the election would take place?—Yes, I recollect it.

3450. Were you at the "Warwick Arms" after that time?—Oh, yes; the polling day I was there.

3451. Well, now, what was going on at the "Warwick Arms" on that polling day with regard to refreshments and drink? Did you get your refreshment?—Yes.

3452. Did you pay for it?—My father.

3453. What did you have?—We had cold beef and pickles, and bread and beer; a cold ordinary.

3454. Had you any brandy?—Well, we had some brandy occasionally.

3455. On that day?—On that day.

3456. But you did not pay for it?—I did not pay for it.

3457. Did you see any of the agents there?—I saw Mr. Green and Mr. Rose.

3458. Mr. Green was taking an active part in the election?—A very active part.

3459. Did you see many persons there on that polling day?—Oh yes, a great many.

3460. Did you see any of them paying for what they had?—I did not see any of them pay.

3461. How late were you there?—1 or 2 o'clock in the morning.

3462. Were you there during the day as well?—Some parts of the day; I was about the neighbourhood, out and in.

3463. Now, up to 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning was drinking generally going on?—Not to any excess.

3464. Oh, no, I do not mean to say you got tipsy or anything of that sort, but did people have what they wanted?—Some of the men had not. They had to pay for what they had, some of them; but I suppose I was a bit of a favourite.

3465. Did anybody tell you to go in there and take what you wanted?—Yes.

3466. Who?—Mr. Green.

3467. Was that on the polling day?—On the polling day.

3468. Did you hear Mr. Green tell anybody else to go in?—I did not.

3469. Did you know of his telling anybody else to go in and get what they wanted?—I did not.

3470. Was that the only house you had been to to have refreshment, I mean without paying for it, between the time of the writ coming down and the election?—That was the only house.

3471. Did you attend any committee meetings?—The committee meetings at the public hall at Redhill, the market hall, or whatever they call it; there was a committee room.

3472. Any refreshment there?—No.

3473. That was not attached to any public house?—Not at all

3474. Were you at any meeting which happened at a place called the Chapel, Redhill?—No.

3475. Do you know of any meeting being held at any chapel?—I do not recollect any meeting being held at any chapel.

3476. You said you did not ask anybody for money; did not you ask Mr. Green after the election?—No.

3477. Quite certain?—Quite certain. When the petition affair was on I said, this would not have happened if he had settled up. I never asked him for mine.

3478. Did you ask Mr. Green?—No, sir; never.

3479. You have said so before?—I do not think I ever said I asked Mr. Green for my money.

3480. Have not you said this before: "I have since "the election asked Mr. Green to keep his promise, "and he has replied, 'Oh, leave it to me; it is all "right'"?—Oh, yes; I never asked him for the sum of money.

3481. You see you fence with the question; that did take place?—Oh yes, I saw Mr. Green.

3482. What promise did you mean?—The promise after we had voted that he would pay us for our time and trouble. I do not call it trouble; promising he would pay us for attending the committee.

George Charles Beale sworn and examined. *G. C. Beale.*

3483. (*Chief Commissioner.*) Is your Christian name George Charles Beale?—Yes.

3484. What rent do you pay?—3*s.* a week.

3485. Are you on the register?—Yes; they put me on, I suppose, sir.

3486. How long have you been on the register?—Well, I never was on an election before this.

3487. This is the first election that you have taken any part in?—Yes.

3488. What are you?—Well, when I was called in the House of Commons I drove a brewer's cart; now I am a labourer.

3489. At this election I believe you voted for Mr. Gower?—I did.

3490. How did you come to vote for him?—Because he come and asked me for it.

3491. Was any one with him?—Yes, Mr. Frederick Joyes.

3492. Did you promise him at once?—No, I never promised nothing, sir.

3493. What did you tell them when they came to ask you?—Well, I tell you, sir, the same as I told them. I told them that I had been laid up seven weeks when Mr. Gower asked me for it, and he told me I was independent of it, and I told him not. I told him I was not independent, but I was not in duty to any master, because I had not got ne'er a master.

3494. Was it in the street you met Mr. Gower when he spoke to you first?—Yes.

3495. Was Mr. Joyes with him?—Yes.

3496. And he introduced you to Mr. Gower, who did not know you before that?—I do not know that.

3497. When he asked you for your vote, what did you say to him?—I told him, sir, I had not parted from it, and if he would do the same duty by me as he was going to do by the others, he might as well have it as the other. That was it; I never said anything more.

3498. What did Mr. Gower say to that?—He never said anything.

3499. Did you see what he did?—Yes.

3500. What?—Mr. Joyes and he looked at each other, and that was all I know of.

3501. What kind of a look did Mr. Gower give at Mr. Joyes?—I do not know, sir, I never looked at that.

3502. When you saw him did not you look at him?—Certainly.

3503. Did you notice it was any particular kind of a look?—No, sir.

3504. Did you notice that Mr. Joyes gave any look back again; a particular look?—No, sir, they only looked at each other, and that was all I saw.

3505. Did not you see either of their heads move forward?—No.

3506. Nothing like a nod?—No; a nod is as good as a wink, sir, sometimes.

3507. Did you get from either of them one of those nods, then?—No sir, I did not; not either of them. I never gave them a nod.

3508. You told me a nod was as good as a wink; did you get a nod from either of these gentlemen?—No.

3509. Did either of them give you a look?—No.

3510. Did not Joyes look at you?—No.

3511. What did you say, then?—I never said no more, sir.

3512. Did you say you would vote for Gower?—No.

3513. Try and recollect if you can, or else I shall have to call you again. Are you sure about this?

THIRD DAY.

G. C. Beale.

24 Aug. 1866.

Have you not said, that when you said that you wanted to know first if Mr. Gower would behave to you the same as they behaved to the others, did not you then see Mr. Gower and Mr. Joyes look at each other?—Yes.

3514. Did not you then see Mr. Joyes look at you?—I do not know.

3515. Was not it upon that that you said, "Well, "then, Mr. Gower, I will vote for you"?—I have no recollection at all about that.

3516. I do not think your recollection is perfectly clear just at this moment; I am sorry for it. Now look here, can you attend to me?—Sir, I will.

3517. Now look here. You go down stairs; I will not go on with your examination now, I will give you a chance, but you may get into a serious difficulty. I do not think your recollection is very accurate at this moment. You had better sit down quietly in the hall, and in an hour's time or more I will examine you again. You had better take that hint. Do you understand me?—Yes.

A. Edwards.

ALLEN EDWARDS sworn and examined.

3518. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A tallow chandler.

3519. And where do you live?—At West-street.

3520. In the Old part of the borough?—Yes.

3521. What rent do you pay?—10*l.* a year.

3522. For whom did you vote at this last election?—Mr. Richardson.

3523. Now were you canvassed on the part of Mr. Gower?—Yes.

3524. Were you canvassed on the part of Mr. Monson?—Yes.

3525. First of all, who canvassed you for Mr. Richardson?—No one canvassed me for Mr. Richardson.

3526. How came you to vote for him?—Mr. Gower had got so far ahead, and Mr. Monson was no use, so I thought I would vote for Mr. Richardson.

3527. Now tell me, what time in the day did you vote for Mr. Richardson?—I think 12 or 1 o'clock; somewhere thereabouts.

3528. In your mind was the election decided before 1 o'clock?—I believe it was.

3529. How many votes did you believe Mr. Richardson had polled up till 1 o'clock?—I cannot say.

3530. Did you think he had polled less than 10?—I cannot say.

3531. You do not know how many?—I do not know how many.

3532. You knew he was at the bottom of the poll?—I knew that.

3533. Did you see any placards as to the state of the poll?—No, I did not, sir, for I took but very little interest in it.

3534. Were there many people outside the polling place?—Yes, a great many.

3535. Now outside these polling places, when you voted, did you see announced the numbers that the different candidates had polled?—I believe I did.

3536. Was that before you voted?—Yes.

3537. And you had an opportunity of seeing that Mr. Richardson had no chance whatever, and so you voted for him?—I voted for him.

3538. You gave him an independent vote?—I did.

3539. Did you receive anything for it?—Not one halfpenny.

3540. Nor a glass of beer?—No.

3540*a*. Did anybody ask you to vote for him?—Yes.

3540*b*. Who?—Mr. Henry Francis.

3540*c*. Did he give you any reason why you should vote for him?—No, no more than he asked me if I would vote for him. He said there was no chance for Mr. Monson, and I said, "Yes," I would vote for him; it did not matter to me who I voted for.

3540*d*. Was Mr. Francis taking part for Mr. Monson as well?—He was agent.

3540*e*. Had he asked you to vote for Mr. Monson? Yes.

3540*f*. Had he offered you anything to vote for Mr. Monson?—No more than labour.

3540*g*. What was the labour?—I was out of employ at the time, and he told me he would give me work at 1*l.* a week if I liked to go to work, which I accepted.

3540*h*. What were you to work at?—In his garden, and as labourer for a stonemason, which he is.

3540*i*. Why did not you take the offer?—I did.

3540*j*. How long was that before you voted?—Well, not quite five weeks.

3541. How long did you remain in Mr. Francis's service?—Five weeks, within a day or so.

3542. Did you remain with him until the election?—Yes.

3543. Did you remain with him after the election?—Only one week.

3544. And then left him?—Then I left him.

3545. Did he pay you?—Yes.

3546. How much did he pay you?—At the rate of 1*l.* a week.

3547. Why did not you keep on longer than a week after the election?—Because I wore my fingers out.

3548. You really did work?—I did, sir. I worked hard.

3549. What have you worked at since?—I have been carman since, and I have worked in Mr. Ivory's garden.

3550. What were you before you worked for Mr. Francis?—A tallow chandler. I have given up that trade.

3551. But you are not at work at that now?—No.

3552. When were you working at that trade? At the time of the election?—No, sir.

3553. When did you cease to work as tallow chandler?—Twelve months last June.

3554. Now from twelve months last June, when you ceased to be a tallow chandler, up to the time of working for Mr. Francis what did you work as?—In gardens; anything I could get.

3555. You were a tallow chandler a year and a half ago, but you are nothing now?—No.

3556. Why did you say you were a tallow chandler?—I was a tallow chandler at that time, I am a tallow chandler now by trade.

3557. That is what you mean?—Yes, but I have no work at it.

3558. When was it Mr. Francis asked you first to vote for Mr. Richardson?—Well, I do not know. Three or four days before the polling.

3559. Had not he asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Oh, yes.

3560. That was the time he gave you the work?—Yes.

3561. Why did not you vote for Mr. Monson?—Because I did not think proper.

3562. Or was it because Mr. Francis asked you to vote for Mr. Richardson?—No, not at all. I had not told any one who I was going to vote for, not till two or three days before the polling.

3563. I thought I understood you you had promised to vote for Mr. Monson?—No, I beg your pardon, I did not.

3564. You left that open?—I did.

3565. Was any money besides that work offered to you for voting at all?—Not one halfpenny. Not on Mr. Monson's side.

3566. Now, did anybody canvass you on the part of Mr. Gower?—Yes.

3567. Who?—Mr. Frederick Joyes.

3568. Did he offer you money?—Yes, he did.

3569. What did he offer you?—He told me he would give me 5*l.*

3570. For what?—For voting for Mr. Gower.

3571. Did he tell you about getting money from the other side?—Yes, he did.

3572. What did he tell you?—He told me to get all I could.

3573. From the other side?—Yes.

3574. But still to vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

3575. You got work from the other side, and voted for Richardson?—I did.

3576. Perhaps that might have had some operation on your mind, that you received money from both sides, and so you voted for the independent man?—I did not receive it from both sides.

3577. You got the work?—I got work. I never received any money from Joyes,

3578. When Mr. Francis asked you to come and work for him, did he canvass you before he asked you to work?—No, he did not.

3579. He asked you to work first, and then canvassed you afterwards?—Yes.

3580. It was all the same interview, was not it?—Yes.

3581. Did you see Mr. Smith at all about this money?—No sir, that it is a false statement.

3582. What is?—About Mr. Smith. Mr. Gilbert's statement, is not it?

3583. Never mind about that?—It is a false statement.

3584. Was any money put down upon your counter? No, sir.

3585. By anybody?—No.

3586. By Mr. Smith?—No.

3587. By nobody?—No.

3588. You have said so before?—I have said so.

3589. What was it you said before?—I said, no, sir.

3590. You have said no before?—Yes.

3591. Upon one occasion you have said no; but did you never say upon any occasion that Mr. Smith had put money on your counter?—I did, merely for a frolic, nothing more.

3592. You said it for a frolic, nothing more?—I denied it at the House of Commons.

3593. Do you consider it merely a frolic to charge a man with bribing at an election?—We are supposed to say anything at elections.

3594. But after the election?—No, it was before the election those words were spoke.

3595. Did Mr. Smith ever come and canvass you at all?—No.

3596. Did you never see Mr. Smith?—I have seen him lots of times.

3597. Did he never say anything to you about voting for Mr. Gower?—Not this time.

3598. Has he on previous occasions?—He has on former occasions.

3599. Did you have any money for voting in 1863?—Not one penny.

3600. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

3601. How long had you been a voter?—Ever since Mr. Hackblock; he was the first man I voted for.

3602. Have you ever received monies before?—Not one farthing.

3603. Have you voted before?—I have.

3604. On each election?—On each election.

3605. Who is your landlord?—Lord Somers.

3606. Who is Lord Somers' agent? — Mr. Morrison.

3607. Did he take any part in the election?—I never see him. I do not know that he did.

3608. If he did you must have known it?—He never canvassed me, never asked me for my vote, or nothing of the sort.

3609. Is it George Carter Morrison, of Wray-park?—Yes.

3610. I see he was on Mr. Gower's committee?—He never canvassed me.

3611. Did you see him?—I have seen him; but I have never seen him canvassing. THIRD DAY

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3612. Has Mr. Smith any connexion with the Wray-park estate?—Not that I am aware of.

3613. Who did you pay your rent to? — Mr. Morrison.

3614. When do you pay your rent? — At Lady day.

3615. For what length of time? — It was due Christmas without a quarter's law.

3616. Do you always take that law?—It is always given to us.

3617. Do you take more?—Sometimes we do when we cannot meet it.

3618. Have not you taken more law before the election?—Yes.

3619. Now at the time of the election how many quarters' rent did you owe?—We pay once a year.

3620. But you only paid 5*l.*, is that your whole rent?—I had not got any more money.

3621. Is that your whole rent?—No, 10*l.*

3622. When you paid the 5*l.* did you owe 5*l.* more?—Yes.

3623. For the whole year?—Yes.

3624. Then at the time of the election you were owing a twelve-month's rent?—Not this election.

3625. In 1865?—In 1865.

3626. How much rent did you owe at the time of the election in 1865?—I think 4*l.*

3627. Your rental is 10*l.* a year?—Yes.

3628. Is it quarterly rental or weekly rental?—Yearly.

3629. Did you owe a twelve-month's rent at the time of the election?—I cannot say.

3630. Do not you pay more than once a year?—Only once a year.

3631. Then you are allowed three months?—My rent is due at Christmas, and we pay it at Lady day.

3632. You mean to say at the time of the election no rent was due?—I forget when the election was.

3633. When is your rent payable; at Lady day or Christmas?—Due at Christmas, payable at Lady day.

3634. Had you paid your previous Christmas rent?—I had not paid it all up.

3635. How much did you owe upon it?—4*l.* I paid it afterwards.

3636. At the time of the election had anybody spoken to you about this back rent?—I spoke to other people about it.

3637. I suppose you rather wished to make it known that you did owe rent?—I did not like to be in debt.

3638. And you rather wished at the time of the election to make it known that you did owe rent?—Yes.

3639. Why?—Because sometimes there is money flying about at the elections.

3640. You wanted to get some money to pay your back rent?—Of course I did.

3641. Just answer this upon your oath. Did not you say to Mr. Gilbert that you did not wish anything to be said about Mr. Smith for private reasons?—Yes, I did. I told him, and he said he could erase it.

3642. For private reasons?—Yes.

3643. What were your private reasons? — My reason was because it was not true.

3644. Did not that owing the money to the agent of Lord Somers have any influence upon you in your voting?—I do not know about that. I was willing to pay as soon as I could get the money.

JAMES APTED sworn and examined.

J. Apted.

3645. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where you present when the last witness, Allen Edwards, made a statement to Mr. Gilbert?—Yes.

3646. Just look at that (*a paper was handed to the witness.*) That is your signature, is it not, at the bottom?—Yes.

3647. The signature is to this part: "The above "statement was distinctly read to Allen Edwards in "my presence, and signed by him." Then there is your signature "James Apted"?—Yes.

3648. Of course that is true that you heard that statement read to Allen Edwards?—Yes.

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3649. And that it was signed by him?—Yes; and at the time that signature was put to it I was present.

3650. What I want to know is, whether that was the statement read to Edwards when he signed it?—Yes, he volunteered it.

3651. Mr. Edwards volunteered it to Mr. Gilbert?—Yes.

3652. When he made it it was put down in writing, Mr. Gilbert wrote it down and read it over to him?—Yes.

3653. Did he read over to him after it was taken down?—Yes.

3654. And then Mr. Allen Edwards signed it?—Yes.

3655. Was all this done seriously and so as to lead you to believe that it was honest?—I believed that it was honest, because Mr. Allen Edwards had told me the morning before the election came off.

3656. Then am I right in saying that Allen Edwards told you the substance of the statement before the election came off?—Yes.

3657. Do you remember pretty well the statement that he did make?—Yes, every word that he said.

3658. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He made a statement to you before he voted?—Yes.

3659. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you hear him say this, or anything to this effect, to Mr. Gilbert; tell me if you can recollect it, and if you cannot say so. Did you hear him say anything to this effect: "I voted for Mr. Richardson at the Reigate election "'65. Some time before the election Mr. Joyes "came and offered me 30*s.* per week to work for Mr. "Gower, if I would vote for him; I told him that I "would think of it. After that Frederick Joyes "came to me and asked me to vote for Mr. Gower. I "said no; he then said, I will give you 5*l.* if you will "'vote for Mr. Gower; you can go and see if you can "'get any from the other side, get it and come and "'vote for Gower, and you shall have the 5*l.*'"?—Yes, he told me that Mr. Smith counted the five sovereigns out on the counter.

3660. "Smith came and asked me to vote for Mr. "Gower, and counted five sovereigns on the counter "at my shop, and asked me if I would take it"?—Yes, he told me that, but I do not know whether it was true or not.

3661. That was before this statement was made?—Yes.

3662. Before he voted?—Yes.

3663. "With regard to these transactions I must "request that no notice be taken, as I do not wish "for private reasons to say anything about Mr. Smith; "it will be quite sufficient to rely on Mr. Frederick "Joyes"?—He said that he wanted to lay all the blame on Mr. Joyes.

3664. I have repeatedly seen Mr. Gower, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Frederick Joyes calling from house to house on polling day. I never received any money for my vote; I was only promised by the persons I have named: was that the substance of what he said?—Yes.

3665. Did he tell you that in substance before the election?—Yes.

3666. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

3667. Were you canvassed for Mr. Monson by himself or by somebody else?—I was canvassed both by Mr. Gower and by Mr. Monson.

3668. You promised Mr. Monson I suppose?—No, I did not.

3669. Mr. Monson canvassed you himself?—Yes.

3670. Did you promise him at that time?—No, no one.

3671. Did you tell him you were going to vote for Mr. Gower?—No.

3672. Did Mr. Gower himself come afterwards and canvass you?—I think Mr. Gower canvassed me first.

3673. Did you promise him?—No, I told them neither of them were good enough for me.

3674. Were you canvassed by Mr. Monson afterwards, or were you canvassed by Mr. Monson's agents, or any one who appeared in his interests?—Mr. Monson came himself after to see me, and I told him I would not promise him, and I told the same to Mr. Gower.

3675. Were you canvassed after?—The first time, if I may be allowed to state it, was when Mr. Frederick Joyes came and said he wanted me to canvass for Mr. Gower, and asked me what I wanted, I said 50*l.* if I went the whole hog; if I was to work for him I should think it was not too much for my remuneration; and he went and told some one else, and they laughed at it.

3676. He came back and told you that your claim was laughed at?—Yes.

3677. He said that they thought that that was ridiculous; they laughed at it?—When I came to examine the books I found that all those who worked for him had 50*l.*

3678. Who did you find had 50*l.*?—I found it out in the auditor's accounts, I examined them myself; there was Job Apted, Frederick Joyes, Green, &c. I cannot tell you every one now, I have not got a copy with me, but I copied them at the time.

3679. They all had 50*l.*?—Yes.

3680. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They were down for 50*l.*?—Yes.

3681. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you stick to the 50*l.* when Mr. Joyes came and told you that it was out of all reason?—He came and told my wife he had heard that I was going on the other side, and that he was very sorry for it.

3682. You were open to either side?—I was, because I was always open for Mr. Wilkinson. I have been connected with elections all throughout, and I have always stuck to my man. I was not like Mr. Searle, like a weathercock going from one side to the other.

3683. But at this time you had not fixed upon your man?—I beg your pardon.

3684. You had not decided between Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower?—Mr. Nicholls came first to me about going to Mr. Monson.

3685. Before Mr. Joyes came?—Yes. Before Mr. Wilkinson was dead I told Mr. Nicholls I could not possibly go from my man. You know I had always stuck to my man, but he was dead, and therefore I was free.

3686. Then you felt free?—Yes.

3687. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Free to any offer?—I had no offer.

3688. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were free. After that came Mr. Joyes, and then when Mr. Joyes came, that occurred about the 50*l.*?—Yes.

3689. Did you make an arrangement about the 50*l.* or any other arrangement with Mr. Joyes?—No, certainly not, they laughed at it.

3690. Then Mr. Joyes went away and gave you up as hopeless, I suppose?—I suppose that was so.

3691. Did you afterwards see anybody on behalf of Mr. Monson?—I went to Mr. Nicholls and told him.

3692. Let us have it all straight?—You shall have it.

3693. You went to Mr. Nicholls, and what did you say?—Mr. Nicholls did not make any offer at all.

3694. Did you tell him you had been offered 50*l.*?—Yes.

3695. What did he say to that?—I do not recollect what he did say; and I told him that they laughed at me.

3696. Something more passed when you saw Mr. Nicholls, did there not?—He said, "Will you go and "work for us now you are free."

3697. What was your answer to that?—I said, "Yes."

3698. And did you?—Yes.

3699. What were you to have from him?—Nothing.

3700. I mean from the party?—Not a single shilling; I am 50*l.* out of pocket now.

3701. I did not ask you that?—Yes, I believe you did.

3702. I did not ask you what you got; but what were you to have?—I did not make any arrangement

with Mr. Nicholls at all, because Mr. Nicholls was a friend of mine, and I wanted to work for Mr. Monson; I always respected Mr. Monson.

3703. What I want to know from you is who it was you were to look to to reimburse you for your services; you know they were worth 50*l.*, more or less?—I considered it was remuneration to me to work for my friend without being paid any money at all.

3704. What do you mean? I do not think I quite understand that?—I did not expect any remuneration at all for working for Mr. Monson.

3705. I did not say you did; I have not asked you anything of the kind. You were to work for Mr. Monson at Mr. Nicholls' request?—Mr. Nicholls and Mr. Holdsworth asked me if I would work for him, and I said that I would.

3706. Now do come to the point; how were you to be remunerated for your services to Mr. Monson?—By doing a kindness to my friends.

3707. How was that to remunerate you? it would remunerate you in feeling, but not in pocket?—I consider my feelings are my pocket.

3708. You did not think so when you offered yourself to Mr. Joyes for 50*l.*?—I said if I did go to Mr. Gower I should want it, because I should go against my friends.

3709. Then you would go with your enemies for 50*l.* and with your friends gratis; you give that as an explanation, without anything else to qualify it?—I named the amount of 50*l.* because I was sure that they would not give it to me.

3710. You said, "I should take 50*l.* to go against my friends"?—Excuse me, I named 50*l.* because I thought they would not give it me.

3711. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Why did not you give that reason before?—It did not come into my mind.

3712. It did not come into your mind?—No.

3713. Is this the first time you have thought of it?—No.

3714–5. Then why did you look over the list of election expenses to see what the others were paid?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) To see who had 50*l.*?—Because I signed the petition.

3716. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But that is long after?—That was my reason.

3717. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Be so good as to attend to this; in looking over the list of payments for services you found Job Heath Apted put down for 50*l.*?—Yes, I think I did.

3718. Did not you find Buckland put down for 50*l.*?—I believe I did; Mr. Gilbert has got a copy of it.

3719. Did you not also find Frederick Joyes put down for 50*l.*?—Yes.

3720. And did you not also find Mr. Henry Green put down for 50*l.*?—Yes.

3721. I suppose you considered yourself quite as good as they were?—To tell you the truth, I did not want to go on that side at all.

3722. I did not say you did; did you look at the accounts?—I did.

3723. And did you take care to furnish yourself with that information as to their price before you went to Mr. Joyes?—I never went to Mr. Joyes at all.

3724. Before you offered your services to Mr. Joyes at all?—How could that be?

3725. You say how could that be?—Those accounts were audited after the election.

3726. Did not you ascertain what they were down for?—No I did not, not till after the election.

3727. I thought you told us you found out that they were down for 50*l.*?—After the election.

3728. You told me you offered yourself for 50*l.*?—I offered myself to Mr. Joyes.

3729. What you told me was, that when you went to Mr. Joyes you had ascertained that the other agents were down for 50*l.*?—No, I did not.

3730. You said so?—I did not.

3731. If you said so, that was under a mistake?—I said that afterwards I went and saw the accounts with Mr. Gilbert after the election; I paid a shilling for it, to go over the accounts.

3732. You certainly told me before that before you went to Mr. Joyes you went over the accounts?—Oh no. If I did, I made a mistake.

3733. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you offer your services at 50*l.* if you had not at that time known that others were getting 50*l.*?—Merely because I thought it was too much, and that they would not bother me any more.

3734. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You see now that that was about the amount?—I see it now, and that is why they have no reason to laugh at me.

The Chief Commissioner remarked that he had not laughed at the witness.

The Witness said that he was referring to those who had laughed at him.

3735. That being so, I believe you were canvassed not only by Joyes but by Apted, Durrant, Buckland, and Mazden too?—Not to my recollection.

3736. Surely you were canvassed by them; you might have been canvassed by all of them at once?—Yes, I might be informed by all of them, one and all; yes, I think it was.

3737. And Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland came to you rather specially, did they not?—They came with Mr. Gower.

3738. Do you recollect being at a meeting of Mr. Gower's supporters, when Mr. Gower was present, at a chapel in what is called Holmesdale Freehold?—That was one of Mr. Gower's pure meetings; he had churches and chapels.

3739. I do not want you to give a complexion to Mr. Gower's meetings; never mind where he thought it right to hold them, it is nothing to you or me either; you were at the meeting?—Yes.

3740. The meeting took place in the chapel?—Yes.

3741. Whose chapel is it. I dare say you can tell me?—No, it is for the freehold.

3742. Can you tell me who is the minister of the chapel?—No.

3743. After the meeting at the chapel was over did you go with several other persons to the "Barley Mow" public house?—No; I only went with one.

3744. When you got there there were several there?—Yes.

3745. You went with only one person?—Yes.

3746. Did you have refreshments there?—I believe I had a glass of ale with Rose.

3747. With Rose?—Yes, Ephraim Rose.

3748. Can you tell me, if you please, when the meeting was?—I cannot tell you now. I could tell you at home.

3749. But about?—I think it was about a fortnight before the election.

3750. Did you hear Mr. Joyes give any order about supplying refreshments?—Yes.

3751. Did he desire that refreshments might be supplied to those who wanted them?—He said, let them have everything in reason, or something of that kind.

3752. Who was to pay?—I did not hear that. I saw Mrs. Nicholls writing it down. I stood at the back of her, and saw her write.

3753. And you had some?—I paid for what I had.

3754. Why did you pay for what you had?—I had no connexion with them. I wanted to see what they were doing.

3755. You thought it was but right, as you belonged to the other party, that you should pay for yours?—Yes.

3756. Do you remember a meeting at the "Castle" of Mr. Gower's supporters?—At the "Castle"?

3757. Yes.—Yes.

3758. Can you tell me whether that was about the same time?—I think it was before.

3759. Not much?—Not more than a day's difference.

3760. That was a meeting of Mr. Gower's supporters?—Yes.

3761. You were there, were you not?—I was there

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when they were there; they were upstairs, and I was down, I believe.

3762. Did you hear orders given on that occasion about refreshments ?—Yes.

3763. Were any orders given to the landlord ?—To the landlord and landlady too.

3764. Were orders given to supply refreshments ?—Joyes said he would pay for it, and he had to go up town, and get the money, because Mrs. Green would not trust him, and said that there was a shilling or two shillings for the previous election to Mr. Joyes' account.

3765. Did you have any refreshment ?—I always paid for what I had.

3766. We will come to that. You recollect you had something ?—Yes, I do.

3767. Did you pay for it ?—Yes, I did.

3768. Why ? because you belonged to the other side ?—Yes.

3769. Was that the reason that you paid, because your conscience told you you were belonging to the other side ?—Not quite so.

3770. What was it ?—I always paid for what I had wherever I went. I did not have anything paid for during the whole election.

3771. Do you remember very well the election of '63 happening ?—I have been in all the elections.

3772. You remember '63 ?—Yes.

3773. You voted I assume, from what you have said, for Mr. Wilkinson ?—I had not got a vote.

3774. Were you active about that election ?—Yes.

3775. For Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

3776. Where were his committees held ?—I generally went to the "Swan."

3777. Who kept the "Swan" ?—Blackiston.

3778. Was there refreshment there ?—Yes ; I had refreshment wherever I went.

3779. And who paid for it ?—I did.

3780. Did you do things for Mr. Wilkinson ?—I canvassed for him.

3781. Who desired you to do so ?—Mr. James.

3782. He was Mr. Wilkinson's agent ?—Yes.

3783. I dare say you did a good deal for him ?—I do not know whether I did or did not. I worked.

3784. What were your services worth on that occasion ?—I do not know what they were worth.

3785. What did you get for them ?—10*l.* from Mr. James.

3786. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 10*l.* for your work. You worked for your friend Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

3787. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know Ephraim Rose; you went to the meeting in the chapel with him ?—Yes.

3788. After the meeting was held at the chapel ?—Yes.

The Witness here objected to any notes being passed to the Commissioners by a gentleman of the name of Smith, and said that that gentleman had better cross-examine him.

The Chief Commissioner remarked that so long as the witness stated the truth he had no occasion to fear anything in the world.

3789. Tell me what your duties consisted in ; in canvassing ?—Yes.

3790. Did you canvass many people ?—Every one I knew who had a vote ; I mean of my own class, I never went higher than that.

3791. Your class is a very good one; was your class then the same as it is now ?—About the same.

3792. Well, it is a very respectable class. What I want to know is how many persons you did canvass ?—I cannot tell you ; perhaps 300 or 400.

3793. I will ask you this question plainly. Was there anything of what is called treating for Mr. Wilkinson at that election ?—I cannot tell you myself.

3794. Why not ?—I do not know.

3795. You attended committee meetings ?—Yes.

3796. Did you see refreshments ?—I generally paid for myself and one or two friends besides.

3797. Generally. Did you always ?—I cannot say that.

3798. You cannot say that you did always ; you mean by that that sometimes you did not ?—Sometimes I did not.

3799. Am I right in saying frequently you were at meetings when refreshments were ordered by some friends of Mr. Wilkinson's, and nobody paid who partook of them ?—I could not recollect any case.

3800. You cannot ?—No, it is so long ago now ; I should not like to say without I knew; it is three or four years ago.

3801. On some occasions you say you and your friends did not pay for what there was ?—I say we might not have done.

3802. Was there any treating at that election for Mr. Gower ?—Oh yes, you have got the brief I suppose. I have given my evidence in getting up the evidence for the last election.

3803. Was there any treating of Mr. Gower's friends on that occasion ?—You have got the list.

3804. You refuse to answer ?—I cannot recollect. If you will read the brief over to me I will tell you; that will bring it to my recollection ; if you will read over to me anything that I have stated, of course I will tell you.

3805. When did you make this statement about the election of 1863 ?—I made that statement to Mr. James.

3806. You have not made a statement to anybody else ?—Not to my recollection ; but if you can recollect anybody's name, then I might recollect the circumstance.

3807. Then I must still ask you whether you knew if on the election of 1863 there was treating by Mr. Gower's friends ; I mean by that, people who go into houses and get refreshments and come out without paying for them ?—I believe they did.

3808. Do you mean to say that it was done more for Mr. Gower's party than Mr. Wilkinson's ?—Certainly I thought so, and I knew it, or else I should not have troubled myself about the petition.

3809. I am now upon the election of 1863. You say you were quite sure of it. You have already proved that there was some treating on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson in 1863 ?—No ; at my own hands.

3810. I do not know what you mean by saying at your own hands ; you said that you and your friends took refreshments without paying ?—I said that I paid for it, but I might have had it without paying for it.

3811. You say you might ?—Yes, I might.

3812. You seem now to have less doubt about Mr. Gower's treating ?—Decidedly so.

3813. I will take it so; I am quite willing to take your answer in that way ; had you been previously to that a voter at all ?—No.

3814. You never voted at any of the previous elections, did you ?—No.

3815. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You took an active part then for Mr. Monson at this election ?

3816. Did you attend at the committees ? did you attend committee meetings ?—I believe I did.

3817. You believe you did ?—I believe I did.

3818. You believe you did ; is that the only answer you can give to a plain question ; you attended committee meetings, you believe you did ?—Yes.

3819. That is the only answer ?—Well, I did.

3820. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is not quite the same thing ?—I do not know any one particular meeting of Mr. Monson's that I attended.

3821. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We should be very much more likely to believe you if you would give a straightforward answer.

(*The Witness.*) I give you what information I can.

3822. Did you canvass much ?—Yes.

3823. Did you canvass a man of the name of Balchin ?—No, I did not.

3824. Alfred Balchin ?—No.

3825. Are you James Apted the pork butcher ?—Yes.

3826. There is only yourself ?—I am the person whom I think you mean.

3827. What do you think I mean ?—I know that he gave his evidence in the House of Commons.

3828. He said that you offered him *5l.* ?—No.

3829. You gave him *5l.* ?—I gave him *5l.*

3830. You gave *5l.* to James Balchin ?—Yes, I gave it him for five weeks' work.

3831. What was that for ?—I told Mr. Brown, the gentleman I engaged for the election, I wanted four or five working men to canvass among the working men, and he said he would find them ; he said, "You "can give me the money, and I will pay for them."

3832. Who is James Brown ?—A plasterer.

3833. Who did he vote for ?—I do not think he had a vote.

3834. Did he take any interest in the election ?—Yes.

3835. Did he work for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

3836. And you employed him ?—Yes.

3837. Did you give the *5l.* or Mr. Brown ?—I could not swear who it was.

3838. Were you together ?—Yes, Mr. Brown came and told me he wanted the money, and I gave it him.

3839. I did not mean Mr. Brown having the money, but Balchin ?—Yes, he had the money.

3840. Mr. Brown was with you ?—Yes.

3841. Who gave it him ?—I cannot say ; that came out of my pocket.

3842. Whether you had it from Brown first, at all events Balchin got it ?—Yes.

3843. What was he to do ?—Mr. Brown told me he was working in the night, looking after the voters.

3844. The voters ?—Yes, our voters ; Mr. Monson's voters.

3845. Did you know what Mr. Balchin had in fact done ?—I know no more than what Mr. Brown told me.

3846. Was that told you in the presence of Balchin ?—Yes.

3847. What did he say ; did he say he had done anything ?—Yes, that he was working at nights.

3848. Did he say how many nights ?—Working for Mr. Brown.

3849. Mr. Brown was employed by you, and was your servant ?—Yes, I asked him whether it was right, and he said "yes."

3850. Was that the only thing that made you give him *5l.* ?—I asked whether it was all right, and he said it was all right, he has been working at nights looking after the freehold.

3851. Balchin was a voter ?—Yes.

3852. Was this *5l.* paid before the election ?—I believe it was.

3853. How long ?—It might be one day or two days.

3854. Whom did you get the *5l.* from for Balchin ?—Mr. Nicholls.

3855. Did you tell him what you wanted the *5l.* for ?—I had *5l.* or *10l.* from Mr. Nicholls when I wanted it.

3856. How much money from first to last did you require from Mr. Nicholls for the purpose of the election, *50l.*, *60l.*, or *100l.* ?—I should think *50l.* or *60l.*

3857. Did you not receive more ?—No, I do not think I did.

3858. Where did you generally receive this money ?—I went and asked Mr. Nicholls for it.

3859. Where ?—At the "Grapes."

3860. Was that the head establishment of the Monson party ?—The "White Hart" was.

3861. I suppose the "Grapes" was the next ?—Yes.

3862. Just opposite the "White Hart" ?—Yes.

3863. Was that where the committee met ?—I never knew a committee meet there.

3864. When Mr. Nicholls gave you this money were there any other persons present ?—I think not. I went to him and said I had got some men to work, and they wanted a pound or two, and that I wanted so much to pay the men.

3865. And he gave it you ?—Yes.

3866. What were your men working at ?—Carrying messages and circulars and bills, &c.

3867. How many men had you got working in that way for you ?—I should think perhaps eight or nine, and then Brown had five or six, and I paid all his men.

3868. You paid Mr. Brown, and Mr. Brown paid his men ?—Yes.

3869. What district did you take ?—The whole of the borough.

3870. And you paid Mr. Brown's men ?—When he came to me I went to Mr. Nicholls.

3871. Did you know of other persons who were acting for Mr. Monson in the same way as you were, and had servants under them ?—Yes, I think I can guess.

3872. I think you can guess, and if you will guess I shall be quite satisfied with that ?—Well, Rose, Mr. Page ; I only suppose so, I am not saying that I know it for a fact.

3873. We know about them ; cannot you tell us of somebody we do not know about ?—There was Thomas Jordan.

3874. Who is he ?—He is a bricklayer, a builder.

3875. What, a working bricklayer ?—He is now working on Fotherhill Estate.

3876. In what way ?—I believe he does work on his own account.

3877. Do you know where he lives ?—Mead-vale.

3878. Is he a voter ?—Yes.

3879. And about what rent is his house ?—*15l.* or *16l.* a year I should think, according to my estimate.

3880. Was he a person having workmen under him, I mean election workmen ?—I only say I suppose so; I have seen him call Mr. Nicholls on one side the same way that I did myself.

3881. He went to him on the same errand, as you suppose, as yourself ?—Yes.

3882. Did you ever see money pass from Mr. Nicholls to Mr. Jordan ?—Not to any one but myself.

3883. Did you ever see Ephraim Rose there ?—I have seen him there.

3884. And talking to Mr. Nicholls in the same way as you talked when you wanted money ?—Yes.

3885. Have you seen him there often ?—Yes.

3886. Calling Mr. Nicholls aside ?—Yes.

3887. Give me the name of somebody else besides Jordan whom you have noticed ?—A man of the name of Miller.

3888. What is his Christian name ?—I do not know ; he lives at Redhill.

3889. That is the Foreign part ?—Yes.

3890. Is he a voter ?—I believe so ; I saw him very frequently.

3991. Near Redhill Church, is that the man ?—He used to stick bills.

3892. He is one of the Foreign voters ?—Yes.

3893. His name is Thomas Miller, near Redhill Church ?—I believe that is the man. I have seen him there very often, more often than any one else.

3894. More often than you ?—Yes.

3895. Calling Mr. Nicholls aside ?—Yes.

3896. In the same way as you when you got your money from Mr. Nicholls ?—Yes.

3897. Where did Mr. Nicholls get this money from ?—His pocket.

3898. Did he always have it ready when you wanted *5l.* ?—Yes, he always had it ready.

3899. He always put his hand in his pocket, and pulled it out ?—Yes, he always had it ready.

3900. What used you to say to him ?—I used to say "I want some money, I have got some men to pay "to night."

3901. It was not always on a Saturday night, you know ?—Oh no.

3902. Just whenever you wanted it ?—Yes.

3903. Did you never spend any money at all that you received from Mr. Nicholls in any other way but

THIRD DAY.
J. Apted.
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to pay these men that went out with these bills ?—I do not know that I did.

3904. Were these persons you employed in carrying out bills generally voters ?—There were some of them not voters.

3905. Can you name me one that was not a voter ?—I employed one of my own men in the night to go and watch, because they were watching us ; we could not go into a house without they knew it.

3906. Did you employ any man, excepting your own man, who was not a voter ?—James Brown was not a voter.

3907. He employed others ?—Yes, he employed some that were not voters.

3908. Do you know of any one that James Brown employed who was not a voter ?—I could not say the name.

3909. James Brown, you say, was not a voter ?—Yes.

3910. Can you tell me where he lived ?—He lived on the freehold.

3911. Where does he live now ?—In London.

3912. London is a large place ; where did you see him last ?—Oh, last Monday, and I asked him for his address, and he said he could not give it me.

3913. What is his Christian name ?—James.

3914. You think you saw him in London on Monday ?—On Monday or Tuesday.

3915. Have you ever written to him ?—I did not know his address.

3916. Have you ever written to him before Monday ?—No.

3917. How came he to come down here ?—He came down because he wanted to borrow money from the society.

3918. What society ?—The investment society.

3919. Did he borrow any money of the investment society ?—I believe he did.

3920. Is the money paid by instalments ?—I believe it is.

3921. What investment society is it ?—Mr. Smith knows.

3922. Tell us what investment society it is, not anything else ?—The National.

3923. Tell me where they carry on business ?—In the High-street.

3924. In this town ?—Yes.

3925. I presume he would give them his address ?—I believe so.

3926. Do you know anything about this investment society ; at what period of time they pay the instalments, whether it is weekly ?—No, I do not know ; I never had money of the society.

3927. You say you have not seen him since Monday ?—Not since Monday or Tuesday.

3928. Has he any relations here ?—Not to my knowledge. He has a house here at Lisbon-lane.

3929. Has the house got a tenant ?—Yes.

3930. Where is the house ?—In Lisbon-lane.

3931. What is the name of the tenant ?—I think Caffin.

3932. Caffin lives there ?—I think he lives in the house.

3933. Do you know the number of the house ?—No, there is no number to it, but anybody knows it.

3934. Everybody knows it ?—Yes.

3935. I presume the tenant would know his address ?—I suppose so.

3936. He would know where to pay his rent ?—I expect he knows it.

3937. Did he refuse to give it to you ?—Yes.

3938. Did he state any reason why he would notgive it you ?—He said, "I do not want to have anything to "do with it," and I said, "You can let me know your "address, I want you to assist me."

3939. Did you suggest to him at all to keep out of the way ?—No.

3940. You did not suggest his keeping out of the way ?—No, I wanted him to be with me to help me.

3941. Then perhaps you will try and help us in finding him ?—I will.

3942. You say you saw this man Balchin have money. Did you canvass a person of the name of Goddard ?—Goddard.

3943. Yes ?—No.

3944. Up in the Foreign ?—No.

3945. Did you see him about the election ?—No.

3946. Before the election ?—No, James Brown negotiated with him.

3947. Did Mr. Brown tell you so ?—Yes.

3948. What was Mr. Brown paid ?—The same as the others.

3949. Was that 5*l.* ?—Yes.

3950. What was he to do for his 5*l.* ?—The same as Balchin, canvassing amongst the working men, taking messages, or anything that was required.

3951. Do you know whether he canvassed ?—I do not know; Mr. Brown can tell you.

3952. This man Goddard, what was he working at ?—I do not know.

3953. What was he ?—I think he was a labouring man.

3954. Do you know where he lives ?—Yes.

3955. What sort of a house had he, about what rent ?—I should think about 10*l.* a year.

3956. Then he was a voter ?—Yes.

3957. And canvassed ?—Yes, amongst the working men. I told Mr. Brown I wanted four or five men to canvass amongst the working men while they were at work along with the men, and at night to see whether the other party went to the other voters.

3958. Do you know a man of the name of Warren ?—Yes.

3959. Was he in the Foreign ?—Yes.

3960. Did you see Brown employ him ?—Yes.

3961. Those are two of Mr. Brown's men, voters ?—Three.

3962. Was Balchin a voter ?—Yes.

3963. Any more of Mr. Brown's men ?—Yes.

3964. Who is he ?—Filer.

3965. Was he on the register ?—He was.

3966. Is he living here now ?—On the freehold.

3967. Is he a working man too ?—Yes, a gardener. He worked for Mr. Wicks, and he told me that Mr. Wicks had told him to take all he could get, and I called him a liar.

3968. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why should not he if he was employed as a working man, and wanted to work for a time ; why should not he be paid when he had done that ?—He said the master told him to take the money, Mr. Wicks did, and I said you are a liar, Mr. Wicks is not a gentleman of that sort.

3969. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You wanted to get all the money you could ?—I could not get any ; I was out of pocket.

3970. You would have gone to the other side for 50*l.* if you could have got it ?—No, I would not.

3971. You told us so ; you did not go over because they would not give it you ?—I told you I asked that sum because I was quite sure they would not give it me.

3972. Suppose they had taken you at your bargain ?—I should have said 20*l.* more.

3973. Would you have gone for 20*l.* more ?—No, nor yet for 100*l.*

3974. Just before the election were you at the "Red Cross ;" do you know the "Red Cross" ?—Yes.

3975. What house is that ?—The "Red Cross" ?

3976. Whose ?—Mr. Holdsworth's.

3977. You say that gentleman is the landlord ?—Yes.

3978. When I say whose, and you say Holdsworth's, you would be surprised if I asked you again whether it was Mr. Monson's house ?—No, it was Holdsworth's.

3979. Did Mr. Monson have any committee there ?—Mr. Holdsworth voted for Mr. Monson.

3980. Was there any committee there ?—They were frequently in and out, but no committee meeting.

3981. Were you frequently in and out ?—Yes.

3982. Did you have any refreshments there ?—Yes.

3983. And did you pay for them ?—Yes.

3984. You swear that ?—Yes.

3985. Were there persons there at all who were not paying ?—Not to my knowledge.

3986. Were there persons there meeting in any side room or parlour, or any room alone ?—I never saw any very private room ; it was generally public.

3987. Did you ever see any private room without the "very" ?—Only with Mr. Holdsworth and myself.

3988. You, Holdsworth, and who ?—No one else.

3989. Did you ever meet anybody there the night before the election ?—I was in the place ; if there is anything you can bring to my memory I will explain it to you.

3990. I want you to assist us ; you being an honest man, you must tell us honestly and openly what did take place, and not leave it to be pumped out. You are coming to this box to tell us the truth and the whole truth, and to tell us the whole truth without it being pumped out in this way ; it is not to be dragged out of you ?—You might refresh my memory.

3991. I will refresh your memory. Did you, at the "Red Cross," offer to give or give any men 5*l.* apiece ?—No.

3992. Did you give them any sum of money ?—No.

3993. Did you give any money there or elsewhere on that night ?—No.

3994. Or any other night ?—Now you have refreshed my memory perhaps I can tell you. You were alluding to those men we have heard of before.

3995. No, I am not ?—Then I do not know anything about it.

3996. I am alluding to some men who voted for Mr. Richardson. Did you give any money to men to vote for Mr. Richardson ?—No.

3997. At any time ?—Yes.

3998. Do you know of any men at all receiving a sum of money to vote for Mr. Monson, to the extent of about 60*s.* ?—No ; only what I did myself.

3999. Only what you did yourself ?—Yes, with Mr. Brown.

4000. Was there any person who voted for Mr. Richardson that you know of ?—Edwards ; I know him.

4001. Was he the only one out of the few that voted for Mr. Richardson ?—I believe Francis nominated him, and Holdsworth seconded Mr. Richardson.

4002. Do you swear that at the "Red Cross" you never paid any money to anybody to vote for Mr. Richardson ?—No.

4003. Or for Mr. Monson ?—No ; only the men that I employed.

4004. Were you at the "Red Cross" at the night before the election ?—I cannot say.

4005. You can ?—Yes ; I was all over the houses.

4006. Did you pay any money at all for what you had that night at the houses ?—Not to my knowledge.

4007. Not any money at all ?—I do not recollect it.

4008. You do not recollect ; try and remember ?—I have tried ; if anything comes out during the inquiry and you find it out, I will give you every information I possibly can. I do not wish to keep it from you.

4009. If we find it out, then, you will give us every information ?—Yes.

Mr. Commissioner Smith remarked that the witness, after his last satisfactory answer, might go. *Mr. Commissioner O'Brien* said he would first ask him a few questions.

4010. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am sorry to trouble you ; you have been a very good witness ; but just tell me this, Mr. Wilkinson was your great friend, was he not ?—Yes.

4011. Politically ?—Yes.

4012. You worked for him ?—Yes.

4013. You were a voter then ?—No.

4014. Then how was it you were a particular friend of his, if you did not vote for him ?—I had no vote ; I could not vote.

4015. I understood you to say you were free at the last election, because Mr. Wilkinson was dead ?—I should have voted for Mr. Wilkinson as long as he lived ; he was a gentleman I respected.

4016. He was a great friend of yours ?—Yes ; not personally.

4017. You received 10*l.* for working for him ?—Yes.

4018. But you got more from Mr. Monson ?—I do not think I did.

4019. I understood you to say in the early part of the examination, that 50*l.* would not recoup you for the work you did for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

4020. You said that ?—Yes.

4021. Did you keep any account of the monies you received—you know you are a man of business ; now did you keep any account of the monies you received from time to time from Mr. Nicholls ?—No.

4022. You are a man accustomed to accounts ?—Yes.

4023. Did you not keep an account from time to time of the monies you paid away ?—No.

4024. Did you keep any account of the monies you paid to Mr. Brown, that Brown paid away ?—Yes.

4025. How much did Brown pay away ?—17*l.* 10*s.*

4026. Will you tell me how it was that you did not keep an account of what you paid away, as well as of what Mr. Brown paid away ?—He was the sub-agent.

4027. I like to go by steps. You paid Mr. Brown 17*l.* 10*s.*, did you ?—Yes.

4028. Then that is what you mean, that he was the sub-agent ?—Yes, to pay to other men.

4029. Did you get vouchers from Mr. Brown for the monies he paid ?—No.

4030. Have you no account of that, no memorandum book ?—No ; none whatever.

4031. Why did you not keep the account ?—They voted against us after working for us.

4032. I do not care how they voted. How is it you did not keep the account between you and Mr. Brown ; did not you keep it in a memorandum book ; have you not your memorandum book at home ?—No.

4033. What became of it ?—I never had it.

4034. Did you put it down in writing ?—No.

4035. I thought you kept an account of it ?—The only account I kept was in my head.

4036. You have not got an account in your head of what you paid yourself ?—I told you 50*l.* or 60*l.*

4037. That is not the way generally for a man to account for monies he receives, is it ; do you not know how much Mr. Nicholls gave you ?—Mr. Nicholls perhaps can tell you ; no doubt he kept an account of it.

4038. Now, when you went to Mr. Nicholls you told him you had asked for 50*l.* from Mr. Joyes, and that he would not give it you ; and that then Mr. Nicholls said, "Well, you go and work for us" ?—Yes.

4039. He did say that ?—Yes.

4040. Did you understand then that you were to work as a friend ?—Yes.

4041. "To work for us" ? Does not work generally mean payment ?—I think I answered that before. I answered that if I did it for a friend I consider that it is payment.

4042. Will you be good enough to inform us whether they were keeping publics open on behalf of Mr. Gower in 1863. Do you know what we mean by being open ; where people walk in and get refreshment and do not pay for it ?—I told this gentleman that I could not recollect any particular case.

4043. You said the houses for Mr. Gower were open ?—I do not think I did, and if I did I made a mistake.

THIRD DAY.

T. Barham.

24 Aug. 1866.

TILDEN BARHAM sworn and examined.

4044. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are an engine-driver living at Ladbrook-place ?—Yes.

4045. You are a voter for the borough of Reigate ?—Yes.

4046. For whom did you vote ?—I did not vote at all.

4047. You did not vote at all at the last election ?—No.

4048. Do you recollect being canvassed at the last election, before the election ?—No.

4049. Were you not canvassed ?—No.

4050. Do you know Mr. Goss ?—Yes.

4051. Did not Mr. Goss call upon you ?—Yes, he did.

4052. And asked you to vote for Mr. Gower ?—I do not know hardly whether he did or not, I believe he did, but I cannot say for certain.

4053. He called upon you ?—He did.

4054. I believe you had not made up your mind at that time for whom to vote ?—No, I had not.

4055. You told him you had not made up your mind ?—Yes.

4056. And I believe he took a fancy, did he not, to a row of peas that were growing in your garden ?—Yes.

4057. He took a fancy to them ; he looked at them ?—Yes.

4058. They were very flourishing, were they not ?—They were.

4059, Who is this gentleman, Mr. William Henry Goss ? Does he live in the neighbourhood ?—In Mead's-vale, I believe.

4060. He did not grow peas so well, did he ?—No.

4061. He offered you 10*l.*, did he not ?—He never offered it.

4062. He said he would give you 10*l.* for them ?—Yes.

4063. Of course you did not want to sell them ?—No.

4064. And you did not know what he meant ?—I gave a good guess.

4065. You thought the vote was to go with the peas ?—I did.

4066. And you told him I believe, not meaning the vote, I think you told him the row of peas was more than 10*l.* ?—I did.

4067. You thought they would be worth more money, and upon that he said, Well, he thought that would be a good price for them ?—Yes.

4068. They must have been early peas I think to have been worth that money ?—They must have been a good sort.

4069. They were a very good sort. Now, tell me, did you cultivate them yourself ?—I did, and they were very high.

4070. Well stitcked up, were they not ?—Yes.

4071. Did you expect an offer for them ?—I did not.

4072. What quantity was there, do you think ?—I should say there were about five yards of them.

4073. And that would be 2*l.* a yard ?—Yes.

4074. And this was some time in July ?—Yes.

4075. Are there many voters there about the railway; there are others besides yourself ?—Yes.

4076. I forgot to ask you what rent you pay ?—6*s.* a-week.

4077. And your garden, the garden is included ?—Yes.

4078. A very valuable piece of land. He asked you, did he not, if you could get him some votes there, amongst the railway people, for Mr. Gower?—He asked me if I could.

4079. And that if you got him 10, if you could secure him 10, what money were you to have ?—100*l.*

4080. Without the peas ?—Without the peas.

4081. You did not make any agreement with him ?—I did not.

4082. But you found he had called again ?—Yes.

4083. You were not at home ?—I was not.

4084. And you did not vote at all ?—I did not.

4085. Were you at all canvassed on the other side ?—No.

4086. By no one else ?—By no one else.

4087. When Mr. Goss came was Mr. Apted with him ?—I never saw him.

4088. Mr. Job Apted ?—I only saw Mr. Goss the first time.

4089. Did you hear Mr. Apted had called with him ?—I do not know which it was.

4090. Who told you they had called at your house ?—My missus told me, my wife.

E. Langton.

EDWARD LANGTON sworn and examined.

4091. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you a voter for this borough ?—Yes.

4092. How long have you been a voter ? Have you voted at previous elections ?—At two elections.

4093. '63 and '65 ?—Yes.

4094. What is your qualification ?—A bricklayer.

4095. I do not mean what you work at, but what is your qualification for voting ; what rented house have you got ?—5*s.* 6*d.*

4096. 5*s.* 6*d.* per week ?—Yes.

4097. Who did you vote for this last election ?—Mr. Gower.

4098. Who did you vote for on the previous election ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

4099. Were you canvassed by the Monson party ?—No.

4100. For '65 ?—No.

4101. They never canvassed you ?—No.

4102. Were you canvassed for by Mr. Gower's party ?—Yes.

4103. Who canvassed you first ?—Mr. Green.

4104. Mr. Henry Green ?—Yes.

4105. When did he canvass you ?—I cannot say exactly ; I cannot say when it was, I know it was dinner time.

4106. You dine every day. How long was it before the election ?—I cannot say ; three or four weeks or a fortnight, I cannot say.

4107. A fortnight before the election ?—Yes.

4108. You were not in that time ?—Not that I am aware of.

4109. When Mr. Green canvassed you did you say anything to him about the payment of the working men ?—When he asked me first whether I was going along with them I said, "I do not know," and I said "how will it run," and he said, "I do not know." I said, "I must know." He said, "I do not dare to "say, or else I should throw myself open to a fine."

4110. Did you know what he meant by that ?—I could give a guess.

4111. Was anything said about payment ?—Yes.

4112. What did Mr. Green say about payment ?—I asked him what he thought it would run to, and he kept hesitating ; at last he said, "I do not know ;" and I said, "Will it run a *sevener*." "I do not "know Ned," he said. I wanted about the usual thing. He said, "Well, Ned, I do not know, I might "manage a *fiver*." I said, "Well, that won't do, "some of my mates are getting more on the other "side." Whether they were or not I did not know.

4113. You threw that out as a feeler ?—Yes. He said, "Well, we will manage it. I dare say it will be

"all right." He said, "Let's *bona fides* it." I said, "Yes, sir." I was in a hurry to go, it was near 2 o'clock, and I made a bolt for work, and he hollaed out, "Now do not forget." I said, "No."

4114. For this money were you to do anything?—Whether I was or not I do not know, but I did not do anything; he did not say anything to me, and I was in a hurry to get to work.

4115. You were in a hurry to go away and went away?—Yes, I had got my work to go to.

4116. You went to your work?—Yes.

4117. Whether what you said was a fact or not, did you in fact then, or have you since known, of any person on the other side having had money?—No.

4118. Of the Monson party?—No.

4119. Amongst your mates?—No.

4120. Did you know of any of your mates having been promised any monies excepting yourself?—No.

4121. Not of your own knowledge?—No.

4122. Have you heard them say anything about it?—No.

4123. Did you tell them you were going to get a fiver?—No.

4124. You kept that to yourself?—Of course.

4125. Did you attend the meetings?—No.

4126. You did not attend any meetings?—No.

4127. Did you vote?—Yes.

4128. Who for?—Mr. Gower.

4129. Having voted, did you ask Mr. Green for your money?—Yes.

4130. Did you ask Mr. Green for your money before you voted?—No.

4131. You asked him afterwards. Now what did he say when you asked him?—He said he had never promised anything, and would never give me anything.

4132. He would never give you anything?—He never intended to do so.

4133. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that after the election?—After I had voted.

4134. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you seen Mr. Green after he had promised you this money, and before the election; had you met with him between that time?—Oh, several times.

4135. Then you did not mention it?—Not to him.

4136. You did not mention it again?—Not till after the election.

4137. And then he said that he would not pay you?—Yes.

4138. Did Mr. Green give you any reason why he would not pay you the 5*l.*?—Because I had gone round about with the other party.

4139. With Mr. Monson's party?—Yes.

4140. Did you go about with the other party?—No more than going and chaffing and joking with them of a night, the same as with any other persons.

4141. Did you go to the houses used by the other party, Monson's party, and joke with them there?—No.

4142. You had been with the Monson party?—Just as I was coming home. I was at work at that time in the night at overtime, and I did not trouble myself about the election at all; it was not worth my while.

4143. Had Mr. Green any reason to say you were going about with the other party?—I dare say he had seen me joking with the other party, chaff with them, nothing more.

4144. That was the reason he gave why he would not pay you?—Yes.

4145. Then did he say to you, "Oh, well, you shall "have your money"?—Yes, something to that effect. I think what it was was: "I will see that you shall "have some."

4146. Was that after he had refused to give you the whole of the 5*l.*?—Yes.

4147. Was there more than one occasion that you asked him for the money?—Yes, twice.

4148. On which occasion was it that he said he would not give you any at all?—Both times he said he would not give me any; then he said afterwards he would see that I should have some.

4149. Was Mr. Green the only person that you had anything to do with with regard to the election?—Yes.

4150. Now in '63 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

4151. Were you on his committee?—No.

4152. Did you have any money for voting then?—Yes.

4153. What did you receive for voting then?—7*l.*

4154. I suppose that is what induced you to ask Mr. Green for 7*l.* this time?—I worked four days for that.

4155. What do you generally get at work?—As much as ever I can earn, I work at the job; sometimes I get twice as much as that if I get hold of piecework.

4156. I suppose you would put an election with your best jobs?—Yes.

4157. Who paid you that money in '63?—Mr. Barker. He did not come to me for my vote; Mr. Wesley came to me for my vote.

4158. Do you mean William Wesley?—Henry. I would not vote without the money was given to a person I could trust with it.

4159. You would not trust Mr. Wesley?—No.

4160. It is a very good name to trust?—He said, "Whom do you choose," and I said, "I choose Mr. "Barker."

4161. What is Mr. Barker?—A tailor at Redhill, Warwick-town.

4162. Who did he vote for in '63?—I do not know. I used to lodge there. I knew him to be a tidy chap, I could trust him.

4163. Why did you not do the same this election?—Because I was wrong.

4164. Is Mr. Wesley now on the register?—I should say he was.

4165. Have you seen Mr. Wesley about here lately?—Yes.

4166. Was he living in the Foreign district?—Yes.

4167. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In '63, when you had this from Mr. Wesley, had you been working for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

4168. Working for him at the election?—Yes.

4169. Up to the very day of the election?—Yes.

4170. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is it Henry Wesley, of Linkfield-road, is that the man?—Linkfield-lane.

4171. Do you know for whom he voted at the last election?—No.

4172. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is he living there now?—Yes.

4173. Is he working in the neighbourhood there now?—Yes.

4174. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understood you to say that you had been working for the Gower party up to the day of the election in '63?—No, up to within four days.

4175. You had been working for him within three or four days of the election?—Yes.

4176. How long had you been at work for him?—Three or four weeks.

4177. What did you get a week?—1*l.*

4178. For the three or four weeks you were working?—Yes.

4179. And were you paid?—Yes. I had a pound on each Saturday night.

4180. Paid into your own hands?—Yes.

4181. Not into any friend's hands?—No.

4182. And then Mr. Wesley came to you?—Yes.

4183. And then for four days he gave you 7*l.*?—Yes.

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4184. Of course your vote was included in the 7*l.*?—He did not ask me that.

4185. Now, as an honest man, did you not know it was to be included in the 7*l.*?—I guessed at that.

4186. You knew it as well then as now?—I gave it.

4187. You knew the 7*l.* was for yourself and labour, and for your vote?—As I said before, I guessed at that.

4188. That was the reason that you ordered the 7*l.* to be deposited with your friend Mr. Barker, was it not?—Yes.

H. C. Beales.

HENRY CHARLES BEALES recalled and examined.

4189. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told me you voted at Mr. Gower's last election?—Yes.

4190. I wish you to recall the occasion when you met Mr. Gower and Mr. Joyes in the street before the election. You remember that?—Yes.

4191. Do you remember Mr. Joyes introducing you to Mr. Gower?—Yes.

4192. I believe Mr. Gower canvassed you for your vote?—Yes.

4193. He asked you to give it him?—Yes.

4194. Did you then say you might as well give it to him as anybody else, but you wanted to know whether it was to be the same as the others?—I told him if he did his duty to me the same as the others I would as lief vote for him as any one.

4195. Did they do anything when you said that?—No, they looked at each other.

4196. They looked at each other. Did either of them look at you?—Not as I know of.

4197. Did you notice Joyes look at you?—No, they looked at each other.

4198. When you saw them look at each other, what did you say upon that, did you say, "Oh, then I shall "vote for you, Mr. Gower"?—No; Mr. Gower asked me afterwards if I would.

4199. And after that, again you saw them look at each other, and did you then say, "Well, then, I will "vote for you, Mr. Gower"?—Yes, I did.

4200. Answer me this question if you please; did you say this, "Because they had not refused either of "them to give you what you hoped to have, exactly "the same as the others"?—I suppose I did.

4201. Then the polling day came, and before you came to the poll had you had any money?—No.

4202. Did you ask for your money before you went to the poll?—I wanted to know how I could get it.

4203. Did you ask any one for it?—No, not particular, and I did not know where to go to get it.

4204. Did you ask any one where you were to get it?—Not that I know of.

4205. Did you see any one, or make inquiries as to the best means of getting it?—No, I never see anyone in particular about it.

4206. Do you know Mr. Rolf?—Yes, but I never went to him.

4207. Had you any talk with him about it?—Yes, in the market place; the consequence was he was fetched to me, not I to him.

4208. When he came to you, what passed between him and you about the money?—He wanted to know what was the matter with me, because I would not vote for Mr. Gower. I wanted to know how I was to be paid, and who was to pay me.

4209. That is right enough I dare say, what did he say to you?—He told me he was Mr. Gower's head agent.

4210. What else?—He asked me if I would take his word, and I told him I did not know why I should not. He told me if I would go and vote for Mr. Gower, he would see me righted.

4211. Did he say anything more; do you recollect whether he added anything to that?—No, I do not.

4212. In what state of health are you?—I have been laid up seven weeks. I had been laid up ten weeks at the time.

4213. Did he make any allusion to that?—I do not recollect it.

4214. You were not able to do any work while you were so bad?—No, I was laid up seven weeks; ten weeks.

4215. Were you able to do any work for him during the election?—No, I was laid up seven weeks.

4216. Are you able to recollect whether Mr. Relf in consequence of your having been ill saying you ought to have a little more money than the rest?—No, I do not recollect that.

4217. So then you went in to poll for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

4218. Were you able to get any money after the election was over?—Yes, 1*l.* afterwards.

4219. Can you tell me when that was?—On the 21st of December.

4220. Who paid it you?—Mr. Charles Smith.

4221. Did you say you wanted any more?—No, sir, I asked him if there would be any more, and he said there would be a settling day some day.

4222. Has that day come, so far as you know?—No, sir.

4223. Some time after that you met Mr. Joyes?—Yes.

4224. You remember telling him you understood there was to be a settling day?—Yes.

4225. What did he tell you?—He told me the money had been paid.

4226. What else did he tell you, do you recollect?—Yes, I do. I recollect well.

4227. I dare say you have a very good reason?—He said there had been some money paid.

4228. What else did he say?—He told me that he had 10*l.*, and kept it.

4229. Did he tell you why?—He told me his expenses were 17*l.* He kept 10*l.*

4230. Did he tell you what else he received?—Yes, he did, 20*l.*, and that he had the 17*l.* out of that.

4231. What did he have then?—Then he had 13*l.* to divide among 80 men, and he did not know, he said, how to divide it.

4232. It came to so small a sum?—Yes.

4233. Divided into fractions?—Yes, and that is as true as ever I came into this box.

4234. Had you voted before this election?—No.

4235. This was the first?—Yes.

4236. Were you here in '63?—No.

4237. Then you do not know anything more about it?—No.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then I will not trouble you any more.

(*The Witness.*) Thank you.

4238. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you applied to Mr. Smith for 1*l.*, that is, you applied and he gave you 1*l.*?—On the 21st of December.

4239. Which did you state to Smith when you asked him for the money, on what ground did you want the money?—On Mr. Gower's election.

4240. For services rendered?—No, I never did any, for I was laid up.

4241. For the election?—Yes.

4242. I want to know exactly what you said. Your intellect is clearer than it was this morning when you were here before?—I went to Mr. Smith on the 19th.

4243. What did you tell him you had done at the election?—I had never done anything.

4244. Did you tell Smith you had done anything?—No.

4245. Did you tell him you had taken an active part?—No, not anything.

4246. Did you tell Mr. Smith there had been a death in your family?—Yes, I did.

4247. Who did you tell him had died?—My wife's sister, down in the country.

4248. Did you tell him you wanted money for the funeral?—Yes, because my wife had no time to get her things.

4249. Did you tell him her sister was dead ?—Yes.

4250. And did the funeral take place ?—Yes, next day, at Staining.

4251. You told Mr. Smith that ?—Yes.

4252. Did you not ask him to let you have some money on that account ?—He would not let me have any money on that account, but it must be for Mr. Gower's election.

4253. It was true your wife's sister had died ?—It was true, and if you want any more evidence my wife can come and prove it.

4254. If you tell me your wife's sister died, that is sufficient evidence. She was buried shortly after, I suppose ?—The next day.

4255. Did your wife go ?—No, she did not get her things in time. Mr. Smith gave it me, and I gave it to my wife.

4256. You are quite sure you gave it to your wife ?—Yes.

4257. And did not spend it in drink ?—No.

4258. Nor any portion of it ?—No.

4259. You stated on the committee of the House of Commons Mr. Smith had given you the sovereign ?—I did.

4260. After that did you see a letter in the Reigate paper signed by Mr. Smith on the 16th April, after you came from the committee ?—I heard of it, but I am no *scollard* myself.

4261. Was it read to you ?—I never heard it.

4262. You knew what the letter was about ?—Yes.

4263. It is stated you applied to Mr. Smith (I have got the letter), and you asked it on account of your wife's sister being dead ?—Yes.

4264. Was that the only reason upon which you applied to Mr. Smith ?—Yes.

4265. About your wife's funeral ?—Yes, she could not get her clothes ready, and could not go.

4266. Still you asked for money for the election ?—I did, on Mr. Gower's election.

4267. Did you tell Mr. Smith that Joyes had referred you to him as having worked for several weeks in support of Mr. Gower ?—No ; no such thing was ever mentioned.

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4268. And that you had not received any money for your services ?—I never had or did any services.

4269. Did Mr. Smith question you as to the work you had done ?—No, not a word.

4270. Then of course you did not tell him you had been an *active* man on the election ?—I was no active man at all.

4271. Did you tell him so ; be careful, for Mr. Smith will come by and by and tell his own story ?—I never told Mr. Smith that ; I told him I had come on Mr. Gower's election account.

4272. Had you seen Mr. Joyes ?—Yes I had, many times.

4273. And had Mr. Joyes referred you to Mr. Smith ?—Yes, sir.

4274. That is a fact ?—Yes.

4275. I asked you whether you told Smith Joyes had referred you to him ?—I did not understand that Mr. Joyes had referred me to Smith.

4276. You say the other part of the story is not true that Mr. Smith has written ?—No, sir.

4277. That you had done work ?—No I had not, and I never told Mr. Smith so ; I never told Mr. Smith a word like that.

4278. I understand you to negative that ?—Yes.

4279. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) If you were a very poor man and in distress, why did you not go to Mr. Smith before December ?—I did not know there had been any money paid.

4280. You went on the occasion of your sister's death ; why did you not go before if you had a claim, or thought you had ; why did you not go before December to Mr. Smith, you being a poor man, in great distress, if you thought you had a claim of 5*l*. ?—I did not know they would pay me 5*l*.

4281. Why did you go then ?—I thought a little money would be useful.

4282. You told him a tale of distress ?—I told him just the same as I have told you.

Adjourned to to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

FOURTH DAY.

Friday, 25th August 1866.

FOURTH DAY.

H. W. Goss.

25 Aug. 1866.

HENRY WILLIAM GOSS affirmed and examined.

4283. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a voter of this borough ?—Yes.

4284. Living at Chapel-street, Mead-vale ?—Yes.

4285. What house did you occupy ? What is the rent of your house ?—10*l*.

4286. How long have you been a voter ?—About four years, I think.

4287. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

4288. For whom ?—At the last election for Mr. Gower.

4289. Did you vote on the election of 1863 ?—Yes.

4290. For whom ?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

4291. At the last election you took rather a friendly part, an active part, for Mr. Gower ?—Rather so, I believing him to be a good man.

4292. You, believing him to be a good man, took an active part for him ?—Yes.

4293. Were you on his committee ?—Yes, and seconded him when he came the first time.

4294. You were his seconder on the first occasion ?—On the 8th of May 1865.

4295. That is, when he first came before the electors, and was proposed as a proper and fit candidate, you were the person who seconded him ?—Yes.

4296. Not at the election, but when he came forward and was nominated as a fit and proper person ?—Yes.

4297. A resolution was proposed ; who proposed the resolution ?—Mr. Clutton, of Earlswood.

4298. And you were the person who seconded him ?—Yes.

4299. From that time till the time when the election took place you took an active part in promoting the return of Mr. Gower ?—Yes ; but not so much at the last part of it, for reasons that I will give you soon.

4300. You were on the committee ; did you canvass much ?—Well, I went my rounds, and in my rounds I did canvass every day.

4301. You canvassed every day ?—It was my duty. I went my rounds, and canvassed as I went round.

4302. Were you engaged as a canvasser in his behalf ?—No, it was my work. I am a licensed

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hawker, and that required me to go round every day, and I asked for their votes; I asked their opinion.

4303. I am not asking you for your opinions. Did you canvass for Mr. Gower?—Yes, in these rounds.

4304. Did you canvass every day pending the election?—Yes, nearly so.

4305. Did you attend every committee meeting in the evening?—About six in the evening.

4306. Were you chairman or deputy chairman?—No.

4307. Vice-chairman?—No.

4308. There were refreshments at the meetings you attended, I suppose, in the usual way?—I never saw any.

4309. You never saw any at the meetings you attended?—No, except one that we had at Tyrrell's, at Earlswood-common.

4310. At that place refreshments were to be had?—Yes.

4311. Was it a committee meeting you attended?—Yes, I attended one at this room, and in the Meadvale.

4312. At a public house?—No, at the British school-room. I attended one at Warwick-town.

4313. Was that at a public house?—No, the market hall.

4314. Then the only meetings you attended were at the public halls, with the exception of Tyrrell's?—Yes.

4315. And at Tyrrell's there were refreshments?—Yes.

4316. Had you refreshment there?—I had a glass of ginger beer.

4317. Which, of course, you were not called upon to pay for?—No.

4318. Amongst others, do you recollect calling for the votes of the railway people?—The Ladbrook cottages; I was there on the 9th of May.

4319. You went to canvass there?—Yes, I went there in May; it was in my regular rounds.

4320. Did you see any of the railway people there?—I saw several of them.

4321. Amongst others, did you see Mr. Barham?—Yes.

4322. About 1 o'clock in the day, it would be a little after 1 or 2; you canvassed him for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

4323. You know Mr. Apted?—Quite well.

4324. And Mr. Joyes?—Yes.

4325. And Mr. Buckland?—Yes.

4326. And also Mr. Smith?—Yes, all of them.

4327. Now, was Mr. Smith aware that you were canvassing?—Not then.

4328. I did not say any time; but was Mr. Smith aware that you were canvassing for Mr. Gower?—He was aware that I should do all I could for him.

4329. Was he aware that you were canvassing for Mr. Gower?—No, not that I was a canvasser.

4330. What do you mean?—I mean I was not employed by him or any one.

4331. Attend, if you please. Was Mr. Smith aware that you were canvassing for Mr. Gower?—No.

4332. That you were asking for votes for Mr. Gower?—Oh, yes, he was.

4333. Well, that is canvassing. And was Mr. Gower aware of it himself?—Yes.

4334. Now, you saw that man, you say, as early as May?—Yes.

4335. Are you sure it was May?—Yes, May 1865.

4336. You saw him after that?—Yes, I saw him frequently; I saw him once every fortnight.

4337. You remember the time when you spoke about his peas?—That was the 9th of May.

4338. The peas were not very high in May?—They were high enough.

4339. You asked him to vote for Mr. Gower?—I asked him who he was going to vote for, and he said for his pocket. I asked him then what he meant by his pocket. Did he mean for his children's pockets in future, or did he mean taxation, or what did he mean.

4340. Do you mean to say that you did not know when a voter said he meant to vote for his pocket what he in reality meant?—I made that answer; I knew what he meant; I knew that he meant money.

4341. You knew that he was a voter who was ready to vote for money; you knew that?—Yes.

4342. Then what did you say to him?—I said I hoped he would think upon his children's future as well as upon his own present pocket.

4343. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Well, there is nothing like providence; go on?—I said if he voted for such men as Cobden and Bright.

4344. For who?—For Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden.

4345. Well, we do not want speeches; you introduced those great names?—I believe Mr. Gower was a supporter of them; and I said if he supported such men as Mr. Gower it would be a good thing for the country.

Mr. Commissioner Smith remarked that that was the first instance they had had of voting on principle.

4346. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In answer to his saying he would vote for his pocket, you threw Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright at him?—Yes.

4347. Were you admiring the peas at that time?—At that time we had come to the end of the house.

4348. Where the peas were?—Yes; I said, "I suppose according to your conversation that you will "make a good bargain for your peas at this election." He said he intended to.

4349. Why did you think he was going to sell his pigs?—He told me at the last election some persons had sold pigs.

4350. Peas or pigs? He told you he sold pigs; they had brought their pigs to the best market. You think he had some peas to sell?—And some cabbages also as well.

4351. We will stick to the peas. You told him you admired his peas, and that he would expect a good price for his peas?—Yes.

4352. What did he say to that?—That he did.

4353. Now, did you ask him what he would take for them?—I said "Will your conscience allow you to "take 10*l.* a row." He said, "Yes." I said that 10*l.* or 15*l.* a row would be a good price for them; it would make 100*l.*

4354. The row was about 5 yards?—About 12 feet or 14 feet.

4355. That is exactly corresponding to what he said. What sort of peas were they, Daniel O'Rourke and British Queen's, or what? Did you not offer him 10*l.*, or did you not ask him to take 10*l.*?—I never asked him to take anything.

4356. You valued them?—I asked him what he could conscientiously take for them.

4357. That is, you mean to say what bribe would he take?—Yes.

4358. And he said 10*l.*?—Yes.

4359. You asked him whether there were not 9 or 10 more voters there?—Yes.

4360. Whether there were not 9 or 10 more?—Yes.

4361. And you told him that you would give him 100*l.* for 10; 10*l.* a vote?—No; I never said that.

4362. What did you say?—"Now," I said, "leaving "all jokes on one side," (something to this effect) I said "I have not any authority to promise or give to "any voter." Those were my instructions I had from Mr. Apted.

4363. I am asking you about what you said about the 10*l.* per voter; you know there were other voters there?—Yes.

4364. Of course it was all in a joke, but did you say the 100*l.* might be divided amongst the 10?—No. He said there were 9 or 10 other voters, and they ought to have the same as himself.

4365. And you promised to call again?—Yes, I did

4366. And you did call again?—Yes. There was something else I said before that.

4367. You did call again?—I called every week at his house.

4368. Did you call again with Mr. Job Apted?—Yes, I did.

4369. How long before the election?—The same night, on the 9th of May.

4370. But afterwards?—It was the same night.

4371. That was with Apted?—Yes.

4372. He was out at his business?—He was somewhere, I do not know where.

4373. Have you seen him after that?—Oh, often; I have seen him at the station, and at his own house I called regularly.

4374. From what you know of the election did you think 10*l.* was too high?—I did not think anything; I thought any money whatever too high.

4375. You were aware, were you, that money was going at the election?—No, I was not.

4376. You were in company with Mr. Apted all along?—Yes; but not very often.

4377. And you did not know about it. Now attend?—I will attend. I will give you the reason why I did not know that money was going about, and it was for this very reason: after the election Mr. Apted wished to pay me some money for going to see a man named S. I said, "No, I want 10*s.* to "go to London and back." They paid me that.

4378. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you?—Mr. Apted. I understood Mr. Gower had a number of children to support, a very large family; I believed Mr. Gower had quite enough children to support; would not take money.

4379. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) After you had seen Mr. Barham, and talked about giving this 10*l.* for his peas, did you report this interview with Mr. Barham to the committee?—That night I told Mr. Apted, and he said he thought there was no money to be had.

4380. You were at the committee of Mr. Gower?—Which committee?

4381. After that time did you see any voters in canvassing, and offer them any money?—No. I can tell you the voters' names whom I did see if you want the list.

4382. No, I do not think we need go through the list.

4383. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Answer me this question. On the 9th of May you saw Barham, and had this interview with him?—Yes.

4384. Previous to having an interview with Barham had you had an interview with Mr. Smith?—No, only with Apted.

4385. Well, you had had an interview with Mr. Apted?—Yes, I saw Barham on the 9th of May.

4386. What passed between you and Apted?—On the 8th of May, the day previous, Mr. Apted asked me who I was going to vote for, and I told him I should not tell any one till I heard Mr. Gower that evening at the public hall. Then the next morning Apted came to me, and he said, "You have heard the "representations of Mr. Gower, will you assist us in "canvassing." I said, "No money whatever; all the "good I can do for Mr. Gower I will do in canvassing, "but for nothing."

4387. I want to know, not with reference to yourself so much, but with reference to this; did Mr. Apted ask you to work and canvass people?—He asked me, and I told him I would not take any money.

4388. Did he ask you to look up some voters and canvass?—Yes.

4389. Did he ask you that before you went to Barham's?—No, that morning.

4390. Did Mr. Apted give you any particular directions how to canvass?—Yes.

4391. What did he say?—He said everybody that I thought would vote for Mr. Gower I was to give their names and bring them to him.

4392. Did he give you any directions about canvassing them yourself?—No, not further than that.

4393. He told you to go round and canvass after?—No.

4394. Did he tell you to offer any money?—No.

4395. Did he tell you what money you were to offer?—He said I was to offer no money.

4396. But that you were to bring their names to him?—Yes.

4397. Did he tell you to bring to him what they wanted?—No, I was only to give their names.

The witness withdrew.

Mr. John Evans sworn and examined.

Mr. J. Evans.

4398. (*Chief Commissioner.*) You were not here yesterday when we sent for you, but we got a letter from you, to which I will not refer any further?—Yes.

4399. You ought to have been in attendance yesterday. I am not going to refer to that any more, but we cannot take that letter as anything. Now, if you please, will you answer this question: You are a voter on the register?—I believe I am.

4400. You were in 1865?—Yes.

4401. You voted at the last election?—I did not.

4402. What was your qualification?—A house I occupy; a house, but I do not pay rates and taxes.

4403. But you were on the register?—They put me on the register.

4404. Somebody did?—Somebody did.

4405. What rent do you pay?—35*l.* a year.

4406. And you do not pay rates and taxes?—I do not.

4407. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is the amount of the rates and taxes on the 35*l.*?—I cannot tell you, I do not know.

4408. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is not there some mistake, Mr. Evans; I suppose you were not on the register?—No, I do not know anything about it, but it appears I am summoned.

4409. You were canvassed, were you not, for your vote?—Not that I am aware of; I did not see anybody; but I am in town every day, and therefore it is a chance whether I should see them.

4410. Will you look at that please, and see if it is your signature (*a document was handed to the witness*)?—No, my name is Walter John Evans.

4411. There is some mistake about you, Mr. Evans?—I thought it might be so.

4412. I wish you had hinted at that before, and you might have set it right; I suppose you could not tell?—I could not tell.

4413. Could you give me any information as to the real John Evans?—I am aware that there is some other John Evans, because I have had letters brought to me.

4414–20. There has been some mistake. I can only say that I am very sorry you were put to any trouble about it, but it was really unavoidable, we could not help it. (*The witness.*) I thought there was some mistake.

FOURTH DAY.

J. Farrington.

25 Aug. 1866.

JOHN FARRINGTON recalled and examined.

4421. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were examined yesterday, or the day before ?—Yesterday.

4422. When you were examined you stated you received 3*l.* from Mr. Gower's party ?—From Mr. Joyes.

4423. I want to know from you whether you had ever received any monies on behalf of Mr. Monson's party ?—Not a farthing.

4424. Were you ever offered any ?—No, not by anybody.

4425. Were you canvassed by them ?—No, not by one.

4426. Are you quite certain about that ?—Yes.

4427. That you were not offered 5*l.*, or any other monies ?—No.

4428. By no person on behalf of Mr. Monson ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

R. Goldsmith.

RICHARD GOLDSMITH sworn and examined.

4429. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you a voter at the last election ?—Yes.

4430. What are you ?—A gardener.

4431. What rent do you pay for your house ?—16*l.*

4432. Do you pay by the year, or the week, or the month ?—By the quarter.

4433. Who is your landlord ?—Mr. Allingham.

4434. Did you vote at the last election ?—I did.

4435. For whom ?—For Mr. Gower.

4436. Who canvassed you ?—William Joyes.

4437. How long before the election were you canvassed ?—I think about five weeks.

4438. Was anybody with Mr. Joyes when you were canvassed by him ?—No.

4439. Were you canvassed at all by Mr. Gower ?—Mr. Gower came to my house.

4440. Did you see Mr. Gower ?—I think I was at home when he came, but I would not be positive.

4441. You do not know whether you saw him ?—I am positive I saw him.

4442. Who was with him when you saw him ?—I think Mr. Smith, but I am not positive of that.

4443. Anybody else ?—I think not.

4444. When Mr. Joyes canvassed you did he offer you any money ?—He said would I allow my name to be on the committee, and I should be paid according to how things went.

4445. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Joyes said that ?—Yes.

4446. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then no sum was mentioned ?—No.

4447. Did you go on the committee ?—Yes.

4448. Were you to do anything, excepting going on the committee, for your money ?—I was to go on the committee and attend committee meetings.

4449. Was that all that you were to do ?—I did several other things as well; I was night-watch one night.

4450. What night was that ?—I think the night before the election.

4451. Was that the only night you were night-watch ?—That was the only night; it was only part of the night.

4452. Did you receive any money ?—Yes.

4453. When ?—I could not say.

4454. After the election ?—Yes, I believe it was.

4455. From whom did you receive money ?—I received 5*s.* 6*d.* that night I was one of the night-watch.

4456. From whom did you receive 5*s.* 6*d.* ?—I think it came from Mr. Pullen, but I was not at home when it came to my house.

4457. You received 5*s.* 6*d.*, but you do not know from whom it came; it was left at your house ?—Yes.

4458. Did you receive any money from Joyes or Joyce ?—No.

4459. You received 1*l.*, did you not, as a loan; 2*l.* ?—I did not receive any money.

4460. Did any money come to you from Joyes ?—I borrowed 1*l.*

4461. Of Mr. Joyes ? Was it after the election you borrowed 1*l.* ?—Yes.

4462. After ?—I think it was.

4463. Have you borrowed any more money from Joyes ?—No.

4464. Did you not borrow 2*l.* ?—No.

4465. Have you paid him back the 1*l.* ?—No.

4466. Has he ever asked you for the 1*l.* ?—I do not remember that he has.

4467. Do you mean to pledge your oath that you have not borrowed or received another 2*l.* on account of the 3*l.* ?—I am on my oath ; I think not.

4468. Or any 2*l.* for anything ?—I did not.

4469. Did you not receive 10*s.* for work done on the following day ?—I did.

4470. Who paid you that 10*s.* ?—I was paid by Mr. Worsell, by the direction of Mr. Charles Smith.

4471. Who is Mr. Worsell ?—Clerk to Mr. Charles Smith.

4472. Now, do you recollect anything about Mr. Buckland telling Mr. Johnson that he had better lend you money ?—No.

4473. Or that Mr. Smith had said that Mr. Joyes had better let you have money ?—I do not remember anything of the kind.

4474. Just think ?—I do not want to think ; I do not remember anything at all of it. I do not know that I spoke to Mr. Buckland during the whole of the election.

4475. Have you seen William Johnson ? — The upholsterer ?

4476. William Johnson ?—I do not know whether his name is William Johnson or not.

4477. Never mind his Christian name ; have you seen a person of the name of Johnson ?—Yes.

4478. Have you seen him in company with Mr. Joyes ?—I think I have.

4479. When was that ?—Several times before and after the election.

4480. When you saw Mr. Johnson and Mr. Joyes together, was nothing said about the 2*l.* ?—I cannot remember that there was.

4481. Did you ever apply to Mr. Joyes for the whole of the 3*l.* ?—I think not; I think perhaps I might have asked him for the 3*l.*, as he had lent me the 1*l.* on the Sunday ; I might have asked him.

4482. You asked him for the balance ?—Yes.

4483. What, the balance of the loan ?—No, not the balance of the loan.

4484. You told me that the 1*l.* was for a loan ; what did you say about receiving the balance ?—I asked him whether there was anything more to come.

4485. As a loan ?—Yes.

4486. Now, Mr. Goldsmith, just see whether you can give me an honest answer. When you say you received the 1*l.* as a loan, was it not in part payment of the money you considered owing to you for attending the committee ?—I do not know whether it was so considered or not.

4487. Did not you so consider it ?—I thought it might be as Joyes said when he gave me the 1*l.*, that it had nothing to do with the election, that

he could not give me money on the part of the election.

4488. But he gave you the 1*l.* ?—Yes.

4489. And he has not asked you for it since ?—No.

4490. Now, when you asked him for the balance of this loan what did Joyes say ? Was Johnson there ? You asked him for the balance of the loan ?—I do not remember.

4491. Was Mr. Buckland there ?—No.

4492. Do you not remember something being said about Smith in reference to the 2*l.* ?—I do not remember ; my recollection has been rather bad for the last few years.

4493. See if I can remind you. Did not you hear it said by either of those persons that Smith had said to Buckland that Joyes had better lend you the money ?—No.

4494. Or let you have the money ?—Not in my presence.

4495. And that Joyes then paid you over the 2*l.* ?—No.

4496. Now let us know a little more of the transaction. You have spoken now of William Joyes ?—Yes.

4497. Did you ever see Frederick Joyes with reference to your voting ?—I think not. I am not sure whether he did ask me for my vote, whether he did canvass me ; but I think not.

4498. If Frederick Joyes did ask you for your vote do you mean to represent that you said you had settled with William Joyes ?—I might have done so.

4499. Would that have been a very likely circumstance to have happened ?—Most likely it would have been so.

4500. Did Mr. Buckland canvass you ?—I do not recollect that I spoke to Mr. Buckland during the election.

4501. Were you at a particular meeting at the town hall, which has been spoken to before, when Mr. Gower was there, and made a speech, a short time before the election ?—I was at one meeting at the Town Hall before the election, and only one.

4502. When Mr. Gower made this speech, that all those who worked for him should be paid well ?—I was there.

4503. You recollect that ?—Yes.

4504. Do you remember this being said by Mr. Gower at that meeting ? I merely remind you to see whether you remember that Mr. Gower said he had decided not to take any public houses, as it encouraged a lot of idle fellows who had nothing to do with the election to be standing at the doors ; that he did not want the loiterers ; but that he said all who worked for him should be paid, and well paid ?—It was something to that effect, but I do not quite remember the words.

4505. That the idle fellows should not have anything, but that he did not intend the voters to go without ?—I will not say whether he did say that ; possibly he might.

4506. Do you remember anything to that effect ?—Something about that.

4507. About the voters having drink ?—I will not be certain. I could not on my oath say that he did say so. I told you that my memory has been very bad this last few years.

4508. Perhaps you will tell me what time in the evening this meeting took place ?—I think it was 8 o'clock in the evening, but I will not be sure.

4509. Had you been working that day ?—I had.

4510. Had you attended any of the private meetings before ?—After the day I have.

4511. Were you accustomed to attend private meetings in the day ?—No, I never attended meetings in the day at all.

4512. Or of an evening before 8 o'clock ?—I do not know that I did.

4513. Did you attend a meeting at the "Black Horse," Reigate-heath ?—I did.

4514. How long before the election do you think that was ?—I think it was in the same week ; it was only a day before the writ came down.

4515. Was Mr. Rose in the chair ?—I was not there at the commencement of the meeting ; I was there late. Mr. Rose was there.

4516. Did you see Mr. Apted and Mr. Joyes there ?—I saw Mr. Frederick Joyes.

4517. Was that the occasion when Apted said he proposed they should have a merry meeting, as it was the last before the writ came down ?—I think I remember something of the sort.

4518. Was Legg there ?—I do not know him.

4519. Did you see the spirits come in, the brandy ?—I saw gingerbeer and brandy and various things came in.

4520. How were they brought in, a tray full ? Did the waiter being in a tray with a quantity of glasses ?—I do not remember whether he brought them in on a tray ; they came in two or three glasses at a time.

4521. Did you have any ?—I think probably I might have had, but it is very seldom I have anything but beer.

4522. And you went in late ?—Yes.

4523. Did you take anything with your beer ?—I think I had a biscuit ; I am not sure.

4524. Not a little spirit to put into the beer ?—I do not remember ; perhaps I might have had some, but I am not sure.

4525. You seldom do have it ?—Very seldom indeed.

4526. Whatever you had did you pay for ?—No.

4527. Did you see any of the persons there paying ?—I did not.

4528. Did the meeting order what they liked ?—No ; I think not.

4529. Who did they ask ?—Mr. Johnson.

4530. What, William Johnson ?—William Johnson.

4531. I thought you told me just now you did not know anybody of the name of Johnson ?—I beg your pardon, I said I did know a man of the name of Johnson ; but I did not know whether it was William or not.

4532. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that Johnson the upholsterer ?—Yes.

4533. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ever see him in company with Joyes and Buckland when you asked him about money ?—I do not remember at all that I ever saw them together at one time.

4534. You went late to the meeting ; when you left was it as late as 2 o'clock in the morning ?—No.

4535. Was it 1, or half-past ?—I cannot say what time.

4536. It was late, was it ?—Yes.

4537. Was it past midnight ?—I cannot say ; I do not think it was, but I will not be sure.

4538. When you came away did you leave others there ?—There were some there.

4539. How many, a dozen ?—A dozen.

4040. How many were in the room when you went in, 40 or 50 ?—Something like that, from 35 to 50.

4541. Have you been at a meeting at Woodhatch ?—Yes.

4542. When was that ?—I do not know the date.

4543. Was it before the writ ?—Oh, yes, some time.

4544. Was Apted there ?—Yes, Job Apted ; there are two Apteds.

4545. When we speak of Apted we always mean Job ?—Yes, but there is James Apted.

4546. Now, then, Job Apted was there ?—Yes.

FOURTH DAY.

R. Goldsmith.

25 Aug. 1866.

4547. Did Job Apted order any refreshment?—I believe he ordered some.

4548. Was there any person there paid at the meeting?—Yes, there were a great many there for the size of the house.

4549. Was the house full?—There were two rooms full; the rooms were not very large.

4550. Were you in Apted's room?—I was not.

4551. Did you go into Apted's room?—I should look in the room he was in; all the rooms were full.

4552. Were they all pretty well supplied with glasses?—They seemed to be enjoying themselves.

4553. I take the answer to be yes. Now, in your room did the people seem to be enjoying themselves?—Yes.

4554. And had what they wanted?—Yes.

4555. Did you order what you wanted?—Yes.

4556. What was your particular drink on that night, beer or brandy and water?—I do not recollect that I had any brandy; I might have had a glass of brandy; but I very seldom take spirits if I am well.

4557. If you are well you do not take spirits, but if the beer disagrees with you you take brandy?—Yes.

4558. Did you pay for what you had that night?—No.

4559. Do you know who did pay?—I do not.

4560. Did you hear Apted say anything about paying?—No.

4561. Did you not hear him say something of this sort, that he would see it paid for?—I might have done so, I would not be positive.

4562. Did you see any of the persons paying in the room in which you were?—I think there were one or two non-electors in the room.

4563. Did non-electors pay?—Yes; there were some men I know who had not votes.

4564. Some paid who had not votes?—Yes.

4565. Did you see any man pay who had a vote?—If I did, it was late in the evening.

4566. When they did not know what they were doing; when it got very late, then they began to pay?—Yes.

4567. When you saw them pay, did they pay for one glass, or for a dozen?—I do not know.

4568. How late did you keep up the evening at that house?—Till 1 o'clock.

4569. Who is the landlord of the house?—Hodge, I think is the man's name.

4570. Were you at a house called "Burwarry's" beer house?—No; I do not know it.

4571. Or Brinker's?—I do not know the name; Burbury I know.

4572. Well, were you at that place?—Yes.

4573. Where is that?—Over the green.

4574. Now those three houses you have been speaking of, are they all close together, or in different parts of the borough?—In different parts of the borough, as much as three miles distant.

4575. You took the round of the borough?—I live in the centre; to divide the two furthest houses, I live in about the centre.

4576. Then you were about the centre of these houses?—Yes.

4577. How many people were at this last house, many?—Many.

4578. Was the house full?—Yes, some 30 were there.

4579. Who was taking the active part in the house?—I could not swear; I was late in.

4580. Was Job Apted, or Joyes, or Buckland there, or any of these men there?—I am not certain whether they were or not.

4581. Were you on the committee?—Yes.

4582. Were you on the committee when you went to these houses?—I was.

4583. At these houses did the people have the refreshment without payment?—I did not pay for any; I never knew any one pay.

4584. Who asked you to go to these houses? How did you know the fact that there were to be meetings at these houses so wide apart, when you were living at some distance from them?—I used to live nearer.

4585. You told me you lived in the centre of all three?—I previously lived towards that way, and of course I knew the persons.

4586. That would not give you the information; at the time of the election you had moved away from those persons?—I cannot say who I heard it from.

4587. You did hear of it?—Yes.

4588. In the committee room?—I do not remember whether it was in the committee room; I think not.

4589. Did you get a formal notice that there was to be a meeting at these places?—No.

4590. How came you to hit off the very night that there were meetings like these?—I heard there was to be a meeting for the voters in the neighbourhood, and that the voters in the neighbourhood were to be free of them.

4591. Having heard of a meeting you went over?—I went over because there were plenty of persons I knew who were going over.

4592. At these meetings, where this treating was going on, was it to talk about the election mattters, or were any political speeches made?—I do not think there were any political speeches.

4593. Did you ever hear any political speeches made?—I do not remember that I did at these meetings.

4594. Excepting from Mr. Gower?—Excepting from Mr. Gower. I have heard such things said as "Success to Mr. Gower!"

4595. That was the closest approach to politics that you ever heard I suppose?—Yes.

4596. What were the other topics of conversation? Used you to go over the list of voters?—Not down there.

4597. Not at these meetings?—I think not.

4598. What were those meetings, were they simply for the purpose of drinking and not for the purpose of the election?—To keep the voters together.

4599. After the writ came down did you go to any house at all to have refreshment?—I do not remember that I did.

4600. Try and remember. Do you mean to say that you never had subsequently to that time a glass of beer without paying for it, between the writ and the election?—Well, I do not know.

4601. You remember Mr. Apted at the committee meetings saying the night the writ would come down, and you told the people they were not to go without their refreshment, only it was to be done quietly and not so publicly?—Yes.

4602. He said that, did he not?—I think so.

4603. Did you take advantage of it and have it quietly?—No, I did not; I never had anything at all. If I did have anything at that time, it was with some of those, when we had gone in and had a glass.

4604. When you have gone in with some of those and had your glass of beer, did you pay for your beer?—No.

4605. Would those that were with you pay for your beer?—Yes.

4606. Tell me any one person that you went in with after the writ came down and had refreshment with?—I cannot recollect that; I believe I have frequently met Mr. Apted. We have often gone into Green's and had a glass of beer.

4607. Henry Green?—No, Mr. John Green.

4608. Is he any relation to Henry Green?—I do not know.

4609. You have gone with Apted and had a glass of beer, and Apted has paid?—Apted has paid.

4610. Did that happen often?—Yes.

4611. Did you generally keep together?—

4612. And you offered your vote?—I had made up my mind for Mr. Gower before.

4613. Now on the day of the polling was there any

breakfast going on?—Not that I am aware of. I did not have any but what I had at home.

4614. You did not get any; but was there any entertainment; were the voters to have a breakfast?—No.

4615. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Have you been at any public houses on behalf of Mr. Monson at all?—No.

4616. None at all?—None at all.

4617. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have never been at the "Grapes"?—No, I do not know that I have been at the "Grapes."

4618. Were you canvassed at all by Mr. Monson's party?—Not at all; only one person has, who said, "I want to talk to you;" and I said, "It is no use." That is all the talk I had with any of the Monson party.

4619. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understood you, Mr. Goldsmith, to say that you would not pledge yourself as to the language Mr. Gower made use of in his speech at the hall?—No.

THOMAS SCOUGALL sworn and examined.

T. Scougall.

4620. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter and joiner. I keep a small grocer's shop.

4621. What rent do you pay?—19*l.* a year.

4622. How long have you been a voter for the borough?—I am sure I cannot say.

4623. Have you voted at more than one election?—One election before the last.

4624. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower both times.

4625. Were you employed at all on behalf of Mr. Gower at the election of 1863?—Yes.

4626. Was it a close contest?—I believe it was, rather.

4627. Employed as what?—Canvasser.

4628. What did you receive?—7*s.* 6*d.* a day, and 15*s.* a day for nomination day and polling day.

4629. How much altogether?—I do not know; I have not reckoned it up.

4630. About how much?—That is very easy calculated. We received 30*s.* a week during the time, and the remainder was paid when the election was over.

4631. How many weeks were you at work?—I do not know whether it was three or four.

4632. Then when it was over you received the additional 15*s.* a week?—Yes.

4633. And the 30*s.* for the polling and nomination days?—Yes.

4634. How soon after the election was over was you paid the balance?—The Saturday night, as the election was over on Friday night.

4635. You were cleared off?—We were paid up the Saturday night.

4636. Did you give a receipt for it?—I believe so.

4637. Who paid you the balance?—Henry Green.

4638. Did you give a receipt, just recollect?—I am sure I cannot say.

4639. Did you sign any book, or anything of that kind?—I put my name to a book.

4640. In 1865 you also voted for Mr. Gower?—I did so.

4641. Were you employed at all?—Not in any way whatever; I had other business to attend to, and I could not trouble myself about electioneering. I voted for Mr. Gower, but I was not employed.

4642. Were you offered employment?—Nothing at all; no employment whatever.

4643. Were you offered it?—No.

4644. Were not you asked to work for Gower?—No, not by anybody.

4645. Were you told that if you would vote for Gower you should be paid for your time?—Yes.

4646. By whom were you told that?—Oh! amongst my mates as I met with.

4647. Do you know a man named Featherstone?—Yes, he was the same trade as myself.

4648. What was he, a voter?—Yes, I believe so.

4649. Did he canvass you?—No, he never canvassed me at all, no more than stopped me and asked me which way I intended to go.

4650. Did he vote for Gower?—I believe he did; I do not know. I did not trouble myself at all about the election.

4651. Do you mean you were not told by any one that you were to be paid for your time?—I was told if I lost any time I should be paid for it.

4652. Told by whom?—William Featherstone told me that.

4653. How did he tell you he knew that?—I do not know about told.

4654. Did you apply for any payment?—No; never expected any.

4655. Did you attend any meetings at all?—One on Earlswood-common.

4656. Was that at a public house?—No, in a booth. I say one: I attended two. I attended Mr. Monson's first starting, and this one of Mr. Gower's in the booth.

4657. When did you attend Monson's?—At a meeting in the Town Hall in 1865.

4658. Then you received no money of any kind?—No.

4659. In 1865 you received no money from anybody?—Not as I am aware of on electioneering.

4660. What do you mean, not as you are aware of? Did you receive any money from any person in respect to the election of 1865?—Not in respect of the election.

4661. What did you receive the money for?—Well.

4662. You might as well come out with it at once. What did you receive the money for?—Well.

4663. It must come, Mr. Scougall, it must come. How much did you receive?—Well, 1*l.*

4664. From whom?—From Mr. Henry Green.

4665. After the election?—Yes.

4666. When?—The latter end of November.

4667. Did you go to Green?—No.

4668. Did he come to you?—Yes.

4669. Where did he see you?—When I was shutting up my shop.

4670. He handed you 1*l.*?—He put it into my hands, but did not say what it was. He said, "I will "make you a present of that."

4671. And of course, Mr. Scougall, you did not know what it meant?—No, sir, I did not know what it meant.

4672. Did not you know it was for your vote at the election?—No, sir, because I never spoke to Mr. Green but once during the election.

4673. You knew that Mr. Green was active for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

4674. Did you expect any more?—No, sir, never expected that.

4675. But after that did you expect any more?—No, I did not. As I say, I did not expect anything at all.

4676. Did you expect any sum after you received that?—No.

4677. Had you heard that others had been paid, that money was going?—No.

4678. Living in Reigate, did not you hear in November that money was going?—Redhill.

4679. Did not hear in Redhill that money was going on account of the election?—No.

4680. Never heard it?—No.

4681. Do you mean that?—I was otherwise engaged. I had a great many hours to work, and it was late before I got home at night.

4682. Do you mean to tell me, and to expect me to believe for a moment, that you did not hear that money was going?—Well, I heard this, that there was nothing going on Mr. Gower's side.

FOURTH DAY.

T. Scougall.

25 Aug. 1866.

4683. You did hear, you see, something about it?—Yes.

4684. Did you make inquiry?—No, sir, no more than when I fell in with one and the other, and they told me.

4685. Who did you fall in with?—I cannot say who it was now. I never kept that in my head. Of course we fall in with a good many in the course of the evening—mates working together.

4686. In the statement that you signed you did not say a word about having received 1*l.* from Green?—Not a word. I said I had not seen Mr. Green at all.

4687. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And you had seen him?—Yes; of course I was not obliged to tell Mr. Naylor so.

4688. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said you knew William Featherstone, who was the same trade as yourself?—Yes.

4689. There is Thomas Featherstone also?—Yes.

4690. Is that his brother?—No, sir, I think it is his uncle.

4691. A different man anyhow?—Yes, he is an older man.

4692. Just tell me if you know whether Thomas Featherstone was an agent for Mr. Gower?—I cannot tell anything about that.

4693. Can you tell me whether he was active for him?—Not this last time I cannot; he was before.

4694. You did not take so much notice?—I did not trouble myself nothing at all this last election.

4695. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You knew Henry Green was taking an active part for Mr. Gower?—I only spoke to him once during the election.

4696. But you knew it as a fact?—I knew he was.

4697. You say you had heard no money was going on Mr. Gower's side; did you hear that from Mr. Gower's supporters?—Some might be and some might not be; of course I do not know all the voters.

4698. Did you hear whether any money was going on Mr. Monson's side?—No, sir, not the least.

4699. Has Green ever asked you for this 1*l.* back again?—No.

T. Wood.

THOMAS WOOD sworn and examined.

4700. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were on the register previous to the election of 1865, were you not?—Yes.

4701. What are you?—A ladies' boot and shoe maker.

4702. And did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

4703. Who for?—Mr. Gower.

4704. Did you vote at the election of 1863?—Yes, for Mr. Gower.

4705. Did you vote at any previous election to that?—No.

4706. Where do you live?—In West-street.

4707. What rent do you pay for your house?—6*l.* 10*s.*

4708. How do you make that out?—That is my rent.

4709. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How come you on the register?—I have been an old inhabitant, I suppose, and have been in the house. House property has very much increased in value, and my rent still remains the same. My house is rated at 7*l.*

4710. Value over 10*l.*?—Yes.

4711. What would it rent for now, supposing you wanted to let it?—Some years ago I applied to Mr. Morrison to have some repairs done.

4712. Have you a lease of the house?—No, sir, I am a yearly tenant. I have to keep the house in repair.

4713. Did you go before the revising barrister to support your vote?—It has been supported.

4714. Did you go?—I did not go.

4715. Did you make a claim to have your name put upon the register?—I did.

4716. Who brought the paper to you to sign?—Mr. Apted.

4717. And you did not appear before the revising barrister to support your vote?—I did not.

4718. Do you know who gave evidence before the revising barrister that your house was worth more than 6*l.* 10*s.*?—I do not know who did.

4719. You were not there?—I was not there.

4720. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive an objection to your vote?—No, sir, I never have.

4721. How do you know it was ever supported at all?—I have only understood that it was supported before the revising barrister.

4722. Do you mean to say you have understood that there was ever any question about it?—Yes, I have.

4723. Now, as to the election of 1865; who canvassed you for your vote for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower himself.

4724. Was any one with him?—Yes, Mr. Dann and Mr. Job Apted.

4725. Did you at that time, when they came, promise them your vote?—Yes, I did.

4726. Who spoke to you first? Did Mr. Gower ask you to vote for him?—Yes, he did. I promised him I would vote for him.

4727. Nothing previous?—Nothing at all.

4728. Did you afterwards see Mr. Frederick Joyes about it?—No.

4729. Not about your vote?—No.

4730. Did you after the election see Frederick Joyes about your vote?—No.

4731. Did not you see him at any time about your vote?—No.

4732. Did you have any conversation with Frederick Joyes?—Not at all.

4733. What were you promised for your vote by anybody?—Nothing at all.

4734. Is that your signature? Just look at nothing but the signature (*handing same to witness.*)—Yes, that is my signature.

4735. Were you called upon after the election by Mr. Naylor and his clerk?—Yes.

4736. Did you make a statement to him?—No, I made no statement.

4737. Something passed?—Yes, something passed.

4738. Then there was some conversation, call it what you will?—Yes.

4739. Was it after a conversation between you and Naylor that you signed your name in a book of his?—Yes.

4740. I presume you knew what was written down in the book against your name?—No, sir, I was not aware of it.

4741. You were at that time?—I did not take any note, but I should like to tell you what Naylor said.

4742. At the time you signed your name you were aware of what he had down in the book?—No, I could not say exactly what he put down.

4743. Did you sign your name as witnessing the truth of what you had been saying to him?—No.

4744. Why did you sign your name?—Because he brought me an account for me to sign, as he pretended to come from Mr. Gower.

4745. Never mind what the pretence was. Will you tell me why you signed your name?—Because he was going to pay me some money on Mr. Gower's account.

4746. That is to say, he said he was?—Yes.

4747. What had your signature to do with that?—It was an acknowledgment that he was going to pay me the money.

4748. What money?—He told me he was going to pay me 3*l.* 10*s.*

4749. Who suggested 3*l.* 10*s.*?—He did himself.

4750. Where did he get that sum from?—He told me he got it from Mr. Gower.

4751. How did he know of the sum you mention?—I cannot tell you how he knew that.

4752. Did he say that Gower owed you 3*l.* 10*s.*?—He told me he was going to pay me that account for Mr. Gower.

4753. What for, for your vote?—No.

4754. What for?—For acting for him at the election.

4755. What did you say to that? If a man comes to you and says, "I am going to pay you 3*l.* 10*s.* for "another man"?—I told him I had no claim on Mr. Gower for the amount.

4756. He told you it was for doing work for Mr. Gower?—For the election.

4757. Had you been on the committee?—Yes.

4758. Had you done any work for Mr. Gower?—I had canvassed for him.

4759. Who had you canvassed?—Several of my neighbours round about.

4760. Name one?—Mr. Dale was one.

4761. What, Thomas Dale?—Yes.

4762. Tell me anybody else?—Mr. Thrift, of Reigate-heath.

4763. Anybody else?—There might be several others, but I cannot call them to mind just now.

4764. I want you to tell me, if there were any others, who they were?—I cannot give you the names.

4765. You cannot give me the names except of Dale and Thrift?—No.

4766. Was anything said to you by any of Mr. Gower's agents about whom you had better canvass?—No.

4767. Did you receive no instructions about canvassing Dale and Thrift?—No.

4768. Who suggested those names to you?—No one.

4769. When you attended the committee, did you give in word to anybody that you had canvassed Dale and Thrift?—No.

4770. Said nothing about it?—Said nothing about it.

4771. You never said on any occasion, "Dale and "Thrift are my two men"?—No, I did not.

4772. Did you mention any name of any person you had canvassed to the committee?—No.

4773. Who did you first tell that you wished to be on the committee?—I never told any one; I was asked by Mr. William Joyes, he applied to me to be on the committee.

4774. Where were you when he applied to you?—At home.

4775. Be accurate, if you will be kind enough. He came to you at your house?—Yes.

4776. What did he say to you?—He asked me if I would have my name put on the committee, and go and canvass for Gower. I made an objection to it at first.

4777. Did you get over your objection and say you would?—My objection was, I could not afford to lose any time without being paid for it. He told me he had no authority to make any engagement about paying, except if I would come on and work there was no doubt I should be satisfied for my loss of time.

4778. Now, did you then agree to go on the committee?—Yes.

4779. Was anything more said to you at that time by William Joyes about any express sum?—No.

4780. What money did you afterwards receive?—1*l.* 10*s.*

4781. When did you receive 1*l.* 10*s.*?—In the early part of January.

4782. Who from?—William Joyes.

4783. That was before Mr. Naylor came round to you with this book, which you signed?—Yes.

4784. Did you tell him you had received 30*s.*?—I did.

4785. Now you see it is all clear enough?—Well, sir, I thought you would have begun with that at first.

4786. And so 30*s.* you had received, and he put your name down for 3*l.* 10*s.*?—There was a balance due to me, he said; but I must tell you first of all that he came in and told me he was commissioned from Mr. Gower, and stated that Mr. Gower was very dissatisfied with his agents in Reigate, and said that he was authorized from Mr. Gower to call on some of the electors. He had a list of the names he was to call upon, and he referred to a book that he had got, and stated that there was 5*l.* put down to my name, and I had received 30*s.*, consequently there was the balance of 3*l.* 10*s.* due to me.

4787. It appeared that he really did know what you had received?—He stated so.

4788. It looked very much as if he had got the information?—He had 5*l.* down to my name, from which I had had 30*s.*, and there was a balance of 3*l.* 10*s.* due to me. I told him I had no claim on Mr. Gower for 3*l.* 10*s.* He said, "Mr. Gower is a "perfect gentleman, and wishes to act as such, and "wishes for you to be paid, and every one else that "has been a party to the election," and he says, "I "am come here to pay you." I told him then if he had got 3*l.* 10*s.* for me I should be glad to receive it. He then made out this account in this book which you are speaking of, and asked me to put my name to it; and instead of giving me the money he gave me his card, and told me to go to the "White Hart."

4789. I won't trouble you with the question whether you went to the "White Hart"?—I knew then that I was imposed upon.

4790. I dare say he had ascertained in less time than it has taken me to do so that you had received 30*s.*?—Very likely he had.

4791. Does it occur to you, bearing in mind that 30*s.* and 3*l.* 10*s.* make the sum of 5*l.*, I am going to ask you this question: Did William Joyes when he came to you mention any sum of money?—He did not.

4792. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing of the kind.

4793. Did he say you would be paid as others?—No, he said I should be paid for loss of time.

4794. What did you expect?—I did not expect any particular sum.

4795. Will you swear you had not 5*l.* in your mind?—No, sir, I had not.

4796. Can you tell me this, whether you were put down in any book for 5*l.*?—I am not aware of it.

4797. Bear this in mind: Mr. Naylor had already obtained the information that you were. Are you aware that your name was down in fact in any book for 5*l.*?—I am not.

4798. You are sure of that?—I am quite sure.

4799. Do you know whether your name was down in any book at all?—I do not know that it was.

4800. Had you never seen it?—I had not.

4801. Had you never seen any book in which any names were down of those persons who had done work for Mr. Gower?—No, I do not; I am quite sure of it.

4802. Had William Joyes ever told you anything about a book?—No.

4803. Had Apted?—No.

4804. Had anybody?—No one else.

4805. I think you told me you had voted for Mr. Gower in the election of 1863?—Yes.

4806. Who canvassed you then? Mr. Gower himself?—Mr. Gower himself.

4807. Were you on his committee then?—Yes.

4808. What money did you receive then?—3*l.*

4809. Had you a promise of anything more?—No.

4810. Who did you receive the 3*l.* from?—Mr. Job Apted.

4811. After the election?—Yes, about six months afterwards.

4812. Can you recollect the circumstances? where it was paid? Was it at your house, or at his?—At my own house.

4813. Do you remember his bringing a book there with your name in it?—No, sir, he did not; he did not pay me himself.

FOURTH DAY.

T. Wood.

25 Aug. 1866.

4814. I understood you he did?—I was to receive it from him; it was sent to me by his daughter.

4815. Did you at that election see any book in which your name was entered as having performed services, or as canvassing?—No, I did not.

4816. Was any sum mentioned to you before that election?—No, sir, nothing at all.

4817. Were you told before that election you would be paid for your services?—No, I was not.

4818. What were you told?—I was not told I was to be paid anything at all.

4819. Did you make an application for the 3*l.*?—No, I did not.

4820. He volunteered it?—Yes.

4821. What had you done on that election for Mr. Gower?—I attended his committees, and canvassed for him.

4822. Will you be kind enough to tell me who you canvassed?—I cannot recollect.

4823. Do you recollect one?—I cannot.

4824. You remember two that you canvassed this time. Can you remember one that you canvassed the time before?—No, sir, I cannot now.

4825. But you had attended the committee meetings; they were invariably of an evening?—Sometimes they were of an afternoon. I was on a sub-committee.

4826. What do you mean by the "afternoon"?—About 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

4827. Where they at the houses?—At the "White Hart."

4828. If there were some at 4 o'clock I suppose there were generally meetings later?—Sometimes there were meetings after that committee meeting, in the evening; very frequently.

4829. At these committee meetings did Mr. Gower himself attend?—Sometimes.

4830. Then you worked under the principal committee?—It was a sub-committee.

4831. As a member of the sub-committee did you attend the evening meetings at the principal committee?—Sometimes I did.

4832. Were there generally refreshments at these meetings?—No, sir, nothing of the kind.

4833. Were there refreshments in the same house?—I never saw any.

4834. Did you never get refreshed yourself?—No, sir, I did not.

4835. How was it managed at the sub-committee? was that held at the "White Hart"?—Yes.

4836. Was it quite an abstemious meeting?—Others belonging to the committee attended if they thought proper.

4837. I mean was there no refreshment?—Nothing at all.

4838. You took no refreshment?—I did not.

4839. And if you did you paid for it?—I did not have any.

4840. And what you received after the election was 3*l.*?—Yes.

4841. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did Joyes pay you?—About the 2nd or 3rd of January.

4842. So late as that?—Yes.

4843. Did you apply to him at all?—No, I did not. I am acquainted with him, and I often see him; and he gave me the money.

4844. He told you when you would have the rest?—No, sir, nothing about that.

4845. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he say what he paid the money for?—For my services at the election.

J. Palmer.

JOHN PALMER sworn and examined.

4846. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You live at Nutley-lane?—Yes.

4847. You are a voter for the borough?—Yes.

4848. What rent do you pay?—12*l.* 10*s.* a year.

4849. What are you by profession?—A smith.

4850. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

4851. Had you voted at a previous election?—Yes.

4852. For whom?—The election before the last I voted for Mr. Gower.

4853. And the election before that for whom did you vote?—Mr. Wilkinson.

4854. Who canvassed you upon the last occasion? Do you recollect whether Mr. Gower himself canvassed you?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Frederick Joyes together.

4855. Did you see Mr. Joyes afterwards?—I did, sir.

4856. Soon after you had seen Mr. Gower?—Very shortly afterwards indeed.

4857. Had you promised to vote for Mr. Gower?—I promised him I would.

4858. You promised Joyes?—Yes.

4859. Was that when he came to you a second time?—Yes.

4860. You did not promise the first time?—Not when Mr. Gower was with him I did not.

4861. You told him, I suppose, you would think of it?—That is just the very thing I did tell him.

4862. How many days after did Joyes call?—Something like five days.

4863. Mr. Joyes had more influence with you than Mr. Gower?—Rather more. Oh yes.

4864. He knew your soft side, I think; did not he?—He told me I was not to be in too big a hurry to make my mind up, but I was to think of it these electioneering times.

4865. He liked you to be a little coy; when he called again I believe he was able to offer you some work?—Yes, he offered me five weeks' work.

4866. 1*l.* a week?—That is just it, sir.

4867. Well but you are a smith, you know; what could you do for the election?—I could not do anything; I did not want to do anything.

4868. And Joyes knew you did not want to do anything?—He told me I was not to do anything. He told me also that.

4869. It is a happy state of things at Reigate to be employed to work and to have nothing to do?—Oh, yes.

4870. Then you agreed to that?—I did.

4871. And agreed to vote for Mr. Gower on those terms?—Yes.

4872. Now let us understand the terms. You were engaged to do work for five weeks, but you were to do no work?—I was not to do any work. I was to walk about with my hands in my pockets. There were plenty to do the work. Joyes said that.

4873. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Joyes said that you might walk about with your hands in your pockets?—Yes.

4874. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He told you, I think, you might go to Mr. Hearne's beer shop?—Yes.

4875. And have some refreshments whenever you liked?—When I pleased.

4876. That was when you were fatigued from work?—I suppose so.

4877. Well now, and I suppose you did favour Mr. Hearne?—Of course I did.

4878. And on more than one occasion?—Oh, bless you yes! lots of times.

4879. During the whole five weeks?—Well, it was not five weeks, it was three weeks I had a run there; a free house.

4880. Were there many other men engaged for work?—Never but one voter that ever entered the house with me.

4881. Who was he?—Thomas Lamport.

4882. Was he engaged for work?—Not that I am aware of.

4883. He took some refreshment with you?—Yes.

4884. Did he pay for them?—No.

4885. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which way did he vote?—He voted for Mr. Gower.

4886. Well, I believe you did not trouble the committee much?—Not at all; not even once.

4887. What did you get for your labour?—I received 2*l.*

4888. And you thought that was little, did not you?—Well, considering what he promised me it was very little.

4889. Who paid you the 2*l.*?—Joyes.

4890. When?—I believe it was in October last.

4891. What did he say when he paid you the 2*l.*?—I asked him when there would be a chance for the remainder, and he told me, "Well, there will be "a settling day sometime. I suppose we might say "next February."

4892. And then you were to have the 3*l.*?—Yes.

4893. Did you know anything about the former election in 1863?—Who were the candidates?

4894. Did you vote?—Yes, I voted.

4895. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes; I voted twice for Mr. Gower. I do not know the dates, I have a short memory rather.

4896. Were you engaged upon that occasion?—At Mr. Wilkinson's election?

4897. Yes?—Yes, I was.

4898. By whom, by Joyes or Apted?—Oh, Mr. Joyes.

4899. On behalf of Mr. Gower?—On behalf of Mr. Wilkinson at that election.

4900. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

4901. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What were you paid on that election?—2*l.*

4902. For voting for Wilkinson?—Yes.

4903. Joyes canvassed you for Wilkinson, did not he?—Yes.

4904. Then you voted for him and received 2*l.*?—I did.

4905. Was it the same Mr. Joyes; there are two?—Mr. Frederick Joyes.

4906. Had you voted before at all?—Yes, at the election before that I voted for what we call now Lord Monson.

4907. You voted for the brother of Monson?—Yes.

4908. Were you canvassed by Joyes?—Not that time.

4909. Who canvassed you then?—Mr. Nicholls, I believe.

4910. He is a man of influence; were you engaged?—I do not believe I was, sir.

4911. But you received?—Oh yes, I received. I received at all the elections. I do not deny it.

4912. You are giving your evidence, I think, very creditably.—I like to be honest, sir.

4913. There is nothing like an honest and independent voter. How much did you receive on behalf of Lord Monson?—One sovereign.

4914. Only a sovereign?—Only a sovereign.

4915. From Mr. Nicholls?—From Mr. James Nicholls.

4916. Is that the only time you voted?—Yes, that was the only time.

4917. The scale is 1*l.*, 2*l.*, and 3*l.* What did you receive from Joyes last?—2*l.*

4918. At the last time, you are an honest and independent elector, did not any one apply to you on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Mr. Monson himself came to me and one man with him.

4919. To canvass you?—Yes.

4920. Was that before you saw Mr. Joyes, when he was to employ you, or afterwards?—Afterwards.

4921. What did Monson say?—Well, he of course pressed me hard for my vote, and I told him he was too late, I had already promised it for Mr. Gower. He seemed perfectly satisfied with that, he would not wish to press me any further, and of course he walked away.

4922. Nothing was said upon that occasion about money?—Not a word.

4923. Who was with Monson?—John Carden; I believe he is a voter.

4924. And you did not see Mr. Nicholls?—No, sir, I did not.

4925. Did you attend any of their public houses?—Not one, not the whole time.

4926. You had no drink at the expense of Monson?—None whatever.

4927. Having promised you kept your word?—I did.

4928. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you had a free run of the beer houses?—Of the one beer house, only one.

4929. Do you recollect the writ coming down?—I recollect hearing talk about it.

4930. Did you go to the house afterwards?—Mr. Hearne's?

4931. Yes?—No, I was told not to go any more.

4932. Who told you not to go any more?—The landlord himself.

4933. Did you change your patronage anywhere else?—No, sir, I never went into one house for to have anything to drink, only there.

4934. Not after the writ?—I did not go in at all.

4935. On the day of polling did you go anywhere?—Yes.

4936. Where did you go to get refreshment then?—The "Little Crown."

4937. Did you pay for what you had?—No, I did not.

4938. Did you see many others there?—Well, the house was filled to excess.

4939. Did you see any of them paying?—No, no money about at all.

4940. Were they voters chiefly?—Most of them, I believe.

4941. Did you ever meet Apted after the writ came down?—Which Apted?

4942. Either?—No, sir, I did not.

4943. Well, did you meet any of these influential men like Apted, and go to any house with them?—Never went to no house at all, nor no one ever asked me any questions concerning the election.

4944. Did anybody ever give you any drink between just before the election and after the writ?—No, sir.

4945. None of the houses?—None of the houses.

4946. When you were first canvassed by Mr. Gower you said you would think of it?—Yes, those were the words.

4947. Were your politics doubtful?—Had you any scruples about politics?—No, sir, I believed him to be the best man; he was always the favourite in my eye.

4948. Now, what were you going to think about if you thought he was the best man?—Well, I thought he was the man that ought to be returned, being the best man.

4949. Why did not you promise him?—Mr. Joyes told me I was to think it over.

4950. You had said you were rather doubtful, and that is the reason why Joyes told you to think of it?—Yes.

4951. Now I want to know what it was that made you doubtful?—Well, I do not know as I am in a position to say, but I have no doubt it was the money matters. There is no doubt about that, I think. You know it always wants thinking about, these little things do, don't it?

4952. Now, I suppose if the Monson party had come first and offered you 5*l.* you would have gone with them?—I think it is quite likely I should.

4953. You did not care which side you voted?—Not at all; I did not indeed.

4954. You are a very fine specimen of a free and independent elector?—I come here to speak the truth.

4955. Now you have cleared your conscience, now you may go?—Thank you, sir.

CHARLES SMITH called, sworn, and examined.

C. Smith.

4956. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long have you been a voter of this borough?—Five or six years, I believe. At least about five years.

4957. What was the first election that you voted at?—1863, I believe it was. Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower were candidates.

FOURTH DAY.

C. Smith.

25 Aug. 1866.

4958. Have you retained the same qualification all through?—Yes.

4959. Tell me what your qualification is?—I am a joiner by trade.

4960. It is a singular thing that you all answer like that, stating your trade as a qualification. Being a joiner by trade gives you no vote. Some day, perhaps, being a joiner by trade will be a qualification; but it is not now. What house do you rent?—13*l.*

4961. You pay 13*l.*?—Yes.

4962. For whom did you vote at this election?—This last one?

4963. Yes?—For Mr. Gower.

4964. Were you canvassed by the Monson party?—Yes, Mr. Monson himself.

4965. Were you canvassed by the Gower party?—Yes, Mr. Gower himself and two or three agents with him.

4966. Which party canvassed you first? — Mr. Gower's.

4967. Then we will deal with Mr. Gower first. When Mr. Gower canvassed you who was with him?—Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland.

4968. You mean, I suppose, Job Apted?—Yes. I fancy that Mr. Joyes was there too. Those three were there, anyhow, and Mr. Smith.

4969. Did you see Mr. Gower canvassing frequently?—That was the first part, when he first came up.

4970. I mean, on other occasions did you see Mr. Gower canvassing?—At other elections.

4971. At this election after he came to you?—I met him several times. I saw him a great deal.

4972. Were those persons whose names you have mentioned the chief persons who attended him on his canvass?—I believe so, as far as I know.

4973. They were his principal supporters?—I believe so.

4974. When did you promise your vote to Gower?—When he came to me in our shop.

4975. On the first occasion?—Yes.

4976. Was it Mr. Gower himself who asked you for your vote?—Yes, and also a gentleman that was with him.

4977. Who was the gentleman that asked you besides Mr. Gower?—Mr. Smith was there. I believe Mr. Gower was one that asked me.

4978. Was Alexander Rose with them on that occasion?—No.

4979. Not on that occasion?—No, he was not.

4980. Did you afterwards see Alexander Rose?—Oh yes, I saw him every day.

4981. Did he canvass you?—No, he might have spoken to me about the election and that like. I suppose you would call it canvassing; he might have asked me which way I was going. Of course that is canvassing.

4982. Did he say anything to you about your being on the committee?—Rose did not.

4983. Did either of them?—Mr. Buckland did.

4984. Did Mr. Buckland ask you to work?—Yes.

4985. Did he tell you what work you were to do?—He told me I was to advocate Mr. Gower's cause as much as I could, and do as much as I could in our shop and also in my locality.

4986. What is your locality?—Nutley-lane.

4987. You live in Nutley-lane?—Yes, I am one of those "roughs."

4988. There was a letter in one of the public papers to-day protesting against the mayor's evidence?—Yes, I saw it.

4989. You say Alexander Rose canvassed you?—No; he spoke to me about being on the committee.

4990. Is he the Alexander Rose that signed that letter?—I believe he is. There are some of them working on the same firm as I do.

4991. They work on the same firm?—Yes.

4992. What are they, carpenters and joiners?—Yes, those that work there.

4993. Are they all voters that signed the letter?—I believe they are. I could tell you if you were to call them over.

4994. There is William Taylor?—Yes. He is a joiner. He does not work on our firm.

4995. He lives in Nutley-lane?—Yes.

4996. Did he vote?—He did.

4997. Whom did he vote for?—Mr. Gower.

4998. Henry Palmer?—Well, I do not know much of him. He is a shoemaker.

4999. There are about 10 names; you know them all?—Yes, I know them all.

5000. At all events, Alexander Rose, who signed that letter, spoke to you about joining the committee?—No, he did not. Buckland did.

5001. Did not Alexander Rose?—He never mentioned such a thing. He may have asked me to vote for Gower, or anything of that sort; but being on the committee he never said anything to me about whatever.

5002. Did you attend the committees?—I did.

5003. And canvassed?—I did. At least I did all that I could do.

5004. Have you received any money?—Yes, I have.

5005. Who paid you the money?—Mr. Buckland.

5006. Did Buckland promise you the money?—No.

5007. Who did?—Mr. Buckland promised me that I should be paid for my labour, the time that I lost. I could not afford to lose the time I did. I lost a great deal of time, which I did not get paid for. I get 6*d.* per hour, which when I am not at work I do not receive.

5008. You got 1*l.* 10*s.* from Buckland?—I got more than that.

5009. What, for your services at the election?—Yes.

5010. How much did you get?—3*l.*

5011. Did you receive 1*l.* 10*s.* of it at one time?—Never.

5012. How much did you receive at one time?—3*l.*

5013. 3*l.* at one time?—Yes.

3014. Then how much do you consider is due to you?—Well, I don't hardly know what is due if I charged for my time.

5015. Have you not stated that a particular sum is due to you?—No; I was to be paid my expenses and my time.

5016. Was it 3*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.* that you received?—3*l.*

5017. Are you quite sure that you did not receive a 10*s.*? Put your hands down from your mouth, and answer the question.—I will try and think.

5018. Have you not received 3*l.* 10*s.*?—I never received any 10*s.*

5019. Have you not told any person that 1*l.* 10*s.* was due to you?—I had a party come and tell me so.

5020. Who told you so?—Mr. Naylor.

5021. How came Mr. Naylor to know that you were to have anything?—I do not know that he did know. He only jumped at it.

5022. But you had received 3*l.*?—No, I had not received a farthing.

5023. You received the 3*l.* after Naylor had been?—Long since then.

5024. Then Naylor did not jump very wrong?—I told him I was to have something, and I told everybody else. I do not deny it. I was not going to lose my time at the election if I did not get paid for it. I have got a wife and two or three children to keep.

5025. What did you do for this 3*l.*?—I canvassed.

5026. Did you canvass the people in your own shop?—Yes, and in my own street, and other places too.

5027. That is when you met them?—Sometimes I might have gone on purpose.

5028. But did you?—Yes, in my own street.

5029. But you did not go out of your own street?—Yes, I went to Redhill.

5030. What did you go for?—To meet a few mates. I went to advocate Mr. Gower's cause.

5031. Did you speak on those occasions?—I spoke to those I saw.

5032. Did you make speeches?—Only individually.

5033. Did you canvass the people at public houses? No, I might have spoken to them in a public house. I do not dispute that.

5034. Was it in the evening when you went away? Sometimes in the evening, and sometimes in the day-time. The last week I lost very nearly all the week.

5035. Do you mean to say that you left your work in the day-time to go canvassing?—Yes, the last week. My employer could prove that. He knows what wages I got in the last week.

5036. How many days did you leave your employment in the day-time?—Five days was the time I lost the last week. I was making seven days a week then.

5037.—But how do you count your time for five days? You count your time at sixpence an hour?—Yes.

5038. In the day-time was it you were away canvassing?—All day long.

5039. What time did you start?—I do not suppose I started much before 8 o'clock.

5040. Do you mean to say that any one day you were away from 8 o'clock without going to your work at all?—Yes, I do.

5041. On those occasions whom did you canvass?—Mr. Walters, Mr. Reddin, Mr. Greenfield; in fact, I cannot say who I did canvass. I canvassed scores.

5042. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who is Mr. Walters?—He is a carpenter. He lives down our lane.

5043. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) A carpenter, who lives down your lane?—Yes.

5044. I am asking you where you went when you lost your time?—Well, I did not lose any time the last week at canvassing. At nights I was going about a good deal.

5045. At nights, after the usual time of work?—Well, I could not work in the day if I was out in the night.

5046. I do not know that?—But I do, sir.

5047. You have told me that you were four days in the last week off your own proper work, and that you were canvassing?—I did not say I was canvassing four days that week.

5048.—What were you doing?—I was out of a night. We were told to be on the look-out to see that the other party did not come and decoy the supporters of Mr. Gower away, and persuade them to go for the other party.

5049. Is that what you call going for four days?—Well, I was sent in the night, and of course I could not do any work in the day-time. I was in bed in the day-time.

5050. Had you anything to do during these nights?—I went and looked round the houses where we thought they were "shaky," as we call them, to see there were no parties to persuade them away.

5051. Then you simply walked about, and there was nobody to disturb you?—Yes.

5052. You say you went to look after the shaky voters?—Yes.

5053. The last week before the election?—Yes.

5054. Can you give me the name of one shaky voter?—Well, I do not wish to expose them.

5055. Will you be good enough to tell me, whether you wish or not. You are obliged. Give me one?—One that we considered shaky?

5056. Yes?—Medhurst.

5057. Where does he live?—Nutley-lane.

5058. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He wanted something to make him steady?—I do not know what he wanted. I cannot answer for that.

5059. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was he one of the gentlemen signing the letter?—I do not know. Gates was another that they considered very shaky.

5060. Do you know a man of the name of Holdsworth?—Yes, I do know a man of that name. He keeps a public house at the top of the town. I know him. I do not know as I know any other that was shaky.

5061. What sort of a man is Medhurst? Is he a person who is addicted to going to public houses at all?—I am sure I do not know much of the man.

5062. What does he work at?—He is a milkman I believe.

5063. Does he carry about milk?—Yes.

5064. As a servant?—It is his own milk I suppose; he has a milk walk.

5065. This man Holdsworth, does he live in Nutley-lane?—He lives in the town, if it is the same one you mean. I only know that one.

5066. What house does he keep?—The "Red Cross" I believe it is.

5067. That was used by Mr. Monson, wasn't it?—I believe it was.

5068. Give me the name of another shaky voter? Gates is one. At least, those I have named are the ones that I was told were shaky; I do not know anything about them.

5069. Who told you they were shaky?—Those who knew them.

5070. Did Mr. Joyes?—A great many who worked at our shop told me.

5071. When you were watching Medhurst's house did you see anybody come there?—I do not know.

5072. Your appearance kept them away?—I was not alone.

5073. How many had you at this night work?—Several. They were not with me particularly, but I was not by myself.

5074. Were they all walking in Nutley-lane?—They were walking all round the parish.

5075. Did you keep to Nutley-lane?—No.

5076. Was there not somebody who kept a special guard over Medhurst's house?—I think when I was away there was somebody else there.

5077. If he was a shaky voter he wanted constant guarding?—Yes.

5078. You might just as well have got a policeman to walk round?—They would have had to pay him I suppose.

5079. You say Gates is another?—Yes.

5080. What is his Christian name?—William Gates.

5081. Where does he live?—Nutley-lane.

5082. He was considered shaky?—He was considered so.

5083. He was thinking which way he would vote for?—Well, a man that has promised to two parties, they do not think much of him.

5084. Did you know that Medhurst had promised both parties?—No.

5085. Did you hear Gates did?—Yes; the men in our shop heard him promise to both parties.

5086. Did you hear whether he received any consideration from both parties for his promise?—I never heard anything at all about that.

5087. Give me the name of another shaky voter?—I do not know that I know any more shaky ones.

5088. How many were in company with you at night? were there six, or eight, or a dozen?—I dare say there were as many as that about.

5089. Do you mean to say that it took the whole twelve of you to watch these shaky voters in Nutley-lane?—I cannot tell how many there were; I cannot answer for that.

5090. Well, when you were going round in different parts of the parish did not some of your friends say, "We must go to such a place after "so-and-so, he is a shaky voter"?—They might have said so.

5091. But did they?—I cannot say.

FOURTH DAY.

C. Smith.

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5092. Why did you leave Nutley-lane if you had to leave some one else there?—I live in Nutley-lane.

5093. Then why did you not go to bed?—Mr. Buckland told me to look out.

5094. If you were told to look out, and you went to another part of the parish where you did not know there was a shaky voter, why did you do so?—I went with some person, I suppose, who did know.

5095. I suppose that person told you he was going to another part of the parish to look after them?—He said he was going to look round. I do not know that he was going particularly to look after shaky ones, but to look round.

5096. Did you go into any public house that night? I might have done; but I don't frequent public houses very often.

5097. I did not say you did; but did you go on that particular occasion, that night when you were walking round?—Most likely I went into a public house; but it is so long ago I cannot recollect.

5098. Oh, yes, you can?—No, sir, I cannot.

5099. But did you do anything at all but walk round?—Most likely I went into some public houses before they were closed; but I could not go into public houses much at that time of night.

5100. But there are golden keys in this town?—I never saw any.

5101. What houses did you go into in Nutley-lane?—Mr. Muddle's house. That closed at 11.

5102. Do you go into Muddle's house when you go to a public house?—I mostly go into there when I go anywhere.

5103. Did you go during this election?—Yes, several times.

5104. And had meetings there?—I do not know that we had any meetings there.

5105. Where did you have your meetings?—We might have met there; but they were not regular meetings.

5106. When you met there who paid?—Sometimes I paid there, and sometimes others.

5107. What you saw drunk you believe was paid for?—Yes.

5108. When this person, Mr. Naylor, called upon you, did you tell him who it was had promised to give you money, or to remunerate you for your services?—I did not. In fact, I did not know who was to remunerate me then.

5109. Is this your signature (*showing witness an entry in a book*)?—Yes, it is my signature.

5110. Was this entry read to you before you signed it?—No, nothing read to me whatever.

5111. Were the columns filled in before you signed it?—Well, I do not know. There were so many names there when I signed it.

5112. Not so many names, because you are in the middle of the column?—I did not take up the book to examine it; nor did he read any statement to me.

5113. Was this book put before you on the table?—That is the book by the look of it.

5114. "By the look of it"? But here is your signature?—Yes, that must have been the book.

5115. In this entry is, "By whom promised: "Alexander Rose. Amount due: 1*l.* 10*s.*" And then it is signed "C. Smith"?—You must understand that I did not put the rest of that there besides the signature; neither should I think it was there when I signed. I should think it was not there.

5116. You know Mr. Naylor, or rather Mr. Hamblin, has sworn it?—If that gentleman has sworn it I will take it as so.

5117. Didn't you think it important to read the book before you signed it?—No, I did not, but merely to put my name down; neither do I consider it important now.

5118. Do you mean to swear that you did not tell him you were promised 30*s.* by Alexander Rose?—Yes.

5119. Did Alexander Rose promise you?—No.

5120. Or speak to you about work or being on the committee?—I believe not.

5121. Will you swear positively he did not?—Not to my recollection anyhow. I would not say positively that he did not.

Short adjournment.

W. Wesley.

William Wesley called, sworn, and examined.

5122. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote at the last election for Mr. Gower?—I did.

5123. What were you on the register for?—House and garden, Linkfield-lane, 20*l.* a year.

5124. Who canvassed you to vote?—Mr. Gower.

5125. Any one with him?—Yes, Mr. Smith. Mr. Gower asked me if I would give him my vote, and I said, "Well, God knows I worked hard enough against "you last time; but I don't see any just cause why I "should vote against you this time; but I will not "promise you my vote at present, but you may "expect it."

5126. Green also was there at that time, or a subsequent one?—No.

5127. What?—Not any one else. It was in this market-place when he canvassed me first.

5128. Did Green afterwards canvass you?—He did speak to me. He asked me which way I was going. He met me one day; he says, "Uncle, which way "are you going?"

5129. "Uncle"?—Yes, I am called "Uncle Wesley" to make a distinction.

5130. Did he ask you if you would do some work on Gower's committee, or something of that sort?—He did.

5131. What did you say in answer to that?—I said, "Well, I should have no objection after a time."

5132. "After a time"?—Yes.

5133. Did you mean after a certain time in the day?—No, after a time—after the lapse of a few days or so. I said, "I dare say I shall be with you, Mr. "Green. I dare say I shall be in the boat with Mr. "Gower, for I promised him, and I don't think I "shall break my promise."

5134. Did he intimate to you that if you lost your time that would be taken into consideration?—Not at that time.

5135. When was it?—It was after I was on the committee with Mr. Gower.

5136. You were put on the committee?—He asked if I would go on the committee. I said, "Oh, yes, "I should have no objection to go on the committee.' I went to a committee meeting.

5137. Tell us in your own way.—I went to the committee meeting at the town hall at Redhill, and then I made up my mind, and I said to Mr. Green, "I shall go with you, and of course I shall work and "do all that I can for you now, because when I put "my hand to the plough I don't turn back for "nothing."

5138. And I suppose also you meant that you do not go on for nothing?—I did not say anything at all about that. Not a word was said.

5139. I said, "You *meant*"?—I said to Mr. Green that night, "I object to taking a paltry bribe; I don't "like taking a paltry bribe; but if I can be paid for "my work, what I do, that is all I require. I have "made myself a poor man over former elections, and "I wish now to be paid if I run about and work, and "if not I don't wish to have anything to do with it; "but I should vote for Mr. Gower."

5140. Let us have all the conversation. What did Mr. Green say?—I said, "Well, I have no need to "look after you; I will be on your side, and if I

"know any information which I can give you I shall "give it."

5141. Did you consider yourself then engaged the same as other people?—Yes, I considered I was to canvass and do all I could.

5142. And on the same terms?—There were no terms mentioned.

5143. Did you consider yourself put on on the same terms as the rest?—I do not know what you mean by "the rest." If you mean money matters, I did not make them a point.

5144. You said nothing about them?—No.

5145. What I want to know is, when you said, "I "will go on your side," did you consider yourself on the same terms as other voters?—I meant to vote for Mr. Gower, and nobody else.

5146. But did you consider yourself then entitled to be paid the same as other people?—I did not know about being paid. I considered that if I ran about, and went to meetings, and was called out in the usual way, I should be paid. I did not wish to lose any time about it.

5147. Then you considered that you would be remunerated?—Yes.

5148. What is the rate at which you expected to be remunerated?—I do not know. There was nothing said about it. There was no specified sum stated in any shape or way.

5149. Wasn't it stated that you were to receive the same as others?—No; all that I got from Mr. Green was that of course as I worked so I should be paid.

5150. Try and remember this, if you please; you can tell me exactly right, I have no doubt. Didn't he say, or one of them say, "You will be paid the same "as the rest"?—Nobody said that to me individually; it was said by Mr. Gower in that committee that everybody should be paid that worked for him, and I only expected the same. That is it. I did not know what it was they meant.

5151. Do you recollect whether Mr. Gower said anything more?—I do not think he did.

5152. He said every one who worked for him would be paid?—Would be paid—yes.

5153. Then you considered yourself as one who worked for him, and that therefore you would be paid?—I expected that I should have something, according to what I did.

5154. Did you canvass people?—I might have canvassed people.

5155. I want to know whether you did?—Well, I did, if you call it canvassing. I went to a party, and I said, "Shall you go for Mr. Gower, or anybody "else? I solicit your vote this way. I solicit you "to vote for Mr. Gower, because I think he is the "best man."

5156. Well, that is canvassing, and the best canvassing. Will you tell me any person whom you canvassed?—Well, I do not know any person particularly. There were several persons whom I spoke to over it. I never went to anybody directly, to run right out and say, "I will go and see what that man "says;" not a bit of it.

5157. You did not go in that way expressly to any person?—No.

5158. Whenever you were in a committee meeting or in the street you, of course, saw plenty of people to have conversation with?—Yes, but I did not go direct to any person.

5159. What did you do for Mr. Gower except attend the committee meetings?—Well, on the day of the poll I was sent out to several places to fetch parties up to the poll.

5160. How did you fetch them up?—When there was a vehicle I was asked, "Will you go and fetch "so-and-so"?

5161. A vehicle was provided?—A vehicle was provided, and so I went, of course, to the place where they were.

5162. Did you bring anybody up?—Yes.

5163. Whom did you bring up?—Mr. Lambert, the baker, was one; old Mr. Lambert; he was infirm.

5164. Wanted a carriage?—He had a carriage. Of course I helped him into the carriage.

5165. Well, I do not see any "of course;" it was a common act of humanity. Who told you about Mr. Lambert, and to go down and fetch him? Whom did you receive directions from?—I can hardly say now; it was in the hall. I should think it was Mr. Webb.

5166. Who is Mr. Webb? I don't think I know Mr. Webb?—Of Redstone-hill; he is a solicitor I believe.

5167. Whose interest was he employed on?—Mr. Gower's.

5168. You think he asked you to go?—I believe it was him who asked me to go.

5169. Well, I will not tie you to it at all, but how far did you go to fetch Mr. Lambert?—Well, I should say not more than 400 yards from the place, but he was infirm.

5170. You went in the carriage?—No, I walked.

5171. Did you ride back?—No, I helped him out when he got back.

5172. Whom else did you fetch up to the poll?—A man of the name of Latham.

5173. Oh, yes, I know him. Had you far to go to fetch Latham?—I went to Reigate-hill.

5174. He did not want a carriage, did he?—Well, I do not know that he did. He had one. He was to be fetched at a certain time, that was at 1 o'clock.

5175. You did not drive the carriage?—No, I did not.

5176. Did you ride there in the carriage?—I rode outside with the driver.

5177. And back again?—Yes, back again.

5178. Latham was a man very willing to vote, wasn't he?—Well, I do not know anything about that.

5179. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it Alfred Latham?—I think it was Alfred Latham; I do not know.

5180. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You think his name was Alfred?—I think so; I am not sure.

5181. Tell me this: You knew him pretty well?—No.

5182. Well, it is odd you should be sent for him?—Well, it was, but there was another party went with me.

5183. Who was the other man that went with you?—I can hardly tell you.

5184–5. I dare say you can. It is not long ago. I am sure you will tell me if you can.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was the man you fetched Alfred Latham, Hollies-row?—Yes. It was Titchener who went with me.

5186. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You knew Latham?—Only by sight. I never knew him until that time.

5187. Was the name of Latham given to you as a very shaky man?—No.

5188. He was a very willing man?—Well, I do not know that.

5189. Who gave you directions to go to Latham?—I really do not know who it was. They said, "You "had better go and fetch him."

5190. Was not that direction given out publicly in the hall; at least publicly by Mr. Gower's side?—Yes, his side.

5191. I think that direction was not addressed to you?—No.

5192. Precisely. Then you jumped upon the box?—Yes; a party asked me to go with him.

5193. You did not know Latham?—I did not.

5194. Will you tell me anybody else, if you please, that you fetched up?—I cannot tell you exactly who I fetched up. I went for several parties.

5195. I do not wish to hurry you. Be kind enough to give me the names of any persons you fetched up?—I cannot tell you exactly. I went for several, to see if they were coming.

5196. You do not mention any other names?—No.

5197. Did you receive any money?—For what?

FOURTH DAY.

W. Wesley.

25 Aug. 1866.

5198. Never mind for what. It is a plain question. You know what the question means. Did you receive any money?—I did.

5199. Why didn't you say so at first? How much?—2*l.*; I received it from Mr. Green. At three different times I received that sum. That is all I had.

5200. How much is due to you?—I do not know.

5201. But what do you estimate?—I do not estimate anything.

5202. You have told us you did not like any paltry pay; but I want to know what you think in fairness is due to you?—Well, that all depends upon themselves; what they think proper to give me; what they think my services are worth.

5203. Well, how much would you take in fairness to them? If they offered you the money now how much would you take? Would you take 3*l.*?—Well, I do not know but what I would.

5204. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If you could get it?—If I could get it.

5205. You would take 5*l.* if you could get it?—Well, it would not be worse than those that have fifty, if I took 5*l.*; I only want to be paid for my time.

5206. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) 3*l.* is just about the sum that you have been thinking of as the residue, is not it?—I have not been thinking of anything, not as regards the money; I never thought of any particular sum.

5207. Well, but you thought of the money when you received it, and thought of it very pleasantly?—I only wanted it when I had done the work.

5208. I did not say you did want it; I dare say you are quite above want?—No, I am not.

5209. But when you have been turning it over in your mind, hasn't there been a little dream about 3*l.* as the residue?—No.

5210. Can you tell me when you received the 3*l.*? It was at three different times; when was the last?—The last was just about the time that this Mr. Naylor was here.

5211. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not get it from Naylor?—No.

5212. Who paid it?—Mr. Green.

5213. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect the polling day?—Yes.

5214. Do you recollect there was a breakfast provided for all Mr. Gower's voters?—Where?

5215. Well, I ask you the question?—No, I do not.

5216. I will assist you. Do you know the "Warwick Arms"?—Yes.

5217. Were you often at the "Warwick Arms"?—Very seldom.

5218. Well, but you attended meetings?—Yes, I attended meetings.

5219. There was plenty of refreshment at the "Warwick Arms" when you attended, wasn't there?—I went very seldom, but I paid.

5220. Whenever you attended at the "Warwick Arms" was there not plenty of refreshment? I did not say anything about paying for it. Was there not plenty of refreshment at the "Warwick Arms" when you attended meetings there?—I have seen refreshment when I attended meetings there.

5221. Did you ever pay for any?—I have for some.

5222. Have you ever had refreshments there without paying for them?—Yes.

5223. Several times, I think?—Two or three times.

5224. Where is the "Warwick Arms"?—It is situated in the Station-road, Redhill.

5225. Do you recollect on the morning of the polling there was a breakfast at the "Warwick Arms"?—I do not know that there was; I never had any; I dare say there was a breakfast there.

5226. Try and recollect. Don't you know that there was a breakfast at the "Warwick Arms" laid out for any voter of Mr. Gower's who chose to come in and partake of it?—No, I do not recollect that at all.

5227. I will go further; not only a breakfast, but a breakfast that lasted all day?—No, I do not know that there was.

5228. Well, we will see in a short time. Do you know Tullet's?—Do you mean Tulet's.

5229. I call it Tullet's from not knowing better?—George Tulet's.

5230. What house is that?—It is called the "Bell."

5231. Were you there?—No.

5232. Never?—I do not know "never."

5233. Or previous to the election?—Not during the election.

5234. Can you tell me whether there was drink there for everybody who chose to have it?—I cannot.

5235. Were you at the meeting at Earlswood-common?—Do you mean when they had the booth?

5236. Yes. Was there plenty of drinking going on there?—I do not know.

5237. Were you there?—Yes.

5238. But you do not know whether there was any refreshment going on there?—I saw people drinking round a house, but I do not know what it is called.

5239. Did you see any payment made?—No.

5240. Did you go to a meeting of the electors at the "Bell" inn, Reigate?—No.

5241. I beg your pardon; just think; we have heard of this before, you know?—No; I was never at a meeting at the "Bell" inn.

5242. Were you never at a meeting of the electors at the "Bell" inn, Reigate?—No.

5243. Was there not plenty of refreshment going on there?—I never was there; I cannot say.

5244. As we are talking about refreshment, when you brought these electors up to the poll, assuming that you did bring any up to the poll, did you give them refreshment?—One.

5245. Which?—Latham.

5246. Where did you get it?—At the "Warwick Arms."

5247. Then you went into the "Warwick Arms" on the polling day. Now, this is a serious question, upon your oath——?—I know that I am upon my oath.

5248. I am only reminding you of it. I have got you into the "Warwick Arms;" when you were there on the polling day didn't you see breakfast laid out?—No.

5249. Didn't you see refreshments on the table?—There were refreshments on the table.

5250. You rather beat me. I called it breakfast; you won't agree to the denomination. My friend suggests to me that it was breakfast without any tea?—I do not know whether it was breakfast; it was in the middle of the day; I do not call it breakfast.

5251. Well, you beat me. I give up the word "breakfast." I will call it breakfast without any tea. Will you answer me that, without giving me the trouble to give another name for it?—There was refreshment there, and Latham had a little and I had a little. That will save you some trouble. You need not go farther.

5252. I should like to go a little farther. While we are both in a good humour there is no reason why we should not. You did not pay for it?—No.

5253. Did Layton?—No.

5254. Do you know one James Stevens?—I do.

5255. You had a good many times talked with him about the election?—I have talked with him.

5256. Before the polling day, I mean?—No.

5257. You had talked with him several times before the polling day?—Very trifling. I might have said, "How do you do, Stevens? How are you getting "on?" but I never talked with him beyond that.

5258. But I suppose he would answer you?—Perhaps he would.

5259. You may have got on in conversation a little farther?—Well, yes.

5260. Now, don't you recollect telling him that you

should like very much to have his vote for Mr. Gower ?—No, I never told him so.

5261. Do you recollect his telling you that he should like to vote, that he had a strong inclination to vote for Mr. Gower ?—I believe he said something to that effect.

5262. Perhaps I can assist your memory a little more. Didn't he go on and say, "Only, you know, if "it were not that I have got a wife and large family, "I should vote for Mr. Monson" ?—No, I do not recollect that.

5263. Don't you ?—No.

5264. Something like it ?—Well, we had some conversation to that effect, but I cannot say what the man said. They were little matters that men talk together.

5265. But didn't he add that he was obliged to vote for Gower ?—I don't recollect.

5266. Something to that effect ?—Something to that effect.

5267. That is quite enough. Just tell me this: you know you brought up old Mr. Lambert to the poll, as you say ?—I was sent after him.

5268. Quite right. There is a young Mr. Lambert, his son, isn't there ?—Yes.

5269. Did he vote ?—I believe he did.

5270. Was he an active man about the election ?—Not particularly so, as I know of.

5271. Did Stevens tell you that he owed young Mr. Lambert some money ?—Well, he said something to me about it, I know, once.

5272. I dare say he mentioned to you the sum, 7*l.* 10*s.*, didn't he ?—Well, I forget now what it was.

5273. He may have done so ?—He may have done so.

5274. You think he did mention the sum, but you do not recollect what it was ?—We had some conversation about it.

5275. And didn't he give you to understand that it was on that account that he did not vote for Mr. Monson ?—He said something to that effect.

5276. Well, I do not want it nearer than "to that "effect" ?—It is a long time ago now, I cannot recollect exactly.

5277. Were you engaged in the election of 1863 ?—Yes.

5278. Whom did you vote for ?—Wilkinson.

5279. Were you on the committee for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

5280. What money did you receive from Mr. Wilkinson for work which you did as you were on the committee ?—I received no money.

5281. What did you receive money for ?—I received money at different times from Mr. James.

5282. That was Mr. Wilkinson's agent ?—Yes.

5283. How much ?—For all and everything I received 9*l.*

5284. I dare say you will do it very well: be kind enough to tell us what you received the 9*l.* for ?—I cannot.

5285. Then that won't be doing it very well. You received 9*l.* That is not a paltry sum. What was it for ?—Well, sometimes when a man came to hear Mr. Wilkinson they would say to me, "Well, uncle, can't "we have a glass of something to drink ? It is very "hard for us to come here and have nothing. We "wish to know what the view of our man is whom "we are to support." Then I was obliged to go to Mr. James, and say, "Such and such is the case," and he would give me 2*l.*, and he would say, "You must "make that run out as far as you can, because we "are very short of money." But I never received anything for my services, but altogether what I had amounted to 9*l.*

5286. What did you do with the money when you got it ?—Paid it away. I can show that I am money out of pocket by that election.

5287. Did you send in any accounts on paper to Mr. James ?—Yes.

5288. He is not alive, I believe ?—No; he is dead.

5289. But you did send them in ?—I sent in certain accounts to him.

5290. When ?—At the time of the election.

5291. Did you send in all your accounts at once, at one time, on one piece of paper ?—No.

5292. When he gave you the 2*l.* did you give a written account each time ?—No, he gave me that verbally.

5293. I want to know how it was about the accounts ?—Well, when I used to come up to Mr. Laker's, or perhaps at the "Swan," he would say, "How are "you getting on ? How are things going on ?" I would say, "I think we are not getting on very well; "we are getting aground;" and I would tell him how I got rid of the money, and he was satisfied.

5294. And he handed you over then it might be 2*l.* ?—No, I never had it till I went for it at a time of emergency.

5295. What account did you send him in on paper ?—Only to say that I received it. I gave it him as a receipt, just to say I received so and so from his brother last night. His brother was here as an assistant with him. I said, "I had so and so from your brother "last night;" and he would say, "All right, Wesley."

5296. And you put it down on paper ?—No, he put it down. He had it in a book. Of course I put my signature to what I had.

5297. Did you give him by word of mouth, or on paper, any account of how you had expended the money ?—No, I did not.

5298. In the election of 1863, that we are on now, was money altogether, as far as you could judge, as plenty then as it was in 1865, or was it tighter ?—I do not know. It has always been tight enough when I have been in the elections, for I never could get enough. What I knew really was required I could not get.

5299. Which should you say was the best election for the money ?—I should say Doulton's was the best election for the money.

5300. I have not got back to that. Tell me about 1863. We want to have it clearly in our heads. It is very difficult when there are no written accounts sent in of the way in which money is expended. Which should you say was the easiest election about money, this or 1863 ?—I really do not know.

5301. Then I won't press you on anything that you don't know at all, or I will endeavour not to do so. Was there much refreshment going on in 1863 ?—Well, yes, there was a little going on.

5302. Much the same as in 1865 ?—Well, I think there was a little more in 1863 than there was in 1865, according to what I saw.

5303. And as far as you can tell, was it much the same on both sides in 1863, Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson ?—I rather think Mr. Gower was rather the top man in 1863.

5304. More liberal ?—Yes.

5305. In 1863 he was a little more liberal than Mr. Wilkinson, you think ?—Yes, I think so. I think Mr. Wilkinson kept his money very tight indeed, while the other lavished it away.

5306. You think what was paid to you was certainly not lavished, in 1863 ?—I am sure it was not.

5307. Can you tell any definite service you performed in 1863 ?—I do not know that I can.

5308. You were on the committee ?—Yes.

5309. Did you canvass any person ?—I do not recollect.

5310. We must try and stir up your recollection a little bit. Can you mention any persons you canvassed in the election of 1863 ? You have told me all the persons you recollect canvassing in 1865, but how many did you canvass in 1863 ?—I cannot say.

5311. Can you mention any one single person that you canvassed in 1863 ?—I do not recollect.

5312. Did you bring them up to the poll in 1863 ?—I do not recollect. I believe I did.

5313. You cannot recollect any person ?—I cannot recollect who they were individually. I know I was very hard at work all the day, and I went after so-

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and-so and so-and-so; but who they were individually I cannot say.

5314. Can't you give a better name than "So-and-so" to any one man?—No.

5315. Try. I will give you every opportunity. If you can mention any one man we will send for him?—I was sent for Mr. Wood.

5316. But you could not get him?—No; he never came at all.

5317. That was a void service?—I was two or three hours after him.

5318. Can you tell me any man whom you fetched up. I asked you whom you fetched up, and you told me Mr. Wood, whom you did not succeed with. Tell me some one whom you fetched up in 1863?—I cannot.

5319. You only know "Mr. So-and-so"?—Yes. I cannot recollect names.

5320. I have asked you three times; that is as much as I am bound to, I think; but if you think of any one by-and-by, you are at liberty to say so. Where was Wilkinson's committee room?—At the "Warwick Arms."

5321. You attended his committee?—Yes.

5322. Were refreshments always there?—Not always.

5323. Only sometimes?—Sometimes.

5324. Who paid for them? which of his agents?—I do not know.

5325. Did you never see any of the agents settle the account?—No.

5326. Did you ever on any one occasion pay for anything you took there yourself?—Yes.

5327. You have?—I have for myself.

5328. I say yourself?—For myself, but not for anybody engaged with me.

5329. But did you on any one occasion pay for refreshments you had yourself?—Yes.

5330. Then it is quite right we should know it. I suppose that was not very often?—It was not very often that I went in there to have anything of anybody else, without paying for it.

5331. Do I understand you, then, that when you went in with anybody you paid for that person? is that what you mean?—No, I never paid for anybody.

5332. Anybody you took in yourself?—No. I should have done if I had called for refreshment; I should have paid for it.

5333. But you frequently called for refreshment?—Not for anybody else; always for myself.

5334. Did you pay for the refreshment that you had yourself?—Yes, always.

5335. You did not give me to understand that before. I understood you the refreshment was not paid for by those who had it?—It was at certain times.

5336. "Certain times:" that is quite enough for me. You recollect some previous elections, perhaps?—No, I do not recollect much about them. I recollect there were such elections.

5337. You recollect 1859?—Was that Hackblock's election?

5338. No, long after. That was the election between Wilkinson and Monson?—Yes.

5339. Were you a voter then?—No.

5340. Did you take an active part in it?—Yes.

5341. For which side?—For Mr. Wilkinson. I always stuck to him while he was alive, and I should now if he was alive, poor fellow.

5342. Will you be kind enough to tell me something about that election in 1859. Was Mr. Wilkinson's committee room then at the "White Hart"?—No; I believe it was at the "Swan." I do not know but what it was. I think so. I am not quite sure.

5343. Were you on his committee?—No, not at that time.

5344. I mean at that election of 1859?—No.

5345. You had no vote?—No, then I had not.

5346. You worked a great deal though?—I worked as much as I could.

5347. Did you fetch up voters?—I do not know but what I did at that election.

5348. Did you canvass them?—I do not know but what I did.

5349. What money did you receive at that election for what you did?—Not a farthing.

5350. How was that?—I do not know. It went off with promises then.

5351. Who promised you?—I cannot say exactly who promised me, but I was promised in an indirect way by different parties.

5352. Just tell me who promised you in an indirect way?—Mr. Norman Wilkinson said he would see me righted.

5353. Was that his brother?—That is Mr. Norman Wilkinson living on the hill.

5354. What hill?—Patteson Court, Nutfield.

5355. He said he would see you righted?—Yes, something to that effect.

5356. What for? righted about what?—For what people do in such elections. Of course I was running about and advocating the cause, and so forth.

5357. And I suppose you worked up to the day of polling?—Yes, up to the polling day.

5358. Was it on the polling day that he said, "Go "on, and I will see you righted?"—Several times during the election I met with him, and of course I was working for the cause.

5359. Did he say several times to that effect, that he would see you righted?—Yes.

5360. You did perform some services?—Yes.

5361. I suppose afterwards you applied to somebody for the money?—I did not.

5362. Didn't you apply to him?—No; I did not apply to anybody, because we were on the losing game. We lost our cause, and I thought it was not worth while to apply. I let it sleep.

5363. Is that the generally supposed, the understood bargain at Reigate, no win no pay, no cure no pay?—It was with me.

5364. I want to go a little farther. You are an intelligent man, tell me whether that is the general understanding at Reigate?—I do not know what the general understanding is at all; it seems to me to be the other way; they all seem to me to be grabbing for the money.

5365. Did they seem to be doing so in 1859? Was there as much struggle for the money?—Just about the same as it is now.

5366. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you say grabbing?—Yes.

5367. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you apply to nobody because it was a losing game? Did you not apply to anybody?—I did not. I said, "Let it "go, we have lost the day."

3668. Do you recollect whether anybody besides Mr. Norman Wilkinson made the promises? Try and recollect, if you please?—I am sure I do not know; it is a long time ago.

5369. Well, I know; but I want you to help me. I am asking you for your assistance; I want you to give it to me?—I do not know, I cannot recollect.

5370. Can't you say whether any of the agents of Mr. Wilkinson made you promises in 1859?—No.

5371. Well, I am sorry you cannot. Perhaps the fact was that nobody else did?—Perhaps they did not.

5372. But what do you think about it?—I cannot say at all.

5373. Now I want to ask you, do you recollect the former election to that, which was in 1858?—I recollect the election.

5374. That was the second election in 1858, when Mr. Monson stood against Mr. Wilkinson; Mr. Monson, who afterwards became Lord Monson?—I recollect.

5375. I suppose you were not then on the register?—No.

5376. Did you take an active part in that?—Yes.

5377. At that time for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

5378. You have been true to your colour throughout ?—Yes.

5379. You began with Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes, I began with Mr. Wilkinson, and I stuck to Mr. Wilkinson till he died.

5380. In 1858 were you paid for your services ?—No, not a farthing.

5381. You were on the losing side then ?—Yes.

5382. Did you expect anything ?—I did not expect anything from anybody when we were on the losing game.

5383. I suppose you would have expected something had you won ?—I do not know but that I should have expected some little acknowledgement in some little way, if it was only giving me a silver snuff-box ; that would have been something in commemoration of the work I had done.

5384. With an inscription on it ?—Yes.

5385. Did you perform any services ?—Yes, the same as I did this time.

5386. I suppose on that occasion, in 1858, you saw Mr. Wilkinson, and that he gave you directions about working for him?—I do not know particular about that ; I saw him, of course.

5387. From whom did you receive them ? Does your memory serve you as to the person from whom you received directions to work on that occasion ?—Was not Mr. Cape here then ? I think Cape was the solicitor then.

5388. Did you receive instructions from Mr. Cape ?—I think I did.

5389. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is Mr. Cape living ?—I do not know.

5390. Mr. Cape is a solicitor, is he ?—He was at that time.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He is not a solicitor, but an accountant.

5391. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did he say you would be paid for your services in the usual way ?—Well, he gave me certain notes and different things, which I took about to different parties.

5392. These are your services ; this is the work you did ?—Yes ; of course I was along with him all the day of the polling.

5393. Yes ; and did he give you to understand that you would be paid, that he was not taking up your time for nothing ?—No, he did not give me to understand that I should be paid.

5394. Who did ?—Nobody.

5395. But you said just now that if you were on the winning side you would have expected a snuff-box ?—That would not be payment, that would be a——

5396. A compliment ?—Yes. I should not have expected that. I said they might have done it. If I worked for them, and they had thought proper to give me anything, they could ; what I was doing I was doing gratuitously. I did not expect anything at that time, and should not unless I was set on in the usual way.

5397. You were set on in the usual way ; he gave you notes to take to people ? That is being set on in the usual way ?—Well, if that is the way in which they go on, I was set on in the usual way ; that is the way I was set on.

5398. I want this explained about the money. I have come from a part of the world where people do not work for nothing. I want to know who gave you to understand that you would be paid ?—Nobody gave me to understand at that election that I should be paid.

5399. What I want to know is this : did Mr. Cape meet you in the street and say, "Now, then, come "along, and go and do so-and-so "?—No.

5400. Tell me how it was, if you please. I wish you would condescend to do that ; it would help me ?—Well, he was with a person of the name of Thompson. This Thompson said to me, "You are on such-"and-such a side ?" "Yes," I said. "Well, come on, "I dare say we can do something." And of course what I did for Mr. Wilkinson I did not expect to be paid for at that time.

5401. Not at that time ?—And not at all.

5402. You gave me to understand that in case you went you expected a compensation ?—They might have done so if they had liked, I say.

5403. Don't you recollect about the snuff-box ?—I say if they had made me a present of a silver snuff-box I should have been very glad.

5404. You would have thought it natural ?—I should have thought it about right.

5405. To whom would you look for the snuff-box ?—To the people for whom I was doing the work.

5406. Let us have a name ?—Perhaps to Mr. Cape himself.

5407. That was the second election in that year, 1858. Now we will go back, and I dare say you recollect the beginning of the same year, January, a winter election, the great election of 1858, January ; you were here then ? Mr. Wilkinson stood, and Sir Henry Rawlinson got returned, and Mr. Doulton was here and Roupell too ?—Oh yes, I recollect that election very well.

5408. Whom were you for at that time ?—I was for Wilkinson at that time.

5409. I suppose you had hard work to stick to your colours that time ?—I should think we had, indeed. There was so much money flying about on the other side, and that is the stuff that carries the election.

5410. I will tell you how it will shorten matters a good deal. You say you were very honest and stuck to your colours ; how much could you have made by going over to the others ?—I never went over at all.

5411. How much could you have made by changing your colours ?—If I had changed my colours and gone over to Doulton, I do not know what I should have had.

5412. But from what you were offered, how much could you have made ?—I should have made a bad conscience.

5413. But how much money might you have made if you had gone over to the other side ?—I cannot tell anything about it.

5414. Were not you offered something ?—No.

5415. Try and recollect ?—I would not go near to them where they were.

5416. They might come to you ?—No, they did not come to me.

5417. Why, did they think you were too stern ?—I suppose so.

5418. It is very creditable to you. You had no vote at the time ?—No.

5419. But you had a great deal of influence, because at the next election in the same year they were glad to get you for Mr. Wilkinson ?—I dare say they were.

5420. What is the biggest amount of money you heard of for anybody who would come over ?—I do not know any particular amount.

5421. Could you have got 10*l.* ?—I did not hear any sum mentioned.

5422. But money at that time was very plenty ?—Very plentiful at that election.

5423. Whose money was it ? Which of the candidates brought most ?—Apparently Mr. Doulton brought most.

5424. Was Mr. Roupell here ?—I never saw him.

5425. I suppose Sir Henry Rawlinson and Mr. Doulton were here in person ?—Yes.

5426. Who was working for Doulton ?—I do not know.

5427. What agents ?—I do not know who the agents are.

5428. I dare say you can remember one or two ?—I think Mr. Featherstone was one.

5429. Is that Thomas Featherstone the older ?—Yes.

5430. Tell me another ?—Mr. Henry Boult was another.

5431. Give me another name, if you please. I

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should like one or two more names?—Well, Mr. Henry Green, I think.

5432. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The present Mr. Henry Green?—Yes.

5433. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Give me another. I merely want you to help us now. We cannot readily get as good a man as you for this election of 1858, so I want you to help us?—Well, I really cannot tell you everybody. I believe Mr. Green was, and I believe Mr. Boult was, and also Mr. Featherstone.

5434. Can you mention another?—I do not know that I can.

5435. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What Boult was that?—Mr. Henry Boult, Brighton-road.

5436. Does he live here now?—Yes.

5437. Where?—At what is called Boult's corner. It is in the London-road.

5438. In this borough?—Yes; it runs up from Redhill.

5439. Who was working for Mr. Wilkinson at that election; that was the first election of 1858?—Do you mean who was his solicitor?

5440. Very well, anything, agent, solicitor, anything you please. Who was down here at work for him?—I hardly know.

5441. You did all you could for him?—I did.

5442. Well, who set you going?—I hardly know.

5443. I am not on money now, mind you; but who set you going?—I set myself going.

5444. I suppose you gave some account of what services you performed? You said, "I have been "down to such a place to-day; where shall I go to-"morrow"?—No, I had not any one to appeal to in that way.

5445. Then all the services you performed were in secret, as it were?—Yes, they were.

5446. To yourself?—No, not to myself, because I conveyed my ideas to other people, where I thought they could get a vote.

5447. That is precisely what I wanted to get at, only you put it better than I do. To whom did you convey your ideas where you thought they could get a vote?—I conveyed my ideas to the clerk, Mr. Thompson.

5448. Now tell me somebody else, be kind enough?—The principal communication was with Thompson, and I did not go anywhere else. Of course what I conveyed to him he conveyed to Mr. Cape, and Mr. Cape conveyed to somebody else.

5449. Cape was the solicitor then?—Cape was the man that conducted that election.

5450. That is the very thing I have been trying to get at. This was the first election of 1858. Perhaps I ought to have asked if Cape was here himself in this first election of 1858. Mr. Cape was here working, was not he?—Are we not making a mistake in the year?

5451. Perhaps we are. In 1858 there were two elections; one was in January, and that election in January I am now on. You took an active part for Wilkinson though you had no vote, and you conferred mainly with Mr. Thompson about who would be a likely man to vote, and so on?—Was not that the election when Mr. Monson stood out?

5452. No, he then stood against Doulton, Roupell, and Rawlinson. I am talking of the election when Wilkinson had to go out, you recollect?—He was balloted out.

5453. He was balloted out the night before the election?—That is quite right. Then it was Mr. Monson.

5454. Not Monson?—Yes, Monson, Rawlinson, and Doulton; they were the three that stood.

5455. They went to the poll. Then the night before the election, so far as Mr. Wilkinson was concerned, your labours came to an end?—Quite so, and I had nothing to do but lark the next day.

5456. Did you transfer your services to somebody else?—No, I did not.

5457. Not to anybody?—No.

5458. Well, there would be no disgrace in doing it, if he was a man of the same politics?—I did not.

5459. You do not know how it was, I suppose, that Mr. Wilkinson got balloted out; I dare say you have heard?—I cannot say how it was he got balloted out; I know he did get balloted out.

5460. I dare say you have heard how that was brought about?—No.

5461. Well, I will get that from somebody else; at least I will try. Did you see much treating at that election?—About the same as there has been at all the rest.

5462. Ever since?—Yes.

5463. I suppose you saw a good bit then, at any rate?—Well, I do not know that I did. I have seen more since than I did then. I have had more to do with the elections since.

5464. But you think there was about as much as you have seen since?—Well, about the same; I do not know that it has altered much.

5465. Can you tell me whether in the election of 1858 the candidates were all the same way in politics. There was Wilkinson, Doulton, Monson, and Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I cannot tell you.

5466. I do not mean what they were in their own minds, but what they gave themselves out to be. Do you recollect whether they were all the same?—I cannot say exactly now; I could have told at the time, but I have not got in my mind whether they were whigs, or tories, or conservatives. I know what Mr. Monson put himself out as.

5467. As what?—As a liberal.

5468. What did Mr. Wilkinson put himself out as?—Liberal.

5469. What did Mr. Doulton?—Liberal.

5470. I think there is no doubt that Sir Henry Rawlinson put himself out as a liberal, did he not?—I think he did.

5471. Were not you rather surprised to find that they had elected a tory, afterwards?—Yes, afterwards.

5472. Were not they rather surprised to find that he turned out a tory?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was the other way.

5473. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did he stand as a tory then?—I believe he did.

5474. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He turned out to be a liberal?—Yes, I believe he did.

5475. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But he stood as a conservative?—Yes.

5476. Now, that being so, just tell me whether you recollect the election before. Do you remember the election of 1857? that was the year before?—Let us see. Was that Hackblock's election?

5477. Yes?—I do recollect it, but I had not much to do with that.

5478. I will ask you generally; I dare say you will tell me very honestly. Can you give me any information about that?—No.

5479. Do not say "No" if you can?—I know only that Mr. Parrott came and met Mr. Hackblock in this hall; and of course I know that Mr. Hackblock got in at the election. I do not know whether I can give you any more information. That is just when I first came.

5480. You did not know much about the people then?—No.

5481. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) This person you have mentioned, Mr. Cape, do you know what he was? Was he an auctioneer or a land agent?—I do not know what he was.

5482. Did he carry on his business in London and live there?—Oh, yes, he was in London.

5483. Do you know where he carried on his business? Was it in Adelaide-road, London-bridge?—I really do not know where it was.

5484. Do you know his Christian name?—John, I believe.

5485. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have been

working very hard at all the elections up to 1863 ?—Yes.

5486. And you received no money at all ?—No, only what you have heard, mind. You have heard what I have said.

5487. Yes. I hear that you had no vote up to 1863 ?—No.

5488. But when you worked and had a vote you then received money ?—Not for my vote; I never received money for that.

5489. No, I did not say for your vote; but the fact is, when you worked without a vote, not having a vote, you received no money; but having the accident of having a vote, when you worked you received money ? That is so, isn't it ?—Well, I tell you that I did not receive money for my vote.

5490. Is not that so ? The money passed through your hands ?—Well, when money passes through your hands I do not call that having it.

5491. You received 9*l.* How much did you expend and pay away ?—Every farthing, and more to it.

5492. Then you are at a loss ?—I am out of pocket.

5493. I mean in 1863 ?—I have been out of pocket at every election. I have made myself a poor man thoroughly over the elections.

5494. I am speaking of 1863 ?—Yes, and 1865 too.

5495. I am not asking you about 1865. How much were you out of pocket in 1863 by that unfortunate arrangement ?—I was all my time out of pocket; seven weeks time, during which I might have earned 30*s.* a week; seven weeks for Mr. Wilkinson.

5496. And yet you were not warned by that. You entered into an arrangement in 1865 ?—Yes.

THOMAS CULVERHOUSE sworn and examined.

T. Culverhouse.

5497. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are on the list of voters ?—Yes.

5498. What are you ?—A labourer.

5499. What do you earn a day ?—2*s.* 4*d.*

5500. What rent do you pay for your house ?—5*s.* 6*d.*

5501. How long have you been on the register ?—This was the first time.

5502. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

5503. Do you know Alexander Rose ?—Yes.

5504. Do you recollect his speaking to you before the election about voting for Mr. Gower ?—Yes, he did.

5505. Did he come to your house ?—No.

5506. Where did he meet you ?—I saw him in Nutley-lane when I was going home to my work, or up town.

5507. He lives in Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

5508. He met you in the lane ?—I think I was coming up town.

5509. He spoke to you ?—How long was that before the election ?—Some time I think.

5510. How many weeks ?—I cannot say.

5511. About three or four weeks ?—More than that I think.

5512. At that time did he engage with you, or did you engage with him ?—He engaged with me.

5513. You were to vote, I suppose, for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

5514. That was the first thing. If you were to vote for Mr. Gower, what was Alexander Rose to do for you; to give you work ?—Yes.

5515. What was he to pay you ?—He was to pay me for what I had done.

5516. At that time you had done nothing ?—But when I had done anything he was to pay; I was to work before I was paid.

5517. Did he say he was to employ you at so much a day ?—No.

5518. Not by the day ?—No.

5519. By the week ?—No, he did not mention that. If I did any work I was to be paid for it.

5520. Were you to work then ?—If I had done any work I was to be paid.

5521. If you did any work; were you at your usual work at that time ?—Yes.

5522. And did you continue at your usual work ?—Yes.

5523. You continued at your usual work up to the end of the election ?—Yes.

5524. And I suppose up to the day you voted you continued at your usual work; you could not afford to give up your time; you attended to your work as usual up to the day of the election ?—I did not work after I was not well.

5525. I am sorry to hear that; but, except when you were unwell, you worked up to the day of the election, did you not ?—Well, I was not able to work.

5526. Except when you were unwell you were at your usual work up till the day of the election, is not that so ?—Yes, when I was able to work.

5527. Was it field labour ?—Yes.

5528. For whom did you work ?—Thomas Harris.

5529. Then you were not able to work for Rose ?—No, I was not able to work for him.

5530. Now, some time after the election did you see Rose ?—Yes.

5531. Did he come to you or did you go to him ?—I have seen him often.

5532. Upon the occasion of any money passing did you go to his house, or did he come to you ?—I never went to his house.

5533. Did he come to your house then ?—I have seen him in the town.

5534. He gave you some money ?—Yes, I know he did.

5535. Where did he give it you ?—At his house; it was at his house.

5536. You did go to his house ?—Yes; I beg your pardon.

5537. I thought you went to his house; when did you go to his house ?—I cannot tell you.

5538. In November ?—I cannot tell you.

5539. How soon after the election ?—I do not know. I think it was some time after the election, but I do not know.

5540. And then he gave you some money ?—Yes.

5541. How much ?—30*s.*

5542. That was a small sum, was it not ?—It was quite as much as I expected.

5543. Quite as much as you expected ?—Yes.

5544. But why should not you expect more than 30*s.*; you were aware that other persons got more than 30*s.*, were you not ?—No.

5545. Come, come ?—I was not.

5546. Were you not ?—I was not.

5547. Were you not aware that other persons had been promised more than 30*s.* ?—I was not.

5548. You did not know anything about it ?—I did not go into other persons' business.

5549. No, of course not. When he paid you, what did he tell you ? Did you give him any receipt, or did you sign a book or anything of the kind ?—I do not think I did.

5550. When did he tell you to come for any more ?—He never told me at all.

5551. Did not you expect more ?—I did not rather expect any more.

5552. You rather expected 3*l.* more ?—I did not expect any more, although it was mentioned here when I was here t'other morning.

5553. What, by that wicked man Mr. Naylor, was it not ?—Yes.

5554. You put your mark to a book, did you not ?—Yes, I did not know the next morning that I did do it, not till my people told me.

5555. How was that ?—Because I was so ill.

5556. I am sorry to hear that you were ill, but you doing no work for the 30*s.*, why should your charge be limited to 30*s.* ? I could have understood it if you had done work, but why it should have been limited to 30*s.* if you did no work, I cannot understand; how

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did you make up the 30*s.*? Why should it not have been 5*l.*, a respectable sum?—It was whatever the were pleased to give to me.

5557. Did you tell Alexander Rose that you were so unwell you could not hope to work for him?—I was taken ill afterwards.

5558. How long before the election were you taken ill?—I cannot say.

5559. Now, when Mr. Naylor came down to you, that desperate friend, Mr. Naylor, you thought you were in luck, did you not?—I did not think much about it.

5560. Yes you did; you thought you were in luck, did you not? You expected 3*l.* more?—No, I did not expect it, though he promised to give it me.

5561. Why did you sign that paper if you did not expect it?—I did sign the paper because the person——

5562. If you did not expect it, why did you sign the paper?—Why, I did sign the paper, but I could not say whether I should have it.

5563. You were not sure of receiving it, but you did expect it?—Perhaps I might have expected it.

5564. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you told what the work was that you were expected to do?—I was to do what they wanted me.

5565. What they wanted you about the election?—Yes.

5566. Did Mr. Alexander Rose tell you what it was they required you to do?—To carry messages, perhaps, if they wanted me.

5567. He never asked you?—No.

5568. Not to do anything?—No.

5569. Did he come to bring you up to the poll, or did you go over by yourself?—I was brought up.

5570. Who brought you up? Who did you go with? Was it Alexander Rose?—No, it was not.

5571. Do you recollect who it was?—Golding was one.

5572. Does he live in Nutley-lane?—Yes.

5573. Did you tell Golding anything about your being paid for your work?—No.

5574. You went up with him?—Yes.

5575. How long after the election was it that you got this 30*s.* from Rose?—I cannot tell you.

5576. A fortnight or three weeks?—Long after that.

5577. Did he tell you that it was for the election?—Yes.

5578. For the work that you had done?—I did not do it.

5579. No, you did not do any work, but he told you it was for the election?—Yes.

G. Collip.

George Collip sworn and examined.

5580. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you on the list of voters for the last election?—Yes.

5581. What was your qualification?—I was a messenger.

5582. None of you understand the term qualification. I did not ask you how you were engaged?—I had nothing to do before I went as a messenger; I was out of work.

5583. I will put the qualification in another shape; what house do you occupy?—A house in Nutley-lane.

5584. What rent do you pay?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

5585. What are you?—A labourer.

5586. You paid rent at the rate of 5*s.* 6*d.* a week?—I did.

5587. Who is your landlord?—Mr. Larmer.

5588. Is he a voter?—I believe he is.

5589. Do you know who he voted for?—I am sure I do not know.

5590. You do not know?—No.

5591. Were you canvassed for your vote?—Yes.

5592. Were you canvassed by Mr. Monson's party at all?—Not at all.

5593. Not from first to last?—No.

5594. Were you canvassed by the Gower party?—Yes.

5595. Did Mr. Gower canvass you?—No.

5596. Did you see Mr. Gower at all?—No.

5597. Not during the election?—No.

5598. Did Mr. Rose canvass you?—Yes he did.

5599. Which Rose?—Alexander Rose.

5600. Alexander Rose of Nutley-lane?—Yes.

5601. When he canvassed you, for whom did he ask you to vote?—Mr. Gower.

5602. Your are a poor man?—Yes.

5603. Have you got a family?—I have.

5604. A large family?—Yes.

5605. How many children?—Five now at home, eight altogether; three are out keeping themselves, and five are at home.

5606. What do you get a day?—3*s.* a day; sometimes I can earn more, occasionally.

5607. You are enabled to keep your family, and very great credit is due to you?—Yes.

5608. When Mr. Alexander Rose canvassed you for your vote did he say anything about paying for it on your doing some work?—Yes.

5609. What work were you to do?—I was to do all work, to take circulars round as a messenger, and then I was to be paid for it.

5610. Did you take circulars out?—I did, and worked very hard.

5611. You worked very hard?—I did, rather harder than I ought to have done; I walked miles when I ought not to have walked a step; I walked one pair of shoes off.

5612. I suppose you did not know the way, that was it?—I did not know the way about things as I do now.

5613. What did he say about payment?—Of course I received my payment every week.

5614. What did he say about payment for your work?—He said I was to be paid for my work weekly, from Saturday to Saturday.

5615. Were you paid weekly?—Yes.

5616. What did you get a week?—5*s.* a day, that is 30*s.* a week.

5617. You got paid that?—Yes.

5618. How many times did you get paid 30*s.*?—Once.

5619. Were you paid for delivering these circulars?—Yes.

5620. Beyond the 30*s.*?—Beyond the 30*s.*

5621. You were paid 15*s.*?—I was paid 15*s.*

5622. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that in addition?—No, that was for delivering the circulars, that was for work I had done in delivering the circulars.

5623. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 15*s.* a week?—15*s.* a week beyond the 30*s.* for the first week.

5624. Do I understand you, you received 30*s.* and 15*s.* for the first week?—Yes.

5625. One week's work?—No.

5626. What was it?—I said I had about 5*s.* a day when I was at work.

5627. You say you got first of all 30*s.* paid?—I said I received 30*s.* a week.

5628. Did you work for one whole week?—I worked three weeks.

5629. Did you get paid each week?—I did.

5630. Did you get paid at the rate of 30*s.* a week?—I did.

5631. Then you got paid three 30*s.* for the work?—Yes.

5632. Were you paid any more for night watch?—It was 5*s.*

5633. 5*s.* a night?—No, for one night.

5634. Did you not watch three nights?—No.

5635. You only got 5*s.*; what night was that?—I cannot say.

5636. Was it the night before the polling?—I am not sure. I cannot say.

5637. Was it when you were out with Charles Smith watching?—No.

5638. You know him?—I never had much conversation with Smith, not so much as I have had with you.

5639. You know him by sight?—Yes.

5640. You know whether you were out nights watching with him?—I was not out at all with him.

5641. You voted for Mr. Gower, I suppose?—I did.

5642. Now since the election have you applied to Mr. Rose for any monies besides what you have received?—No.

5643. Do you mean to say you did not apply to him for 5*l.*?—I applied to him for money, but not 5*l.*

5644. What money did you apply for? — What money did I apply to him for?

5645. Yes?—I heard of a sum of money being given to all, and I applied to him of course like the rest would have done; that was 30*s.*; and I received 1*l.* from Buckland.

5646. When did you receive the money from Buckland?—Some time after the election; I cannot say the month.

5647. Had you applied at all to Mr. Rose for any money after the election?—No, I did not.

5648. Are you quite certain?—Yes.

5649. You must be careful how you answer that?—Yes.

5650. Upon application to Mr. Rose did not Mr. Rose refer you to Apted?—I did apply to him, as I said before. He told me to go to Apted.

5651. You told me just now you did not apply?—I said I did.

5652. Will you correct yourself?—I told you so once before. You asked me that question three times over, and I have answered you twice that I did.

5653. You did apply to Rose?—Yes.

5654. And Rose referred you to Apted?—He did.

5655. Did Apted refer you to anybody when you went to him?—Not that I know of.

5656. Did he refer you to Smith?—He said "You "are quite right."

5657. When you went to Smith what did you apply to Smith for?—What did I apply to Smith for?

5658. Yes.—For money.

5659. How much money did you ask for?—No particular sum at all.

5660. What did you tell him the money was to be paid for that you wanted?—For the work I had done.

5661. You were paid for your work at the rate of 30*s.* a week; you had got the money?—Not all.

5662. You told me you had worked for three weeks at 30*s.* a week, and one night for 5*s.*; was that all the work you did?—A great deal more.

5663. What more work?—A great deal more.

5664. What work?—Running about from place to place.

5665. Delivering circulars?—Yes.

5666. Well, but you charged for that 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

5667. You told me Mr. Rose paid you?—I did not say Mr. Rose.

5668. You were paid?—I did not say Mr. Rose.

5669. You were paid the whole amount, 30*s.* for three weeks; you told us that?—Yes.

5670. Tell me what other work you did for which you made a claim upon Mr. Smith?—I made no claim upon Mr. Smith at all.

5671. You told me you went and asked him for money for work you had done?—I did.

5672. What was the work for which you had to be paid?—There was the nomination day and polling day.

5673. What did you do on the nomination day?—Of course I was about.

5674. You attended at the nomination?—Yes.

5675. You made one of the crowd?—Yes.

5676. You expected to be paid for that?—Yes.

5677. You expected to be paid for the day of the polling too?—Certainly, how could I lose my time.

5678. You were a voter?—Yes.

5679. And you had to exercise your franchise?—I expected to be paid.

5680. Do you always expect to be paid when you exercise your franchise?—Certainly.

5681. Perhaps I may ask you what politics you are?—As far as that goes, I do not know whether I shall answer.

5682. What are your politics, I should very much like to know?—Am I obliged to answer the question?

5683. Yes, if you please?—Then I shan't answer it.

5684. Do you know what your politics are?—Am I obliged to answer?

5685. Yes.—Then, as I said before, I shall not.

5686. Then I will take it you have no politics. I will ask you this: are your politics these, that you vote for the person who pays you the largest sum of money?—Money is always acceptable.

5687. That always influenced you in the way in which your politics would turn?—It does most people.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien remarked that the witness had better speak for himself and not for other people.

5688. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Yes, speak for yourself, or else you will have your neighbours complain. Tell me soberly, if you were asked for your vote, and a large sum of money was offered you, would you not go on the side the largest sum of money was offered?—I am not in liquor. I do not know.

5689. It would have a very strong influence on your mind?—It might have.

5690. Did you apply to Apted to be supplied with boots?—Well, I did.

5691. Did he supply you with boots?—He did.

5692. To what extent did you run up the bill for boots?—It was 14*s.* 6*d.*

5693. Not more?—No.

5694. Was it only 14*s.* 6*d.*?—I say so.

5695. When you asked for the supply of boots, did you say anything at all about the election?—Yes, I did.

5696. About the money that was due to you for the election?—I went to Apted and I asked him, at least I met him against the Reigate railway station, and I said, "Now, I want of pair of boots," and he said, "Very "well my friend, you can have a pair, and I have got "them now on my feet. I am not ashamed to show "them." I said, "I will pay you for these when I get settled with;" but he did not give me the chance.

5697. Did you tell Apted what settlement you meant?—No, I did not say anything about that, but he summoned me before I could pay.

5698. What time was that?—Some little time before the election, a day or two, or a week or a fortnight.

5699. Do you mean to say that Apted did not know what you meant by being settled with?—He tumbled to all those sort of things of course.

5700. You did not get settled with?—No, not altogether.

5701. Then Apted summoned you in the county court for the boots?—He did. No, I did not go into the county court. I paid him the money before; let him contradict it if he can.

5702. When you paid him the money when he summoned you, did you say anything to him about this summons that you protested against?—No, I took it very coolly; I thought it was as well to take it coolly as not. I thought it was well to pay him at first as at last.

5703. Did you say to him that you thought you were to have had those boots for your pains at the election?—Not at that time.

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G. Collip.

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5704. Did you afterwards?—No.

5705. Or at any time?—No.

5706. Did you ever talk about it?—No.

5707. Now, I believe that part of the work you did was attending the refreshment houses, was it not?—Well, a very few of those, for I am no great drinker.

5708. I am just reminded of this; I believe I asked you the question, but when you applied to Smith for payment for work done, did you get any money from him?—Well, I did, a little.

5709. What did you get?—30*s*.

5710. From Smith?—I did, and I am not ashamed to own it.

5711. When you got this money from Smith, how much work did you tell Smith you had done for the money?—I did not tell him I had done any work at all, not Smith.

5712. Did he pay you the 30*s*. without his knowing that you had done any work at all?—He did.

5713. He did not refer you back to Apted?—If he had I should not have got it.

5714. Now, you went to some of these houses; did you attend the meetings at the taverns?—Very few. I do not think you have got many down there that I went to.

5715. Did you go to the "Railway" inn?—Yes.

5716. That was on the occasion when Apted and Johnson were chairmen?—Yes.

5717. That was just before the writ came down?—Yes.

5718. What time did you go there?—As near as I can tell, 8 o'clock.

5719. When did you come away?—About half-past 10.

5720. That was two hours and a half?—Yes.

5721. What were you doing all that time, drinking? Sometimes, and sometimes smoking.

5722. Drinking and smoking. Did you pay?—I did not.

5723. Did you see the brandy and water come in?—Some were drinking one thing and some another.

5724. You were all drinking?—All.

5725. And a large party?—Middling, not very large.

5726. Did you go to another house; John Sayers' public house?—I did.

5727. Of course that was not the same evening?—No.

5728. Was Mr. Rose in the chair at that time?—He was.

5729. Did he order the refreshments to come in?—I believe he did.

5730. How long were you at that house?—About an hour.

5731. Did you have what you wanted?—I had what I thought proper.

5732. Did you pay for it?—I did not, and I do not know who paid for it; it was the only house I went to.

5733. You say that was the only one. Let me remind you; were you at Muddle's beer house about 10 days before the election?—No.

5734. Not when Rose was in the chair?—No.

5735. You have said so?—Not at Muddle's.

5736. Yes?—You have mentioned the "Railway" inn and Sayers', and now you mention Muddle's, and I say "No."

5737. Were you at Glover's?—Well, I have popped in and out there very often.

5738. With Buckland and Apted?—I have paid for all I have had at Glover's, I have paid for all I had there in eating and drinking.

5739. Hearne's beer house; have you been there?—I have been there, and paid for what I had.

5740. Did you see Joyes there?—No.

5741. Did you never see Joyes there?—Not to my knowledge.

5742. Let me remind you. Did you not meet Joyes at Hearne's beer house at the High-street, Reigate, and did you not hear him tell the landlord that whatever you required he would pay for?—No; one pint of ale he paid for, and that was all.

5743. Did you not hear him make the observation?—No.

5744. That whatever you had he would pay for it?—No, it is false.

5745. Nor that whatever was required by the voters he would pay for?—No, that is false; that is as false as God is true.

5746. Did you not go there about a dozen times and have what you pleased?—No.

5747. Will you swear that?—I will swear that that is false.

5748. You recollect seeing Mr. Gilbert here?—I know the writing of the paper; it is Mr. Gilbert's I believe.

5749. Did you make a statement to Mr. Gilbert?—I did.

5750. Was that statement taken down in writing before you?—Yes.

5751. In your presence?—Yes.

5752. Was it read over to you?—It was; but not as you express it now.

5753. Did you sign it?—Yes; but I did not say anything about that.

5754. Stop a moment; here is the paper which you did sign: "Frederick Joyes told Hearne, who "kept a beer house in High-street, Reigate, in my "presence, to let me have whatever I required, and "he would pay him for whatever was required by "the voters. I came there about a dozen times, and "had what I pleased; other voters went there also, "and had refreshment. I cannot remember, for all "who voted for Gower had access to these beer "houses." Did you not make that statement to Mr. Gilbert?—No.

5755. Will you swear you did not?—Yes.

5756. That is your signature (*handing the document to witness*)?—Yes.

5757. Your own handwriting?—Yes, but Gilbert has put more into it than I told him. I can say that before Mr. Gilbert's face or behind his back.

5758. Is this untrue; because, remember, you have signed this,—"About 10 days before the election "Batchelor himself, and about 10 others, were at "Muddle's beer house. Alexander Rose was chair-"man. The meeting lasted about three hours, "and there was a quantity of beer had to drink; "all of those present were voters, and I saw Rose "pay the money for what we had to drink"?—Yes.

5759. That is quite right?—Yes.

5760. That is Muddle's beer house; you told me you never were at Muddle's house?—I recall that; of course you cannot recollect just at the moment.

5761. Now you remember that?—Yes, we all want time to recollect.

5762. Attend to this: "Job Apted went with "B. and myself to Samuel Glover's beer house, and "told Glover in my presence that he was to let us "have whatever we required, and he would pay him "for it. We accordingly went there as often as we "liked, and had what we pleased to call for. We "have sometimes gone in as many as three or four "times a day." Is that true?—It is.

5763. Did you make that statement to Mr. Gilbert?—Of course.

5764. That part which states about Frederick Joyes being at Hearne's beer house is an incorrect statement?—I cannot recollect it being mentioned.

5765. Will you swear you never made that statement to Mr. Gilbert ; it follows on the same sheet of paper, and it is just at the bottom of your signature ?—I might have said so, but I cannot recollect.

5766. Seeing it now on that piece of paper, do you believe that you did make it ?—I believe I did ; I have not the least doubt about it.

5767. How came you to swear so positively that you did ; you cannot explain that ?—No, I cannot.

The Commissioner remarked that he would not press him to do it.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE MITCHELL sworn and examined.

5768. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me, will you, if you live in Brighton-road ?—Not in the Brighton-road; Warwick-town, at the present time.

5769. Where did you live in 1865 ?—In the Brighton-road.

5770. How much rent do you pay ?—20*l.* a year.

5771. How much rent did you pay when you lived in the Brighton-road ?—15*l.*

5772. And that was at the time of the election in 1865 ?—Yes.

5773. What are you ?—A gardener.

5774. Were you in that station of life at the time of the election in 1865 ?—Yes.

5775. A gardener ?—Yes, and I carry on the florist business.

5776. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a master gardener ; you say you are a florist ?—Yes.

5777. Do you employ other persons ?—Yes.

5778. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) May I call you a master gardener ?—You can.

5779. At the last election you voted for Gower, did you not ?—I did.

5780. Had you been here at the previous election ?—One previous.

5781. In 1863 ?—Yes.

5782. I am speaking now of the election of 1865. Did Mr. Gower himself canvass you for your vote ?—He did.

5783. Was any one with him when he came to you ?—There were several in attendance, but not within hearing.

5784. You mean only in attendance, going about with him, do you not ?—Yes. Smith was one, and Job Apted, and Frederick Joyes and Buckland.

5785. Did you see anybody else ?—There were a great number.

5786. Do you remember whether you saw Green with him ?—Not at that time.

5787. Did you see Alexander Rose ?—Not then.

5788. When Mr. Gower canvassed you for your vote did you promise it to him ?—I did not at that time.

5789. What did you say ?—I had not made up my mind.

5790. And then he went away ?—He did.

5791. Nothing more in particular passed at that time ?—No.

5792. Some time later than that, before the election occurred, I believe you and Latham said you should go together ; did you come to a conclusion with Latham about how much you would vote for ?—Not any definite sum.

5793. Was there a sum named ?—There was not a sum named.

5794. Not between you and Latham ?—No.

5795. Was the understanding this, that you should not vote unless you got the same sum as other people got ?—That was the understanding, that we should vote together.

5796. You and Latham ; Alfred Latham ?—Yes.

5797. You mean by voting together the same way ?—The same way.

5798. And you would not vote unless you were paid the same as other people were paid ?—Precisely so.

5799. Did not you and Latham agree together about 5*l.* ; was not that the understanding between you ?—It was generally understood that it was 5*l.*

5800. After that you went to Job Apted, did you not ?—I did.

5801. Did you and Latham go together or separately ?—Together.

5802. You had seen Apted before with Mr. Gower ?—Oh yes, frequently.

5803. You had seen him at the Town Hall at Reigate ?—At a number of places ; I do not recollect all.

5804. It was at the Town Hall you saw him on this occasion ?—Yes, on this occasion.

5805. Did you ask Apted whether he wanted any volunteers, any persons to help ?—Yes.

5806. What did he say to you ?—The more the merrier.

5807. I suppose then you broke it to him what you and Latham had agreed about engaging yourselves ?—Yes.

5808. What did he say to that ?—He said "I guaran-" tee that you shall be paid, and well paid ; it is Mr. " Gower's intention that every one who is on his com-" mittee shall be well paid."

5809. Was it managed then, at that time, that you and Latham should be put on the committee ?—Yes, it was.

5810. Were you both put on ?—My name was entered in a pocket-book by Job Apted at that time ; I suppose it was.

5811. You did not see them in the list ?—Not in the list.

5812. After that did you go and work ?—Yes, as I stated in my statement to Mr. Gilbert, I did work after a form.

5813. I want to ask you one other question about what passed between you and Apted. You remember what Apted told you, when he said that you and Latham should be paid just the same as the others ?—He said he would guarantee it.

5814. Do you remember his saying something about the previous election of 1863 ?—Yes.

5815. What did he say ?—He wished me to inquire of those that had received money from him at that election, and to see and judge for myself whether he had not done everything that was right and fair.

5816. Do you remember his saying anything about what sums of money, large or small, had been paid at this election ?—He did not name any sum.

5817. Did he mention what money had been paid for certain items ?—Yes.

5818. What was that ?—800*l.* was spent at public houses at the previous election, which would be withheld at this late election, and that distributed amongst the voters. He said it had cost Mr. Gower 800*l.*, and Mr. Wilkinson also, for public houses, and that that sum should be distributed in addition amongst the voters.

5819. Do you recollect whether that was all that was said of importance ?—That was all that was said of importance that I remember.

5820. Then something was done, as it were, to bind a bargain, was not there ?—Well, a glass of ale or two.

5821. Mr. Apted took you somewhere and Latham too ?—Yes, we had a glass of ale at Glover's and a glass of ale in the room below.

FOURTH DAY.

G. Mitchell.

25 Aug. 1866.

5822. Who paid for it?—Mr. Apted sent for it; whether he paid for it or not I do not know.

5823. Was anything said about working at the election?—Yes, we were to do the best we could; those were our instructions, all that I received.

5824. Did you receive any definite orders to do any particular work?—Upon one occasion.

5825. No, but at this time?—Not at that time.

5826. What did you understand you were to be paid, the same as others. I am speaking still of this same occasion, when you and Latham had that interview with Apted. He said you should be paid, and he would guarantee to you the same as the others; what do I understand you were to be paid that for?—For doing what was to be done.

5827. For attending public-houses and beer shops, and so on; that was the work you had to do?—It appeared so; that was the labour.

5828. When was it that you promised your vote for Mr. Gower, that you would vote for Mr. Gower?—Some time before the election.

5829. Was it on this occasion, when you had this interview with Apted?—Yes.

5830. So that you said something like this, "Oh, "then, I will vote for Mr. Gower"?—Yes.

5831. Did you after that attend a committee meeting at Reigate Hall?—I did once or twice.

5832. Did you get any refreshment there?—No, not on that occasion.

5833. Is the committee room at Reigate Hall this room here?—The same, beneath us.

5834. Did you never see beer brought in there when you were in attendance?—I was not frequently in attendance.

5835. But when you were in attendance?—I saw one or two have a glass of ale, nothing more.

5836. Did you have anything?—Not on this occasion I did not.

5837. It is the fact, is it not, that sometimes when you went into the committee room, what is called the private room in the hall, that you had refreshment?—In the private room I did on one occasion.

5838. Then that is another room, an inner room?—A small room.

5839. Do you remember going to this room on more than one occasion?—No, on one occasion I had ale.

5840. Who did you find there?—Apted and Joyes.

5841. And then you had beer?—I had beer brought in.

5842. Did you pay for it?—I did not.

5843. And then the election came on. After it was over you went to Apted, did you not, and requested him to settle the account?—I did.

5844. What did he say to you?—On the first two or three occasions he said he had not received the money, and when I applied again he told me to send in the accounts and he would see about it, and pay me when he got the money.

5845. You saw him repeatedly?—Repeatedly, and afterwards I was referred to Mr. Smith, and from Mr. Smith to him.

5846. In the meantime you were not paid any money?—Not a farthing.

5847. I believe at last you threatened him?—I did threaten him, and carried my threat into execution.

5848. You said you should be obliged to summon him in the county court for not keeping his word?—I did.

5849. Did that frighten him, and did he pay you for that?—No, he did not.

5850. You summoned him?—I did summons him.

5851. Did you expect to get much out of that?—I did not.

5852. You thought you would go through the form?—That I would go through the form, and expose the practices of Apted, Joyes, Buckland, and Smith. I thought it would be a means of opening the eyes of many persons who were in the borough and unacquainted with it.

5853. You not only summoned him, but went to trial, and came before the judge at the county court?—Yes.

5854. He said it would not do as matter of law?—That I had got the wrong person.

5855. Did the judge express any opinion as to whom you ought to have summoned?—Yes.

5856. Who did he say?—Mr. Gower.

The judge stated that Mr. Apted was only an agent, and that he ought to have sued the principal.

5857. You did not receive your money?—No.

5858. At any rate you did not receive your money?—No.

5859. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was a verdict for the defendant, was it not?—Yes.

5860. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you at a meeting at Kiddle's beer house?—Yes, at Earlswood-common.

5861. Do you remember who was in the chair on that occasion?—I think Mr. Church.

5862. And did you see him do anything; did you see him give any orders?—Yes, he gave a trifling order whilst I was there.

5863. What for?—About six pots of ale and a few half ounces of tobacco.

5864. Was that order attended to, and refreshments provided?—Yes.

5865. And handed to people who were present?—Certainly.

5866. Do you know who paid for the refreshments?—I do not.

5867. Did you partake of the refreshments?—I had a glass of ale.

5868. You did not pay?—No.

5869. Did you see anybody pay at all?—No.

5870. They were ordered by Mr. Church?—Yes.

5871. Did you attend another meeting on Earlswood-common?—Yes, in a marquee.

5872. Was Mr. Gower present at that?—Yes.

5873. Were there any refreshments then?—As soon as the meeting was over I left the common. I did not see any particularly.

5874. Where did you go to after the meeting that night?—I went in the direction of home.

5875. Did you not go to the "Royal Oak"?—Yes, we went into the "Royal Oak" that evening.

5876. Who took you into the "Royal Oak"?—Several.

5877. Is the "Royal Oak" Warwick-town?—Yes.

5878. Who took you into the "Royal Oak"?—I cannot say who took me; we all went there, and Uncle Nicholl was in at the "Royal Oak."

5879. Did you get refreshment there?—Yes, a drop of ale.

5880. Did you pay for it?—I did not.

5881. Did you see the others pay?—No, I did not.

5882. Did you afterwards have some conversation with Latham about any money he had received?—Yes, on several occasions.

5883. Did Latham tell you he had received anything?—Yes.

5884. Did he show you a cheque he had received?—He showed me a cheque for 3*l.*

5885. Did you examine the cheque?—Yes.

5886. Did he tell you where he had got it?—Yes.

5887. Was he satisfied with his 3*l.* when he had the conversation with you?—He was not.

5888. Did he tell you whether he would apply for any more?—He did.

5889. Did he tell you who he should apply to?—Yes.

5890. Who did he say?—He said he should go again to Smith for the balance which he considered he was entitled to.

5891. Did he tell you whether he did go?—Yes, he went on several occasions.

5892. Did he tell you whether he succeeded?—He was unsuccessful I believe.

5893. Did he not get anything?—Not anything from Smith.

5894. Did he tell you how much he wanted to have altogether?—He told me he wanted to have *5l.*

5895. Now Latham appears to have been your friend throughout the election. Had you seen him after he had been paid in that way, in the way you describe?—Oh, yes, several times.

5896. What work had he done?—I do not know what he had done.

5897. You do not know what he had done?—No, he never stated it to me.

5898. He did not?—No.

5899. I will just ask you one more question on this matter. If it had not have been for what Apted said to you about his guarantee, would you have promised to vote for Mr. Gower?—No, I should not. I did not like Mr. Gower, that is the truth.

5900. Had you anything to do with the election of 1863?—I voted.

5901. Who for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

5902. Who canvassed you for the election of 1863? I volunteered. I went to Mr. Wilkinson and promised him my vote; no one canvassed me.

5903. Did you work for him?—No, I never took any active part before then.

5904. Did you see much that passed at the election of 1863?—I saw plenty.

5905. Did you see much that went on on both sides, Mr. Gower's and Mr. Wilkinson's?—I saw plenty.

5906. What?—Treating.

5907. Did you see any?—Yes.

5908. Did you see it all on one side, or both sides?—Well, I think, if there was any difference, the balance was in favour of Mr. Gower for his liberality. I think there was a little, but it was very little.

5909. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—I did.

5910. Did you receive any money on that occasion?—Never a farthing.

5911. Nothing before or after?—No, not even a glass of ale.

5912. Did you receive any promise?—No, not any.

5913. You did not get a farthing?—No, I never expected it.

5914. Did you get anything at all on this election of 1863?—No, I did not trouble myself at all with the election. I had promised Mr. Wilkinson; he was a favorite candidate of mine.

5915. You promised him yourself?—Yes.

5916. You promised him in person?—Yes, without any expectation of any reward.

5917. Did he promise you anything at all?—Not the slightest.

5918. I do not know I asked you whether you received any money on this last election?—No, I have not.

5919. Latham, your friend, seems to have had a *3l.* cheque, but you were not so successful?—I did not get any.

5920. Was it for the whole *5l.* you went to the county court?—I did.

5921. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you send a bill into Mr. Apted?—I did.

5922. For work and labour?—Yes.

5923. How many days did you put yourself down for?—I think it was five weeks. I believe it was, to the best of my knowledge.

5924. You knew it was all a sham, did you not?—Of course we did.

5925. You wanted in fact to expose the thing?—I did.

5926. You did not expect to recover?—I did not expect to recover.

5927. You wanted to show that you were deceived?—Yes. I wanted to show the kind of tricks that they had been carrying on.

5928. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How did you shape your claim in the county court?—For work and labour.

5929. Of course you told the judge what the work and labour was?—No, he did not enter into the question; the question was not entered into before the judge.

5930. Did you swear you had worked five weeks?—No, the subject was not entered into.

Adjourned to 11 o'clock on Monday morning.

FIFTH DAY.

Monday, 27th August 1866.

GEORGE MITCHELL recalled.

5931. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What was it you wanted to add to your evidence?—I only wished to add something to the statement I made with regard to the 800*l.*

5932. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You stated the 800*l.* was taken from the public houses to be distributed amongst the voters, that is to say, 800*l.* was to be spent less in the public houses; is not that so?—That was it; but I wish to add that that was not all; the 800*l.* was spent in settling for the hire of rooms.

5933. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you say rooms or broughams?—Committee rooms and bar rooms.

5934. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You do not mean it was spent in beer?—That was precisely what I intended to convey to you.

5935. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You do not tell us that you had paid any of the 800*l.*, but that it was inquiries you had with somebody else; who was the person?—Mr. Apted, and he stated that the refreshments were not included in it; they were distinct from it.

5936. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They were distinct from the 800*l.*?—Yes.

JOHN EVANS sworn and examined.

J. Evans.

5937. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A labourer.

5938. Where do you live?—In Holmesdale. I live in Glover's-fields now. I used to reside in Holmesdale-road; I have moved into Glover's-fields this last fortnight.

5939. You voted at the last election, did you not?—Yes.

5940. Was that for the house you occupy?—For the house that I used to occupy.

5941. I say occupy. What rent did you pay?—It

FIFTH DAY.
J. Evans.
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was not the Holmesdale-road; I reside on Reigate heath.

5942. What rent was that house?—6*s.* a week.

5943. What rent do you pay now?—I am only occupying two rooms at 3*s.*

5944. Are you on the register now, do you know?—No, I am not.

5945. You did vote for Mr. Gower, I believe?—I did.

5946. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower?—No one at all.

5947. You intended in the first instance, did you not, to vote for Mr. Monson?—I was engaged on that side.

5948. Who engaged you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Henry Francis.

5949. Was he an agent for Mr. Monson?—I believe he was.

5950. How did you come to promise him?—He came to me one night and asked me if I had a vote. I said I had, and he asked me if I would put my name on the committee.

5951. Mr. Monson's?—Yes, Mr. Monson's; I said yes.

5952. You said yes. What did he say then? It is Henry Francis, is it not?—Yes.

5953. You said yes when he asked you whether he should put your name on the committee?—Yes.

5954. Did he put your name on the committee?—Yes.

5955. You saw it there?—I did not see it there.

5956. You understood it was there?—Yes.

5957. What were you to do on the committee?—He did not tell me.

5958. Did he tell you at all?—I was to see him now and then, and he was to tell me what he wanted.

5959. Tell me exactly why you were to be put on Mr. Monson's committee?—On account of my having a vote.

5960. If he wanted you he was to apply to you?—Yes.

5961. You were not to do it for nothing?—No.

5962. What arrangement was made?—He gave me 2*l.* then and there.

5963. Can you tell me when this was?—I cannot, for I did not notice.

5964. Very likely not exactly, but about how long before the election?—So far as I could judge, I should say about five weeks before the election.

5965. He gave you 2*l.*, and then another 1*l.*?—He gave me a 1*l.* a week for three weeks afterwards.

5966. So that if that was five weeks before the election that was a 1*l.* a week, and the first fortnight was paid in advance?—That is it.

5967. When did he make you the last payment for the last week before the election?—It would be before the election came off.

5968. Then he paid you in advance for the last week?—No, he paid me on the Saturday night, as the election came off during the week.

5969. During the past week?—Yes.

5970. How was it you came to vote for Gower?—It was no use voting for Mr. Monson; he was behind so much; he wanted so many votes.

5971. Very natural; it was no use if he was behind. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower at last?—Alexander Rose spoke to me, and asked me if I would go and give my vote for Mr. Gower.

5972. On the day of the election?—Yes.

5973. What time of the day?—Between 12 and 1.

5974. Can you tell me what time the poll concluded, when the voting came to an end; what time of the day?—No, I did not take particular notice.

5975. I think it did not hold out till 4 o'clock, did it?—Oh, no.

5976. Four o'clock is the hour, is it not?

[Somebody remarked in the hall that the polling booth was kept open till 4.]

5977. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You cannot tell me what time it really closed?—No.

5978. What time the voting finished?—No, I did not take that interest in it.

5979. Mr. Rose came to you; had you seen him before?—Yes, several times that morning.

5980. Had you seen him before that morning?—No more than just passing in the street.

5981. But nothing more?—Nothing, until about the election.

5982. Had he been just touching you on the subject before that morning?—No more than just saying, "You had better come with us."

5983. That is exactly what I mean; at last it took rather a more tangible form?—What do you mean?

5984. I mean he was a little more distinct in what he said to you between 12 and 1 o'clock about voting for Gower?—As the cab was by Sore's he said, "Come in," and I jumped into the cab; I did not want any pressing; and I went with the other voters.

5985. Mr. Rose promised you 2*l.* if you went with the other voters?—He did not.

5986. Did he not promise you 2*l.*?—He did not promise me a farthing.

5987. He mentioned 2*l.* to you?—He did not.

5988. I did not say paid it?—No, he did not; he never mentioned a farthing to me.

5989. Now just try and remember, if you please?—I have told you the truth; it is as true as I am standing in this box.

5990. I have not yet said that you have not been saying to me what is not true, but I want you to apply your memory. Now, before you went to vote, did not Rose say something of this sort, "Now, if you "come you shall be paid 2*l.*"?—He did not mention any sum whatever.

5991. Did he say you should be paid like the others?—No; all that Mr. Rose said was, "Come in; "now that we are going you had better come with "the others."

5992. Did he make any sign to you?—No; if he did I never heard him.

5993. You never saw it, you mean; you are quite sure about that?—I am quite certain.

5994. Have you received any money from Rose?—I received 1*l.* several weeks after the election.

5995. Did you ask him for any money?—I never asked him for anything at all.

5996. Did you not ask him for 2*l.*?—No.

5997. Was 2*l.* mentioned after the election?—No; he said very likely when I received this one I might receive another after.

5398. Do you not call that a mention of 2*l.*; perhaps you do not, for you are on the right side, but I should have thought paying one and saying that you were to have another was a mention of 2*l.* Do not set up to be a particularly candid man, if it turns out, in the course of your examination, that that is what your candour is worth; I call that a mention of 2*l.*?—Yes.

5999. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Rose said you would probably have another?—Yes.

6000. What?—I do not know.

6001. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you get another?—No.

6002. How came you to get the 1*l.*?—He came to me when I was at the Reigate station, the goods station, and told me to come over to Sore's. I did, and he came to me and gave me 1*l.*

6003. What did he say?—He said, "That is what I "have got for you, and perhaps you shall have another "in a few weeks."

6004. Having said that Mr. Rose said, "That is "what I have got for you, and perhaps you will have "another," do you mean now (take your time in the answer) that nothing was said before the election about 2*l.*?—No.

6005. Have you seen Mr. Rose since, lately?—Not since he gave me the 2*l.*

6006. Have you seen him this week?—No, I have been away working in London this last fortnight, and I have not seen him.

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6007. When did you come down here?—On Saturday night.

6008. Did you see any of Mr. Gower's agents on Saturday night?—No.

6009. On Saturday?—No.

6010. Or this morning?—No more than passing.

6011. Did you have any conversation with them?—No.

6012. I wish to know particularly?—No; I have told you the truth, and I come here to tell the truth.

6013. How much have you received then altogether for the election?—I should say 6*l.*

6014. 5*l.* and 1*l.*?—Yes, I believe that is correct.

6015. Then were Mr. Monson's side altogether better paid, generally speaking, than Mr. Gower's?—I can only answer for myself; I had most from him.

6016. So far as you can judge from your own instance or from other instances, which would you say, that Mr. Monson's party or Mr. Gower's party were more liberal?—From what I could see of it, from my own experience, Mr. Monson's party was the most liberal; I had the proof of that.

6017. That is exactly what I wanted to know. Were you a voter in 1863?—No.

6018. Were you here at the election?—I was.

6019. Did you take any part in the election?—No.

6020. Did you never at all?—No.

6021. I understand that you took no part at all?—No, I did not.

6022. Neither in voting, in canvassing, nor in attending meetings on either side?—No.

6023. Did you take any part in the previous election, at the one in 1859?—No, I do not remember that I did.

6024. Have you been a voter ever since you have been at Reigate?—No, that was the only time I had a vote.

6025. Which time?—This last time.

GEORGE RANCE sworn and examined.

G. Rance.

6026. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you a voter at the last election?—Yes.

6027. You voted for a house?—Yes.

6028. What was the rent of the house?—10*l.* I believe.

6029. You believe; was it 10*l.*?—That is what it is, I believe.

6030. Did you pay your rent weekly?—Monthly.

6031. How much a month?—18*s.* 4*d.*

6032. What are you?—I am a gatherer, but being crippled I am obliged to be so; but I lived 19 years before that as coachman to the Castle.

6033. What are you now?—A rag and bone getter.

6034. Were you in that profession when the election took place?—Yes.

6035. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

6036. Now let me ask you, were you canvassed by the Monson party?—No.

6037. Not at all?—No.

6038. Then who canvassed you on the Gower side?—Mr. Gower himself, and Charles Smith.

6039. Was Mr. Joyes with them then?—Yes.

6040. Frederick?—Yes.

6041. How long before the election was that?—I suppose six or seven weeks; six weeks.

6042. Was Mr. Monson a candidate at that time?—Yes.

6043. Who was it introduced you to Mr. Gower?—Himself.

6044. Did Mr. Gower ask you for your vote?—He asked me who I was going to give my vote to, and I said, "To you, sir."

6045. You promised him at once?—I gave him my vote at once.

6045*a*. You did not hesitate at all about it?—Not in the least.

6046. After you promised your vote in that way did you see Job Apted?—About two or three days after I did.

6047. What took place between you and Job Apted about voting?—I asked him for a job, and he gave me a job, and sent me carrying bills round with my pony and cart, because I could not walk.

6048. You had a pony and cart?—Yes.

6049. And you were to go round with this pony and cart and deliver bills?—Yes.

6050. What were you to have for that?—I received 1*l.* I did not make any engagement at all.

6051. When was that 1*l.* paid you?—After I went to work.

6052. When you had worked a week?—Yes.

6053. Did Mr. Apted say anything of this sort, "If "you want a pound or two, you can call and have it"?—After I had worked for it; but I only received 1*l.*

6054. Was not that before you talked about your pony and cart? Did not Mr. Apted speak to you about a pound or two before you told him you had a pony and cart?—No.

6055. Well, then, you were paid the money?—Yes.

6056. 1*l.* a week?—1*l.* for the week.

6057. Did you get any other pounds for other weeks?—Yes.

6058. How many pounds did you get for the week's work?—Only 1*l.* for the week's work.

6059. Did you work the next week?—Yes, for three weeks, but not for Mr. Apted.

6060. Who did you work for then?—Mr. Durrant, while I was on the freehold.

6061. Did Mr. Durrant take charge of the freehold?—Yes, so far as I was concerned.

6062. And Mr. Apted attended to the Old part of the borough?—I did not know anything of Mr. Apted, only for the first week.

6063. You worked on the Old part of the borough for the first week?—Yes.

6064. And afterwards for Mr. Durrant?—Yes.

6065. At the freehold. Was 1*l.* all you received from Apted?—Yes.

6066. How much did you receive? How many days were you employed for that?—I worked a week for Mr. Apted at 1*l.* a week.

6067. Before you went into the freehold did not Apted tell you you should have a pound or two, and you should have 5*l.* for voting for Mr. Gower?—No; he never used the word at all.

6068. Did not he say you should have 5*l.* for voting for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower canvassed me.

6069. You told me you had promised Mr. Gower?—Yes; and Mr. Apted said, "if you work, I dare say "it will amount to that."

6070. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Apted said that?—Yes; those were all the words he used.

6071. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How much did Durrant pay you?—3*l.* for the same work for three weeks. I had my pony and cart, as I was crippled.

6072. Mr. Apted did mention the 5*l.*?—He said it might come to 5*l.* for my work, but if they did not work he would not give them anything. I had nothing to do with him, only for a week. I was to go to Mr. Durrant, and ask him to supply me with work.

6073. Were you at a meeting at the chapel at the freehold?—Yes.

6074. Of Mr. Gower's supporters?—Yes.

6075. I think you said so before, but I am reminded. I will ask you again; did you work for Mr. Durrant the three weeks?—Yes, with my pony and cart for the same thing as I worked for Mr. Apted. I could not get about without it.

6076. You were at the chapel meeting at the freehold?—Yes.

6077. Whose chapel is that; I believe it belongs to Mr. Smith?—I do not know whether it belongs to

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Mr. Smith; I cannot say whether it belongs to a party.

6078. Whether it is a freehold concern or no it is a dissenting chapel?—I do not know; I never attended. I am a churchman myself; I do not interfere with them, and they do not interfere with me.

6079. Were Mr. Durrant, Mr. Job Apted, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Joyes there?—No, I do not believe Mr. Smith was.

6080. Mr. Durrant was there, was he?—Yes.

6081. Was William Church there?—I do not know him.

6082. I suppose this was a meeting of voters?—I believe it was.

6083. Speeches were made and so on?—Yes.

6084. After the meeting was over did you hear Mr. Durrant say anything about going to the "Barley Mow?—He said, I do not know, sir, whether it was any beer for the vote or not, but he said you can have a little beer there for to-night. I do not know whether it was election beer or not.

6085. You do not know whether it was election beer; what do you mean by the term election beer?—I do not know whether it was election beer or no, because I went up and paid for my own.

6086. I want a definition of the term election beer; what do you mean by election beer?—I had heard that there was some election beer, that they had had beer sometimes.

6087. What do you call election beer?—When a man comes and asks you to have a pint, and you do not pay for it yourself.

6088. When you pay for it yourself it is not election beer, and when it is given to you it is election beer?—Sometimes.

6089. When it is a treat it is election beer?—No, not always; I put it down as election beer because I am not an electioneering man myself.

6090. At all events you went to the "Barley Mow" after the meeting at the chapel?—Yes.

6091. Was Mr. Durrant there?—I did not see him.

6092. Did you see many voters there?—Very few.

6093. Did you see 20 or 30?—There might have been 30, less or more, I cannot say that.

6094. About 30?—There might be, but I cannot say; it is impossible to say; but I will tell you the truth.

6095. That was about the number, was it not?—About 25; I cannot say to any more.

6096. Those were voters, were they not?—I believe so, but as I was very seldom amongst them, I cannot say.

6097. Were not those people having their election beer?—I do not know, I sat outside. I sat out on the stool all the time.

6098. Did you have some beer?—What I paid for I did.

6099. Did you pay for it?—I paid for it.

6100. Did you hear Mr. Durrant say anything about going over to the "Barley Mow" and having some beer?—He said there was a little beer at the "Barley Mow," but I did not have any of it; what I had I paid for myself; I think that is the best way.

6101. When he said there was a little beer over at the "Barley Mow," did he go across to the "Barley Mow"?—No, he went home.

6102. Did those 25 people go to the "Barley Mow"?—When they went up they called in.

6103. Was it after the chapel meeting at the chapel?—Not at the chapel.

6104. Well, after the chapel meeting?—Yes.

6105. He said it in the hearing of 20 or 30 people?—No, only to me; I never heard him say it to any one else.

6106. Then you went up?—I went, and paid for what I had myself, and then the others went up; but whether they paid for it or had it given to them I cannot say.

6107. On the morning of the polling day were you at the "Barley Mow?"—I was.

6108. There were somewhere about 30 persons there?—I should think there were from 20 to 30.

6109. Was there any breakfast laid out?—They had some breakfast in the room.

6110. Did you have any?—Yes, I did.

6111. Did you pay for your breakfast?—No.

6112. You would call that an election breakfast, I suppose?—I do; I call it an election breakfast on the system that I never paid for anything.

6113. What did you have; did you have tea?—Yes, I did not have any beer at all.

6114. Whilst you were there did the people seem to come in and go out after having breakfast?—There were only a few I saw come in. Mrs. Nicholls said, "Will you have any tea"; and I said, "thank you."

6115. As long as you were there did you see some 20 or 30 breakfasting?—No, I only saw two, and I did not know any of them.

6116. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What time was it that you were there?—About half-past 7.

6117. In the morning?—Yes.

6118. (*Mr. Commisssioner Smith.*) Were you there afterwards?—No.

6119. You have made a statement about this?—Yes, I did.

6120. When you made the statement of course the whole matter was fresher in your recollection than it is now?—Certainly it was.

6121. On that occasion you said there were about 30 had breakfast?—Well, at that time I had been very ill for two months, when Mr. Naylor, Mr. Apted, and Mr. Joyes came down.

6122. When Mr. Gilbert came?—No, Mr. Naylor.

6123. Did he come to you?—Yes, and I had never been out for nearly three months; they came down to me and were going to pay me, money which was owing to me for driving to the poll.

6124. What was owing?—I drove a carriage.

6125. What was owing to you for that?—1*l.* 1*s.*, for which I was engaged, and I never received it.

6126. 1*l.* 1*s.* for the day?—Yes, for driving.

6127. You did the work of driving and never received the 1*l.* 1*s.*?—Yes.

6128. Who engaged you?—Mr. Job Apted.

6129. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were engaged as a driver?—Yes.

6130. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And he never paid you; did you not ask him for it?—I asked him once, but he said he would see about it, and I never asked him a second time; I thought I never should receive it.

6131. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you say 1*l.* or 1*l.* 1*s.*?—1*l.* a week; but I was promised 1*l.* 1*s.* for the driving duty.

6132. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 1*l.* a week whilst you were working with your pony and cart, and for driving on the polling day you were to have 1*l.* 1*s.*?—He gave me 1*l.* a week, but for driving I was to have 1*l.* 1*s.* It was not my own pony, it was a licensed trap with which I drove to the poll.

6133. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you not get your 1*l.* 1*s.*?—I could not get it; it would have been very acceptable to me after I had been laid up so long, as I had got a large family.

6134. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How many hours were you engaged?—All day.

6135. Early in the morning?—I drove up the first poll.

6136. At 8 o'clock?—Yes.

6137. Who drove when you voted?—Some one held my horse while I voted.

6138. I think you had better ask Job Apted for it; were you at any of the earlier elections?—Once before, when I voted for Mr. Gower.

6139. When was that?—1863.

6140. Did you receive anything for voting then?—Yes.

6141. How much?—2*l.* 10*s.*, and I worked the same then.

6142. Were you lame then?—I was not quite so lame as I am now, because I have had the rheumatism very badly since, and it has drawn my limb up, and I cannot use it.

6143. Did you work then as you worked on the present occasion?—Yes.

6144. With a pony and cart?—No, I had not got a pony and cart.

6145. What did you do, walk about?—Well, I hobbled with my stick and went over to Redhill to take bills, and over Reigate-heath and the freehold.

6146. How long did you work?—Two weeks.

6147. At 1*l.* a week?—Yes.

6148. Did you get anything for your polling?—5*s.*

6149. Was it included in the 2*l.* 10*s.*?—I beg your pardon, I drove on the poll day before the last election, and I had my 1*l.* 1*s.* for it.

6150. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had been accustomed to drive?—I have been a coachman all my life.

6151. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was the only election I suppose?—Those two were all I have been in.

6152. On moving about at these elections, distributing these bills, I suppose you heard some conversation about election matters?—Very little; I did not put myself forward, I thought I was no electioneerer at all, and I gave my vote gratis to Mr. Gower.

6153. Did you hear anybody speak on the election of 1865 about Mr. Monson's party giving money for votes?—No, I did not; people came to me and asked me to give my vote, but they never offered me anything; I said I voted for Mr. Gower, and would not do it.

6154. Some of Mr. Monson's party came to you and asked you for your vote?—They asked me for my vote, and Mr. Monson himself, but when they asked me I said I was engaged and should give my vote for Mr. Gower.

6155. No money was offered to you?—No.

6156. Either in 1865 or 1863?—No; and I never went to any meeting at all except that chapel.

6157. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1865 you had your pony and cart before you spoke to Apted about working?—I had a donkey, and now I have got up to a pony.

6158. In 1865 when Apted told you to do some work had you your pony and cart?—Yes.

6159. How long ago did you give it up and take to a donkey?—I had a donkey first.

6160. Well, then, how long was it you had given up the donkey?—It is two years ago.

6161. Which was it you had in 1863, the donkey or the pony?—I had ne'er a one.

6162. You told me you did not use it?—I had not not got one, I had not got any money to find it with.

6163. How many bills did you take out in the cart when you went out with the pony last election?—Sometimes 30 a day.

6164. Where used you to stick them up?—I used to carry them to people, saddlers and others. I put them down at Wood Hatch turnpike; I took seven right down there at the election time, and I furnished some to the gentleman who sits across there (*pointing to a gentleman in the hall*) at the same time.

6165. How far is that from where you live?—I had to come up to Reigate, and I took them to the freehold.

6166. How many days did you go about with the pony and cart?—Every day I did something or other, or else I should not have been paid for it.

6167. Had you anything to do besides sticking up bills?—Not whilst I was on the election; I never did anything whilst I was working at the election.

6168. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not do your own work?—No.

6169. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have no regular work, you are your own master?—Yes.

6170. In your business you are not answerable to anybody else; you work on your own account?—Yes.

6171. What I want to know is how many days in the week did you work to stick up bills?—I cannot say, not to a day, but I was every day taking out at the freehold.

6172. You were every day there?—Yes, and they told me I was to go whether there was any work or not to take out.

6173. How many days in the week did you do any work?—Six days.

6174. Do you mean that?—Yes, something every day, little or much.

6175. What did you do?—Take circulars round or bills.

6176. Every day?—Every day.

6177. Did you always call with the pony or on foot?—Always with the pony, because I was not able to walk.

6178. Did you call with your pony or on foot?—With my pony and cart; I used to take my boy, he used to take out the bills, and run in with them, because I was not able to walk.

6179. When you worked with Durrant what did he supply you with?—Bills and circulars.

6180. The same?—Yes.

6181. When did you call for them; the same as before?—I had to come up here.

6182. You first did it for Apted?—For Apted only one week.

6183. You first were employed for Apted?—Yes.

6184. And after that for Durrant?—Yes.

6185. Did you do the same work for both?—Yes.

6186. Did you come and present yourself in the morning at the same place when you were in Mr. Durrant's employ as when you worked for Mr. Apted?—Yes, I went up to Mr. Durrant's.

6187. When you were working for Apted you came every morning and said, "Have you any work "for me"?—Yes.

6188. Where did you go to after that?—Mr. Durrant's.

6189. And where did you go to before, to Apted's house or the committee room?—I saw Mr. Apted outside the committee room.

6190. You did go to the committee room?—Yes.

6191. You were afterwards employed by Mr. Durrant?—Yes.

6192. Where did you go of a morning to inquire for work?—Mr. Durrant used to get them for me.

6193. Where did you go?—To Mr. Durrant's house.

6194. Where is his house?—In the freehold.

6195. You did not come up here, but you went to Mr. Durrant's house?—Yes.

6196. Not every time?—Mr. Durrant sent me up sometimes to the place to ask for them to take out.

6197. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You spoke of a boy; what boy was that?—My son. I took my son, because I was not able to get out of my trap to walk.

6198. How old is he?—Eleven years old.

6199. I should like to understand this: we were told by a witness that there was some election beer?—Yes.

6200. And you had beer yourself?—Yes, and I paid for it.

6201. You paid for it; for your own beer?—Yes, for what I had.

6202. And during the time of your work you had no election beer?—I had been asked to drink, I cannot say who paid for it, but after I drank I paid my part.

6203. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I suppose you

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tasted the election beer, did you not?—I cannot say whether that was it.

6204. Did you taste the election beer?—I paid for mine.

6205. You never took any beer without paying for it?—If I drank with another person, I always paid for it.

6206. You never took any without paying for it; is that what you say?—Only my allowance. If I call for a pint of beer and some friends ask me to drink out of theirs it is just the same, it is going half-and-half; Yorkshire.

6207. That is all you did?—Yes, that is all I did.

The witness then withdrew.

G. Jupp.

GEORGE JUPP sworn and examined.

6208. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Jupp?—A carpenter.

6209. On your own account?—No, not on my own account.

6210. A journeyman carpenter?—Yes, sir.

6211. What rent do you pay for your house?—6*s.* a week.

6212. You voted at the last election?—Yes.

6213. You were a voter then?—Yes.

6214. And also in '63 I suppose?—Yes.

6215. How long have you been a voter for the borough?—I have voted twice for Mr. Gower.

6216. In '63 and '65?—Yes.

6217. Do you know Mr. Edwin Stevens of Reigate?—Yes.

6218. Do you recollect on the morning of the polling day having seen Mr. Stevens?—Perfectly well.

6219. Did you go with him to the "Crown"?—No, not to the "Crown."

6220. Where did you go to?—We went to the "White Hart" tap.

6221. And had something to drink?—Yes, we had something to drink.

6222. Did you pay for it?—I did not pay for it.

6223. Did you see Mr. Stevens pay for it?—He did pay for it.

6224. Edwin Stevens is the name, I believe; is that correct?—Yes, Edwin Stevens, the painter.

6225. I just wish to inquire what you had to drink; I should like to know?—I think it was some ale, but it might have been brandy and water.

6226. Had you voted then?—No.

6227. It might have been both?—Sometimes one and sometimes the other.

6228. Well, there is no inconsistency in it?—No, I like ale first, and brandy and water as a *topper.*

6229. It would be more respectable?—Yes.

6230. Do you recollect being at the "Warwick Arms" the evening of the nomination or the evening before?—No.

6231. I mean where Mr. Rose was chairman?—No; I recollect being there a fortnight before the election.

6232. Do you not recollect being there the night of the nomination?—No, I do not think I was there.

6233. Tell me, if you can; I am satisfied you will tell me if you recollect?—About a week or a fortnight before the election I was there.

6234. I suppose it was a meeting of Mr. Gower's friends?—I do not know whether it was a meeting; I happened to drop in about 11 o'clock.

6235. Was Mr. Rose in the chair?—That I cannot say.

6236. Who was the landlord of the public house?—I forget his name.

6237. Was it Bell?—No, I think not.

6238. Wood?—I think that was the person.

6239. How long did you remain there?—I generally remained till the last.

6240. Then you can tell me?—It was 12 or 1 o'clock.

6241. And what time did you go there?—About 11.

6242. And you were not the first to come there?—Not by a great many.

6243. Had you been very merry, drinking a good deal?—I don't know for that, I had two or three glasses.

6244. Who paid for it?—I did not; they were small glasses.

6245. Small or large would make no difference, for I suppose they did not stint you?—I was not refused anything.

6246. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You preferred it little and good?—I should have liked larger ones.

6247. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you remember being at the "Bell" public house, where Wood was likewise chairman?—I recollect looking in.

6248. And you also saw plenty of drink there?—We had some ale there.

6249. Did you pay for it?—No.

6250. Did you see any one pay for it?—No.

6251. It was what was so graphically called here by the last witness "election ale"?—I do not know what they called it; but I never paid for any.

6252. It was "election ale"?—I dare say it was.

6253. When did the "election ale" commence? how long before the election?—I could not tell.

6254. Oh, yes, you can?—It might be a month.

6255. About how many public houses where this "election ale" was going on had you visited at the time?—Very few indeed.

6256. I have called your attention to this; you know you said you were the last to go; about how many different houses had you visited?—Four or five.

6257. Four or five?—Yes.

6258. And did they continue open up to the nomination day?—No, sir, only two or three of a night.

6259. I do not mean they were open every night and at all times?—They were open when a day was appointed.

6260. And "election ale" was to be had?—Yes.

6261. Did they continue open down to the day of the nomination?—Yes.

6262. What was the largest number of people you will say who were at any of these meetings? Give me the largest number; would it be 40 or 50?—I dare say there was between 30 and 40 at the "Warwick Arms;" there would be that.

6263. And all were drinking?—I was drinking.

6264. You could see whether the others were drinking?—Generally a drinking.

6265. All drinking?—Yes.

6266. And all drinking on the same terms as you were?—I never paid for any.

6267. And you had no doubt they were all drinking on the same terms as you were?—Not the least.

6268. Tell me the last public house bar that you were at up to the election; I do not mean the day of nomination, but up to it?—I cannot tell.

6269. Were you not there the night of the nomination?—I cannot say; but I know I was there the polling day.

6270. But on the evening of the nomination day were you not there?—Well, I cannot say.

6271. Have you any doubt you were? Where do you live?—Warwick-road, Redhill.

6272. All these public houses were at Redhill?—Yes.

6273. Before I leave that, do you know the public houses that were opened on behalf of Mr. Monson at Redhill; we understand he was rather the Redhill candidate?—Yes.

6274. Can you state the public houses?—There was Langridge's, and Topliss, and Coombe's. I think that is the lot.

6275. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is the name of Coombe's?—The "White Horse," a beer house.

6276. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Two public houses and a beershop?—Yes.

6277. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What was the name of the other public house?—The "Railway" hotel.

6278. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) About how long before the election were they open?—It might be a month.

6279. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who kept the beer house?—Coombes.

6280. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They were open about a month?—Yes.

6281. Did they continue open till the election was done?—I think they only had one or two meetings.

6282. Where?—At Topliss's. I think they had two meetings at Topliss's, and the other about the same, and one at Coombe's.

6283. Did you attend any of the meetings?—I attended two of the meetings.

6284. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Which?—Topliss and Langridge.

6285. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose drink was about there the same as the other?—I could not get much. I could not get there till about 11; I was there about the last, and the glasses were empty.

6286. How many persons were there?—About 50.

6287. Did you fare better at the other meetings you attended? You used to have a glass or two at Langridge's, and of course you did not pay for it?—No.

6288. And do you recollect any one paying; I suppose you were not the exception?—I never thought of it.

6289. Have you any doubt all the others you saw were drinking on the same terms as you were?—I dare say they were.

6290. Do you believe they did drink on the same terms?—I dare say they did.

6291. Do you know Mr. Featherstone?—I do.

6292. And also Mr. Green?—Yes.

6293. Apart from the bars, the treating, or drinking, or anything of that kind, do you remember Mr. Green telling you that you would be as well off this time as the last?—I saw Mr. Green outside the Market Hall at Redhill, and he called out to me "Jupp, you are very backward in coming forward," and he said, "Did I not behave well to you and as a "gentleman at the last election?" and I said "Yes," and he said he would do the same again.

6294. You were a little backward?—Yes.

6295. How long before the election was that?—A fortnight or three weeks.

6296. He did behave like a gentleman to you before?—He paid me what I asked.

6297. Was Mr. Green, Henry Green, an agent of Mr. Gower's?—Yes.

6298. You voted for Mr. Gower in '63?—Yes.

6299. What did he give you?—I was on three or four weeks.

6300. What did he give you?—7*s.* 6*d.* a week; 7*s.* 6*d.* a day I believe.

6301. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Which lasted three weeks?—Three weeks or four weeks.

6302. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It would come to about 10*l.* or more?—It might be a little more over or under.

6303. We will take it then that it was about 10*l.*?—Yes.

6304. And expecting you would be equally treated by him you became a little more active for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

6305. You then promised Mr. Green, in fact?—Yes.

6306. And had then decided to vote for Mr. Gower?—I had then decided to vote for Mr. Gower.

6307. Who was Mr. Featherstone? Was he on behalf of Mr. Gower or Mr. Monson?—I believe he was on behalf of Mr. Gower.

6308. Did you receive any money at all for voting at the election?—Not at all, not a copper.

6309. I mean at this election?—No.

6310. Did you apply to Mr. Green?—No, I did not.

6311. Had you been employed? Was your name on the committee list?—I do not think it was.

6312. Had you been canvassing or exerting yourself in any way?—No, not this last election.

6313. You applied to nobody?—No, not for the payment.

6314. How was that, you expected payment, for you said you promised if you were equally well treated as at last time?—Because I expected he would bring it. I thought I could take his word.

6315. I believe you voted?—Yes.

6316. And like others you were disappointed?—I was.

6317. Do you remember a conversation with Mr. Featherstone?—Yes.

6318. I believe he spoke of the amount of money Mr. Gower would expend?—No; Mr. Featherstone said to me, "Which side are you going?" and I said I had not made up my mind. He said, "You had "better come on our side, we can do better than have "so much lush; we do not intend to have so much "lush."

6319. Was that old Featherstone or young Featherstone?—Old Thomas Featherstone.

6320. Was that before you saw Mr. Green or after?—After.

6321. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He did not know you had seen Green?—No, I never let them know.

6322. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he not add something more to the effect that Mr. Gower was not particular to a 1,000*l.*?—He said, "If you vote for "Mr. Gower there will be such a treat on Redhill-"common as never was known; he is not nice as to a "1,000*l.* or two."

6323. You told me you had received no money at all?—No, none.

6324. And I suppose you were disappointed in not getting it?—Yes.

6325. Did you receive any money at all?—No, I cannot say I did.

6326. None at all?—No.

6327. Did you not see Mr. Green at all?—Oh yes, I saw a man outside after I had seen Mr. Green. The man said, "Are you going into the committee "room," and I said "No." He said, "Come along, "I intend having some *lotion*," and I followed him into the committee room, for it was a very nice thing to get. I saw George Rooms, and he gave me the tip, and I went out.

6328. You and he went out?—Yes.

6329. Were there many persons about Mr. Green at this time?—It was in the committee room; I dare say there were 30.

6330. Rooms got some money, and you?—I did not get any.

6331. No, he gave it to Rooms. How much "lotion" did you get?—Not much, seven or eight pots.

6332. Did you see the money that passed—the amount?—No, he put it into his hand.

6333. And you had seven or eight pots?—It only amounted to a pot apiece, for there were several people.

6334. Rooms was paymaster?—Yes.

6335. They were all voters?—That I do not know.

6336. They were in the committee room?—Where he had the money handed over. When we went away some of the people followed us.

6337. Where did you go to?—To Mr. Simons.

6338. Was that the only occasion you remember of money being paid by Green?—Yes; it was very scarce the first part of the election.

6339. It became more abundant?—The last day or two.

FIFTH DAY.

G. Jupp.

27 Aug. 1866.

6340. What time in the day did you vote?—Not very early; we could not get good usage afterwards; it was about 3 o'clock, as I thought I would hold back.

6341. You were a very important man till you voted?—Yes.

6342. Afterwards you were not?—No.

6343. Did you breakfast at one of the public houses that morning?—I breakfasted at home; no, I did not; I remember, I breakfasted along with a friend that morning.

6344. Did you lunch before you voted?—I think it was after.

6345. The good usage was only till you voted?—I think it was after at the "Warwick Arms."

6346. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) An election lunch?—I suppose so; I never paid.

6347. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In 1863 you received about 10*l.* on behalf of Mr. Gower from Mr. Green; were there many employed at that election?—Yes, I think there were a great many.

6348. Money was more abundant then than it was in 1865, was it?—Yes.

6349. Much more?—Oh yes.

6350. On both sides?—Well, I suppose so; yes.

6351. You think it was on both sides?—I am certain it was.

6352. And how about the public houses, were they as free and as open in 1863 as in 1865?—Oh yes, quite as free.

6353. And more so, I suppose?—Perhaps they might be.

6354. You were better treated in 1863 than 1865?—A great deal.

6355. Now, might I inquire, what did you do in 1863?—Had to meet at the "Wheatsheaf" every morning at half-past 9 to see if there were any circulars to carry out, to fix flag poles, or anything required.

6356. It was very little, I suppose?—No, we were kept humbugging about, and had to be there.

6357. And had your glass of beer?—No, pay for what you wanted in the day-time.

6358. But at night you had abundance?—After we had done work.

6359. Which was humbugging about? Why, you knew the work was all a sham in 1863?—Oh no, you had to be at your post.

6360. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you at your post every day?—I think I was; very rare to be away.

6361. Was anything said about your being at your post in 1865?—No, sir.

6362. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you receive any money on behalf of Mr. Monson or any from any person on his account?—No.

6363. Were you offered anything?—No.

6364. When you entered the beer shops did not you see anybody at all on his account; were not you canvassed by any one on his account?—I was asked by several whether I would go that way. I could have had 30*s.* a week for Monson if I had liked, but I did not intend voting for him, and I did not take it.

6365. How do you know you could have had it?—Because it was offered to me by a man named Kenward at Redhill.

6366. When was it offered to you?—About three weeks before the election; I should have had the first instalment, the first week's work. If I had gone on for Monson I should have received 30*s.* a week.

6367. And I suppose if you had not seen Green you would most likely have taken it?—I should have taken it.

6368. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And voted for Monson?—I should.

6369. If you had taken the money you would have voted for Monson?—Yes, if I had gone on canvassing for him I should have voted for him.

6370. Is it Joseph Kenward?—Yes.

6371. That day that you were promised this money, how long was that before the election?—About a fortnight or three weeks; I cannot say. A day or two after I saw Rooms at the committee room.

6372. Do you recollect the writ coming down?—Yes.

6373. Was it after that?—I could not say whether it was after that or before.

6374. Were you at a meeting at Redhill when Mr. Apted was in the chair?—No, sir. I do not think I ever saw Job Apted in the chair not this last election.

6375. The night before the writ came down?—No.

6376. Can you say whether this was before or after the writ came down?—No, I could not.

6377. That you were at Rooms'?—No, I could not.

6378. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I dare say you were on the register at an earlier election, 1859?—No, I think not; I have only been on the register at two elections.

6379. Did you take any part in the election of 1859, when Wilkinson stood?—No, sir.

6380. When the other Mr. Monson stood?—No, sir.

6381. Did you take any interest about any other election?—No, sir, not at all.

6382. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was it you did receive before from Mr. Green?—I do not know how many weeks I was on; it was either three or four weeks.

6383. Did you receive as much as 10*l.*?—I received over 10*l.* if it was four weeks.

6384. You recollect you were examined before the committee of the House of Commons?—Yes.

6385. "I cannot exactly say what it was; it was "about 10*l.*"?—Yes, I gave my statement to Mr. Gilbert; it was either a little over or under.

T. Dale.

THOMAS DALE called, sworn, and examined.

6386. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You voted at the last election, did you not?—Yes.

6387. What was your vote for, the house that you lived in?—Yes, 13*l.* a year.

6388. Do you pay the same rent now?—Yes.

6389. It is London-road?—Yes.

6390. What are you?—Gardener.

6391. Did you promise your vote before the election came on?—Yes, I did.

6392. Who did you promise it to?—Mr. Gower.

6393. Did he ask you for it?—No.

6394. Was it Mr. William Joyes who asked you for it?—Yes.

6395. Did you at once promise it to him, or did you hesitate about it?—I promised directly.

6396. Can you tell me how long before the election came on it was?—I cannot say how many weeks; just as the canvassing begun.

6397. Was it four or five weeks?—I cannot say how long it was.

6398. Were you canvassed by Mr. Monson's side?—No, sir. There was one gentleman called at my house, but my wife told him I had promised Mr. Gower.

6399. Did you see any of Mr. Monson's party afterwards at any time about your vote?—No.

6400. At that time you were a gardener, were you?—Yes.

6401. Was any arrangement made between you and Joyes for your vote?—Not for my vote exactly.

6402. Be kind enough to tell me what the arrangement was?—After I had promised Mr. Joyes, he said if I would go on to work for Mr. Gower he would give me a fortnight's work and give me 2*l.*

6403. Were you to go to garden for Mr. Gower?—No, sir; anything that he wanted me for.

6404. And did you do any work for him?—Well, sir, I was open to it; I cannot say that I did any work.

6405. Do you know whether you were put down on a committee?—Well, I was on the committee sheet.

6406. Were you paid the 2*l.*?—No.

6407. Never?—No; I received 30*s.*

6408. Who paid you 30*s.*?—William Joyes.

6409. When?—I cannot tell exactly. I should think it must be somewhere in November.

6410. That was after the election?—Yes, a long time.

6411. Did not you apply for a larger sum?—No.

6412. Did not you look for a larger sum than 30*s.*?—When he paid me 30*s.* he told me there would be another 1*l.* added; that would make 3*l.*

6413. How would that make 3*l.*?—30*s.* I received, and 10*s.* due to me out of the 2*l.*, and 1*l.* would make 3*l.*

6414. Your original bargain was for 2*l.*; he paid you in November 30*s.*; he then intimated that another 1*l.* would be paid?—Would be added.

6415. Does not it occur to you that that would not be carrying out the original bargain, but it was giving you something more?—I do not know why he did so.

6416. Do you recollect anything more being said about another sum of money?—No.

6417. Were not you to be paid the same as the others?—That made it, I suppose.

6418. Were you to be paid, as you understood it, the same as the others?—3*l.*

6419. Pray understand me. Were you to be paid—never mind the amount—but were you to be paid or not, as you understood, the same as the others?—I believe that was mentioned.

6420. Did you understand that 5*l.* was to be paid for the others?—No.

6421. Did you hear 5*l.* mentioned as a sum during the election at all?—No.

6422. Did not you hear 5*l.* mentioned as the sum from Mr. Gower's people at all?—No, I did not.

6423. Have you been a voter at the previous elections?—No, this was the first.

6424. Is this the first election you have taken any part in?—Yes.

6425. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were to receive this 2*l.*?—Yes.

6426. For work, you say?—Yes.

6427. And you are a gardener?—Yes.

6428. What, a jobbing gardener?—No, I work for Mr. Highbury.

6429. Is he a master gardener?—He is a nurseryman.

6430. During all this time did you continue upon your work for your master?—Yes, I did.

6431. You did, in fact, no work for the Gower committee?—No further than I had been summoned to some of the committee rooms, and I came of an evening.

6432. When your work was done with your master?—Yes.

6433. I suppose you attended some of the meetings where there were refreshments?—Yes, I did.

6434. Pretty well the sort of work that all the other persons did who were paid?—Yes.

AMOS ELLIOTT sworn and examined.

A. Elliott.

6435. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are a voter for this borough?—Yes.

6436. And voted at the last election for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

6437. What is your qualification?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

6438. What are you?—Bricklayer.

6439. And where do you live?—Nutley-lane.

6440. Were you canvassed by the Monson party?—I was.

6441. And were you canvassed on behalf of Mr. Gower?—Yes.

6442. Who canvassed you first, which party?—I promised my vote to Mr. Job Apted in the room underneath, outside the door underneath.

6443. Was that before you had been canvassed by any of Mr. Monson's party?—It was.

6444. When you promised to Mr. Apted, was anything said to you about receiving money?—He said to me, he asked me for my vote, and I told him that I did not know as I should vote at all. He says, "If "you don't vote at all and work for us you shall "have 2*l.*"

6445. Did he tell you what work you were to do?—I was to do the best I could on behalf of Mr. Gower.

6446. But no other work than that, simply to ask persons for their votes?—And bring them here to the committee room underneath.

6447. That was to be your pay if you did not vote and you worked; what was to be your pay if you did vote?—3*l.*

6448. Then you would have 1*l.* more?—Yes.

6449. Did you canvass?—Yes.

6450. Where did you canvass?—Reigate-hill, one place.

6451. How many times did you canvass at Reigate-hill?—Only once.

6452. On what occasion was it that you then canvassed?—I canvassed my brother-in-law for Mr. Gower.

6453. Did you go over on purpose to see your brother-in-law?—Yes, I did.

6454. Was there a meeting that night?—No.

6455. I suppose you frequently go to see your brother-in-law?—No, it is not very often; not once a twelvemonth.

6456. Unless you are paid for it?—Sometimes I go and have a cup of tea, perhaps once a twelvemonth.

6457. Was this the twelvemonthly visit that you paid?—I went on purpose to see my brother-in-law.

6458. If there was another election to open to-morrow I suppose you would want to be paid to go and drink a cup of tea about that?—I do not know about that; I went on purpose to see my brother-in-law.

6459. Where else did you canvass?—I canvassed a man in Bell-street.

6460. How far from your house?—Three-quarters of a mile.

6461. You canvassed in the evening?—Yes.

6462. Was there any public meeting or private committee meeting?—Not as I am aware of that night.

6463. Where did you canvass?—In the road.

6464. Did you go to any beer house?—No, I brought him straight to the room underneath.

6465. Did you go on purpose to see him?—No; I was going to meet another man.

6466. You were taking your evening walk?—I was taking my evening walk.

6467. Tell me where else you canvassed?—William King, in Nutley-lane.

6468. What did you do with William King?—I brought him here, according to my orders.

6469. Why did not you bring the others here?—I did bring them here.

6470. Did you bring your brother-in-law here?—Yes, I did.

6471. Did you get him put on the committee?—I brought him here, and put him in charge of Job Apted. I do not know what was done afterwards.

6472. Is that the phrase, giving a voter in charge to Job Apted?—I was to bring him here.

6473. What did you say to your brother-in-law to induce him to come all that distance to see Job Apted? did you make any promise to him?—Not a farthing.

6474. Have you heard from your brother-in-law that he has had any promise made to him?—I have not.

FIFTH DAY.

A. Elliott.

27 Aug. 1866.

6475. What is he ?—A quarryman.

6476. Now King, three-quarters of a mile ; why did you bring him to the committee room ?—I brought him here, and left him talking to Job Apted.

6477. Had not you persuaded him to vote ?—I told him I thought he had better come on the working man's side.

6478. Well now, was not it the understood thing that every one of those working men were to be paid ? —I never said a word to them about it ; what other people told them I do not know.

6479. Was not it pretty well understood amongst you that you were to be paid ?—I never said anything about it.

6480. That is no answer to my question. Was not it pretty well understood amongst you that you were all to be paid ?—I was to be paid for what I had done.

6481. Did you bring your friend from Nutley-lane, and give him in charge to Job Apted ?—I left him in the room.

6482. Was anybody else with him in the room besides Job Apted ?—His son.

6483. Is he a young man ?—Yes.

6484. Is he a voter ?—No.

6485. Were those the only three left in the room ? —The only three that ever I saw in the room.

6486. Did you see how long these people remained with Job ?—They done as they liked.

6487. What do you mean ?—They talked over whatever matters they thought proper.

6488. To make the arrangement about paying for the vote ?—I dare say that is it.

6489. Have you any doubt about it ?—No doubt at all.

6490. Did you say something to this man King about being paid for his vote ?—No, I did not.

6491. You left that for private arrangement with Job ?—I left that for private arrangement with Apted.

6492. Was there anybody else you canvassed ?— Pobrook, as I told you.

6493. Where does he live ?—Is that the man in Bell-street ?—Yes.

6494. I asked you if there was anybody else ?—No, that was the three I canvassed. I spoke to several others.

6495. But you did not bring them up, as you were ordered to do, into the charge of Job Apted ?—No.

6496. Then you would not call that any work to meet a man in the street and ask him for his vote ?— I do not know, sir. After I have done my work, and had my tea, I have generally plenty of work to do at home, and not run about after other people.

6497. Do you mean to say seriously you called that work ?—Of course, I was out on that day.

6498. And then you voted ?—Yes.

6499. Did you get your 3*l.* which was promised you ?—No.

6500. That was 1*l.* for your voting day, for polling at the election, and 2*l.* for bringing these three people. You did not get the promises from these three, you only brought them to the committee room ?—They walked here, I did not bring them.

6501. Are you quite certain that you received no promise from anybody else exeept Job Apted ?—I am quite certain I did not.

6502. You will swear to it ?—Yes.

6503. You know Alexander Rose ?—Yes.

6504. He lives in Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

6505. When did you see him last ?—Well, I see him this morning, I think.

6506. Did you see him last night ?—I did not.

6507. Did you see him on Saturday night ?—I did not.

6508. Or on Friday ?—I do not think I did.

6509. Where did you see him this morning ?—I see him about a hundred yards before me.

6510. Did you speak to him ?—I did not.

6511. Did he to you ?—No.

6512. During the time this inquiry has been going on, do you mean to say you have had no conversation with Alexander Rose ?—Of course I have to pass his house often. I have seen him ; but I have had no conversation concerning the election.

6513. Not once ?—Not once.

6514. That you will swear to ?—I will.

6515. Have you looked at him about the election ? —No, I have had no conversation concerning the election.

6516. Or has he nodded to you, which might mean " keep things dark " ?—No.

6517. Not at all ?—No.

6518. I will ask you again ; be careful how you answer. Will you swear you have never had any promise whatever from Alexander Rose about this election for money ?—I will swear that I have not.

6519. Is that your signature ?—It is.

6520. Do you know this book ?—I have seen it before. I will tell you where the mistake is presently.

6521. Mr. Naylor brought that to you ? — Quite right. I will explain the mistake to you presently.

6522. Was there a person with Mr. Naylor ?—Yes, a person who wore spectacles.

6523. I dare say that gentleman was Mr. Hinde, Mr. Naylor's clerk. He saw you sign this book ?— He did.

6524. Tell me, was this read to you before you signed it. You saw this book ?—I saw the book.

6525. Did you read it ?—I did not.

6526. Did you know why you were asked to sign this book ?—Yes, he come and represented himself as one of Mr. Gower's agents in London.

6527. You knew that ?—I knew that.

6528. Did not you tell him that you had been promised 3*l.* by Mr. Alexander Rose ?—I did not.

6529. And that there was due to you 1*l.* 10*s.* out of the 3*l.* ?—I did not. I told him there was the 30*s.* due to me ; quite right that is ; but I did not tell him Alexander Rose.

6530. You will swear to that ?—Yes, I will swear to it.

6531. Who did you tell Mr. Hamblin that you had had this promise of 3*l.* from ?—I told him no one. He come to my door and he asked if I had got a private room. I told him I had not. He says, " Who " is inside " ? I said, " The washerwoman." He says, " Can I come in " ? I says, " Yes, you can." I asked him in. He showed me the book.

6532. I will ask you to be cautious about this, because this has been in the presence of two persons, Hamblin, who represented himself to be Mr. Naylor, and his clerk, Mr. Hinde ?—Yes ; and there were four persons besides in the room ; my wife, Mrs. Duffell, and two nieces of mine. He told me to speak very inwardly, because he did not wish for anybody to know what business there was.

6533. I suppose you did speak very inwardly ?—I did, and that is where the mistake was made.

6534. Then he mistook Alexander Rose for Job Apted ?—He whispered to me, and I whispered to him.

6535. Do you mean to say these names are so much alike that a man might mistake Job Apted for Alexander Rose ?—He asked me if it was Joyes or Rose. I says, " No." I spoke very inwardly. That is where the mistake arose. I did not say Alexander Rose.

6536. Then you said nothing to him about Apted ? —Not at all. I signed the book and he put something down afterwards, what it was I do not know. He wished me good evening, and knocked the ink bottle over into the bargain.

6537. How came he to know it was 3*l.* promised ? —I do not know.

6538. Did not you tell him it was 3*l.* ?—I told him when he showed me the book.

6539. Then he was right with regard to the 3*l.*, wherever he got his information ?—Yes.

6540. Were you concerned in any of the prior elections ; 1863 ?—Yes.

6541. Did you attend any of the meetings in Nutley-lane ?—On which election ?

6542. This election of 1865?—No, sir, I did not, not in Nutley-lane.

6543. There were some?—I believe there were at the beer houses; I was not there.

6544. You never went?—It happened, I believe, on Friday night, when I was busy.

6545. Were you interested in the election of 1863?—I voted for William Arthur Wilkinson then.

6546. Were you paid for voting, or we will call it work?—I received 2*l.* from Frederick Joyes for that.

6547. For that election?—For that election.

6548. What did you do for the 2*l.*?—Well, no further than being on the committee meetings.

6549. You did your ordinary work in the day, and attended the committee meetings in the evenings?—That is right.

6550. Was there any open-house work, drinking, upon that election?—Well, I do not remember ever paying for anything what I had myself.

6551. I suppose you had something?—I did, sir.

6552. Frequently, whenever you went to the committee meetings?—Whenever I went to the committee meetings.

6553. Then, in 1865, did you attend any of the meetings?—I did.

6554. And did you have refreshment and brandy and water, or anything of that kind?—I never drink spirits.

6555. What do you drink?—Beer and porter.

6556. Did you get your beer and porter without paying for it?—I did.

6557. And was it the same thing in 1863 as 1865?—Well, I do not know.

6558. Much about the same?—Much about the same.

6559. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) As to the public houses?—Yes.

6560. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you been offered anything by the opposite party at either of those elections?—This last election I was going down Bell-street, the same night I met Pobrook. As I were going down Bell-street, past the "Grapes," Mr. James Nicholls was standing at the door. He called me and said, "I want to speak to you 'inside." I went into the back parlour. He followed me, shut the door, and said, "I merely went to ask you for your vote." I says, "Mr. Nicholls, I have promised it on behalf of "Mr. Gower." He says, "You had better come our "side." I said, "No, I have promised my word, and "I shall stick to it." And he says, "You know I can "afford to pay you." And then he asked me if I would have a glass of ale. I thanked him; he gave me the glass of ale, and I wished him "good night."

6561. Did he offer you any sum of money at all?—He did not. All he said was, "You know I can afford "to pay you."

6562. But you expressed yourself staunch to Mr. Gower?—I had promised my word, and I should stick to it.

6563. Was that the only occasion on which you had been offered anything by the Monson party?—The third Monday in June, that is the "Black Horse" club day, I was passing up the town with my brother-in-law, and he said, "Come in, mate, and have a glass of "something to drink." I went in; we were taken into the bar parlour. When we got in there Mr. Holdsworth gave my brother-in-law something in his hand. I did not see what. I says to him, "What have I "done that I am not to be served the same?"

6564. Did you afterwards see what that was?—I did.

6565. What was it?—Half a sovereign; leastways he pulled it out of his pocket, and said, "That was "what it was."

6566. When did he pull that half-sovereign out?—After he got out of the house.

6567. Now go back to your story, and tell me what took place between Holdsworth and your brother-in-law?—I did not hear what was said.

6568. What else took place in that bar parlour?—I said to him, "What have I done not to be served the "same?" He put his hand in his pocket and pulled out a purse. "Oh," he said, "money is no object to "me." He threw across half a sovereign to me.

6569. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But you did not take it?—Yes, I did. He told me it was to drink his health with. I said, "Then let me have a glass of "brandy and water."

6570. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you pay for the brandy and water?—Out of the half-sovereign. Nothing was not said about the election on the occasion.

6571. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not pay for the glass of brandy and water with all the half-sovereign?—I put down the half-sovereign, and he brought me 9*s.* 6*d.* change.

6572. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And that 9*s.* 6*d.* you carried away?—I carried away.

6573. Very much obliged to Mr. Holdsworth?—I was.

6574. Did he lead you to suppose at all that that was to be any inducement to you to vote?—Not a word was said about the election.

6575. Was that one of Mr. Monson's houses?—Yes, I believe it was.

6576. Did you go there afterwards?—I think not, to the best of my recollection.

6577. It was a great temptation to take you there again?—Well, it was.

6578. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long before the election was this?—I do not know; the third Monday in June it happened.

6579. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that all you have to tell us with regard to any money matters or bribery, or anything, in reference to 1865?—That is all.

6580. Your brother-in-law, Fuller, what is his address?—Reigate-hill, quarryman, works for Mr. Carruthers.

6581. Did you know from your brother-in-law at all what terms he had entered upon with Apted?—I did not. He said he had signed the committee book. He never told me, sir.

6582. Now, in 1863, you say that you received money for 1863; who were the candidates then, do you recollect?—Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower.

6583. Were you offered at that time anything on the part of Mr. Gower's party?—I was not asked by any one for my vote.

6584. Except Mr. Wilkinson?—I volunteered for Wilkinson myself.

6585. Were you at any previous election?—No.

6586. 1863 was your first?—1863 was the first I voted on.

6587. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said Holdsworth saw you and your brother-in-law at the door?—As we were passing up, and a band of music in front of us.

6588. Did you see any other voters enter that evening?—I did not; it was between 1 and 2 o'clock in the day.

6589. Did you visit the public house again?—I said just now not, sir.

6590. Why did not you go there again having been so well treated?—Because I told Holdsworth myself that I intended to vote for Mr. Gower.

HENRY BAINES sworn and examined.

H. Baines.

6591. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A labourer.

6592. You go out to work?—I go with Mr. Lambert's horse and cart.

6593. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you have a vote?—26*l.* a year.

6594. A large house; I suppose you let a portion of it. Have you lodgers, or do you let a part of it?—I let part, and have lodgers too.

FIFTH DAY.

H. Baines.

27 Aug. 1866.

6595. You do not occupy all that?—No.

6596. How much do you occupy?—I think three or four rooms; four rooms.

6597. You are a married man, I presume?—Yes.

6598. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

6599. Who canvassed you?—No one; Mr. Gower called, but I never saw him, and Mr. Monson too; but I never saw either of them.

6600. Do you know Job Apted?—Yes.

6601. You saw him, I believe?—Yes.

6602. That is before you had promised?—I had not promised any one.

6603. Then you saw him before you had promised?—Yes.

6604. You promised him you would vote for Gower?—No, sir, I did not; he never spoke about voting; I asked him about a job.

6605. Did you go to Mr. Apted, or did he come to you?—We met in the street.

6606. By accident?—Yes.

6607. You had known him to be active for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

6608. And you spoke to him and said, "Mr. Apted, I want a job"?—Something of that.

6609. But you were not out of work then, were you?—No.

6610. How long before the election was this?—I should think six weeks.

6611. That would be a good long job?—Yes.

6612. A job of work?—Yes.

6613. For whom were you at work then?—For Mr. Lambert.

6614. And you continued at work all along?—Yes.

6615. Up to the day of the election?—Yes.

6616. And then you got a job of work from Mr. Job Apted?—No, sir, to go on nights.

6617. I mean that. Of course you were at work by day for your master, and you wanted to work by night for Mr. Job Apted?—Yes.

6618. What were you to get for the job? was it to be job work, 5*l.* for the whole work?—No money mentioned.

6619. No, we do not say money; but what was it, "a fiver"?—No, sir.

6620. Something of that kind?—He promised me three weeks; he said, "We will say three weeks."

6621. More than that, did not he?—No, that is all he promised me.

6622. It was six weeks before the election; you were to be engaged all the time, were you not?—It might be.

6623. Were not you to be engaged all the time?—No, all the work mentioned was three weeks.

6624. What was to be paid for it?—He never agreed to pay me anything.

6625. Attend. You were to get a job, he did not say three weeks for the job, that is not the way people agree about work?—Yes, he did.

6626. Three weeks?—Yes.

6627. And nothing else?—Nothing else.

6628. What did you understand by the three weeks; you might as well out with it?—I understood I should have something, but I did not know what.

6629. You are an intelligent respectable man you know, and you know what I mean. Three weeks means something; what does three weeks mean do you think?—I do not know what it did mean.

6630. What did it turn out to mean?—Why, it turned out to mean very little.

6631. Did not you get 3*l.*?—No.

6632. Is not your name Henry Baines?—Yes.

6633. You had better answer. Did not you receive 3*l.*? You write a very good hand if that is your signature; is that your signature?—I daresay it is (*looking at the signature*). Yes, that is mine.

6634. Do you see 3*l.* near it as having been received?—I do see 3*l.*

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) "Amount due."

6635. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Oh, amount due, is it. How much did you receive?—2*l.*

6636. Then you are quite right. When did you receive that?—I do not know whether it was this year or last; some time about Christmas.

6637. From Mr. Apted?—Yes.

6638. Did you go to him?—Yes.

6639. What did you ask him for?—Well, I asked him some time in the week if there was any chance for any money.

6640. Why should not there be a chance for money? You had been at work, you are a labouring man, you had been at work for him, why should not there be a chance for money? That is not what you say to your master when you get your week's wages?—No, when I work for him I expect it. I did not do any work.

6641. Oh, you did no work, I beg your pardon, you did no work at all?—No.

6642. Nothing whatever?—I was supposed to work.

6643. I want to know; you did no work?—I did no work.

6644. And Job Apted knew you did no work?—I do not know I am sure what he knew.

6645. Perhaps you worked in the dark. He thought you were working at nights?—It were nights when I did it; I was about.

6646. Did you tell him how much you wanted?—No, sir.

6647. You were rather disappointed in not getting more, were not you?—No.

6648. Did you expect more?—No; I did not expect what I got.

6649. Was anything said about getting more?—There was something said; but what it was I do not know.

6650. Very well, we will see. There was something said about getting more? Well, now, I suppose Apted said, "Well, Mr. Baines, you have been working "very hard, and this is only a small amount"?—He did not say anything about that.

6651. What did he say about something more?—He said there would be a settlement, or something.

6652. He said there would be a general settlement?—He never said anything about a general settlement.

6653. A settlement of what?—He never mentioned anything.

6654. You had a claim upon him. Did you go to his house?—I did go to his house.

6655. What did you go to his house for?—For the money.

6656. Did you get the 2*l.* the first time you went?—The first time I went to his house. I think I am not sure about that. I saw him out in the street.

6657. Did he tell you to call at his house?—Yes.

6658. And that he would pay you some money?—Yes.

6659. On account?—Well, I do not know about that.

6660. Did not he tell you he would pay you some money on account?—He said he would get some for me.

6661. Some from whom?—I do not know.

6662. And when was it he talked of the settlement? Was it when he paid you the 2*l.*?—Yes.

6663. When you talked of the settlement, you talked of 3*l.* more, did not you?—No.

6664. You expected 3*l.* more?—Well, I might expect it.

6665. Did you not?—I do not know that I did. I said just now I did not, and I do not know as I did.

6666. "Expect" may be a strong word; but did not you hope for 3*l.* more from what you knew was going on?—Well, I should have liked to have had it.

6667. Did not you hope for 3*l.* more?—I do not know.

6668. Did not you know that 5*l.* was going?—I heard it.

6669. You had heard that 5*l.* was going, and you received 2*l.*, and then a settlement was talked about?—Yes.

6670. Now I ask you, did not you hope when the

settlement would come round that you would receive 3*l.* more?—I did not know whether I should or not.

6671. You did not know of course; but you hoped to receive 3*l.* more when the final settlement would come round?—I should have liked it.

6672. Was this the first time you voted?—No; I voted in 1863.

6673. For whom?—Mr. Gower.

6674. Had you been employed in the same way you were this time?—No; excepting polling day and nomination day.

6675. What did you receive for your services on that day?—I never received anything as I know of.

6676. Did you receive anything at the last election in 1863?—I received 3*l.*

6677. What do you mean by saying you did not receive anything. I understood you, I may be wrong, I thought you said you did not receive anything in 1863?—Well, sir, for my labour.

6678. Very well, you received 3*l.* for your vote in fact in 1863?—Well, I do not know; there was nothing mentioned about my vote.

6679. When did you receive it, after you voted?—Yes.

6680. How long after you voted?—Oh, I should say six months; I do not know when.

6681. It might be six months; but I understood you to say that you had not been at all at work in 1863, except on the nomination day?—That is all.

6682. Who canvassed you in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

6683. Had you voted before that time at all?—No.

6684. That was the first you were a voter?—Yes.

6685. In 1863, besides receiving 3*l.* six months afterwards, I suppose you did not expect it?—No.

6686. To whom did you apply for that 3*l.*?—Mr. Nicholls.

6687. Do you mean the landlord of the "Grapes"?—He is at the "Grapes;" I do not know whether he is landlord.

6688. How came you to apply to him for the 3*l.*?—I do not know; I asked him.

6689. Now you are too intelligent a man not to know?—I asked him about some money.

6690. You know you would not go to me or my friend Mr. Allen, or Mr. Smith, to ask about money. Very well, go on?—He gave me some one day. When I called he gave me 3*l.* "Here is 3*l.* for you," he says.

6691. Why did you go to Nicholls, I want to know?—I do not know.

6692. Why did you go to Mr. Nicholls?—Why, I heard he was a-paying some away.

6693. You heard he was paying money away to voters who supported Mr. Gower?—Yes.

6694. And were you to receive anything more?—No.

6695. Did you go alone there?—Yes.

6696. Who told you that he was paying away money?—I do not know now; I cannot remember.

6697. You know that a great many of your neighbours went there at the same time?—I do not know that any one did.

6698. You do, indeed?—I do not know who went.

6699. Who said they were going there?—I never heard any one say so, not in particular.

6700. Whom did you hear say that he was paying away money?—I do not know now; it was so long ago, I forget.

6701. Was it a little bird?—No, it was not a bird.

6702. You went alone, I suppose?—Yes, I did.

6703. Did he take you into the back parlour?—No.

6704. Where?—I met him out in the street.

6705. Did he take you into the house?—No; he gave it to me, and off I went.

6706. He put his hand in his pocket and handed you 3*l.*?—Yes.

6707. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In the street?—In the street.

6708. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Of course you gave him no receipt. You asked him for money?—Yes.

6709. What did you say?—I forget now.

6710. I will put you in mind of it. Did you say, "Mr. Nicholls, I supported Mr. Gower at the last "election." He was not an intimate friend of yours?—I never said no such words to him.

6711. Did you say, "I voted for Mr. Gower at the "last election"?—I suppose he knew that.

6712. How did he know that? You were not an intimate friend of his?—He might have seen my name on the poll sheet.

6713. Did you say, "I voted for Mr. Gower, and I "hear you are paying money to the voters"?—No; I never said such a word as that.

6714. What did you say?—I cannot remember.

6715. You did not go up to him and say, "Mr. "Nicholls, I want 3*l.* of you"?—I do not know what I did say to him.

6716. Is that what you did say?—It is so long ago, I do not remember what I did say.

6717. Did you say to him, "Mr. Nicholls, I want "3*l.*"?—No; "Some money."

6718. Did you say, "I voted for Mr. Gower, and "I think it is time now I should be paid"?—No.

6719. Or, "I think it is time now I should have a "little money." Recollect yourself; is not that what you said?—Well, I do not remember what I did say.

6720. Was it anything like that?—I do not know; I cannot remember what I did say.

6721. Besides receiving the 3*l.* at that election, you have had plenty of beer?—I never had any that I did not pay for.

6722. Never had any that you did not pay for?—No.

6723. Did you never have any beer at the last election that you did not pay for?—At meetings I had.

6724. That is what I mean?—Yes, I did.

6725. Had you any beer at the meetings in 1863?—No; I never went to any meetings, only at the public hall.

6726. But you had election beer in 1865 when you attended the meetings?—Yes.

6727. Did you attend many meetings?—I attended three, I believe.

6728. And you had as much beer as you liked at all those three meetings?—As much as I like.

6729. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say when you met Mr. Nicholls no sum was mentioned?—No.

6730. You say you met Nicholls in the street, and he put his hand in his pocket and gave you 3*l.* Had you done any work?—Only on the two days I have told you.

6731. What did you do on the two days?—I do not know what was done.

6732. That was the polling day and the nomination day?—Yes; they asked me to come here.

6733. You, like a lot of other fellows, hung about idle?—Yes.

6734. And then wanted to be paid for it. You must try and draw your recollection back, because it is almost incredible that Mr. Nicholls should put his hand in his pocket and give you 3*l.* without anything being said?—Well, I do not recollect.

6735. You are quite certain it took place?—Yes, it took place.

6736. Where was it that it took place?—In the High-street here.

6737. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower on that occasion, do you recollect?—Mr. Gower himself and Mr. Smith.

6738. Mr. Charles Smith?—Yes.

6739. When you were canvassed was anything said about your doing anything?—Nothing.

6740. Or being paid?—Nothing.

6741. How many days after the election was it that you got the 3*l.*?—Six months, I should think. I do not know what time it was; it might not be so long.

FIFTH DAY.

H. Baines.

27 Aug. 1866.

6742. When that 3*l.* was given to you, was anything said to you by Mr. Nicholls about your voting for Mr. Gower at any future election ?—No.

6743. Did he say it was for your vote ?—No.

6744. Had you done any work for Mr. Nicholls ?—No.

6745. Not at all ?—Not at all.

6746. You had no claim against Mr. Nicholls ?—No.

J. Thrift.

JOHN THRIFT called, sworn, and examined.

6747. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You live at Reigate-heath ?—Yes.

6748. What are you ?—A gardener.

6749. Tell me what rent you pay ?—13*l.* a year.

6750. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

6751. For Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

6752. Who canvassed you ?—Mr. William Joyes.

6753. Did Mr. Gower ?—Mr. Gower called at my house, but I was not at home.

6754. Did Mr. William Joyes canvass you after that ?—Yes.

6755. Did you promise him your vote ?—It was promised before I promised it. My wife promised it ; she knew I was going to vote for Mr. Gower.

6756. We will leave out about your wife. When Joyes saw you, did you promise him ?—Yes.

6757. What arrangement was made between you ?—Not any before I promised my vote.

6758. But at this time, when you did promise, what arrangement was made ?—He said I could go to work for them, and he promised me 2*l.*

6759. I think he promised you more than that ?—Well, it was after that ; after the election some time.

6760. What was the 2*l.* for ?—I was to go to work. He did not exactly say what work I was to do.

6761. He did not tell you what work ?—No.

6762. After he went away, of course you could not do any work ?—No ; I attended all committee meetings.

6763. You voted, and what money was paid you ?—30*s.*

6764. By whom ?—By Mr. William Joyes.

6765. When was that 30*s.* paid you ?—Some time in November.

6766. Had he made you a promise of more than 2*l.* ?—No ; at least I do not know whether it was before or after.

6767. But either before or after did he make you a promise of another 1*l.* ?—He did not exactly make a promise ; he said most likely I should get another.

6768. I suppose you did not ?—No.

6769. Was no larger sum mentioned than 3*l.* altogether ?—No.

6770. How was that ?—I do not know, I am sure.

6771. But you were expecting to hear something mentioned of some other sum besides the 3*l.* ?—No, I did not expect any.

6772. I am not talking about what you were expecting to receive, but you were expecting to be talked to about something more than the 3*l.* ?—No ; I had no idea of it.

6773. Is this your first election ?—Yes.

6774. You did not take part in any other ?—No.

T. Stone.

THOMAS STONE was called, sworn, and examined.

6775. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where do you live ?—Reigate-heath.

6776. What are you ?—A gardener.

6777. A working gardener ? — A gentleman's gardener.

6778. For whom do you work ? — Mr. Thomas Moreland.

6779. Is he a voter ?—Yes.

6780. For whom did he vote ?—Mr. Gower, I believe.

6781. What do you occupy ?—A house.

6782. What rent do you pay ?—The house I live in belongs to my father, and I have the house for keeping it. He lodges and boards with me.

6783. Who pays the rates and taxes ?—I do.

6784. Is it your father's own freehold ?—Yes.

6785. What is the value of the house ; what would it let for ?—6*s.* a week, that is what the other lets for.

6786. How long have you been living with your father in that way ?—About five years.

6787. Are you married ?—Yes.

6788. Have you a family in the house ?—Yes.

6789. Did you vote for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

6790. Who canvassed you for your vote for Mr. Gower ?—Rose.

6791. Alexander Rose, of Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

6792. Did you promise him your vote ?—Yes.

6793. Did he promise you any money that you were to be paid ?—He said if I liked to go on to work for them they would give me 1*l.* per week.

6794. Did he tell you what work you were to do ?—To deliver circulars in the evening.

6795. Did he refer you to the committee ?—I was on the committee.

6796. When you were canvassed by him did he refer you to the committee ?—No.

6797. Did he bring you to the committee ?—No.

6798. Not to Mr. Apted ?—No.

6799. Or any of the persons acting ?—No.

6800. Did you attend the committee ?—Yes, some of them in the town hall.

6801. Did you take out circulars ?—Yes.

6802. How many ?—I cannot say how many.

6803. How many times did you go out with circulars ?—Several times in the evening. I used to call and get them at the committee rooms.

6804. How many times do you think you went out delivering circulars ?—I cannot say.

6805. Did you go out three times ?—I might go out two or three times a week.

6806. How long would it take you to deliver those circulars of an evening ?—It all depends how far I had to take them.

6807. How long were you occupied in taking out those circulars ?—Perhaps an hour of an evening, sometimes more.

6808. What were you to be paid ?—1*l.* a week.

6809. For how many weeks were you to work ?—I was to work five weeks.

6810. He said five weeks ?—Yes, I worked about five weeks.

6811. That would be 5*l.* ?—Yes.

6812. How long before the election were you canvassed ?—About six weeks.

6813. Did you get paid ?—Yes, part of it.

6814. Who paid you ?—I was paid 2*l.* by Buckland.

6815. Did anybody else pay you any money ?—Rose paid me 2*l.* ; that is 4*l.* altogether.

6816. When did Buckland pay you, after the election ?—Buckland paid me about a fortnight before the election.

6817. When did Rose pay you ?—About four months after the election, I think.

6818. Did you ask him for the money ?—No, he brought it to me.

6819. To your own house ?—No, where I worked.

6820. Were you to have anything extra for the polling day ?—I never heard. I was engaged to go with the flys, but I had nothing for it.

6821. Did you see Apted during the time of the election ?—Not to say anything to him.

6822. Or Joyes ?—No.

6823. Or Green ?—No.

6824. Your dealing was with Alexander Rose ?—Yes.

6825. Did you attend meetings, I do not mean the committee meetings, but tavern meetings ?—Only these meetings here, these committee meetings.

6826. In this house?—Yes.

6827. Were you concerned in the election, or take any part in the election of 1863?—No, I was not on the register.

6828. Were you living in the place?—Yes.

6829. But, although you were not on the register, did you take any part in the election?—No, none at all.

ROBERT ROSE FRANCIS called, sworn, and examined.

6830. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Francis?—A tailor.

6831. A master tailor?—No, not particular. I am at the Reformatory School at Redhill.

6832. You are tailor there?—Yes.

6833. What house do you occupy, or what rent do you pay?—Now I occupy a house in the Brighton-road.

6834. But when you voted?—I think I took my vote for Mead-vale.

6835. What rent did you pay there?—It is my own cottage; the rent is about 6*s.* a week.

6836. That is the house for which you voted?—Yes.

6837. Were you engaged all the time at the Reformatory as tailor?—Yes.

6838. During the election and before?—Yes.

6839. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower.

6840. Is this the first time you voted?—No.

6841. You had a vote at the former election?—Yes.

6842. In 1863?—Yes.

6843. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

6844. This time, when you voted for Mr. Gower, do you recollect who canvassed you?—I saw Mr. Gower, but I had an arrangement with Mr. Buckland in the first instance.

6845. What were you to receive?—Nothing particular; no stated sum.

6846. But what were you to receive? Were you to receive some money?—Well, I was to be paid for what they called work during the election.

6847. I mean that. Were you to be paid for what they called work?—Yes.

6848. You would not give up your work at the Reformatory?—No; but I had to run about of an evening. That was my arrangement, to do what I could of an evening.

6849. You were to be paid for that?—Yes.

6850. How much a week?—Nothing particular; there was no stated sum.

6851. Were you not to receive 6*l.*?—No; no stated sum.

6852. How much did you receive?—2*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Buckland.

6853. And from whom else did you receive any money?—Well, I received 1*l.* from Mr. Henry Green.

6854. When did Mr. Buckland pay you?—Somewhere in November, I think.

6855. It was with him you made the arrangement?—Yes.

6856. And when did Mr. Green pay you the 1*l.*?—That was before the election.

6857. How long before the election?—It might be a fortnight perhaps; I could not tell you exactly.

6858. When had you made the arrangement with Mr. Buckland that you were to be paid?—About five weeks before the election.

6859. Was it not 1*l.* a week?—No.

6860. How came he to pay you 2*l.* 10*s.*?—That was after the election in November.

6861. How came he to pay you 2*l.* 10*s.*? Did you give him any account of what had been done?—It was only an arrangement.

6862. What was the arrangement?—I was to do what I could in respect of Mr. Gower's cause.

6863. And vote for him?—No, not particularly vote.

6864. Mr. Francis, you are a tailor at the Reformatory Institution——

(*Witness.*) I mean to tell you the truth; there is no object in telling you any falsehood.

6865. And you mean to tell me that you were to receive the money irrespective of your vote; do you mean to tell me that?—Irrespective of my vote? Of course they expected me to vote for Mr. Gower; there was no arrangement that I should.

6866. I did not say there was any arrangement that way. They expected you to vote, and you promised to vote?—Not then.

6867. When did you promise to vote for Mr. Gower?—When I saw Mr. Gower.

6868. That was before the arrangement with Mr. Buckland?—Before the arrangement with Mr. Buckland.

6869. Did you tell Mr. Gower that you had arranged with Mr. Buckland that you were to work for him?—No.

6870. You did not tell him then?—No.

6871. What I want to know is, how came you to receive 2*l.* 10*s.* or 3*l.*, or 4*l.*?—That is what Mr. Buckland gave me.

6872. You went for some money to him?—Not particular that; I had some little business with Mr. Buckland.

6873. What business had you with him?—He is agent for the National Freehold Land Society; I had a little business with him in that respect.

6874. Are you a member of the Freehold Land Society?—I am.

6875. And he is the agent?—Yes.

6876. And you went there to see him on business?—Yes.

6877. What did he say? Did he give you the 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Not before I asked him if there was anything likely towards expenses incurred.

6878. What do you mean by "towards expenses"?—Do you think a man can run about without incurring expense?

6879. You had better not ask me what I think, because you told me it was for what they called work?—Yes.

6880. You say you asked Mr. Buckland. Did you say, "I want some money"?—I asked him if there was any chance, and he gave me the 2*l.* towards expenses.

6881. Don't talk of expenses; what expenses were you put to?—As far as regards expenses, you cannot run about of an evening without expense.

6882. What expenses were you put to of an evening?—You cannot run about public houses of an evening without.

6883. Did you not get some beer at the public houses?—Not but what I paid for.

6884. Were you to receive anything more?—The arrangement with Mr. Buckland—what Mr. Buckland paid me was in November. I wish to say the truth.

6885. If you say that again I shall begin to doubt you; if you repeat continually that you are telling the truth, it is always a habit of mine to commence doubting. Now tell me what the arrangement was between you and Mr. Buckland?—The arrangement in the first place with Mr. Buckland?

6886. No; when you came to receive the money?—He asked me what I thought I should be satisfied with. I told him I thought if I was paid 6*l.* it would be sufficient.

6887. That is coming to business. Then you received 2*l.* as an instalment?—I did.

6888. That was 5*l.* in addition to the 1*l.* you had already received. When were you to receive the 3*l.* 10*s.*?—There was no particular time stated.

6889. Did he tell you when it would be likely?—There was no particular time stated.

FIFTH DAY.

R. R. Francis.

27 Aug. 1866.

6890. But did he not tell you after the petition was over?—After the petition?

6891. Yes?—No, no; he didn't.

6892. Recollect yourself. You knew at that time that the petition was going on?—Of course I did.

6893. And he told you after the petition was over?—He told me there might be a settling time some time or other.

6894. Just so; after the petition was over?—I do not know; he might have said so.

6895. You asked for 6*l.*, and he gave you 2*l.* 10*s.*, saying, there might be a settling time for the remainder?—He might have said that; I cannot say.

6896. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

6897. For Mr. Wilkinson?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

6898. Was employment as plentiful in 1863 as in 1865; work, I mean?—Well, it was similar, attending the meetings; similar to what it was in 1865.

6899. I suppose you were engaged to work then?—Yes.

6900. The same work?—The same work.

6901. What were you paid?—I had 2*l.*

6902. For how many weeks' work?—I do not know how many weeks it was; it might be three or four weeks. I almost forget how long it was. I objected to have anything much to do with it.

6903. Then what did you receive the 2*l.* for?—Just merely attending the committees, and such as that.

6904. Who paid you the 2*l.*?—Mr. Rose.

6905. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which Rose?—Mr. Rose of Mead-vale.

6906. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Alexander Rose?—I suppose it was.

6907. When did he pay you the 2*l.*?—I think it was two or three nights after the election, I cannot say how soon.

6908. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it not Mr. Ephraim Rose?—Yes, it was.

6909. Were there many men there when he paid you?—No; there was only myself in the room.

6910. That may be; but did you see some men about?—I saw some about.

6911. Going to receive money of him?—I do not know; they came out of the house.

6912. Who told you to go and get the money?—I did not know it until the evening. I was out taking a walk in the evening, and I saw other people going there, and I asked them why.

6913. A good many of the people of that happy valley went there to receive their money?—I am sure I do not know. I did not take much notice myself: I was very well satisfied with what I got.

6914. You were well satisfied with the 2*l.*?—Yes.

6915. How came you to go to Mr. Buckland upon a particular occasion last time? Why did you not go before November?—I did not think about going at all. I was in Reigate on business, and I happened to go into Mr. Buckland's.

6916. A mere accidental thing?—Yes.

6917. Do you know of any other election; does your memory go back to any other election?—No; I had no vote. I have been in the school several years and have had no vote.

6918. Were you ever employed at any other election?—No, not at any other election.

6919. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you canvassed by the Monson party at all?—I cannot say I was not canvassed; yet it was not a canvass.

6920. Was anything said about your being employed on that side?—No, nothing particular.

6921. Anything that was not particular?—I had promised my vote for Mr. Gower; they knew I was pretty staunch, and they did not trouble me. Mr. Monson never came near me.

6922. Did you see any money passing on the Monson side?—No; I never saw any money passing.

6923. Did you hear of any?—We all heard of it in the neighbourhood.

6924. Were you offered any yourself?—Well, I was. It's no use!—Gentlemen, now I've one thing to say to you. It is really a difficult thing for me to go against——it's a nephew of mine. I really did not like to say anything against him.

6925. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) We don't want you to say anything but the truth?—That's it. I came here to speak the truth.

6926. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) First of all, tell me your nephew's name?—Henry Francis.

6927. Is he a voter?—I believe he is.

6928. Whom did he vote for?—I think for Mr. Monson. I believe he voted for Mr. Monson. He proposed Mr. Richardson, I know.

6929. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is a *non sequitur*?—I don't know whether he was allowed to vote for Mr. Monson. I know he proposed Mr. Richardson.

6930. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What do you mean by not being allowed to vote?—I do not know whether a man might vote who proposed another candidate.

6931. Never mind about that. Now tell us what took place wiih Henry Francis, your nephew?—He came over to me; he told me Mr. Monson's head committee sent him to me, and they wished me to go on their side.

6932. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was acting for Mr. Monson?—He was one of their agents.

6933. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he offer you work on that side?—Not at all.

6934. Did he offer you money?—Yes.

6935. What?—10*l.*

6936. As coming from the head committee?—So he told me.

6937. Where did that head committee sit?—At the "White Hart," I believe.

6938. And at the "Grapes" too?—I do not know.

6939. Is your nephew in the town?—I do not know.

6940. Do you know where he is?—His residence is at Reigate-heath.

6941. Does he work at any particular business?—He is a stonemason.

6942. Is there any difficulty in finding him?—I do not think there is. I do not know; I do not have much to do with him.

6943. Does he work on his own account, or for somebody?—On his own account; he has got a business there; he has got a yard there.

6944. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You knew he had been working for Mr. Monson?—Oh, yes.

6945. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you already promised to the Gower party?—I had promised Mr. Gower.

6946. Did you tell your nephew you had promised Mr. Gower before he offered you the 10*l.*?—Yes, I told him I had promised Mr. Gower, and it was no use coming to offer me any money.

6947. Did you tell him that you were going to work for Mr. Gower?—I did not tell him anything of the sort.

6948. Then he told you what his message was from the head committee of Mr. Monson?—Yes.

6949. Were you concerned in the former election?—Only for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863.

6950. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was then you received the 2*l.*?—Yes.

6951. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was when Mr. Gower was a candidate. Were you offered anything on that occasion on the part of Mr. Gower?—No. Mr. Gower came to see me, and I told him I had promised to vote for Mr. Wilkinson.

6952. Were you offered anything on the part of Mr. Gower by any of his supporters?—No, not at all.

6953. I mean in the same way that this nephew offered you 10*l.*?—No.

THOMAS WILKINS was called, sworn, and examined.

6954. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Wilkins, when were you summoned to come here?—I never was until half an hour, it may be an hour ago. You have called me up, I believe, before.

6955. At the last election whom did you vote for?—I did my best for Mr. Wilkinson as well as I could. I had no vote.

6956. For whom did you vote?—I never had a vote till the last election, not until this last election. I voted for Mr. Gower at this last election.

6957. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do not talk more than necessary. Be so good as to answer my questions.

(*Witness.*) I beg your pardon if I have done wrong.

6958. Also be kind enough to attend to the questions. Now, whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

6959. Who asked you to vote for him first of all? Mr. Gower came to see me before I had seen anybody else; I had not seen anybody else but Mr. Gower.

6960. Who else came to ask you besides Mr. Gower?—Nobody.

6961. Nobody asked you?—I was working on the place for Mr. Carruthers, and when Mr. Gower came to me he said, "I hope, Wilkins, you'll do as much "for me this time as you were against me last time." I said, "Certainly, I will."

6962. Did you promise Mr. Gower then?—I did, sir, and in his own name. I never saw any man before.

6963. After that did you see some people who came from him belonging to him?—Not that I know of.

6964. Do you know Mr. Smith?—Oh, I don't take any notice of him.

6965. Do you know Mr. Smith?—Yes, I know him very well.

6966. Do you know Mr. Frederick Joyes?—I know him quite well.

6967. Did you see them about your vote?—Yes.

6968. Did they come to you about it?—I have seen a great many about it.

6969. But did these two, Mr. Smith and Mr. Joyes, come to you about it?—No; they never came on my job, not where I was. Of course I met them on my way. Mr. Gower did come, they didn't.

6970. I am afraid you and I shall fall out if you are not more cautious?—I hope not; I'll give into you anyhow.

6971. Just consider my question?—I hope I will.

6972. Did Mr. Smith and Mr. Joyes, or either of them, come to you about your vote?—They didn't.

6973. Very well. Do you know Mr. Durrant?—I do.

6974. Mr. David Durrant?—I do.

6975. Did you see him on the subject of your vote?—I did.

6976. What did he say to you about it?—I can't say that he said a great deal about it. He was not the first man that came to me after I promised my vote to Mr. Gower, and I never meant to return any man except Mr. Gower.

6977. What did Mr. Durrant come and say to you about it?—Mr. Durrant never said anything. There was another man or two that came to me before Mr. Durrant did.

6978. Who came?—A man of the name of Chitty.

6979. Is that Thomas Chitty?—Thomas Chitty.

6980. What did he come about?—He came to me and he said, "How are you going on?" I said, "I "have promised Mr. Gower, and I shall not turn "from him." He says, "It's like this; you can have "so and so if you like to stand to us."

6981. To whom?—To Mr. Gower. I says, "it's "like this; I have promised Mr. Gower; I shall not "turn back from him." I says, "I don't want no-"body to come to me particular for that." He says, "Will you mind going up and see Durrant and make "a bargain with him." I said, "No, I know Mr. "Durrant very well; if we can't bargain when we "get together, we shall never bargain without it."

6982. Then, I suppose, you went up to Mr. Durrant?—I didn't. I never did till I saw him.

6983. When you saw him did you have the bargain?—Not particular, I didn't.

6984. But, generally, had you an agreement with Durrant?—I'll tell you what agreement I had with him. I said, "Chitty came to me, Mr. Durrant, on "such a day." I says, "I didn't want him to come, "because I promised Mr. Gower in my work." I never see any man before Mr. Gower, and I promised he should have it. Mr. Gower was the man who came to me and said, "Wilkins, I hope you'll be as "much for me this time as you were against me last "time." I says, "I will, just the same for you this "time as I was against you before." He said, "I "hope you will, Wilkins." After this I met Durrant. I said, "Mr. Durrant, as the man appoints "that everybody is to have so much, I suppose I am "to have the same." "Certainly, Wilkins," he says, "you shall have just the same." Gentlemen, there's no harm in speaking the truth.

6985. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Certainly not, that is all that we want.

(*Witness.*) He says, "Well, Wilkins, as to your "interest, it is quite right. Whatever," he says, "is "right, of course you shall not lose by that." He says, "You are all customers of mine." I'm not going to tell any falsehood. I left my work rough and ready to-day to come and see you, gentlemen.

6986. Was anything more said about you and Durrant? Just finish up that?—Oh, no; I can't finish up any further.

6987. That is about all that you said?—Yes, that is right.

6988. Do you know what was going for the other men?—No, I do not.

6989. Had you not got any sum in your mind?—No, not anything then. I speak for myself; I can't for no other.

6990. I suppose you did not tell anybody to put you on the committee?—I never told any one. They asked me if I would like to go on the committee. I said, "Yes, if you like." But, in fact, not exactly; I had no work to go to. I could have gone to work, but I left my work to go on the committee, thinking to get a nice little prize, but I got a blank.

6991. Tell me, what money did you get?—I never got anything; I never had a penny piece, I take my oath, all through the election. What I worked for I got "slooked" out of. I never got a penny piece. I hope you won't make me lose my time for coming here.

6992. If you did not get any money, I suppose there was a good deal of beer going?—I do not know how that was.

6993. Let us see what houses were there that you were free to go into. There was the "Barley Mow"?—That was one.

6994. Do you know William Groom's house?—I know that very well.

6995. That was another house where you could get refreshment when you wanted it?—That was a house where one night, I believe, they were allowed to go there.

6996. That was the night before the polling day?—That's right.

6997. Who was in there that night? who did you notice in there that night? Be kind enough to tell me?—How can I tell you, when I was ordered out that night?

6998. That is quite right, you were ordered out; I mean before you were ordered out?—I do not know who was there that night.

6999. Do you recollect Alfred Balchin?—I believe he attended there that night.

FIFTH DAY.

T. Wilkins.

27 Aug. 1866.

7000. Was Goddard there?—He was to have been there, but whether he was or not I do not know.

7001. How do you know he was to be there?—Because I know they was all in one; they were "mashed up in one bait."

7002. Do you know whether Truelove was there? I do not know.

7003. Do you know whether Warren was there?—I know he was.

7004. Do you know they were kept there some time?—I know they was a good while.

7005. How was that? Do you recollect what happened about that? I dare say you will be able to tell me what happened. It was rather good fun that night?—Yes, it was rather.

7006. Do you recollect some men being kept there all night?—I do; I was out all that night. I was at work that night.

7007. How did they manage to keep them there, can you tell me?—I do not know; they were kept there.

7008. Who was keeping guard, and taking care of them all night?—There were men in the house; of course they would take care of them.

7009. How did they manage to prevent their going away?—I do not know.

7010. Was there not some story about somebody's shoes being taken away altogether?—I believe they were put on one side.

7011. Were those the shoes belonging to those men whose names I have mentioned?—I know it was.

7012. Whose doing was that?—I do not know; I could not tell you that when I was out on duty.

7013. You had something to do with the election of 1863?—No, none at all, until this last.

7014. I thought you had?—Not the least. I was for Mr. Wilkinson. God bless his old heart. I shook hands with him when I saw him.

7015. I thought you told us that Mr. Gower expressed to you a hope that you would be as much for him as you had been against him?—Yes; but I had no vote in '63. I worked for Mr. Wilkinson, and I took a great deal more interest in the question than those who did vote.

7016. Would there be the same sort of thing in that election as in this last?—That is quite right. I did help Mr. Wilkinson all I could, and I could not help him enough.

7017. Was money free at that election?—It never helped me to a penny, I take my oath.

7018. What never did?—That election. I never received a penny. I did my greatest for Mr. Wilkinson.

W. Church.

WILLIAM CHURCH was called, sworn, and examined.

7019. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are a voter of this borough?—Yes.

7020. What is your qualification?—I have got the lease of a house and cottages; pay 30*l.* a year for it.

7021. What do you pay for the house you occupy?—The value of it runs about 15*l.* a year; it is rated at 10*l.*

7022. It is a 10*l.* occupation. What are you?—Well, I keep a little grocer's shop, and occasionally go to work while my wife attends to the shop.

7023. Who canvassed you at the election?—Mr. Gower and Mr. James Smith.

7024. Were you canvassed by the Monson party?—I was.

7025. Who canvassed you on the Monson party?—Mr. Monson and Mr. James Nicholls.

7026. Was that after you had been canvassed by Mr. Gower?—After.

7027. Did you promise Mr. Gower on the first visit?—Well, I have been thinking. I would not wish to take my oath, and tell an untruth, without my memory would allow. I cannot fully say whether I said downright to Mr. Gower that I would give him my promise, but I believe I did. He came to me in this way: Mr. Smith introduced Mr. Gower to me, and said, "This is Mr. Gower." And when Mr. Gower came he said, "We want you to be on our "committee." After a little consideration I said, "Most likely, if I vote for anybody I shall vote for "you." I believe that was the true statement that I gave to Mr. Gower.

7028. Was that all that took place between you and Mr. Gower?—It was.

7029. Did you have any conversation with Mr. Smith on that occasion?—No more.

7030. Did you have any conversation with Mr. Smith afterwards about your vote?—Not at all.

7031. Did Mr. Smith promise you any money?—Not at all.

7032. Never?—Never.

7033. Were you to do any work?—I made an engagement with Mr. Job Apted and Mr. Buckland for work.

7034. What work were you to do?—They gave me to understand I had been a pretty good canvasser for Mr. Wilkinson. Hollies-row is on the Foreign, towards Reigate, and on Mr. Wilkinson's election I had taken in 18 members out of 19. I had worked very hard for him.

7035. You had taken 18 members out of 19 from that district?—From that district. As I came one day on business I met Job Apted. He said, "We "must have you to work for us." I went into his house. I said, "Well, here's a long while to work." He offered me one paltry 5*l.* for neglecting my shop, and for working seven weeks in the election. I said, "If I work for the election all the election through, "I shall want 10*l.*;" and I tell you, gentlemen, I ought to have had 20*l.*

7036. Did you work?—I did.

7037. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We only want to know what you told Apted?—Apted said, "I can't "do anything myself; we will go up to Mr. Buck-"land." He took me up to Mr. Buckland's house, and he stated to Mr. Buckland that Church wanted 10*l.* "Well," he said, "we must have him;" and he agreed in Buckland's house to give me 10*l.* for the full election.

7038. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you see Mr. Smith? Were you taken to Mr. Smith?—No.

7039. Did you never see Mr. Smith at all with reference to the 10*l.*?—After I had made the engagement with Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland, Apted and me had a tumble out.

7040. What was that about?—That was about some little difference. We could not hit matters, and when men fall out, of course we are not obliged to tell our secrets of what we fell out about.

7041. Was it about the election?—It was.

7042. Then you will tell me, if you please?—This was it. I am come here to speak the truth. I had been working, I believe, between two and three weeks. I do not keep any memorandum of elections at home, and what my memory will allow I will speak. Between a fortnight and three weeks I had been at work, I had been travelling, and had been showing my influence; and driving my pony when my legs would not allow. I came over one day, and Job Apted said, "I know "what you have come over for, but you are mis-"taken." He said, "You have come over for money." Of course I ought to have had some in that time. If I work I expect to have money. He said, "You may "as well send in your bill and have some." I said, "In what shape must I make my bill out?" He told me for travelling expenses and work, which was all proper. The next morning, according to his orders, I brought my bill; he flew in my face, and said there was no money on the election. I told him, I supposed he could do without me, and if he could do without me I could do without him. And from that instant I went to Mr. Smith, and Mr. Smith said, "I'll pay you

" for what you have done ;" and after that I was under Mr. Smith's training, and all I received I received from Mr. Smith.

7043. Mr. Charles Smith ?—The head agent.

7044. You have cut that interview with Mr. Smith very short. Tell us what took place between you and Mr. Smith ?—I told Mr. Smith I had engaged with Apted for so-and-so, and how things——

7045. You did not say for so-and-so ; did you not say for 10*l.*?—Yes, yes ; when I said so-and-so I meant what I have told you. I said we had engaged for 10*l.* ; and Mr. Smith said, " Well, for what you have done " I will pay you."

7046. Did Mr. Smith pay you then ?—He gave me a cheque.

7047. For how much ?—For 3*l.* I went into the bank and changed the cheque.

7048. Go on. What took place with Mr. Smith after you got the cheque ?—After I got the cheque I gave my vote for Mr. Gower.

7049. But you had some arrangement with Mr. Smith as to what you were to do ?—No other arrangement took place whatever.

7050. What were you to be paid after you received 3*l.*?— Of course, according to the agreement with Apted, and that depending on Mr. Smith ; there was the further pay that I had engaged for.

7051. Did you receive any more money ?—Yes.

7052. From whom ?— I laboured about another fortnight.

7053. I want to know what money you received ?—The next money I received ? I received 2*l.* from Mr. James Smith.

7054. When was that ?—I cannot tell you the day.

7055. Was it before the election ?—Yes ; I worked seven weeks for them.

7056. The same Mr. Smith ?—The same Mr. Smith ; the head agent.

7057. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that a cheque or in money ?—In money that was.

7058. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you receive any other money from Mr. Smith ?—After the election.

7059. How long after ?—I cannot tell.

7060. Was it weeks or months ?—It was several weeks ; I cannot tell.

7061. What did you then receive from Mr. Smith ?—Mr. Smith then sent me a cheque for 2*l.* 10*s.* to my own house.

7062. You got then 7*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes.

7063. Was that all you got out of the 10*l.* ?—Every farthing.

7064. Have you applied for the balance ?—No.

7065. Why not ?—Because I thought it was throwing trouble away, and I thought I should have no more ; so I gave the job up.

7066. Now tell me what was the work you did ?—The work that I did ! Well, you see a canvasser does not merely run here and there, and say to one " you " vote for Gower " and " you vote for Gower." It is a man showing his influence, going about among the people, and speaking of the good qualities of the candidates ; it does as much good as asking a man to vote.

7067. Will you give us a specimen of your canvassing ; assuming I am a voter, just canvass me for Mr. Gower. Give me what you term some of the good qualities of Mr. Gower ?—I should suppose, if your name was James Watts, I should come and say, " James Watts, what do you think of Mr. Gower ? " what do you think of Mr. Monson ?" Well, I might say, " I think Mr. Gower is the man to send " in," and by so doing I should represent some of his good qualities, and that might make an influence upon that man's mind.

7068. Just give me one good quality that you said ?—If I cannot I am mistaken in my views ; but I believe he is a gentleman to the backbone.

7069. Did you simply say he was a gentleman to the backbone ?—Here's the thing that I relied on ; I relied on this, that there were many in Reigate-town who, when Mr. Gower went into the House expected that he would turn out to be a turnshift and turn a Tory ; but Mr. Gower stood his ground, and I like him all the better.

7070. Amongst all those good qualities of Mr. Gower, did you ever tell any of the voters that you canvassed that they might have work if they liked ?—Never ; I never was empowered to do it.

7071. Did you take them to Job Apted ; no, you would not as he and you were enemies ; did you bring them up to the committee ?—No, I did not.

7072. You began five weeks before the election ?—Seven, almost within a day.

7073. Can you give me one or two names that you canvassed ?—I can one in particular, but I really do not like to bring up a dead man.

7074. Perhaps you can give me some gentleman who is alive and not dead that you canvassed ?—I suppose I could those that I talked to, but as I told you before it is so long ago, and I am not so young as I was, and my memory is bad.

7075. What time of the day was it that you canvassed ?—I do not know whether it was morning or night ; I never kept a memorandum of the election.

7076. In your business have you a horse and cart ?—With regard to having a horse and cart, I keep a pony to fetch my goods from the station.

7077. Do you go out to deliver your goods that people come to your shop and buy ?—My shop is not fine enough and large enough for out-of-door business.

7078. Does your wife attend to your shop as much as you ?—As much as she can ; she keeps all the books and attends as much as she can.

7079. Have you got some grown-up children ?—I have got some sons.

7080. What is the age of the eldest ?—I suppose 26.

7081. Is he at home ?—No.

7082. Have you any of your family that you keep at home ?—Only a little girl of 12 years old who assists her mother.

7083. When do you shut up shop ?—We in the country shut up sometimes at 10, sometimes at 11.

7084. Then, in fact, you did go out canvassing when your shop was open ?—Of course I did.

7085. And left your wife to attend to the business ? Yes, that is it.

7086. Can you give me some idea how much of your time you were occupied on the canvass ?—Well, too much for my business, and more than I will ever do again.

7087. Did you attend public meetings ?—I did.

7088. Were you at the public meeting at the chapel ?—I was.

7089. A chapel in the Foreign. What chapel was that ?—I understand it is a place ; it is only an understood thing with me that Mr. Smith built it, and the Independents have it for public service, and for lectures and business, and anything of that kind ; I can't say more.

7090. It is called a chapel, but it is for general purposes ?—I expect so.

7091. I don't know whether you are a person who goes out preaching ?—Yes.

7092. Did you ever preach in that chapel ?—No ; I gave an address that night.

7093. What night was that ?—I cannot say.

7094. It was not long before the election, was it ?—I think it was two or three weeks.

7095. Was Buckland there ?—I cannot say.

7096. Do you know Buckland ?—I know Buckland, but I can't recollect seeing him.

7097. Were you one of those who retired to the " Barley Mow " afterwards ?—No. Which do you call the " Barley Mow " ?

7098. Near the chapel ?—I can clear myself of that ; I can bring witnesses to prove it.

7099. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were known to be a man of very great experience at former elections, such as '58 and '59 ?—Yes.

FIFTH DAY.

W. Church.

27 Aug. 1866.

7100. By your work and speaking ?—Yes.

7101. For Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

7102. Had you been engaged in the former election for Mr. Wilkinson ?—I had.

7103. And as a worker ?—I had.

7104. What did he value your services at ?—At 5*s.* a day.

7105. How long were you on ?—For five weeks.

7106. As messenger ?—No, I was placed on the committee.

7107. How much did you receive, 20*l.* ?—No, taking the average of so many weeks I think it would be 12*l.*

7108. Was it not more ?—12*l.* or 13*l.* I think.

7109. Twelve pounds and a penny ?—No I could not say to a penny.

7110. On Mr. Wilkinson's committee ?—Yes, and paid every week.

7111. Better pay than since ?—We had it every week and made sure of it.

7112. You seem to be a man well versed and experienced in elections ; had you been at the election of '59 ?—That was before Mr. Wilkinson.

7113. Yes ?—No, I had not come to Redhill then, I was not at Redhill, I had not taken my house then.

7114. You had not taken your stand then ?—No, I had not ; it is only two elections I know anything about.

7115. I suppose when you spoke at the chapel you spoke against bribery and corruption and such things ?—I will tell you my speech ; I said "I hope "you men will stand together and send in Mr. Gower "honourable and like a gentleman."

7116. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Smith the last election handed you a cheque for 3*l.* ?—The first I received.

7117. What bank was it drawn upon ?—I changed it on the Reigate bank.

7118. Can you tell me whether it was drawn on the Reigate bank ?—No, I received it on the bank, and I went and changed it on the Reigate bank.

7119. Do you know who signed it ?—No.

7120. Do you know on what bank it was payable ?—No.

7121. You cannot tell ?—I cannot.

7122. The last payment he made and sent you was a cheque of 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes.

7123. What bank was that on ?—I do not know.

7124. Where did you get it changed ?—That I do not know, I did get it changed, but my memory will not allow me to say where.

7125. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you never went to these houses of refreshment ?—I never went there ; I know my legs worked.

7126. Never mind your legs ; do you know Tyrrell ?—Yes, he is a grandnephew of mine.

7127. Were you not frequently there ?—On this last election they spoiled my party ; they came and robbed me of my votes.

7128. I commenced by asking you whether the Monson party canvassed you ?—They did.

7129. Mr. Nicholls ?—Yes.

7130. Did you receive from Mr. Nicholls or the Monson party any money ?—None, sir.

7131. Did they ask you to do any work ?—No, they let me alone ; I will tell you a little bit of a secret. They had a meeting at Tyrrell's, and I attacked Mr. Monson on his political principles, and I do not think they have ever liked me since.

7132. You are the first man we have had in the box who has talked on political principles ; how did you attack Mr. Monson on his political principles ?—I asked him if he went into the House what principles he would vote for.

7133. Was there any difference between Mr. Gower and Mr. Monson as to their political principles ?—I cannot tell what was in their minds.

7134. You put your faith in Mr. Gower ?—I did ; the reason is, because I am of the Liberal party, and I will stick to them.

7135. Was that the only meeting you attended ?—It was, and then it was only to see Mr. Monson ; there were two or three at me at the time, and I stated my views of everything.

7136. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had the best of it ?—I do not know, but I stated my views on everything, it was near my own door.

7137. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose you are more accustomed to public speaking than he is ?—No ; I am a poor scholar.

7138. Was there any drinking going on ?—Very likely.

7139. Did you see any ?—Not while I was at Mr. Monson's ; and I left the place when they did.

7140. Was that the secret you wanted to mention ?—I do not know that I wanted to mention any secret.

7141. That was the secret ?—Yes.

7142. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you mean when you said the Monson party came round and robbed you of your votes ?—The last time at Mr. Wilkinson's election I catched them all, and then the Monson party came round and catched them before me.

7143. Do you know how they were caught ?—No, I am not in their secrets ; I have enough to do to mind my own business.

7144. You did not know whether they were bought over ?—That was not my business.

The witness then withdrew.

J. Smith.

JAMES SMITH sworn and examined.

7145. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you a voter ?—Yes.

7146. What rent do you pay ?—None at all.

7147. How is that ?—I am a freeholder.

7148. What is the value of your house ?—In the way of building ?

7149. No, by the year ?—To rent it ?

7150. Yes ?—25*l.* a year.

7151. And you live in it yourself ?—Yes.

7152. You live in a house valued at 25*l.* a year of your own ?—Yes.

7153. What are you ?—A bricklayer.

7154. A master bricklayer ? I suppose you employ men ?—I have lately.

7155. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Monson.

7156. Was that the first time you voted ?—No, the time before.

7157. For whom had you voted ?—Mr. Gower.

7158. You voted for Mr. Gower in '63 ?—Yes.

7159. And for Mr. Monson in '65 ?—Yes.

7160. That is so, is it ?—Yes.

7161. Do you know John Mulles ?—No.

7162. Is that your handwriting ? I see you write a very good hand if it is, I wish I could write as well ?—I wish I could.

(*A voice in court.*) There is another John Smith.

7163. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is not your handwriting ?—No ; but now I am here I should wish to say all I know.

7164. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Yes, what have you got to say ?—Well, I have nothing to say ; but whatever you ask me I will answer.

7165. I thought you had something to say ?—Ask me whatever questions you think proper, and I will answer.

7166. You voted for Mr. Gower in '63, and for Mr. Monson in '65, how was that, had you changed your opinion of the men ?—I had.

7167. Who canvassed you on behalf of Mr. Monson ?—Not any one.

7168. Nobody canvassed you ?—No.

7169. How came you to change your opinions?—Because I thought he was the best man.

7170. You thought he was the best man?—Certainly I did.

7171. Did you attend any of his committees?—No.

7172. Did you canvass on behalf of him?—No.

7173. Who canvassed you on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Nobody. I believe Mr. Monson called at my house, but I was not at home. I saw Mr. Monson one day in the road, and Mr. Nicholls was with him.

7174. You know James Nicholls?—I know him by sight.

7175. He was with you on that occasion?—No.

7176. You told me he was?—No, he was with Mr. Monson; he was passing, and Mr. Monson introduced me.

7177. And asked you for your vote?—Yes.

7178. That is what I call canvassing?—I do not know whether he did canvass me; he said, "This is "Mr. Monson."

7179. Did they ask you for your vote?—I do not not think they did at that time.

7180. Do you mean to say you were never canvassed?—No, I never was canvassed.

7181. Nobody ever asked you for your vote?—No.

7182. Not Mr. Monson?—No.

7183. Nor Mr. Nicholls?—No.

7184. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Nor anybody else?—No.

7185. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were not engaged by anybody?—No, I was not engaged.

7186. Where do you live?—Wray-park, Holmsdale-road.

7187. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you to do any work for them?—No.

7188. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You never did any work?—No.

7189. And never received any money?—No.

7190. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did any one ever offer you any money?—No.

7191. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did any body ask you to do anything for Mr. Monson?—No.

7192. And you know nothing at all?—No.

7193. How came they to know you were likely to vote for Mr. Monson?—I do not know that they did; it was some weeks or months before the election.

7194. Did the Gower party canvass you?—No; I will tell you. I saw Mr. Smith, Mr. Gower I saw; he came and asked me for my vote, and I said, "No, I "have not promised." He said, "You had better "promise," and I said, "No."

7195. What were you doing with Mr. Smith?—I had some business with him.

7196. In reference to the election?—No, sir.

7197. What was it?—Private business.

7198. He canvassed you, and you said you had not made up your mind?—I had not made up my mind.

7199. When did you make up your mind?—Not till the day of election.

7200. What time did you vote?—I forget; but I think it was in the afternoon.

7201. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What time in the afternoon?—I think it was between 1 and 3 o'clock.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You knew it was of no use voting for Mr. Monson?

7202. The election was lost at this time, as I understand?—I do not understand you; it was not that I know of.

7203. You had voted for Mr. Gower at the previous election?—Yes.

7204. Had you voted before that?—No.

7205. Were you disappointed with his conduct?—I do not understand you.

7206. Were you not disappointed with his conduct or principles when you voted against him this last time?—No.

7207. You turned against him?—No.

7208. Were you not engaged at the former election?—At the former I was.

7209. You were engaged?—I was engaged as a messenger; I had a bad finger at the time.

7210. What were you to be engaged for at the former election?—Nothing was mentioned.

7211. You expected to be paid?—Nothing was mentioned.

7212. How much did you hear was to be paid?—I do not know.

7213. How much did you hear was to be paid?—I did not hear.

7214. Did you not hear from anybody?—No.

7215. How much did you expect?—I did not expect to be paid less than I worked for.

7216. How much did you expect to receive as messenger when you worked for Mr. Gower at the former election?—5*s.* 6*d.* a day.

7217. Who engaged you to work as messenger at 5*s.* 6*d.* a day at the last election?—Mr. Buckland.

7218. And how many weeks had you been engaged?—Five weeks.

7219. That would be 33*s.* a week; how much did you receive?—I got three guineas or 3*l.* 10*s.*

7220. You were disappointed at receiving that amount?—I expected more; I was disappointed in this way; I thought it was very poor pay.

7221. You were disappointed in the amount?—Yes.

7222. I told you we should get at it; you expected 8*l.* 5*s.*, at 5*s.* 6*d.* a day for five weeks, and got three guineas or 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

7223. Did you apply for more?—No.

7224. Who paid you the 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Mr. Smith.

7225. After the election?—Yes.

7226. Do you mean Mr. Smith the solicitor or agent?—Yes.

7227. Now before the election of 1865 did you not make an application for the back money?—For this last election.

7228. Yes?—No.

7229. For the back money of 1863?—No.

7230. Did you not tell Mr. Smith you were engaged in 1863, that you had not been paid the full amount, and would require to be paid the back money?—No.

7231. Was not that the private business you were engaged on with Mr. Smith?—No.

7232. Did you apply to Mr. Buckland?—No.

7233. Was it a secret matter the business you were engaged on with Mr. Smith?—Yes.

7234. Relative to your own private business?—Yes.

7235. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you a client of Mr. Smith's?—If I require any business to be done I apply to Mr. Smith.

7236. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you consult him on that occasion?—No.

7237. Was it matter connected with the election?—No, it had nothing to do with the election at all.

7238. It was not relative to the money due to you at the last election?—No.

7239. Did you not tell him you would not vote unless you were paid?—No, I did not.

7240. And they only canvassed you in that casual way?—No.

7241. And they knew you were disappointed?—That I cannot say.

7242. Did they not know you were disappointed?—That I cannot say.

7243. Did you not mention it?—No.

7244. If you were engaged for five weeks to work at 33*s.* a week, why should you be content with 3*l.* 10*s.*?—I was obliged to be.

7245. Why?—They gave me a cheque for 3*l.* 10*s.*

7246. Well, but why should you have been content with that?—It is of no use saying why.

7247. You have a shop?—No.

7248. Have you not?—Yes, if it is a shop; a beer shop.

7249. If people have beer you expect to be paid?—I lose a good deal.

7250. Well, but you expect to be paid, and seek to be paid?—Certainly.

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7251. If Mr. Buckland engaged you to work for five weeks at 33*s.* a week, why did you not expect to be paid; was your work worth that or not?—I could not tell.

7252. Not whether it was worth 3*l.* 10*s.* or 8*l.*?—Well, my time would be exhausted in looking after it.

7253. Well, you never sought after the balance?—No.

7254. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me this, what were your political principles in '65; did you ever say anything about them?—No, I never said anything about my political principles.

7255. Just tell me what your political principles are, for I should like to know if you have any?—I do not think that I have any; they are very slight if I have, very slight indeed.

7256. I wish you to tell me one thing more if you can: are Mr. Gower's politics and Mr. Monson's at all different, the one from the other?—I suppose they are both Liberals.

7257. As far as you know, they both have the same politics?—I really cannot say.

7258. You really cannot say whether there was any difference between them as to politics?—I cannot.

7259. I would not wish to take the answer unless you assent to it. As far as you know, is there any difference between them in politics?—I cannot say, it is very little conversation I have had with them.

7260. In spite of all that you voted first for the one, and then for the other?—Yes.

7261. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In 1863 you were a messenger?—Yes.

7262. Whilst you were a messenger had you promised to vote for him?—No.

7263. Did you promise before the day of polling?—No.

7264. What time in the day did you poll in 1863: in the afternoon I suppose?—I really cannot say, but I rather think it was before 12 o'clock.

7265. Were you canvassed by a gentleman you see here, Mr. Burt, in 1863?—I met him in the street.

7266. About two or three days before the election?—No.

7267. Close before the election?—It might have been the day.

7268. It might have been a day or two before?—I do not know.

7269. Tell me, and consider before you answer the question I put, did you not tell Mr. Burt you did not care who you voted for, but intended to go for the man who gave you the biggest shilling?—Not that I remember.

7270. Try and recollect, consider for a moment, and then answer me?—I probably might have said this, that I always would vote for the biggest shilling, and that is generally my answer to everything that is in the way of work.

7271. When you come to apply that to an election how do you put it, that you are going to vote for the man who gives you the biggest shilling?—No.

7272. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Perhaps I may be able to prove it.

(*The Witness.*) I dare say I can face it.

7273. Now, having considered for a moment can you give me a distinct answer to that question?—Not further than what I have given.

7274. Why did you not promise the Gower party when you were acting for them as a messenger?—I was to work for Mr. Buckland. I had a bad finger at the time, and could not work in my usual way, but I used to go round and see how the work was progressing, and Mr. Buckland said, "You cannot work "in your usual business, and therefore you had better "come on our committee."

7275. And for that you expected to be paid?—I expected to be paid.

7276. You did work some portion of the time?—Certainly I did.

7277. Working for them as messenger, why did you not promise them your vote?—Oh no, I did not think that was necessary.

7278. Why?—Why should I promise them my vote when working for them.

7279. Was not this the reason, that you might get your money while working as a messenger for Mr. Gower, and leave yourself open to get some money on the other side to vote for them?—No, I never thought anything of it.

7280. Did Mr. Buckland speak to you about voting?—He did not say more than I have said to you.

7281. Mr. Buckland, an active agent of the party, did not ask you for a vote when he paid you as messenger?—He said, "You had better let me put you "down as a messenger, and come on our com-"mittee."

7282. Do you mean to say a man who is advertised as a committee man does not pledge himself to vote?—I do not think so.

7283. In what way do you consider a voter is bound to vote?—Voluntarily, without any pay at all.

7284. And without any promise?—Certainly.

7285. In '65 you voted in the afternoon?—Yes.

7286. And kept yourself open to the last?—Yes.

7287. Do you mean to say no person came and looked you up to go and vote?—No.

7288. Or sought you out to go and vote?—No.

7289. Not a single sound?—It might have been spoken in my room, as there are as many as 40, or 50, or a 100 a day.

7290. Were you keeping the beer house at that time?—Yes.

7291. What was it?—"The Prince of Wales."

7292. Did the Gower party ever come there?—Not that I know of.

7293. Or the Monson party?—Not that I know of.

7294. Perhaps you did not want them?—I did not.

7295. You are a wonderfully independent voter?—It is right enough.

7296. Do you wish me to believe no person canvassed you on the day before or the day of the election?—No, they did not.

7297. Of either party?—Of either party.

The witness then withdrew.

T. Best.

THOMAS BEST sworn and examined.

7298. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where do you live?—At Red-hill.

7299. You voted the last time for Mr. Gower, in 1865?—Yes.

7300. What was the rent you were paying for your house?—14*l.* a year.

7301. Is that still the case?—Yes.

7302. What are you?—A carpenter.

7303. Did Mr. Monson's people canvass you?—No.

7304. Not at all?—No.

7305. Then nobody canvassed you for Mr. Monson?—No, I had nothing to do with them at all.

7306. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower canvassed me himself.

7307. At your house?—No, he came to the shop.

7308. Was any one with him?—No, he came by himself at the time; Mr. Smith was outside the shop himself.

7309. Did you promise him your vote the first time he came?—No, nor the second time.

7310. Did he come again?—No.

7311. Then Mr. Gower did not get your promise himself at all?—No, he did not.

7312. Who did?—I did not make up my mind till just before the election; I then came and voted for him.

7313. Who rather gave you the turn; was it one

of the agents?—I had made up my mind before that I would vote for him, but I did not tell him so.

7314. Then when you refused to promise him you had made up your mind?—Yes, I meant to vote for him.

7315. To whom was it you first expressed your intention to vote for him?—Mr. Penfold.

7316. Was that Mr. Thomas Penfold?—Yes.

7317. Where did you see him and tell him about it?—I do not know.

7318. Now, where was it you saw Mr. Penfold?—It was at the meeting at New Hall.

7319. Did he come and say, "I suppose you will "vote for Gower"?—Yes.

7320. And did you say, "I suppose I shall"?—I did not promise him then; I was on the committee before he knew I meant to vote for him.

7321. Before you had made your promise you were put on Mr. Gower's committee; that was rather curious, was it not?—I do not know whether it was curious or not.

7322. Before you were put on the committee, did he say what you would have to do?—No.

7323. When you were put on the committee, did anybody give you to understand what you would have to do?—No.

7324. After you had been put on the committee, did anybody ask you to do anything?—They used to send me circulars when there was anything to do.

7325. You did not work for them?—No, I did not work for them.

7326. You received 30*s.*?—Yes.

7327. You had been promised more?—Yes, it was promised there would be some more.

7328. Did Penfold promise you?—Yes.

7329. Do you recollect when he promised you?—It was in December.

7330. After the election?—After the election; in December I believe it was.

7331. Was it after the time he handed you over 30*s.*?—Yes.

7332. In money?—Yes, in money.

7333. And he said, "May be there will be some "more coming"?—"Perhaps there will be some more "coming."

7334. I do not know whether you call it promising or not, but that you shall judge for yourself; were you pretty well satisfied with what you got?—I might as well be satisfied, I suppose.

7335. When Mr. Penfold said "Perhaps you will "have some more?" you did not intend to give him a receipt in full for the 30*s.*?—No, I did not give him any receipt.

7336. You were not quite satisfied with the 30*s.* for all the work you did?—I never did any work.

7337. Was any larger sum paid?—No.

7338. You never got above 3*l.*?—No.

7339. And nobody ever mentioned above 3*l.*?—Not to me.

7340. Who did they mention it to?—Nothing to anybody about me.

7341. Had you anything to do with the election of '63?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

7342. Who canvassed you then?—I do not know; it is so long ago.

7343. You will be able to recollect if you think a bit?—Mr. Rose, of Mead-vale.

7344. Was it Ephraim?—I do not know.

7345. It was not Alex. Rose?—No.

7346. What money did you get as to the election?—Half a sovereign.

7347. Who gave you that?—He sent it to me to my house.

7348. Rose did?—Yes.

7349. And no more?—No.

7350. Had you expected any more before you voted?—No.

7351. You expected it would be a little handsomer than 10*s.*?—There were a good many who expected to get more than that.

7352. Were you paid the same as the other voters had?—I do not know anything about that. I do not know anything about what the other voters were going to have.

7353. Were you on Mr. Wilkinson's committee in 1863?—No, I was not on any committee at all.

7354. You were not employed at all?—No.

7355. Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower were much of the same politics in 1863, were they not?—I am sure I do not know.

7356. Perhaps you did not trouble yourself about that?—Not I, very little.

7357. You troubled yourself very little about their politics?—No.

7358. This time you voted for Gower; had you any particular reason for it?—No.

7359. You had no particular reason for it?—I do not know that I had.

7360. You had not done very well the election before?—We thought he was a deal the properer candidate.

7361. You voted against him before?—Yes.

7362. You thought then that Mr. Wilkinson was the properest candidate; was it after you were paid the 10*s.*?—No, that was not the thing to make me vote like that.

7363. Then you will not give me any other reason for voting against Mr. Gower the first time and voting for him the second, than what you have stated; have you no other reason to give?—We thought Mr. Wilkinson was the best man that time, and this time we thought Mr. Gower was the best man; that is my opinion about it.

The witness then withdrew.

WILLIAM ROBERTS sworn and examined.

W. Roberts.

7364. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You voted at the last election in 1865? Yes.

7365. And you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

7366. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower's side?—It is difficult to tell.

7367. Just tell me what you are?—I am a carpenter.

7368. A journeyman carpenter, I suppose?—Yes.

7369. What house do you occupy?—One in Linkfield-road.

7370. What rent?—10*l.*

7371. Do you pay the rates?—Yes.

7372. How long have you been on the register?—I cannot say.

7373. Some years?—Some years.

7374. Were you at the previous election in 1863?—Yes.

7375. And voted?—Yes.

7376. Who did you vote for then?—Mr. Wilkinson.

7377. Had you voted on the previous election to the one you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—In 1863.

7378. Yes?—That is all I think.

7379. You were canvassed by Mr. Gower's party; who canvassed you?—Frederick Joyes.

7380. When he canvassed you what took place; in what way did he canvass you?—I cannot say; he asked me to vote for Mr. Gower.

7381. That is not all I suppose that he said. 'Did he ask you to come on the committee?—I did not go on the committee.

7382. Did he ask you to come on the committee?—No.

7383. Did he ask you to do any work?—He merely asked me to do what I could for them.

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7384. Did he tell you what you were to be paid for it?—Yes, I was to have 5*l.*

7385. You were to have 5*l.* for doing what you could for them?—Yes.

7386. Did he tell you what you were to do?—I was to give them my leisure time; I was to do anything I could in my leisure time.

7387. I want you to tell me now, were you examined before the House of Commons?—No; I made a statement.

7388. As I have not got your statement before me, perhaps you will be good enough to give me your statement. Who did you tell?—My neighbours came round.

7389. Tell me what you told your neighbours?—I was to have 5*l.* for my vote.

7390. And Mr. Frederick Joyes promised you the 5*l.*?—Yes.

7391. Was he the only person who promised you 5*l.*?—Yes.

7392. On that side?—Yes.

7393. Had you been canvassed by Mr. Monson's party?—I never saw anything of them.

7394. Not any of them?—No.

7395. Are you quite certain?—Yes.

7396. Are you quite certain of that?—Yes.

7397. You have not been paid the 5*l.*, have you?—Yes; I had it out in a bill that I owed Mr. Joyes.

7398. In what way was that 5*l.* paid on the bill to Mr. Joyes? did you owe him the money?—Yes.

7399. How did you discharge the debt. In what way was it done?—I do not know which way it was done.

7400. Did you ever get a receipt?—No, never. I had a letter came saying I was to pay it again.

7401. I want to know what took place as to that transaction. You say a letter came asking you to pay it again. How did you know that he had been paid? By your services or by your voting; how was it you understood the bill was to be paid; did you see Mr. Joyes about it?—Yes.

7402. What took place between you and Mr. Joyes with reference to the bill?—We settled the bill.

7403. In what way did you settle the bill; how was it settled?—He stated as I owed him money that cleared it off.

7404. In what way did he settle it, did he show you his book in which there was the entry, William Roberts owing Frederick Joyes 5*l.*?—Yes, that was the entry.

7405. Was there any mark made by Mr. Joyes in his book?—I did not see any.

7406. You say it was settled?—That is what I know was stated, that it was settled.

7407. Did he say it was settled?—Yes.

7408. Did he tell you how it was settled?—No.

7409. When he told you it was settled, did you go to him and ask him for the 5*l.*?—I never asked him for it at all.

7410. How was it the bill had reference to the 5*l.* which you were to be paid for your vote. If you say it was settled, it was settled in some way so that you understood it was paid?—We understood one another that it was settled.

7411. Tell me in plain English how it was you understood each other that the bill was settled; what was said between you; what did Mr. Joyes say, or what did you say?—I said nothing.

7412. How did you know it was settled?—Because he told me it was settled.

7413. What did you owe the money for?—A suit of clothes.

7414. Had he sent you in the bill?—Yes.

7415. When you went to his shop, did you have the bill with you, did you go there to pay him the bill?—No.

7416. Did you talk to him about it?—No, I did not.

7417. Then who began the conversation about the bill, Mr. Joyes or you?—Mr. Joyes.

7418. What did Mr. Joyes say first about the bill?—He said my vote for Mr. Gower had settled it between us; that that would make it square.

7419. That if you voted for Gower we will settle the bill and make it square. When was that said, was it before the election?—Yes, about a week before the election.

7420. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He said to you, "You owe me 5*l.*, and if you vote for Gower it will "be all right"?—Yes.

7421. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you see Mr. Joyes after the election about the bill, or did you see him at all?—I saw him after.

7422. Did he mention this bill?—No.

7423. Have you ever had a claim sent in for his bill?—I had a claim sent in that I was to pay him again.

7424. When did the second come in?—About a fortnight after the election.

7425. About a fortnight after the election?—Well, I cannot say, but somewhere about that time.

7426. After you had voted?—Yes.

7427. When he sent in the bill, did you go and say the bill was settled by your voting?—I mentioned it to him.

7428. Tell me what you said?—I merely told him as I have told you just now.

7429. What did you say, that it was settled by the election?—Yes.

7430. What did Mr. Joyes say?—He did not say anything.

7431. Did he again say it was paid?—Yes.

7432. Since then, have you had any further claim made upon you by Mr. Joyes for the bill?—Not lately I have not.

7433. But since that interview after the election, when you say Mr. Joyes repeated that the bill was settled, did he treat it as a mistake sending in the bill after the election?—I told him so.

7434. Did he say anything about its being a mistake?—No.

7435. Since that time has he made any further claim upon you to pay this 5*l.* bill?—No.

7436. Not again?—No.

7437. Not since the fortnight after the election?—No.

7438. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he threaten you with the county court?—Yes, he told me he would county court me.

7439. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When did he tell you that?—The same time.

7440. A fortnight after the election?—Yes.

7441. Was it at the interview with him after the election, when you went to him, he having sent in the bill again, that this county court question was mentioned?—Yes, after.

7442. Do you still owe him the money?—So he says I do.

7443. When did he last tell you that you owed the money?—I cannot say; I have not seen him lately.

7444. You are quite certain, as a fact, that he said it would square off the bill if you voted for Gower?—Yes.

7445. Are you certain of that?—Yes.

7446. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long had you owed him the money at that time?—Oh, about a month or two, I dare say.

7447. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Now about the Monson party this last election. Are you quite certain you were not canvassed by any of them?—Yes.

7448. By Nicholls or any of them?—I was not at home if they came.

7449. Have you not received a sum of 4*l.* 10*s.* from them?—No.

7450. And returned it?—No.

7451. You are quite certain of that?—Yes.

7452. That none of them ever came to you?—No, not in my presence they did not. I did not see any.

7453. Did they see your wife?—No, I dare say not, or else she would have named it to me.

7454. Has your wife given you any money that has come from them ?—No.

7455. Or your children ?—No.

7456. Have you been at any of the meetings ?—No, I never attended a meeting.

7457. Or a committee meeting ?—No.

7458. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said you voted for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863 ?—Yes.

7459. Did you receive any money then ?—No.

7460. Were you promised any money ?—No ; I gave my vote independently.

7461. Quite independently ?—Yes.

7462. Had you promised it before the time of the voting ?—No, I promised Mr. Wilkinson. He came to me and asked me, but I was not offered any money.

7463. Nobody offered you any money at all ?—No.

7464. Or place ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN SIMMONS sworn and examined.

J. Simmons.

7465. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote at the last election for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

7466. What are you ?—A beer seller.

7467. You keep a beer shop ?—Yes, and it ought to keep me by rights.

7468. What is the rent of your house ?—None.

7469. What is it worth by the year ?—I am sure I do not know, I never had it valued.

7470. Is it worth 10*l.* ?—Yes.

7471. Is it worth 15*l.* ?—Yes.

7472. Is it worth more ?—Yes.

7473. 20*l.* ?—Well, I do not put it at 20*l.*

7474. We will stop somewhere between 15*l.* and 20*l.* then ?—Very well.

7475. Will that meet your opinion ?—Yes.

7476. Who asked you in the first instance to vote for Mr. Gower ?—He asked me himself.

7477. Did you promise him when he came ?—Yes.

7478. At once ?—At once.

7479. Did he promise you anything ?—No.

7480. You had some talk with some of his men, his agents ?—Very little.

7481. It is just that little I am alluding to. Who was it that you had a talk with ?—Who was it that I had a talk with ?

7482. Who was it you did talk to ?—I beg your pardon, I am hard of hearing. Why, Charles Smith.

7483. How long before the election was that ?—I do not know ; I was ill five or six weeks I know.

7484. Was it during the time you were unwell ?—Yes.

7485. Can you tell me about how long it was before the election, was it three weeks or a fortnight ?—I am sure I do not know.

7486. May it have been three weeks ?—It might.

7487. Perhaps less ?—Or perhaps more. I do not know.

7488. Were you ill all the time of the election, as much as five or six weeks before the election ?—For twelve weeks I was.

7489. What arrangement was made between you and Mr. Smith ?—He said if I did anything I was to be paid for it.

7490. He said if you had done, or if you did ?—If I did do anything I should be paid for it.

7491. Did you say "Done !" to that ?—I said I would if I could.

7492. Unfortunately you remained ill until the election, as I understand you ?—Till three days before the election.

7493. Do you mean two or three days before the election you got well ?—I got well enough to go there.

7494. Well enough to go to the election ?—Yes.

7495. You mean by going there, I suppose, going to the poll ?—Yes.

7496. Was any sum mentioned as what you were to receive ?—No.

7497. Nothing at all ?—No.

7498. What did you receive ?—None at all.

7499. Dear me, that was very hard ?—It was very bad, I know.

7500. It was very hard, was it not ?—Yes.

7501. You were expecting something pretty good, were you not ?—I may expect a good while before I shall get anything.

7502. Were you not expecting a good deal ?—No.

7503. You were not ?—No.

7504. There had been something mentioned —There was a little.

7505. What was mentioned ?—The same as I told you before.

7506. A sum was mentioned ?—Yes, there was a sum mentioned.

7507. That is exactly what I want you to tell me. What was it, if you please ?—I cannot understand you quite.

7508. He told you if you worked you should be paid for it ?—Yes.

7509. Was not there a certain sum of money mentioned ?—No.

7510. Not at any time ?—Not till after the polling day.

7511. Well, after the polling day ?—Yes.

7512. Tell me what the sum was after the polling day ?—I made my bill out and sent it in.

7513. That is it. To whom did you send it ?—To Mr. Charles Smith.

7514. Did you leave it with him ?—No, Mr. Frederick Joyes did.

7515. What was the amount you sent it in for ?—7*l.*

7516. Did you get any answer about it ?—He said I must wait.

7517. Who said you were to wait ?—Smith did.

7518. And you did wait ?—I have waited until this time.

7519. The bill was in writing, I suppose ?—Yes.

7520. Was the bill returned to you ?—No.

7521. Was it Frederick Joyes you say you sent your bill by ?—Yes.

7522. Is Frederick Joyes here ?—Yes.

7523. Who brought you back the message, was it Frederick Joyes, or did Smith answer it himself ?—Why, Frederick Joyes said a week afterwards I had got to wait.

7524. Did you put down in your account voting 7*l.* ?—No, I did not mention the vote at all.

7525. Was it for services ?—No, nor yet for services.

7526. What was it then ?—For the things I had broken, and what they stole.

7527. Who stole them ?—Oh, that I do not know.

7528. What was in the bill. Was this in the bill, "To one quart pot stolen" ?—Yes.

7529. How much ?—I do not know what the pots are.

7530. To one quart pot how much ?—I do not know.

7531. You know what a quart pot is worth ?—No, I do not know, for I have not got my bill here.

7532. If you keep a beer house, do you mean to say you do not know what a quart pot is worth ?—No.

7533. Was it a pewter pot that was stolen ?—I paid for a pewter pot, but what it was I do not know.

7534. What else was broken ?—Two chairs.

7535. One moment, I beg your pardon, I dare say you will forgive me ?—Yes.

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7536. I mean, now referring back to the quart p[illegible] t, now would 3*s.* be a good price for a new quart p[illegible] that looked liked pewter?—I cannot say.

7537. You are a beerhouse keeper, you can give me some notion about that?—It is so many years ago since I bought them.

7538. I wish you would tell me, I want to know?—I am sure I cannot tell.

7539. You could tell me about what it would be worth?—I do not know.

7540. Is it worth 5*s.*?—I do not know.

7541. Do you think it is worth 1*l.*?—No, I do not.

7542. Do you think it worth more than 10*s.*?—I am sure I cannot say.

7543. Will you tell me what they broke?—Some glasses were broken.

7544. Did you put them down in a lump, two glasses broken together?—I lumped them all together.

7545. You did not lump the glasses into the quart pot?—Yes.

7546. Did you smash your glasses up with the quart pot?—No.

7547. Was the first item, "To one quart pot stolen" so much?—Yes.

7548. Was the next, "Two glasses broken" so much more?—Yes.

7549. If the quart pot was worth something under a pound, for the broken glass did you put down 6*l.*?—I do not know.

7550. I want to get the information from you, as I may not be able to get the bill, but remember I may be able though?—Oh, yes.

7551. Did you write it yourself?—No.

7552. Who did?—Frederick Joyes.

7553. Just tell me this, will you,—I have little very little more to ask you,—but what did you do at the election of 1863?—I did not have much to do with it.

7554. I want to know what?—Mr. Wilkinson came and asked me for my vote, and I said "Yes."

7555. And you voted for him?—Yes.

7556. Did you do anything for him then?—No.

7557. You were not unwell then?—No.

7558. Did you do anything at all?—No.

7559. You were not on his committee?—No.

7560. Were there any arrangements between you and Mr. Wilkinson's party at the time?—Nothing at all.

7561. Did any money pass at that time?—Not in my presence, not a farthing.

7562. Was there any promise or arrangement made about money?—No.

7563. Not at all?—No.

7564. Were you to get the same as the others? was it arranged that you were to be paid the same as the rest?—No.

7565. No sum of money was mentioned. Was it arranged that any payment should be made to you?—No, not to me, there was not.

7566. Did you hear any arrangement made with anybody?—No.

7567. Do you remember the election in 1859?—No.

7568. Were you paid in 1863 anything?—No.

7569. Nothing at all for broken glasses?—There were none broken then.

7570. Just recollect, there was no story about a quart pot then?—No.

7571. Were you paid for a quart pot?—No, I have not been paid for that.

7572. Were you paid for a quart pot in 1863?—No.

7573. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You say you are a freeholder; your house is a freehold?—It is a leasehold.

7574. A freehold lease for 99 years?—I do not know whether I shall get my lease again, but I want my lease renewing; it is only for 80 more years to come.

7575. Is there any land attached to it. Did you build the house yourself?—No, I never did build a house in my life.

7576. Was it built for you?—Stephen Godstone built it.

7577. Was it built for you, on your account?—No, I bought it after it was built.

7578. What did you pay for it?—I cannot say.

7579. What did you pay for it? Is it a good house?—I do not know what without the bills were here.

7580. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I do not know whether I understand you to say that you were a voter before 1863. Were you a voter before 1863?—The last time Mr. Wilkinson put up I voted for him.

7581. Was that the first time you had voted for the borough?—No.

7582. Were you at the previous election?—Yes, but I was not at home.

7583. You were not at home at the previous election?—No.

7584. How is it you were not at home?—Because my business took me out.

7585. What was your business that called you away?—A brickmaker.

7586. Had you been in the town just before the election?—Yes, I was.

7587. Were you there a week before the election?—I dare say I was.

7588. Were you there the night before the election?—Not the night before the election.

7589. Two nights before?—Very likely.

7590. Did you take any interest in the election at that time?—Not at all, I was too tired; I worked enough in the day.

7591. If you were too tired, why did you not stop at home and rest?—Because I had to go and work again for Lord Monson.

7592. Who were the candidates then?—I am sorry I do not know, because then I would tell you.

7593. Any of the Monson family?—No, I do not think there were.

7594. Did anybody suggest to you it would be as well to go out of the town during the election?—No.

7595. You went of your own mind?—No, but I was obliged to go, I had got business to attend to.

7596. Only making a few bricks?—I did not make them, I burnt them.

7597. Had you promised anybody a vote at the election?—No.

7598. Not at all?—No.

7599. One of the Monsons was a candidate at that time?—Was he, sir.

7600. Yes?—Oh, I did not know that before.

7601. Do you remember it now?—I recollect this last one.

7602. But in 1859?—No.

7603. Did you vote at the election of 1858?—No.

7604. You did not?—Who was it put up at that time.

7605. Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson?—I am bothered if I know whether I did or not.

7606. You do not know whether you did?—I never voted for ne'er a one of the Monsons.

7607. Were you here at the election when Doulton came here; do you remember that?—I recollect his name.

7608. Did you take any active part in that election?—Not much.

7609. But you were in the town?—I was in the town.

7610. That was a very good election, was it not?—I am sure it never did me any good.

7611. Did you receive any money on that election? Did you vote either for Mr. Wilkinson or Mr. Doulton?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

7612. He got in, did he not?—No, I think not.

7613. You were on the losing side?—Yes, I always have been.

7614. Were you paid anything on that occasion?—No.

7615. Not at all?—No.

7616. What were you then; were you keeping a beer-house then?—Yes.

7617. Were you keeping a beer house in 1859, when you say you were brickmaking?—Certainly, my wife was to look after that.

7618. Your wife looked after the beer?—Well, she is right to.

7619. Then upon no occasion have you received money?—No.

The witness withdrew.

HENRY FRANCIS (who volunteered his evidence) sworn and examined.

H. Francis.

7620. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is your name Henry Francis?—As far as I am aware of.

7621. Do you live at Reigate-heath?—Yes.

7622. Did you vote for Mr. Monson?—No, for Mr. Richardson.

7623. For Mr. Richardson?—Yes.

7624. At the last election?—Yes, Mr. Richardson.

7625. First of all I will hear your story?—No, you begin, and I will give you the whole truth according to your questions, but when a man like Robert Francis, my uncle, comes here to make a statement, let us see what is the statement he made; there is his own mother, a poor old woman 82 years old.

Mr. Commissioner Smith advised the witness to let the poor old woman alone.

7626. You took a very active part in the election?—Yes.

7627. Did you take that active part in the election for Mr. Wilkinson?—No, I had nothing to do with it.

7628. Or for Mr. Richardson?—I had nothing to do with it.

7629. You took an active part?—I had nothing to do with the previous election. At this last election I did make myself busy in that affair.

7630. But this election, you did make yourself busy?—Yes.

7631. You were very active?—I was.

7632. For whom did you interest yourself?—Mr. Monson.

7633. And for whom did you vote?—Mr. Richardson; don't you see, there will be two points presently.

7634. Now, having made yourself very active for Mr. Monson, and voted for Mr. Richardson, tell us why you voted for Mr. Richardson?—I did that entirely for a petition.

7635. But you were active for Mr. Monson?—Yes, throughout the whole of the election for a space of six months before the election, and from the commencement of it I was very active. During the period of the election, for six weeks before the usual time of it, I took an active part, and for six weeks afterwards I could not get it out of my hand for why ——

7636. Did you canvass?—Yes, several.

7637. You were going on to say "For why," and then you stopped?—I say "For why"? Several I canvassed.

7638. You were going on with a sentence "For why"?—I had a good deal of money perhaps.

7639. From whom did you get the money?—No, no, you go on and I will tell you.

7640. You had a great deal of money?—I had a great deal of money, and I will tell the whole affair; wait a bit, and I will tell you; and that is not the bottom of it.

7641. Now begin, and go on?—The fact of it was, when Mr. Monson first came to me for my vote I told him I would vote for the Liberal cause; that was in February.

7642. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Tell us about the money; where did you get the money from?—From Mr. Nicholls.

7643. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How much did he give you?—50*l.*

7644. What did you do with it?—Spent it.

7645. In what way?—That I cannot tell you; I spent another 50*l.*, and I spent 50*l.* of my own out of my own pocket.

7646. Did you find 50*l.* out of your own pocket?—Yes, I did, and a great deal more, if you come to the truth of the thing.

7647. You say you spent 50*l.* out of your own pocket?—Yes.

7648. Then you spent 100*l.*?—Yes, and more than that.

7649. How much more than that?—Oh, perhaps 50*l.* more, there is no telling; look here, I cannot tell you exactly, as I previously told you I was on the election six months.

7650. Now tell us before the polling?—I am only telling you the truth.

7651. Let us have the truth; first of all you say Mr. Nicholls gave you 50*l.*?—He did not give me the 50*l.* of a lump, he gave me 20*l.* or 30*l.* and then 13*l.*

7652. When did you first get money from Mr. Nicholls?—Not till after the election commenced.

7653. After the canvassing?—Yes; I heard of the thing, and said it was time to put a stop to this corruption.

7654. I suppose Mr. Nicholls joined in your virtuous indignation?—I said to Mr. Monson, "If you "will not petition against Mr. Gower I will find "somebody who will, for you will not find a single "man who will canvass this borough any more."

7655. Tell me when you first got any money from Mr. Nicholls. You say it was after the canvass began?—I did not have it before.

7656. Now the question is, when did you have it?—I did not have it before.

7657. Tell me when you had it?—A week or two after, or it might be a month after, I pledged myself to Mr. Monson, Mr. Gower asked me for my vote.

7658. Never mind Mr. Gower or Mr. Monson. You got a sum of money from Mr. Nicholls; what was the sum?—It might have been 10*l.*

7659. Was it?—Yes.

7660. How long had you been canvassing before you got the 10*l.*? Had you been canvassing a week?—Yes, more than that; two or three weeks.

7661. When you got the 10*l.* from Mr. Nicholls, in what way did you ask him for it; what did you say to him you wanted it for?—I told him the way that our candidate was going on in the voting, and I did not like him to be left in the lurch.

7662. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said you must fight it?—In fact, I paid the first 10*l.* out of my own pocket before I asked Mr. Nicholls for 10*l.*

7663. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Out of your own pocket?—Yes, it was my own money.

7664. When did you pay the first sum of money?—When I found out these proceedings.

7665. I only want to know when you paid the first sum?—Now, look here, will you allow me to make a few remarks when all is over.

7666. Yes, any remarks you like to make; but now tell me first of all when it was you paid the first sum of money?—I cannot tell exactly.

7667. To whom did you pay it?—Oh, to several;

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a pound here and a pound there. I spent it anyhow; I was in all the election right through.

7668. What I want to know is, what you did with the money; you say you gave a pound here and a pound there?—Some I offered 10*l*. after I knew that they had promised Mr. Gower, not that they got any money from me, I only wanted to try their principles, and when I found they would give up their word for 10*l*., I did not give them any.

7669. Give me those instances where you tell me you actually gave the money?—There might be one or two; there was a man, but he is not alive now, and we will not disturb the dead.

7670. Give us the name of some man who is alive?—There is a man named Josiah Ede. I spent this money in trying what people were.

7671. Now Josiah Ede, what did you give him; 2*l*.?—I dare say it was.

7672. Was that to try his principles?—Yes.

7673. Did he keep the 2*l*.?—The other party had got him away, and I offered him 2*l*. to come with me, and come fairly; he said they had promised him 5*l*., but I said, "You can have the ready money from "me."

7674. Did he vote for Mr. Monson?—No; he voted for Mr. Gower for 5*l*. more.

7675. Was that the first 2*l*. that you paid?—It might have been something like a pound or two; I used to drop it out of my pocket as I walked; I wanted to see what was going on.

7676. You distributed your money pretty freely?—Very freely. I can mention another man I gave money to; I gave Evans 4*l*. or 5*l*.

7677. What is his Christian name?—John, I believe. I gave him 4*l*. or 5*l*., but he voted for Mr. Gower; I knew his game, so I stopped it, and he did not have any more. I gave it to him to see what the man was.

7678. Is there any other name you can think of?—I think it is time there is a stop put to it. I do not know of anybody else.

7679. Did you give anything to Roberts?—No; do you mean Robert Francis.

7680. No, William Roberts?—No.

7681. Now, that is only 7*l*. out of 10*l*. Did you charge Mr. Monson's party with your having paid 10*l*. out of your own pocket?—No; I had 5*l*. for my own expenses; that I signed for; it was a stamped agreement.

7682. What was the agreement?—Oh! nothing at all; I never had it, and I did not have the money at the time.

7683. Have you ever got it?—I have not got it now.

7684. Were you paid it?—No.

7685. It is still owing to you. Was this stamped agreement a stamped receipt?—Yes, I put a stamp on it.

7686. How came you to put a stamp without receiving the money?—The thing was, we had had this money pass between us.

7687. How came you to give a stamp receipt for 5*l*. without receiving the money; is that your usual way of transacting business?—No; but a man may give a signature to a bill; if he receives the 5*l*. he may give a stamped receipt.

7688. Did you receive the 5*l*.—Of course I did, I received 50*l*. from Mr. Nicholls; there is no doubt about that, and I put my stamp for 5*l*.

7689. Why did you not put it for 5*l*. and not for 50*l*.?—It did not matter whether it was 5*l*. or 50*l*.

7690. Oh, yes, it did; if the 5*l*. was returned as legal expenses, and the other 45*l*. were illegal, it would make a very great difference in the accounts?—There might be a difference then.

7691. You received 5*l*. and gave a receipt for 50*l*.?—The fact of it is that Mr. Nicholls owed me 5*l*.

7692. What for?—There was a bill of long standing for different things, and I took the 5*l*. from off that, and he said, "Give me a receipt for 5*l*.;" and when I asked him about electioneering affairs, he said, "That "squares it."

7693. Mr. Nicholls owed you 5*l*. and you owed Mr. Nicholls ——Mr.?—No, I never owed Nicholls.

7694. You gave a stamped receipt for the money which Mr. Nicholls owed you?—Yes.

7695. Did that come in the 50*l*.?—Yes. I do not know exactly whether it was 50*l*., 40*l*., or 45*l*.

7696. You ought to have had 10*l*., your own bill, and the 5*l*. too?—Of course I could not charge my own man.

7697. You did not get it?—That was the only thing I got paid; I had no money for my expenses for the whole time, only that 5*l*.

7698. Did you get the 5*l*. given to you?—I did previous to my signing my bill.

7699. What, you mean a receipt?—Yes.

7700. You did get 5*l*.?—Yes.

7701. Was that part of the 50*l*.?—Yes.

7702. You said that it was 10*l*. out of your own pocket; you have given me one instance of either 6*l*. or 7*l*. that you spent?—Yes.

7703. Where did the other sovereigns go to; you told me you went about with money in your pocket, and you dropped sovereigns in various places; tell me some more places. Did you do that before you received the money from Mr. Nicholls?—I did in some respects.

7704. Now in what respect, and how?—I spent many a shilling and pound.

7705. In what way?—In going about myself agitating the man's cause.

7706. Agitating the man's cause with sovereigns in your pocket?—Yes, as I do now; I am not lost for a pound. I may go now if there is any cause and agitate with a pound in my pocket, and if it is a good cause give a pound myself.

7707. Did you do it at the election?—I spent several pounds for Mr. Monson's cause because he had been badly treated, and I would have spent 150,000*l*. if I had possessed it.

7708. You used the expression rotten sheep. What do you mean by rotten sheep?—They who take men's money on both sides. I defy any man to come in this borough and canvass them, let him bring the largest sum which the Bank of England can produce.

7709. I want to know to whom you distributed these pounds?—I cannot tell you.

7710. Did you distribute them amongst these black sheep?—I cannot tell you.

7711. You have given me John Evans and Josiah Ede?—Supposing I mention every public house in the place, will that satisfy you?

7712. Go on.—There is not a public house in the parish but what I have distributed 5*s*., or 10*s*., or 1*l*. in every house.

7713. In what way would you distribute it?—Go in and get a man to drink; you cannot expect elections to be conducted in such a manner but what a man will have a glass of ale in a house; you cannot expect that.

7714. But you come here and you are agitating for purity of election?—I am.

7715. How much more money did you receive from Mr. Nicholls besides the 50*l*. to distribute?—Nothing at all; I do not know that I had 50*l*.; I do not believe I have had more than 40*l*., but people thought I had a deal of money, and I put it down at 50*l*.; I say, perhaps I had. Now, Mr. Nicholls objected to any money being paid; I only had 5*l*. for my work, and I was engaged for six months. Look here, you are a clever man no doubt, but you will not listen to the truth and honesty of the thing.

7716. Well, now, I will; tell us about it?—Do not fancy yourself too clever.

7717. Be good enough to tell me the truth and honesty of the thing?—I will tell to you the truth and nothing but the truth.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien suggested an adjournment till the following morning, as the witness would be then less excited.

The Chief Commissioner thought it would be the better course.

The Witness stated that his conscience was as good then as it would be in the morning, and he would not be less excited.

7718. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You know Allen Edwards, do you not?—Yes.

7719. Do you recollect before the election came on seeing Allen Edwards about his vote?—He worked for me before the election came off.

7720. It was quite natural you should see him?—Yes.

7721. Do you recollect promising him a pound a week if he would come and vote for Mr. Monson?—I gave the man a pound a week during the time he worked for me. He was out of employ, and he had got a family, and I said if no one else would give him a job I would give him a job.

7722. What did he work at for you?—Cleaning and rubbing up my business, and gardening.

7723. What is your business?—I am a monument builder.

7724. Did you set him to work before the election?—I set him on my garden.

7725. Did you give him a pound a week?—Not for the election.

7726. You agreed about a sum?—I gave him in the first instance a pound a week for his work, for what he did for me.

7727. Do you know how long he worked for you?—He worked so long that when he wore his fingers out he ran away, and would not have any more of it.

7728. Did you pay him?—He ran away without his money.

7729. He promised to vote for Mr. Monson?—No, he promised to summons me for the money.

7730. Did he promise you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No, not at all throughout the affair.

7731. You asked him to make you a promise to vote for Mr. Monson, did you not?—I might have done; it is natural enough to ask a man when he has got a vote, if he works for you.

7732. Upon that you agreed to give him 1*l.* a week?—No, not upon that, he was to work for me previous to the election coming off; before there was any election occurred. I said, "Now, I am for Mr. "Monson; they are treating Mr. Monson in a very "scandalous manner;" I said, "Give us your vote;" he said, "I do not know, there is the other party "after me, I shall not promise;" I said "Then do "so."

7733. Then you promised him 1*l.* a week and he was to give you his vote for Mr. Monson?—No, he did not promise me a single fraction of a vote, for he was waiting for something from the other side.

7734. The other side might have come to him perhaps, after he had made you the promise; did you not in the first instance promise him a pound a week if he would vote for Mr. Monson?—I asked him to vote for Mr. Monson, and when the affair had gone through about six weeks I asked him to vote for Mr. Richardson, and if you wish it I can tell you the reason for that.

7735. At 8 o'clock at night were you at the "White Hart" the night before the election?—I cannot say that I was there during that time; just let me see; the polling day came off on the Wednesday.

7736. There were some arrangements made at the "White Hart" that night about Mr. Richardson?—Mr. Richardson; oh! yes.

7737. What was the arrangement made?—I do not know; I was asked to nominate him, and I agreed to that momentarily.

7738. You told my friend some little time ago that it was with a view to the petition that Mr. Richardson was put up?—That was it, and nothing else.

7739. Can you explain to me what you mean by that?—It was time that there was a stop put to this corruption.

7740. This was the night before the polling; was there a talk?—Do you mean by the public about the petition?

7741. Yes?—Oh no, of course not; I knew well enough it was time we had a petition.

7742. That was the reason Mr. Richardson was put up?—Yes, it was entirely for a petition to stop these abominable practices.

7743. Did you fear that if there was a petition both Mr. Gower and Mr. Monson would be thrown out?—Well, I do not know; I question whether there would have been if I had stuck to my word; there was only one man stood in the way, or else I should have signed the petition for Mr. Richardson.

7744. Who was the man you mentioned who stood in your way?—Frederick Joyes.

7745. He prevented you signing the petition?—Yes.

7746. But Mr. Joyes was a friend of Mr. Gower's?—Well, he was a friend of mine previous to any election, years ago; he was the man that helped me in my business when first I started for Reigate.

7747. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Joyes state any reason to you why you should not sign the petition?—No, I stated to him.

7748. What?—I told him this: "Look here, "Fred," I said, "the fact of it is, it is time there is "a stop put to this crime, my conscience will not "allow me to do it."

7749. What did Mr. Joyes say to you?—Not a word to me. I went to him; Mr. Joyes had acted as a friend to me; I said "Look here, Fred, you "cannot solicit a man in this place but what you "are asked to give him something." I said "for our "personal freedom by G—— it is time that we had "a petition." I said, "If you have done anything "wrong, you square it."

7750. You say you did not petition because of your friend Joyes?—Joyes never remarked a word to me about it, but I will not go against a friend; if any man acts as a friend to me I will never go against him, or else I should have signed a petition for Mr. Richardson, for he is the best gentleman we have got in this place.

7751. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you got displeased about the way things were going on, did you go on Mr. Monson's side to Mr. Joyes, because he was a leading man on the other side?—It was weeks and weeks before this time Mr. Gower met me in the street before Mr. Apted and Mr. Smith and one or two more, and asked me to give him my vote. I said "I am for Mr. Monson;" he said, "You may alter your opinion." I said "If you "were to give me 1,000*l.* you should not have my "vote;" that was in the High-street long before the election.

7752. It was arranged the night before that Mr. Richardson should be put up?—I do not know; I gave my name to it in a moment.

7753. I dare say your name carried it?—In fact I did not know of it in the morning.

7754. Was it done for this reason, because it was expected if there was a petition that both Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower would be dislodged and Mr. Richard-

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son would stand?—That is the truth. We knew we were not clean ourselves, but I said it was time that there was a stop put to it.

7755. Did you feel that your man was in much the same danger that Mr. Gower was in?—I knew he had been badly treated.

7756. Did you know that your man, Mr. Monson, was in much the same danger?—Oh, yes, I understand you; I did of course; I knew that Jack was as good as his master in regard to that.

7757. You received from Mr. Nicholls altogether, you suppose, 50*l.*?—I put it at that, but I do not believe I had all that.

7758. Have you furnished Mr. Nicholls with any account of how you spent the money you received?—No, Mr. Nicholls is a man I would give 50*l.* to.

7759. Do answer the question?—I have not sent in any account whatever as regards the election.

7760. Of that 50*l.*?—There is no account, but I have paid it all.

7761. Have you given in any account of how you paid it?—No, I have kept no account.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien told the witness to refresh his memory during the night, and in the morning he must give an account of how the 50*l.* was expended.

The inquiry was adjourned until 11 o'clock on Tuesday morning.

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Tuesday, 28th August 1866.

HENRY FRANCIS further examined.

Mr. Commissioner Smith said that owing to the excited state of the witness the previous day they had been compelled to adjourn, and he must request him to disabuse his mind of all angry feelings, and to confine himself to answering the questions as simply and as quietly as he could.

7762. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said yesterday you had paid 10*l.* out of your own pocket some two or three weeks in the canvass before you went to Mr. Nicholls?—Yes.

7763. You said you had paid Josiah Ede 2*l.*, and John Evans 4*l.* or 5*l.*?—Yes.

7764. That amounted to about 6*l.* or 7*l.* out of the 10*l.*?—Yes.

7765. Give me the name of any other person that you paid money to about that time; the early part of your canvass?—There was not any at the early part.

7766. I mean before you went to Mr. Nicholls, when Mr. Nicholls supplied you with money?—Yes.

7767. Probably you said 10*l.* as a sort of round sum, not meaning to fix it?—I put it at 10*l.*, and I dare say it was not far from it.

7768. You cannot give me any further names than John Evans and Josiah Ede to whom you gave money previously?—No more than I was about.

7769. In what way did you spend the money? Going about to houses and treating men with beer and brandy and water?—Yes; probably it might be that way; but before that I did not intend to have anything to do with it at all, before I heard about the 5*l.*s being given by Mr. Gower's party. I should not have had anything to do with the canvass if the people had treated Mr. Monson in a respectable manner, because I promised him my vote. He was not exactly the man who would have had my vote; but as I had promised him my vote I told Mr. Gower 1,000*l.* would not part us.

7770. You would not have spent any money at all, or paid any money, with reference to persons voting, had you not heard of something being done on the other side?—I should not. I heard there were promises made, and so on.

7771. You had heard promises of what?—Before I commenced anything myself with regard to bribery I heard there were promises made on the part of Mr. Gower. I understood Mr. Gower was coming it. I had thought he had enough of the previous election, and I thought Mr. Gower intended to go through this last election in what you may call a pure sort of manner.

7772. You heard he had "offered" voters?—Yes.

7773. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was before you commenced bribery?—Yes; before I commenced.

7774. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had heard that 5*l.* had been offered?—They had been promised 5*l.*

7775. Do you know what they call Hollis's-road or the Hollis district?—At Redhill I know Hollis road, near the Asylum.

7776. Do you know a person of the name of William Church, who was examined yesterday?—I know him from seeing him here, and by being at his house once or twice.

7777. Does he live in your district?—I live at Reigate-heath, at the east, he lives at the west.

7778. At the Asylum?—Yes.

7779. Had you been canvassing in his district?—Not at all. I went to a meeting there, but I do not know that I canvassed any one there.

7780. Do you know who was the active man about Hollis's district in canvassing for Mr. Monson?—I should say that Mr. Rose of the Asylum was.

7781. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Ephraim Rose?—Yes.

7782. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That would be his district?—Yes.

7783. He was an active man for Mr. Monson?—There were a good many active men. I do not know whether he was very active; he made himself appear as such; but whether he had anything to do I do not know.

7784. He was a person in the neighbourhood of Mr. Church?—He works at the Asylum.

7785. Is there any other person in the neighbourhood of Mr. Church's district who would be acting for Mr. Monson?—I do not know who acted. I do not know exactly who did work for Mr. Monson in the Redhill part, no more than that I went to several meetings at Redhill; there were a great many there.

7786. Now after you had heard these matters with

regard to the 5*l.* being paid on the part of Mr. Gower, and you had paid these monies, did you report what you had done to Mr. Nichols ? — I reported to Mr. Nichols directly I heard of the first onset.

7787. Now, after you went to Mr. Nichols, when you had heard that these 5*l.* were being paid on the part of Mr. Gower, what did you say ?—I mentioned to Mr. Nichols and one or two more that they were beginning the old game.

7788. Was that in the committee room that you mentioned it ?—No.

7789. It was not a committee meeting ?—No.

7790. Did you attend a committee meeting ? — I attended twice.

7791. Were there any committee meetings being held on the part of Mr. Monson in the early part of the canvass ?—Not that I am aware of.

7792. Can you give me the names of any of the persons who were with Mr. Nichols at the time you reported this fact with regard to the 5*l.* promises ?— I am not certain who might have been with him; but if there was anybody I should not have let them hear me, because it was at the "Grapes," and I should have called him aside.

7793. That is a public house and tavern ?—Yes.

7794. You say you told it to him privately ?— Yes.

7795. When you told him this, did he give you any instructions how to act ?—He told me, "Now, look "here, if they begin that game, keep your eye open, "we will petition against them." I said I did not see why a young chap like that should come in and be shoved out of the place no how. That was the remark I made. Of course this is the truth of the thing, it is no use coming any other dodge.

7796. Go on ?—I say what I have stated is the truth.

7797. Something occurred to your mind at the moment, and you said this is the truth of the thing; what is the truth of the thing ?—It is impossible for a man to canvass a borough if there is going on that corruption, and passing of money, and that sort of thing. It is no use to go and agitate a cause upon any political point when you begin that. I am sorry to say you cannot find any to bring together that will go and agitate anything for the Liberal cause.

7798. Don't let us get back to the agitation; let us get into the business part of the election ?—That was the answer.

7799. That is what you mean by the truth of the matter ?—Yes.

7800. You told me yesterday you received some 50*l.* or more from Mr. Nichols ?—50*l.* or less. I said, "40*l.*, perhaps less."

7801. You said 50*l.*, and perhaps more ?—I say more or less; I do not know.

7802. We will put it at 50*l.* to begin with. When did you first begin to receive money from Mr. Nichols; was it at the time when you first represented to Mr. Nichols that 5*l.* was being promised the other side ?—No.

7803. How soon after ?—Some time after that.

7804. At that interview Mr. Nichols only said, "Keep your eye open, and we will look out for a "petition."—He told me to keep my eye open for anything of the kind.

7805. And to look out for a petition ?—Yes.

7806. Tell me how soon after the interview when Mr. Nichols said that you received the first monies from Mr. Nichols; was it a week after or two days after ?—More than that; a month, I should think. I was on the election four months before the polling day. I should say it commenced in April.

7807. When did the canvassing, to your recollection, begin; four months before the election ?—I should say it did.

7808. Was that four months before the election that you heard promises had been made for these 5*l.*s ? —No, I did not hear of any promises before Mr. Gower put himself forward.

7809. How long before the election did Mr. Gower put himself forward ?—Five or six weeks.

7810. How soon after Mr. Gower had put himself forward did you hear of these promises being made ? —A week, or perhaps a couple of weeks.

7811. Then you did not at once report these 5*l.* promises to Mr. Nichols, but you paid these sums to Ede and to Evans before that ?—No.

7812. Before you reported it to Mr. Nichols about the 5*l.* ?—No.

7813. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had represented first ?—Yes.

7814. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you report to Mr. Nichols you had heard there were 5*l.* promises made on the part of Mr. Gower before you spent money out of your pocket ?—I spent it for my own use, but not for paying them.

7815. Before you gave any to Ede and Evans ?— Yes, before that I spent money for my own use in going round.

7816. I do not mean the money you spent for yourself in going round; I mean the money you paid to Ede and Evans ?—No.

7817. At the present moment there is a slight contradiction. You paid these monies to Evans and Ede ?—Yes.

7818. Those were out of your own pocket ?—Yes.

7819. I understand before you paid these monies you represented to Mr. Nichols you had heard 5*l.* were promised on the part of Mr. Gower ?—I told him there had been 5*l.* promised.

7820. Before you paid any of these monies to Evans and Ede had you represented to Mr. Nichols that the 5*l.* had been promised on the part of Mr. Gower ?—Oh! yes.

7821. Then, after Mr. Nichols had told you to keep your eye open and look out for a petition, you paid those monies to Ede and Evans ?—Yes.

7822. How soon after Mr. Nichols had told you to keep your eye open for this petition did you pay this money to Evans ?—A week or two.

7823. Did you know that Evans had promised to vote for Mr. Gower?—No, he had not promised any one.

7824. He had not promised any one when you gave him the 5*l.* ?—I told him to take and work for us; in fact I gave him 1*l.* a week; that is what I gave him.

7825. Did you ask him to come on Mr. Monson's committee ?—Yes, and I believe he brought Ede to me.

7826. Did you tell him that if he was wanted you would let him know, and did you give him 2*l.* upon your first interview with him ?—Yes, I think I did.

7827. What was the 2*l.* for ?—I told him he was to work for Mr. Monson, canvassing, in fact. I said, "You had better come down every night or in the "day if you can, and see if there is anything doing, "whether you are wanted to be sent anywhere, and "so on."

7828. What work was he to do for the 2*l.*—I told him he could take circulars round or he could go to meetings.

7829. What meetings ?—Anywhere round where there was a meeting.

7830. A public meeting ?—Yes.

7831. Or a meeting where there was refreshment ? —Yes.

7832. Were you at any of the meetings where there was refreshment on the part of Mr. Monson ?— I have been at meetings, several of them, of course, where there has been a sort of evening's diversion, such as smoking and drinking, and so on; that is all the refreshment I have seen.

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7833. Will you tell me one of these meetings?—Yes, at Mr. Tyrrell's.

7834. That is in Nutley-lane, is it not?—No, in Redhill.

7835. Oh! in Hollis-road?—Yes.

7836. That is a beer house, is it not?—Yes.

7837. Not a licensed house?—No.

7838. Was it a large meeting?—Yes, it was not very small.

7839. Then who was there; was Mr. Monson there?—Yes.

7840. Were there speeches?—Yes.

7841. After the speeches were over was there any drink going on?—Yes.

7842. Who paid for it?—I had some ginger beer.

7843. Did you pay for it?—I think I did there.

7844. Did you see the others pay for what they had?—No, I did not.

7845. Do you know who did pay?—No, I do not.

7846. Was Mr. Monson there?—Yes, I believe he was.

7847. Who was there of the influential part of Mr. Monson's agents; Mr. Nichols was one?—Yes.

7848. Was Mr. Richardson there?—Yes.

7849. He it was who afterwards put up as candidate?—Yes.

7850. How long did Mr. Nichols and Mr. Richardson and Mr. Monson stop?—Till it dispersed.

7851. While they were there was there any drinking going on?—Not a great deal whilst they were in the room.

7852. There was some?—Very little; I had a glass of ginger beer, and I saw one person have a glass; that was all during the time we were there.

7853. During the time they were there?—During the time we were there; we all came away together.

7854. You live at the west?—Yes.

7855. Then you had to get home?—Yes.

7856. What time did you leave the meeting?—About 10; it might be 11.

7857. Did you leave any people in the house when you came away?—No; I do not know; I cannot say.

7858. Of the residents of Hollis-road?—I cannot say whether they stopped there or not.

7859. Was that the evening Mr. Church was there; did you see Mr. Church?—I did.

7860. He made a speech?—Rather a foolish one.

7861. We will not sit in judgment on that speech; but was that the evening Mr. Church was there, and asked Mr. Monson questions; you thought they were oolish questions?—Some of them.

7862. Did Mr. Church stop the whole of the meeting?—Well, I cannot say; I know he had a great deal to say.

7863. Were you at any other meeting?—Yes.

7864. Where?—At one at Reigate-hill.

7865. How long before the election?—A week or two, perhaps.

7866. Where was the meeting?—At the "Yew Tree" I think was the sign of the house.

7867. Who is the landlord?—Burrell I think now.

7868. Who was landlord then at the time of the election?—There was no man only old Burrell himself; that was all.

7869. He was the landlord of the "Yew Tree"?—No, his father.

7870. Is he alive?—Yes.

7871. Does he live there now?—Yes; he does not live at the house; he lives at the farm just above.

7872. Was he the person taking the management of the house?—He was the person to take the chair.

7873. He was in the chair at the meeting?—Yes.

7874. Was Mr. Monson there?—No.

7875. Was Mr. Richardson there?—No.

7876. Or Mr. Nichols?—No.

7877. Then was Mr. Burrell the influential man of the evening?—He was for the chairman.

7878. Were there speeches made?—Yes.

7879. Was it a general meeting, or open to any voter who liked to come in?—Yes, or any one else.

7880. Was it an advertised meeting?—No.

7881. How came you to know that there was a meeting there?—I suggested that we should have a meeting there.

7882. And as you walked along did you tell your neighbours there would be a meeting?—Yes.

7883. Were there refreshments?—Oh! cigars, ale, and anything of that kind.

7884. Was it a licensed house?—Yes.

7885. Were there any spirits?—Well, I think there was a glass or two of brandy and water.

7886. Who ordered the brandy and water; who ordered the spirits and the beer?—I do not know; it came in, and they drank it.

7887. Did you have any?—I had some ginger beer.

7888. That was a very small item?—Yes.

7889. Some *2d.*, I suppose?—I dare say I had about five or six bottles.

7890. Did you have anything in the ginger beer?—Nothing at all.

7891. Did you see them paying for what they had?—Yes.

7892. Who did you see pay?—They clubbed round for it, I believe, and paid for it themselves; all that were there, 13 or 14, and subscribed for the whole of it, I think.

7893. Did you subscribe or pay as you had your ginger beer?—I paid as I went along.

7894. Your proportion was small, I suppose, to the others?—I did not take anything only ginger beer at that time.

7895. It was small in proportion to the others' expenses?—Yes, they had money sufficient; but if they had not I should have given them 10*s.* I dare say if they had wanted it.

7896. You saw them subscribe round?—Yes.

7897. Tell me some other meetings you attended?—I went to the park once, to the "freehold."

7898. What was your object in calling this meeting at the public house?—I do not know.

7899. When you were there did you tell them that you had heard that the Gower party were promising *5l.* for votes?—No.

7900. Did you not discuss the question at all there?—No; in fact, they had a meeting themselves opposite to us.

7901. The Gower party had a meeting that night?—Yes.

7902. Where was the meeting of the Gower party?—At Thatcher's, I think.

7903. What is the name of the house?—I do not know the sign of it; it is a beer shop. I think it is the "Volunteer," but I am not sure.

7904. At this meeting did you not discuss amongst yourselves who were the shaky voters who were likely to go over to the Gower party?—Well, I think there were some of them there.

7905. Did you canvass them that evening?—No, I did not have much to do with them.

7906. You did not canvass them?—I did go round to the shaky ones; at least, I went round to those that promised to be staunch, and a great many of those went over; so I thought it was time to walk about and see what was going on. They did not get a deal out of me; I told you, in fact, what they had.

7907. This was long after you had been to Evans and Ede?—Yes.

7908. Tell me some other house you went to?—I went behind the park to the freehold. I went behind the town; the "Barley."

7909. You just got out "Barley," half a syllable of the "Barley Mow;" had you been there?—Several times; the fact of it is this, I know these places and persons; make a remark, and it makes me mention the house. I do not know the sign; it was Walters' where I attended a meeting, but I do not know the sign of the house.

7910. It would have been a mistake then if you had mentioned the "Barley Mow"?—It would have been no mistake to say I have been there, for I have been there, but I do not think I was there during the time of the election at all.

7911. What was the house you went to?—What, behind the park; nowhere, only at Walters'.

7912. What sort of a house is Walters'?—A licensed house.

7913. Did you attend any meeting there?—Yes.

7914. Was that meeting convened by private intimation or public circular?—Private intimation.

7915. Was there any circular sent round to call any meeting?—I think there were for that meeting.

7916. Did the circular go from the head committee or from yourself?—I do not know, but it did not go from me.

7917. Who took the chair at that meeting?—Page, I think.

7918. What is his Christian name?—Thomas Page. I am not certain whether he was in the chair or not, but I know Page was there.

7919. That is Page the overseer, is he not?—Yes.

7920. Did Thomas Page take a very active part in the election?—I do not know.

7921. Did he canvass?—I do not know.

7922. He was in the chair on this occasion?—I cannot swear to that.

7923. He was at the meeting?—He was there, but I cannot tell you who was chairman.

7924. Were many people there?—Not a great many.

7925. Was the room full?—It is not a room, it was a booth at the back of the house.

7926. I suppose it was a large booth?—Not particularly.

7927. How many people were there, 30 or 40 or 50?—I should say 100.

7928. Was Mr. Page the most influential person of the Monson party who was at the meeting?—No.

7929. Who was, yourself; of course I do not put you below Mr. Page, but who was the most influential person there?—I do not know.

7930. Was Mr. Monson there?—Yes.

7931. Of course he would be more influential than Mr. Page; was Mr. Richardson there?—Yes.

7932. Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

7933. Was there any other gentlemen of the Monson party who were of the same class as those which you have mentioned?—I do not know, I cannot bring it home to my recollection. I do not know who was at the meeting.

7934. Who were the persons besides Mr. Nicholls of Mr. Nicholls' class of life; you say there was Mr. Monson?—Yes.

7935. Well, who was there besides Mr. Nicholls?—I do not know.

7936. Who was the person who principally worked for Mr. Monson?—I cannot say that.

7937. Yes, you can, you must know that; you were very busy at the election; I want to know those persons of the same class of life as Mr. Nicholls who were canvassing for Mr. Monson?—I do not know.

7938. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You must know that, Mr. Francis?—Of course there was Mr. Richardson, he took a great part in it.

7939. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have mentioned him; was he not chairman of the committee?—Sometimes.

7940. When he was not chairman of the committee who acted as chairman?—I was only there twice; the chairman was Mr. Lainson; he was there once, and Mr. Hanbury the times I was there.

7941. We know Mr. Hanbury by name very well; who is Mr. Lainson?—A gentleman who lives at Reigate heath.

7942. Who was there besides of that class, it is a highly respectable class. There were several of those taking an active part in the matter?—The room was full, but I do not know that they took an active part in particular.

7943. Well, I will change the term then, of those who were continually attending the committee room there?—I do not know whether they were continually attending, I was only there twice.

7944. Were they there when you were there?—Some of them.

7945. Are there any others that were there whilst you were there?—Mr. Hanbury, Mr. Richardson, and in fact a great many of them whose names I do not know.

7946. Was Mr. Hanbury at the meeting behind the park?—No.

7947. Or Mr. Lainson?—No, I never saw those gentlemen in any other meeting in my life.

7948. Was there any refreshment going on at the meeting behind the park?—There is no question that some of them did not stop there dry if they were at a public house meeting, there is no question but what they had something to drink.

7949. The landlord of the place belonged to Mr. Monson's party?—No, he did not belong to any of them.

7950. Did he vote?—No; he said he had had enough of the last election, and he wanted to get square from that.

7951. And so he would not promise his vote?—He would not promise.

7952. Did you have any refreshment that night?—Yes.

7953. Ginger beer?—Yes, and a drop of brandy.

7954. The ginger beer was put in a drop of brandy?—No.

7955. You paid for it yourself?—Yes, and I had a little drop given to me.

7956. What do you call a little drop?—About 3*d.* or 4*d.*

7957. Who gave you that?—Mr. Easton.

7958. Who is Mr. Easton?—A tradesman who was there at the meeting.

7959. Well, we will pass him by in silence. Now, did you see anybody else taking refreshment besides yourself?—I never went by a public house yet, but I have seen persons taking refreshment.

7960. Answer the question?—Well, that is such a curious question to ask.

7961. Not so, because it was going to lead to another; did you see those who had the refreshment pay for what they had?—I cannot say; I have gone to a house many a time and have not seen a man pay.

7962. Did you see anybody order refreshment?—No.

7963. Did the waiter come in and get his orders?—No, not that I know of; in fact, there was nothing in the booth to my recollection; if there was it was after I was gone.

7964. Did you have yours in the booth?—No, at the bar, and then I came away home.

7965. Then you heard no orders given with regard to refreshment?—No, and I do not know what there was; I cannot say there were not any orders or that there was not anything to drink, but I did not see any.

7966. I do not know whether you have told me the name of the landlord?—Mr. Walters.

7967. What is his Christian name, do you know?—I do not.

7968. He is on the register I suppose?—Oh, there is no question about that.

7969. Were you at any other meeting of a similar character?—No, those are all I believe. I was at one at Redhill, Warwick-town; I do not know whether they call it Warwick-town, but it lies between Warwick-town and the church.

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7970. Where was it at?—The "Greyhound."

7971. Who was the landlord?—That I do not know, not Mr. B., he was not there then; this was at the last election.

7972. You do not know the landlord?—I do not know whether the name was Brown orSmith or what.

7973. Very well, I am afraid that we shall not be able to find it out by that definition, but you know the sign?—I know it was the "Greyhound."

7974. How was that meeting called, how came it to be held?—I am sure I do not know; I did not know that there was a meeting till they asked me to attend.

7975. Do you recollect who asked you to attend?—I cannot say; I know I was coming down the street, and I went into the "Grapes," and somebody said they were going to the meeting, and up I jumped.

7976. Who drove you?—I cannot say.

7977. Who took you in the trap?—Do you mean the coachman?

7978. There was somebody else besides the coachman?—Yes.

7979. Who was it?—Mr. Corderoy.

7980. Who was Corderoy?—A young man about the place.

7981. Was he a voter?—I believe he was.

7982. He was an active man, was he not?—Yes, he was, I believe, very active for Mr. Monson.

7983. What district did he live in?—Oh, I cannot say; I did not know anything of his affairs?—Not the slightest.

7984. Was anybody else with Corderoy that went with you to the meeting from the "Grapes"?—There were three or four, but I cannot tell you their names.

7985. I dare say you can recollect, it may be material for us to know who they were?—It is a great tax upon the memory to think of all these people. I have mentioned one, and perhaps if you call him as a witness he may mention another that he knows.

7986. If I can get it now from you very likely it will shorten our labours?—I told you of Corderoy. I cannot think of the others, it is no use telling a man's name when he was not there.

7987. There were two others besides you and Corderoy?—Yes, I believe there were.

7988. Did Mr. Nichols go with you from the "Grapes"?—No.

7989. When you attended this meeting who was in the chair?—I was.

7990. You took the chair?—Yes; in fact, I took the chair pretty nearly at all of them excepting at Redhill and behind the park.

7991. Was there refreshment going on at this house which you speak of, the "Greyhound"?—Well, the room was full.

7992. But were they not all drinking?—Yes, that is all I know; I do not know who paid for it or anything of the sort, there were a lot of men came in, a great many of a different sort.

7993. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you not order anything?—I ordered nothing, only for myself.

7994. Did you not say that you were out of pocket because of the money expended?—Yes, I did.

7995. How did you spend it if you did not order anything?—I did not spend any there, it was round at public houses different to these meetings. I said, those people who called the meetings let them pay for them, I have got enough to pay at other times when I am on my rounds. I do not know that I paid anything; I might have paid at Burrell's, at Redhill, some 3*s.* or 4*s.*, or offered 10*s.*; but that was the only meeting at which I did pay for anything, if I did then.

7996. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What class of persons were at this meeting at the "Greyhound"?—All sorts.

7997. All sorts?—Yes, of labouring classes.

7998. It was chiefly the labouring classes that attended there?—Yes.

7999. What was the class of drink that they had for refreshment, was it brandy and water?—Yes, and ale.

8000. Ale and brandy and water?—Yes, from what I could see it was just like any other public meeting; some would fancy ale, some beer, some brandy and water, and just what they liked to call for.

8001. Did you see them pay for it?—No.

8002. This was had in the room?—Yes.

8003. You were in the chair?—Yes.

8004. Did you take ginger beer?—No, cold brandy.

8005. Were you there when the meeting first began?—Yes.

8006. After it first commenced how long did it last?—I did not stop all the time.

8007. How long did you stop?—An hour and a half.

8008. When you left the chair of course you apologised to the meeting that you were going to leave, did you not?—Yes.

8009. When you left the chair I suppose you apologised to the gentlemen present for leaving?—Yes.

8010. Did you ask any gentleman to take your place?—Yes.

8011. What gentleman did you ask to take your place?—Mr. Rose of Redhill.

8012. What was his Christian name, and was it Ephraim?—No.

8013. Do you not know what his Christian name is?—Robert, I think it is.

8014. Are you certain it was Robert Rose who succeeded you in the chair?—I am not certain, but I think it was.

8015. Was he at the meeting?—He was at the meeting.

8016. You are sure of that?—Yes.

8017. Do you know how long the meeting was kept up after you left the chair?—No.

8018. You do not know?—No.

8019. Did you ever hear?—No.

8020. Were there any other houses you attended where this class of meeting was going on?—No.

8021. Have you now told me all?—That is all.

8022. An observation which fell from you drew me from the subject upon which I was questioning you; I will now revert back to it. You told me you gave Evans 2*l.*, and that you told him you would let him know when you wanted him for work, did you ever give him any work?—I do not know what he did.

8023. But you gave him the 2*l.* when you first saw him?—Yes.

8024. And at that time you did not know he had promised to vote for Gower?—He had not promised Mr. Gower, he told me so.

8025. You told us in your evidence yesterday you went round to test the purity of these men?—Yes.

8026. Did you say anything to him about voting for Mr. Gower?—I asked him if he had promised his vote, and I think he said, "No;" I said to him "You "look here, I am not going to be shut out altogether "by these youngsters, and will fight with the same "weapons."

8027. You told us yesterday what you did was to test the purity of the place?—I did, but after I had had the first communication I would not have any more of it.

8028. If Evans told you that he had not promised to vote for Mr. Gower, why did you give him the 2*l.*? I asked if he had been promised 5*l.* by the other side.—He did not tell me he had promised his vote.

8029. From whom then did you learn it?—He told me he was promised the 5*l.*

8030. He told you that before you gave him the 2*l.*?—Yes.

8031. Will you swear that?—Yes; he told me when I first saw him about it that he had been promised 5*l.* by the other side, as far as my recollection can go, and he did not know what he should do, whether he should take it or not.

8032. Before you gave him the 2*l.* will you on your solemn oath swear he said a single word to the effect he had been promised 5*l.* on the part of Mr. Gower?—I will not say positively as to that, but there was something of the kind said, because he lived close by me, and that was the cause of it.

8033. He lived close by you, did he?—Yes; and those who lived close to me if I asked them for their vote I did not trouble them again. I gave him 2*l.*, and told him he could have 1*l.* a week up to the day of the election.

8034. I believe you saw Mr. Evans very early in your canvass?—Yes.

8035. That was five weeks before the election?—Yes, I should say five weeks.

8036. There you and Mr. Evans agree. Did you also give Mr. Evans 5*l.*, 1*l.* a week for the three weeks following?—I did.

8037. Why did you do that?—I told him to come every Saturday for the money.

8038. Having given him the 2*l.*, you told him to come every Saturday for 1*l.*?—Yes, I told him he was to work for it, he was to come down, of course, to the committee room, or Mr. Nichols, and see whether there was anything to be done during the week.

8039. Did you inquire whether he had done any work before you gave him the 1*l.* a week?—No; at least, I asked Mr. Nichols whether Evans had been down, and whether he had found work for him.

8040. Did Nichols say whether he had found work for him?—I do not know that he said anything about it.

8041. From whom did you get the money to pay the 1*l.* a week to Evans?—2*l.* I gave him out of my own pocket.

8042. But when you gave him the 1*l.* a week I thought that you had seen Nichols and told him what was going on?—Yes.

8043. Had you received any money from Nichols to pay this 1*l.* a week?—I did not receive any money from Nichols not for a fortnight before the election.

8044. Now, be careful, do you mean to say that?—I should think so, I cannot say exactly about it; but when I paid him this 2*l.*, it was money out of my own pocket.

8045. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you first get any money from Mr. Nichols?—It was a fortnight or three weeks before the election.

8046. Or a month?—I cannot tell you exactly.

8047. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was before then that you got the money from Mr. Nichols, if you draw your recollection back, it must have been so.—I do not think it was; I know the first money he gave me was 20*l.*

8048. The first sum of money?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I wish you could fix that.

8049. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Give me as nearly as you can the date when you received that money?—But I paid 10*l.* out of my own pocket before that, if you can understand it. I said to Mr. Nichols, "Look here, I cannot afford to spend all "my own money."

8050. Well, never mind that, you told us you referred to Mr. Nichols as to whether Evans had done any work, and then you paid him 1*l.* a week?—Yes.

8051. That was after you referred to Mr. Nicholls that you paid him 1*l.* a week?—Yes.

8052. Did you tell Mr. Nichols what engagement you had made with Evans?—I told Mr. Nichols I did not agree with all these fellows, they call themselves workers; I said that Evans worked with me, but I believe he intended going on the other side.

8053. I dare say Mr. Nichols being a sharp and clever man would not pay the 1*l.* a week on such terms as those?—He had nothing to do with it.

8054. You went to Mr. Nichols and told him this man was to have 1*l.* a week, and you went and asked him what work he had done?—And he said, None, or, perhaps, that he did not know Evans.

8055. Understanding that you paid 1*l.* a week to Evans?—Yes.

8056. Did you not get any of these pounds before you paid Evans?—No.

8057. Not before you paid Evans?—Oh, yes, but I paid 2*l.* out of my pocket, and at that time I paid 10*l.*; the 2*l.* was a portion of my money.

8058. When you paid Evans the 2*l.* had you then paid 10*l.* out of your own pocket?—Yes, I had, after I had paid Ede.

8059. Did you pay Ede before Evans?—I think both were paid together.

8060. The same day?—I think so, but I am not certain.

8061. And at that time you had spent 10*l.*?—Yes, and the 1*l.* a week I think I had from Mr. Nichols out of the 20*l.*

8062. It is clear the 3*l.* you paid to Evans for the three subsequent weeks formed no portion of the 10*l.* you had paid out of your own pocket; where did you get that 3*l.* from?—I did not get it singly, I told you I had 20*l.*

8063. You paid the 3*l.* out of the 20*l.*—Yes.

8064. Then what did you mean by saying just now that you got no money until a fortnight before the election from Mr. Nicholls?—I do not know exactly when it was, for the first commencement of my concern with the election was in April.

8065. Well, we will refer to it by-and-by, we have got a little closer to the point. You now remember the three one pounds you paid to Evans were out of the 20*l.* you received from Nichols, now try whether that does not enable you to fix the time when you received the 20*l.*?—I do not know the time when Evans received the first money.

8066. You have told us it was about five weeks before the election, you have told us that, and Mr. Evans and you both agree that it was about five weeks before the election?—He might be out a week and I might be out a week, I cannot tell exactly, but I know I paid him 2*l.*, and Mr. Ede, and I told Mr. Nichols I had paid 10*l.* out of my own pocket, and I asked him to advance me money to go on with. I told Evans to come down and see what he could do for us up at Redhill in canvassing, and I said to to him, "I will give you a 1*l.* a week to meet me at "the 'Grapes,' and if there was any person wished "to have a glass you will pay for it, and whatever "you pay I will give you the money back."

8067. And he was to get his refreshments in the shape of drink, and you were to pay for it?—Yes.

8068. Did you tell him to treat others as well as himself when he canvassed?—I told him if he liked to take any one there to take a glass of ale he could.

8069. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Could what?—I told him if there was any one there on the canvass who wished for a glass of ale he could pay for it, and I would pay it on the Saturday night when I gave him the 1*l.*

8070. Did you tell that to Ede or Evans?—To Evans.

8071. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Why did you particularly refer to the "Grapes" as to the drink; did you know others went there?—Yes, I did myself.

8072. Of course you paid for what you had?—I did sometimes.

8073. And sometimes not?—Yes.

8074. And was that so with other parties?—I do not know.

8075. Perhaps it was that they did not pay at all?—I cannot say that.

8076. Now attend to me; with regard to this 20*l.* that you received of Mr. Nicholls, let us have no misunderstanding at all about it. So far as we have arrived at a conclusion, I think it is this; let me see whether I am correct; before you commenced paying Mr. Evans his 1*l.* a week you had received money from Nichols?—Before I commenced paying the 1*l.* a week at least.

8077. Now, tell me, was it at the "Grapes" you mentioned this 1*l.* a week?—Yes.

8078. The "Grapes" inn, kept by Mr. Nicholls?—Yes.

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8079. Was Mr. Nichols in constant attendance at the "Grapes" inn?—Yes.

8080. The "Grapes" inn is kept by Mr. Nichols, I believe?—Yes.

8081. It is the inn nearly opposite the "White "Hart" hotel?—Yes.

8082. Were these 3*l.* paid to Evans on a Saturday? Yes, on the Saturday.

8083. And at the "Grapes"?—Yes.

8084. That was so?—Yes.

8085. Now, before you paid to Evans either of the pounds at the "Grapes" did you speak to Mr. Nichols?—About what.

8086. About paying Evans 1*l.*?—I asked him.

8087. You have told us you asked Nichols whether Evans had done any work?—I told him if he had got anywhere for Evans to go.

8088. I want to know, before you paid any monies to Evans, did you ask Nichols for the money at that time, that evening?—Not as I am aware of.

8089. Did you never receive monies from Nichols on Saturday evening?—Oh, yes.

8090. Was a portion of that money to pay Evans?—There were generally one or two there that had been working and so on.

8091. Now you say that there were generally one or two who had been working who had to be paid, did you have to pay them?—Well, I have paid. All I paid was Josiah Ede 2*l.*, and this Evans, to my recollection, but of course there were others waiting to be paid.

8092. Now give me the names of those who were waiting to be paid on these occasions?—I cannot tell exactly.

8093. You can tell me one?—No, sir, I cannot tell you one, not to a certainty.

8094. Well, now, tell me to an uncertainty?—That is an uncertainty.

8095. Very well, make a guess, we will be quite satisfied with a guess?—I cannot, there were so many about there during the election. In fact, I cannot swear that those people were there to be paid, only imagination that is.

8396. You have made an assertion, that there were two or three there besides Evans on that Saturday to be paid, and you paid Evans?—I paid Evans.

8097. Tell me the others who were paid?—I do not know, I cannot tell you who the others were. In fact, when I say that there were others there, the passage perhaps was full, but I do not know whether they wanted paying or what not. They used to be inquiring for Mr. Nicholls and so on; I used to say, "I suppose you want paying," or something of that sort.

8098. Give me the name of any man to whom you said, "I suppose you want paying"?—I cannot.

8099. Why did you say to any one of them "I "suppose you want paying"? What led you to make that observation?—I did not tell them so.

8100. You have said just now that you said, "I "suppose you want paying"?—I said, "I suppose "you want paying," that was to myself.

8101. No, no, that won't do for us; you said it to them?—I did not say it to them; I said so to myself.

8102. That is not what you led us to infer at first, when you gave your answer. Do not shelve back?—Well, look here, you can talk for a week, and you won't get no more out of me than that. If I tell you aught else and bring a man's name in, what is the good of my telling you the man's name? I do not know whether that man wanted to be paid, I say I only said so in my own idea.

8103. Now just give me the name of some person whom you thought was going to be paid according to your own idea?—I cannot tell you that. I will answer any question that I do know, if I know it for true I will tell you.

8104. That would be very like truth if you were to tell us an answer to that question?—I do not know.

8105. Who was the person you thought was going to be paid?—I do not know.

8106. Was it a usual thing for persons to be engaged, as Mr. Evans was, on the Monson side?—I cannot say what they done.

8107. Oh, yes, you know it by reputation?—I know no more about the others' affairs than a child, nothing what they done, nor nothing of the sort. All I know is what I have done myself, and I did not trouble myself what others had done. I thought it was a bad policy in anything of this sort to let one another know your business.

8108. To let the opposition side know your business?—Ay, or even your own party.

8109. Then you did not tell anybody except Nichols what you had done with Evans, you kept that to yourself?—I told several since the election.

8110. But I mean before the polling you did not make that a subject matter of conversation at those meetings?—Oh no, sir.

8111. Now amongst your friends did not you say something of that sort. "I have given Evans a "couple of pounds, and he is going to work for us. "Cannot you get somebody to work for us as well, "in the same way"?—I never told any one.

8112. Did you ask anybody to canvass for Monson besides Evans?—Yes; Thomas Stone, Reigate-heath, first commenced it, but I found they wanted to know what the price was and so on.

8113. You put Stone on?—No, I did not put him on. In fact, I solicited him for his vote, and I found he was waiting to know what the price was, and I never troubled him any more.

8114. Did you offer Stone work?—I do not know; I asked him for his vote at any rate.

8115. Might you have offered him work?—I might perhaps.

8116. Thomas Stone is his name?—Yes.

8117. What sort of person is Mr. Stone?—He is a gardener, I believe.

8118. On his own account or a jobbing gardener?—A gardener to some gentleman, who is. I do not know exactly where.

8119. What sort of work were you going to put him upon, to canvass?—To canvass, I suppose. He was generally among the gardeners, and so on.

8120. I suppose his day was occupied at his ordinary work?—Yes.

8121. Was he to be paid for his work and loss of time?—Yes.

8122. What was he to be paid?—I offered him 5*l.*; I think I did, for his services. That was the first starting.

8123. Before you paid Evans?—I do not know, I think it was somewhere about the same time. That was to go on and work for Mr. Monson.

8124. Was he to attend the committees and meetings?—Yes.

8125. Did he promise to work?—No, sir, I had no more to say to him.

8126. He gave you some answer?—I never asked him any more about it.

8127. But did he tell you that he was engaged to vote for Mr. Gower?—No.

8128. Did you know that he was engaged to vote for Mr. Gower?—I do not think he knowed himself.

8129. That is no answer. Then you looked upon him as a perfectly free and independent voter, if you thought he had not promised?—He looked to me,—I do not know what he did look like; I did not trouble him no more after his vote.

8130. He refused to go upon the Monson side and accept your offer?—Yes, he did.

8131. But I suppose, if he had promised to vote for Monson, you would not have gone away, but you would have closed with him?—There is no question that I should.

8132. You would have said, "Very well, I will give "you the 5*l.*"—I do not know.

8133. Then why did you offer him 5*l.*?—That was for him to do the work.

8134. And vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

8135. Did you report to Mr. Nichols that you had seen this man Stone?—I think he had been mentioned once or twice.

8136. Did you?—I do not know whether I did or not.

8137. When you saw Nichols on Saturday, or whenever you went to the "Grapes"?—The fact of it is, I asked him for his vote first without promising any money. I found he was hanging about for some, and I offered him a job. That was the commencement.

8138. That is not an unusual commencement?—It does not appear to be.

8139. Did you report to Nichols that you had offered this 5*l.* to Stone, and that he would not promise a vote?—I do not know.

8140. Was it your custom to report to Nichols, or to any influential member of the committee, what work you had done, what success you had met with?—Not everything particular. Being in with Nichols for four months, of course you do not stand and say nothing, you pass a few remarks. But I have no recollection of half I said to Nichols during the four months.

8141. You were with Nichols some four months before the election; was it quite in the early part of the four months that you saw this man Stone?—I cannot say, I think it was.

8142. Then that must have been before Mr. Gower came forward?—Well, I do not know that; it was somewhere in May, I think.

8143. When did Mr. Gower come into the field?—That I cannot tell you exactly.

8144. Then it was that you saw Stone?—That I cannot say. There was a great deal at that election I forget, I assure you. Not that I wish to forget on purpose, I do forget it.

8145. If I understand you, are we to conclude that Mr. Gower came forward as a candidate after you had canvassed Stone?—I do not know, I cannot say.

8146. You have told us that you went out for the purpose of testing the purity of the election. Now, can you tell me whether it was before or after Mr. Gower came into the field that you canvassed Stone?—I do not know, I forget.

8147. Then that does not draw it to your recollection?—No.

8148. Was there anybody else besides Stone that you canvassed for the purpose of helping Mr. Monson?—I do not know.

8149. Somebody else that you offered a job to amongst the gardeners?—No, sir.

8150. A great many gardeners are voters, are they not?—Yes.

8151. Were there any other gardeners that you saw that you were going to engage as canvassers, or to vote?—I do not know that there were any.

8152. You know Stone was not the only man that you asked to vote and to work?—Stone was the man that lives next door to me.

8153. Is there any other man not living next to you that you canvassed in that way?—Yes.

8154. Tell us who?—Now you have asked me, that does sharpen my memory, I cannot think of all these things in a moment. A man of the name of Thrift. It has come to my recollection, I asked for his vote.

8155. Is that John Thrift?—Yes.

8156. He is a gardener?—Yes.

8157. Did you offer him work?—No.

8158. In what way did you canvass Thrift?—Asked him if he had made up his mind. He told me he was going to vote for Mr. Gower, and I never asked him any more.

8159. You know that is not what I mean. Did you see Thrift before that time, before the time you said he told you he was going to vote for Gower and you left him?—That was the first time I called on him.

8160. Did you ever ask him to canvass for Mr. Monson?—Not at all.

8161. Did you offer him a job?—No.

8162. Give me some person's name that you offered a job to, in the same way as you did to Stone and Evans?—Well, I cannot think of any.

8163. I suppose you might have offered a job to other electors, and yet not recollect the names.

8164. To how many?—I do not know.

8165. Some half-dozen?—That I cannot say.

8166. It might have been?—It might have been.

8167. It might have been fifty?—It might have been fifty.

8168. Did you continually canvass in that way these gardeners and labouring people, in offering them jobs?—No, in fact I did not canvass many of the gardeners.

8169. I say generally, when you canvassed a man, did you offer him a job to come upon the committee?—Yes, I asked him to come upon the committee, but I forget now who it was, no more than Stone; that is all.

8170. Did not you tell them they should be paid?—What, Stone?

8171. No, any of them that you canvassed. Did not you tell them that they should be paid if they came on the committee?—No, nobody else but Stone.

8172. Are you quite certain of that?—As far as my recollection goes.

8173. Do you know the name of a person called Peter Pelling?—Yes.

8174. Where does he live?—On the freehold.

8175. What is he?—A baker, I believe.

8176. A journeyman baker?—No, a master baker.

8177. What was he at the last election, journeyman?—I do not know; he has been a gardener.

8178. When did you see Pelling first?—I never canvassed him at all. He came and offered his services.

8179. Did you accept them?—I believe they did at the "Grapes."

8180. What was he to do?—Well, he was to work, but I do not know what he was to work. He was to call there the next day, but it appears he only come in as a spy. He was to have 30*s.*

8181. Who gave him the 30*s.*, did you?—I think I did.

8182. When was it you gave him the 30*s.*? Was it at the "Grapes"?—Yes.

8183. When was that 30*s.* given?—That I cannot say.

8184. How long before the election?—That I cannot tell you; I know he had the 30*s.*

8185. Was it some weeks before the election?—That I cannot tell you; I cannot tell you exactly when it was. I know he came and wanted a job; he had been out of work, and so on.

8186. Did you see him alone or in company with anybody?—What! when he wanted the money?

8187. When he came and wanted the job was Nicholls there?—Yes.

8188. Was it to Nicholls that he offered himself or to you?—He offered himself to Nicholls, I believe, first.

8189. And then came to you?—Yes, I believe so. I cannot say exactly whether he offered it to him or me, but it was to one of us he offered himself. He said he was out of employ; he wanted a job. I believe Mr. Nicholls set him on for 30*s.* a week during the election, something of that sort, and I gave him the 30*s.*

8190. On that evening when he asked for the job?—Yes.

8191. Then you paid him 30*s.* in advance?—Yes.

8192. Did you pay him any other money than 30*s.*?—None at all.

8193. Did you see any other monies given to him?—None at all.

8194. Where did you get the 30*s.* from you paid to Pelling?—I had it from Nicholls.

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8195. Where did Mr. Nicholls take that 30*s.* from?—That I cannot say.

8196. From his pocket?—I think I gave him the money.

8197. Gave him the money to pay it; yes, but you got it from Nicholls first?—I had the money.

8198. When did you get that money from Nicholls that you gave Pelling?—I do not know whether I had it that night, or whether I gave it from my pocket, or how it was. I think I gave it to him.

8199. How came you to give the money, and not Nicholls?—That I do not not know. Mr. Nicholls asked me to pay him.

8200. Did you see whether Pelling did any work?—No; I cannot say.

8201. What work was he to do?—I do not know. He came and offered his services. I do not know what he was to do. He was going to canvass, and to be messenger, and I do not know what all; he was going to do something of that sort.

8202. Then this gentleman gardener who was out of work, and who is not a baker, was he an influential man then?—That I do not know.

8203. You do not know that he did any work at all?—No.

8204. Now was that the only person that you saw at the "Grapes" or elsewhere, who came and offered himself to work?—That I cannot say; if you know of any one that you can remind me of, I will tell you.

8205. You are to give me the information, you know it; you know that I was not here at the election?—Of course I will state anything that is correct, but I cannot bring it to my memory. Suppose I was to mention two or three.

8206. Very much obliged to you if you would?—And they were not there.

8207. I do not think it is very likely; you might make a very good shot?—On a man's name if he was not there?

8208. Give me one or two?—That I cannot.

8209. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Monson's friends will think that you are very lukewarm and inactive if you only mention two or three names?—I am not going to mention a man's name if he was not there, or anything.

8210. (*Mr. Commissioner Swith.*) Do you know the names of any persons who were employed in the same way as Pelling?—I do not know; I cannot say.

8211. Can you give me the names of any persons of that class of life like Mr. Pelling who were canvassing for Monson?—I cannot say.

8212. Or messengers?—No.

8213. Do you know who were the messengers?—I do not.

8214. Do not you know the name of one single messenger?—No.

8215. You had to send messages sometimes?—I do not know where I sent them to. I do not think I sent any one anywhere; in fact, I had no one along with me much, I kept by myself.

8216. You can tell me the names of some persons who were about Mr. Monson's committee room, hanging about as messengers?—No, not to a certainty. All that I see at the committee was the gentlemen I have stated. The others of course I do not know nothing what their business was.

8217. Now this other man, Mr. Josiah Ede, what was he to do?—I think he was a messenger; I did not employ him; I think I have heard him say that he was. I did not employ him as a messenger; there was something, I do not know exactly what it was.

8218. If you did not employ him as a messenger, what did you give him the money for, to vote?—To canvass for Mr. Monson, that is all; but I might have said he was to be a messenger, but I gave him the money and I never saw him no more. I believe he turned to Mr. Gower the next week; I never saw him no more.

8219. Then he did not belong to Mr. Gower's side when you gave him the money which you paid him, 2*l.*?—No; I gave it the same time as Evans.

8220. He did not go to the Gower side till a week after?—No; at least I do not know when he went to the Gower side.

8221. You are perfectly ignorant as to that?—I do not know when he went, although I know he was with Mr. Gower.

8222. Well, now, having given me that answer, that you are quite ignorant as to when he went to Mr. Gower, can you tell me how you explain that you gave that 2*l.* to him for the purpose of testing the purity of Mr. Gower's party?—Because I told him, I believe, if he wanted a job, if he was going to canvass, he had better see Mr. Nicholls or some of them, to see if they had got anything for him to do. Whether they employed him or not I do not know, but I did not go to Reigate-heath no more after that; in fact, I did not see him for months after that, and all that I heard was that he had voted for Mr. Gower.

8223. And you had given him the 2*l.* to vote for Mr. Monson?—I had given him the 2*l.* to vote for Mr. Monson.

8224. Did you offer any other monies to people to vote for Mr. Monson?—I do not know.

8225. I want to exhaust your memory if I possibly can with regard to these. You must have canvassed and offered jobs and monies to somebody else in the same way as you did Mr. Josiah Ede?—I do not know; I might have done so.

8226. Did you?—I do not know; I won't say that I did not or that I did.

8227. You might have done so, but the names do not come to your recollection at present?—No; if you bring any name, if I did I will say so.

8228. You know that is a perfectly harmless observation to make to me, because I am in your hands with reference to that?—Well, I cannot mention any names.

8229. I suppose you were very much disappointed when you found Ede had voted for Mr. Gower, were not you?—Well, it did not put me out much.

8230. Did you ever ask him for the 2*l.* back again?—No.

8231. Did you ever ask Evans for the money back again that you had given?—No, I did not.

8232. Now, you see, you put considerable difficulties in my way, let me see whether I can help you in any way. Did you know a person of the name of Trusler, of Mead-vale?—There are two or three of them.

2233. Do you know any one of the Truslers?—I know Trusler the tailor, and Trusler the carpenter. There is one a young chap, a schoolmaster.

8234. Do they all vote?—That I cannot say.

8235. Had these three Truslers all got votes?—I cannot say.

8236. Is there one named Francis?—I do not know. I know James Trusler.

8237. Did you canvass James?—Not to my recollection.

8238. Did not you offer him 5*l.* upon one occasion?—James Trusler?

8239. Or one of the Truslers?—I am sure I do not know; I might have done, I think I did James now I come to think about it, the night before the election; at least, it was like this: I do not know whether I did or who it was offered him the money.

8240. Was it in your presence?—It was the Saturday, I think, before the election I saw him.

8241. Who was with you?—That I cannot tell.

8242. Because you say it was doubtful whether you offered it or somebody else?—I will tell you where I was, up at the "Cross." He came in with two or three more, and they wanted to know how the figure ran, or something of that sort.

8243. Will you be kind enough to tell me who the two or three more were that came in with Trusler?—Some one from Redhill; I do not know the names.

8244. Can you give me the name of one?—I do not know any more than Trusler.

8245. You see how hard you deal with me; you won't let me know anything at all about it?—I will let you have the truth.

8246. I have drawn your attention to a particular name, Trusler?—I cannot tell you who the others were. There were two or three come in, but who they were I cannot tell you now.

8247. Now tell me what took place with Trusler on that night?—There were three or four come in, I forget the others by names, and they wanted to know what was doing—something of that sort; and I thought what their game was, to get 5*l.* or 10*l.*, or what they could out of me, and then intended to vote for Mr. Gower; so I don't know whether I am quite correct now—there is no question but what I said, "Will a fiver do for you?" and perhaps they would have took it, but they did not get it.

8248. You asked them if a fiver would do for them?—They came over here expressly on purpose to get money.

8249. When you found that the fiver was not enough did you offer 6*l.*?—That I cannot say.

8250. Just try and recollect; we shall get it by degrees?—I cannot say that; I might have done.

8251. They refused the 5*l.*?—I do not know about refusing; I did not let them have it.

8252. You of course did not let them have it, you were testing the purity at that time; but finding that they did not take the 5*l.*, although you would not let them have the 5*l.*, did you offer them 6*l.*?—That I cannot say.

8253. Will you swear you did not?—I cannot say that I did or did not.

8254. You know all these four may be called; we shall find them out if you won't tell me?—Well, I cannot tell you the names, I do not mind who they call.

8255. I want you to give me a distinct answer. When you found that they refused the 5*l.* did you not offer 6*l.*?—I won't swear that I did not; I might have offered them 6*l.*, and I might have offered them more, and they would have taken it; but they did not get anything.

8256. Did not you offer more money than the 5*l.* for the purpose of getting their votes for Mr. Monson?—Of course it be for Mr. Monson if it was any one; but then they come over there the night before, they had had plenty of time to make up their minds who they were going to vote for without coming, three and four in a bunch, to see what money they could get two or three days befere the election.

8257. Suppose those four persons had told you that they would vote for Monson, and you would have relied upon them, would not you have given them the 5*l.*?—I do not know; I should have had my doubts.

8258. Why should you have had your doubts?—I did not part with any money.

8259. But you had received 50*l.*, or perhaps more, from Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

8260. If you did not part with money what you do with that 50*l.*?—Oh, I was keeping part of it for myself, no doubt, I was in the election; no doubt for the polling day. I paid 30 or 40 "rooks," what was hired for the occasion.

8261. Will you be kind enough to tell me what do you call a "rook"?—Why, they had "rabbits" and we had "rooks."

8262. Are those what they call in the election expenses "Officers of the Peace"?—Well, I do not know whether they are peace-makers or row-makers.

8263. Are these rooks the persons who can caw at the public meetings?—Holloaing about.

8264. What were the rabbits to do?—They make a great noise if they get in a trap.

8265. I suppose the rabbits were to work in the borough, and the rooks were to work at the public meetings and make a noise?—Yes.

8266. Were there a lot of men on one side with poles and rooks on the top, and the others with poles with rabbits on the top?—That I cannot say.

8267. Did you see them?—I saw a rabbit on a pole once or twice.

8268. Did you ever see a rook on a pole?—Yes, I saw a rook on a pole.

8269. You engaged some of these fellows, and paid some of this money away to these men?—Perhaps 30 or more.

8270. Were they voters?—No.

8271. Were those people who went about with poles and rabbits, were they voters?—I do not know; they belonged to the other party.

8272. Did you see any of these men who were voters? Will you swear these fellows were not voters?—If they were voters, they were at other places, but not here. I did not know any of them. I paid them their money for two days' work.

8273. What sort of men were they, navvies?—Sort of tag, rag, and bobtail.

8274. Were they sort of navvies?—Of course when there is a nomination and polling there are generally a lot out of work, and they generally flock to a place and are hired.

8275. And the rooks, they flock here?—And the rooks, they flock here.

8276. Well now, how much of this 50*l.* did you pay in that way for rooks?—I paid 30 of them, perhaps more.

8277. How much did you pay them?—Some 10*s.*, perhaps 5*s.*

8278. How long did they work for it?—Two days.

8279. Did you pay any other monies to people like Ede and Evans?—Oh, yes, I spent a good deal of money during the election; in fact I spent a good bit the day after the poll.

8280. How did you spend that money the day after the poll?—There were a lot of fellows out here fighting, so I gave them half-a-crown to get rid of them.

8281. Could not you have got rid of them by walking away?—I did collar a man, and he come back again, so I gave him 2*s.* or 2*s.* 6*d.* to wash his face and get himself a glass of gin and water, and not let me see him any more. I did not see him any more that day.

8282. Was he a voter?—No, a rough.

8283. You told me in the early part of your examination, to go back to another point, that you spent a good deal of money in canvassing by yourself in houses. When you got a voter you took him and gave him a glass, canvassed over a glass, is that so?—Oh, yes.

8284. Did you do that on many occasions?—A good deal. I did not take any one particularly, I used to go about myself.

8285. If you saw a voter you took him into the "Cross" or some house like that, and canvassed him?—Not particular canvassed him. There are several that I know promised Mr. Gower, and when they had promised we would go and have a glass together. Those that I knew were going to stick staunch to the man, directly they told me they were going to promise Mr. Gower, I never troubled them any more; we had a glass together as comfortable as could be.

8286. You did not trouble them any more, whether they had promised under a 5*l.* promise or not?—No.

8287. Why did not you if you were testing the purity of the election?—Not where I found them genuine.

8288. You mean genuine fivers? I thought you went out under the instruction of Nichols to find out where these fivers were?—Oh, yes.

8289. And you took the money in your pocket. You told me you had sovereigns and so on in your pocket, and you went out to test the purity of the borough?—Yes, I did.

8290. How did you find out that these people had

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got their promise of 5*l.* from Mr. Gower's party?—It was not much trouble to do that.

8291. Were not they as close as you were in keeping all their information to themselves? You know you were very cautious in the way in which you did it; you never told anybody?—Not what I did.

8292. What you did?—Not more than I could help.

8293. You never told anybody till you told me, and you see what difficulty I have had to get it out of you?—Not much, I do not think.

8294. We have got on very well as yet, I am happy to say. Give me the names, if you please, of any persons that you took into one of these houses and had a glass of beer with before you canvassed him, or whilst you were canvassing him?—I cannot think of them exactly.

8295. Were there so many?—I may think of one presently.

8296. Because, you know, you must have spent some 10*l.*, 15*l.*, or nearly 20*l.*, in that way, according to the account you have given me of the money you received; and besides that there is a very large sum of money which you have not accounted for?—I say I had 50*l.* from Nichols, and it might be less, and it might be more. I was in the election four months before the polling, and I spent what money I had of my own, and I do not know how much that was exactly. That is what I account for my money.

8297. Can you give me a guess how much you spent of your own?—No.

8298. A good bit?—Yes.

8299. Some 40*l.* or 50*l.*?—I do not know.

8300. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said yesterday you had spent more than 100*l.*?—I said yesterday I did not know how much I did spend.

8301. "I received money from Nichols, 50*l.* more "or less; I expended more than 100*l.*"?—I say I might have done so.

2302. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Having said that you might have spent more than 100*l.*, was it something near 100*l.*?—I do not know exactly what it was.

8303. Just tell me: you did in fact canvass persons, and take them into houses and give them some refreshment whilst you were canvassing them?—Yes.

8304. And paid for what they had?—Yes.

8305. What did you generally have there; was it a glass of ginger beer, and your friend a glass of brandy and water?—A drop of ale.

8306. That would not come to very much each canvassing?—No, sir.

8307. Then you must have canvassed a great many to make up that large sum, 100*l.*?—I cannot tell you what I done with my money. I know during the time I neglected all my work, and that is all the money I had from Nicholls; there was the 50*l.* for my work, and for what I done, and spent, and everything.

8308. If you cannot give me any particular names, may I take it as a fact that you did canvass in this way, and treat the persons as you canvassed?—There is no question about that.

8309. Did you report to Nicholls the mode in which you canvassed them?—I might have done.

8310. Did you tell Mr. Nicholls in conversation what you were doing, the active part that you were taking for Mr. Monson?—I do not know exactly what I did say to Nicholls.

8311. Might you have told him that you had met so-and-so in the street, and taken him to such-and-such a house?—I might have gone into his house with any one for what I know.

8312. If you had taken a person to the "Grapes" you would have paid?—Yes; I always paid for what I drank.

8313. But Mr. Nicholls would have paid you afterwards?—I had the money of him, I have said.

8314. You had told Evans to canvass, and what he spent in drink you would pay him on the Saturday?—Yes.

8315. Now, was that the same course adopted between you and Nicholls?—No, sir; Mr. Nicholls did not say anything to me about how I was to adopt anything of the sort.

8316. But he knew you were canvassing on his behalf?—Oh! yes.

8317. You were examined yesterday; since you were examined have you seen Mr. Nicholls?—No, sir.

8318. Did you see Mr. Nicholls yesterday evening?—No; I went home.

8319. Did you go to the "Grapes"?—No.

8320. Did you see any of the persons?—I saw Mr. Nicholls this morning in the street; not to speak to him.

8321. You are quite certain he did not speak to you?—I am certain of that. I went to the "Grapes" this morning, but I did not see Mr. Nicholls.

8322. Who did you see there?—Some one in the bar. I went down and got a little drop of cold brandy and water before I came up here; that is all. I saw Mr. Nicholls in the street, but did not even say "Good morning" to him.

8323. Did you see Mr. Richardson?—No; I saw no one.

8324. Or had any conversation with anybody belonging to Mr. Monson's party since you were here yesterday?—No. I went to the "Grapes;" there was James Apted and two or three in there; I had no conversation regarding the election whatever.

8325. Or this examination?—No, sir.

8326. You were not told to keep things dark as much as you could?—Oh! no; I told them I intended to speak open.

8327. When did you tell them that?—A day or two ago.

8328. Who did you tell so?—James Apted.

8329. Did he tell you to keep things dark as much as you could?—No.

8330. What did he say when you said you intended to be open about the matter?—He did not say anything. He is a man I have very few words with.

8331. Is he the only person you have spoken to with reference to this examination, or your giving evidence at all?—With regard to this examination.

8332. Or giving evidence before this commission?—Yes. At least, Nicholls, he knew I was going; I told Nicholls if I was called up I should tell everything I knew about it. I said I was not going to get myself into trouble.

8333. When was it you told Nicholls that?—Some time last week.

8334. What did he say when you told him?—Oh! he did not say much.

8335. He said something?—He only sort of laughed, that is all.

8336. Did he tell you to keep things quiet?—He did not say much to me; not neither of them.

8337. Very likely not; but did he tell you that you were to keep things dark?—Mr. Nicholls gave me no advice on it whatever, not the least, either side.

8338. I am very much obliged to you so far for the information.

8339. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Be kind enough to recollect, if you can, the meeting you had at the "Wheatsheaf" the night before the polling; I dare say you can recollect that?—I was not there.

8340. I mean at the "White Hart"?—I was at the "White Hart."

8341. Well, now, Nicholls was there that night, was not he?—I do not know. They asked me to nominate Mr. Richardson; that was the next morning.

8342. The night before?—I was not there the night before. If I said so it was a mistake. It was on the nomination morning.

8343. Were you there at the "White Hart"?—I was in the committee room.

8344. Was James Nicholls there?—Yes.

8345. Was Thomas Jordan there?—No.

8346. Do you know Thomas Jordan?—No.

8347. Richardson, was he there?—Not Richardson.

8348. Was Corderoy there?—Yes.

8349. Was Holdsworth there?—Yes.

8350. Richard Steer?—No.

8351. John Reed?—No.

8352. Henry Boult?—No.

8353. Were you there the night before the polling?—No, sir.

8354. I think there is some mistake about it?—If I said I was there the night before in regard to Richardson's affair, that is wrong. It was on the nomination morning.

8355. I want to know when it was, I have a fancy in my head you were there in company with these men whose names I have mentioned?—There were only three of us, Mr. Nicholls, Holdsworth, and me.

8356. Where was Richardson, was he there?—I do not know.

8357. When was it, at what meeting just before the election, that you met all those persons whose names I have just read to you, Nichols, Jordan, Corderoy, Holdsworth, Steer, Reed, and Boult?—What! a committee meeting.

8358. I dare say it was?—I do not recollect being at any meeting with Mr. Boult.

8359. Can you tell me whether all those men were members of Mr. Monson's committee?—I believe they were. I believe Mr. Boult was one, and so was Jordan and Reed.

8360. There is no doubt about it?—I believe that is right.

8361. Steer was?—Yes, I know him; I cannot remember any meeting with all those.

8562. I am wrong about the meeting, I suppose, but all those were members serving on the committee or the sub-committee for Monson?—I believe they were.

8363. Well, now, the morning before the election at the "White Hart" Nichols and you and Holdsworth were present together?—Yes.

8364. Were you present together the previous night there?—Not myself; I do not know whether the others were.

8365. Was not Mr. Richardson there that morning?—Not to my recollection. He was there on the nomination morning, but he was not in the room during the time.

8366. Was he there at the time that you made the arrangement about proposing Mr. Richardson?—Yes.

8367. Did Mr. Richardson come in, and did you tell him what had been arranged?—He was in afterwards.

8368. He, of course, acquiesced in the arrangement that he should be put up?—I do not know; I did not ask him. There was not a great deal of time, you see, between there and the going to the hall.

8369. But still you did not put Richardson up against his will?—Oh, no, he wished us to do so.

8370. Then I will take it that he acquiesced. At this time did you know where Mr. Monson was?—No, I did not.

8371. Had you seen him in Reigate that morning?—No, I had not. He might have been there.

8372. Was he here on the nomination day?—Yes.

8373. He was?—Yes.

8374. You do not recollect whether he came into the room?—No.

8375. Can you tell me whether he was aware in the morning of Mr. Richardson going to be proposed?—I believe he was.

8376. Did you tell him?—I do not know.

8377. Try and recollect?—I do not know whether he knew that. I know that Mr. Richardson agreed to stand the poll. Mr. Richardson was asked, I believe; so I heard; I did not ask him that; but Mr. Richardson was asked to stand and to be nominated as a candidate. Of course I asked what it was for, and so on.

8378. Having come to the arrangement which you told me about yesterday, about Mr. Richardson being put up, did you tell Mr. Monson why Richardson was to be put up?—I believe it was told the same day, the same morning.

8379. By whom?—He knew it. I do not know now whether I told him. If I said so last night I forget.

8380. No, you did not. I am not at all entrapping you, you did not say a word about it last night?—All I know is, that I know Mr. Monson was aware of it.

8381. Was Mr. Monson at all aware the arrangement was made about Richardson?—I believe he was.

8382. Do you feel confident he was?—There is no question about it. He was there the nomination morning, and Mr. Richardson and I went up with him.

8383. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was he at the "White Hart" on the nomination morning?—Yes, but not at the commencement.

8384. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But before the nomination took place, and before Richardson was proposed, he was at the "White Hart"?—I cannot say whether he was at the "White Hart." I know that he came in at the "White Hart" on the nomination morning, but whether he was in the "White Hart" at the time Holdsworth and Richardson and me were talking about that, I do not know. I do not know whether he was present.

8385. But afterwards one of you must have seen him, or otherwise neither of you could have told him about the arrangement?—Oh, yes, but I cannot tell exactly who it was. I know we all met in the committee room to go to the hall.

8386. Was Mr. Monson informed, and did he know, why the arrangement about Richardson was made?—I believe he was.

8387. Did you hear him told?—No, I did not.

8388. Did you hear Mr. Monson say something about it? Did he approve of it?—I do not know. Of course he approved of it; there is no question about that. He would not like for another candidate to go opposite to him.

8389. Neither Mr. Gower nor Mr. Monson, you thought, would be likely upon a petition to hold their places, therefore Richardson was put up?—He was.

8390. Did Mr. Monson say "aye" about that arrangement, and that it was all right, Richardson had better be put up?—That I cannot tell you exactly.

8391. But you know what I mean when I say did he say "aye"? He approved of it, at all events?—I think there is no question that he did.

8392. Henry Boult, you know, was on the committee? Yes.

8393. He is a very old partizan down here at Reigate?—I do not know. He lives at Redhill, I believe.

8394. Don't you know that he has been concerned in a great number of elections past?—I do not know. I know he was on the committee of Mr. Monson; that is all I know.

8395. I do not recollect whether you told me last night that you had been at many previous elections, before this?—No, I never had a vote before this.

8396. Did you work at elections?—No.

8397. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You proposed Mr. Richardson, did you?—Yes.

8398. Who seconded him?—Holdsworth.

8399. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say that Mr. Monson was present when Mr. Richardson was proposed to the committee as coming forward?—I do not know that. He was at the "White Hart" that morning. I do not know what the gentlemen there said.

8400. Did you hear Mr. Monson dissent at all to Mr. Richardson being proposed?—Of course with a gentleman like that I did not go and poke myself in. If he was talking to a gentleman in any conversation, I did not go and listen to what they said.

8401. You did not hear Mr. Monson dissent?—No.

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8402. There is no question that he assented ?—I suppose so.

8403. There was a matter yesterday which you told me about, and which requires some little explanation. You told me yesterday, that you gave a receipt for 5*l.*, a stamped receipt for 5*l.* to Mr. Nicholls ?—Yes. The truth of that is this, I cannot say whether that was 5*l.* or 50*l.* One day after the election I asked Mr. Nichols for 5*l.*, and he gave it to me. This was after the election, about two months.

8404. I see in the election expenses, returned by the expense agent, that your name is entered as a canvasser, but grouped with many others, and the charge for canvassers is 99*l.* 2*s.* ?—For mine ?

8405. No, generally. There are 12 canvassers entered at 99*l.* 2*s.* ?—Well, I do not know about that.

8406. Will you tell me what the amount was upon that receipt of yours ?—I cannot tell you what it was.

8407. Was it more than 5*l.* ?—There was five upon it, but whether there was "fifty" in writing I cannot tell. There was a stamp upon it, and I put my signature.

8408. If your receipt was for 50*l.*, that would leave only 49*l.* 2*s.* for the whole of the other canvassers ?—Mr. Nicholls asked me to sign that one day when I was passing his house, and I went in and signed ; but whether it was 5*l.* or 50*l.* I do not know. I know I saw the figure five, but whether it was written "fifty" in writing after that I cannot say.

8409. You told us that Nicholls owed you 5*l.* besides ?—Yes, I asked him for 5*l.* I considered he owed me 5*l.* on the election.

8410. Only the 5*l.* ?—I asked him for 5*l.* He gave it to me. That was a month after the election.

8411. Was it at the time he gave you the 5*l.* that you gave the receipt ?—No.

8412. When was it that you gave him the receipt ?—A couple of months after that.

8413. After the election ?—Yes.

8414. When you gave that receipt for 5*l.* to Mr. Nicholls did he say anything to you about giving it only for that sum ?—No.

8415. Did he say something of this kind, that he wanted a receipt for 5*l.* to return as election expenses ?—I do not know, no more than he said, "Give me "a receipt ; here is a receipt I want you to sign ;" and I signed the receipt ; but what it was for, or anything of the sort, I do not know. I did not ask him that question.

8416. I suppose your belief is that it was for 5*l.* ?—I do not know whether it was 5*l.* or more. It was 5*l.* in figures, but whether there was "fifty" in writing I cannot say.

8417. Not very likely. Did he tell you that that was for the purpose of the election accounts ?—No. He knew what I had had, and he asked me to sign this, and that is all that passed. I was in a hurry that morning. I was going up the street, and wanted to get away home. I had some business. I was in a hurry. I put my signature to it, and away I went out of the house, there and then.

8418. Did you understand it was to be on account of the election ?—Yes.

J. Apps.

JAMES APPS recalled and examined.

8419. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect we talked to you about the election of 1865 ?—Yes.

8420. You were a voter in the election of 1863 ?—I was.

8421. Whom did you vote for ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

8422. Were you then resident at Mead-vale ?—Yes.

8423. Do you recollect on a Wednesday before that election, which was the 28th of January, being in the morning at Wood Hatch ploughing, when you were canvassed ?—Yes.

8424. Did Mr. Martingale of Earlswood, and Mr. James Nicholls, and Mr. Thomas Corderoy come to you ?—They did.

8425. You were ploughing ?—I was.

8426. They were agents for whom ?—For Mr. Gower.

8427. For Mr. Gower at that time ?—Yes.

8428. I mean, by agents, they were at work for him ?—Yes.

8429. Who was Martingale ?—Well, I believe he was a masterman carpenter at that time.

8430. He had nothing to do with you in employment ?—No, nothing to do with me.

8431. Do you remember Martingale calling to you and saying something of this sort : "Here, we want "to talk to you about your vote ;" or, "Here, Jim, "we want to talk to you about your vote ;" or something like that ?—Yes.

8432. Well, upon that you stopped your work, and Corderoy came and talked to you ?—They all three came.

8433. I believe they asked you if you had promised your vote ?—Yes.

8434. What was your answer, do you recollect ?—I said I had not.

8435. Did Corderoy then say to you, and they had come to ask you if you had not better vote for Mr. Gower ?—Yes, he did.

8436. I believe you were still unwilling to promise ?—I was.

8437. After you had shown some unwillingness do you recollect what Corderoy said to you about your plough ?—He asked me how the plough went, and whether it wanted greasing.

8438. What did you reply to that ?—I said, "I "think it does."

8439. What did Corderoy do upon that ?—He pulled a shilling out of his pocket, and spun it up, and said to the boy, "Take that, and go and get half "a gallon of ale ;" and the boy did so.

8440. That was your boy ?—That was the boy that was driving the plough for me.

8441. And the ale came, and it was drunk ?—Yes.

8442. Was it drunk there in the field ?—Yes.

8443. While the boy was away Corderoy went on talking to you about your vote ?—Yes, he did.

8444. He was a little more tangible then in what he said ? He fixed it a little closer ?—Well, he might, a little. I do not recollect just about that.

8445. What did he say ? He made you an offer then ?—Yes, he made me an offer then of 3*l.*

8446. 3*l.* for what ?—For my vote.

8447. For Mr. Gower of course ?—For Mr. Gower.

8448. Did he tell you the money was to be paid for doing anything, or something of that sort ?—No, he never said anything about that ; only, I was to have it for my vote, and I was to be here on the polling day. They were the words he said to me.

8449. Do you recollect whether he said you were to do any services at all for it ?—Not any at all.

8450. Did you agree ?—No, I did not.

8451. You still held out ?—I still refused to promise.

8452. Corderoy said something more then. He talked about one of your relations, about your brother, didn't he ?—No, about Tom Apps, the brickmaker. He is not any relation to me.

8453. Did he think he was then ?—No, I believe not.

8454. Didn't he tell you that you had a brother out of work ?—Yes, he did.

8455. Was that the case ?—That was the case. He had just left the army.

8456. What did he say about him ?—He said he

might put him on work if he chose, and pay him for it.

8457. And if you did choose, what was he to do? You were to tell your brother to do what?—He was to go them for employment.

8458. Where was he to go to? Was that mentioned?—I cannot recollect that.

8459. Was the "White Hart" mentioned? Did he say, "Send him up to the 'White Hart'"?—I believe he did.

8460. Did he say what he would pay him for his work?—Yes, I think he said 5*s.* up to the polling day.

8461. And what was to be allowed for polling day and nomination day?—I cannot say.

8462. Do you recollect whether he fixed any larger sum for the last two days, the polling day and the nomination day?—I cannot say that he did then.

8463. Do you recollect the sum of 30*s.* being mentioned at all?—There was something said about 30*s.*, but I do not recollect what.

8464. Do you recollect whether he added up what it would all come to?—He said it would be 3*l.*

8465. That was for your brother?—Yes.

8466. Had your brother a vote?—No. He had just left the army, invalided home on account of the rheumatics.

8467. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was independently of the 3*l.* you were to have?—Yes, as I understood.

8468. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think you acquiesced,—said you would send your brother up?—I think I did.

8469. Do you remember what Corderoy said then?—No.

8470. Did he say, "But I should like to have your "promise to vote"?—Yes.

8471. You still held off, and declined to promise?—Yes.

8472. Then upon that did Corderoy say, "Well, "then, if that is so, it is no use sending your brother "up"?—Yes, he did.

8473. Then he talked to you a little more, and did you at that time promise?—No, I did not.

8474. I dare say you recollect whether Corderoy took something out of his pocket to write upon?—He did so.

8475. What did he take, a piece of paper, or a book, or what?—He took a book out.

8476. And he was writing down something?—Yes, he did write down something, what, I do not know.

8477. Did you say anything about it?—I told him it was no use his putting my name down, because I would not promise him, and I did not.

8478. What did he say to that, do you recollect?—That I cannot say.

8479. Do you recollect he said when you would be paid?—He said I should be paid after the polling day.

8480. But it ended in your not promising after all at that time?—It did.

8481. At that time had you seen Mr. Gower himself?—I do not think I had; no, I had not.

8482. I think at that time Corderoy asked you the question, didn't he?—Yes, he did.

8483. And he promised to bring Mr. Gower to introduce him to you?—Yes, he did; and he brought him in the afternoon.

8484. In the afternoon of the same day?—Yes.

8485. You remember the interview when Gower came to you?—Yes.

8486. Were you working in the same field at the plough?—Yes.

8487. Did Corderoy come with Mr. Gower?—Yes.

8488. And Mr. Gower spoke to you?—He did.

8489. I suppose he asked you, "How do you do," and you said, "Very well, I thank you," and so on?—Yes.

8490. Did Mr. Gower then say something to this effect, "Corderoy tells me you want to see me," or something of that kind?—About the voting,—yes.

8491. And he canvassed you for your vote?—Yes.

8492. Did you then promise him your vote?—No.

8493. What did Gower say upon that?—He said I had better give him my vote. I said No, I should not.

8494. Was there any salutation passed at that time?—He asked me several times, and I denied.

8495. Was there any salutation, any compliment passed?—Not with Mr. Gower. Mr. Corderoy, he mentioned the sum.

8496. I am not alluding to money the least in the world, but in the course of the canvass was there any sort of salutation between you and Mr. Gower, did he shake hands with you?—Yes.

8497. In the way of canvassing I mean?—Yes, in the way of canvassing.

8498. He of course was sorry you were reluctant to promise him your vote?—He did say so.

8499. Naturally enough. And, finding that you would not promise, do you recollect what passed, anything being done between him and Corderoy?—Mr. Corderoy called me a little on one side, and he said I had better vote and have the 3*l.*, and have done with it; and I said I should not. Mr. Gower made reply, and he said he thought he had better get on one of the horses, and ride to and fro the field with me till I did promise.

8500. It was Corderoy that said to you that he would be able to get you the 3*l.* he had promised. Had you noticed any conversation between Corderoy and Mr. Gower?—They spoke to one another at a distance from me, and I did not hear what they said.

8501. But you know Mr. Gower had been canvassing you?—Yes.

8502. And you had held out and would not promise him?—No, I did not.

8503. Did you see then a conversation take place between Gower and Corderoy?—I did.

8504. Was it after that conversation that Corderoy came up and said something to this effect, "I can keep "my word about the 3*l.* to you"?—Yes, afterwards.

8505. Something to that effect?—Yes.

8506. Still you did not promise Corderoy?—No, I did not.

8507. Did Mr. Gower upon that, so far as you can recollect, come up and say something? Was anything more said about your brother?—Well, I really do not recollect whether there was or not.

8508. Did Mr. Gower make you any promise at all?—No, he did not make any promise, not to my recollection, not himself.

8509. Did they remain there some time after that?—Yes, they were there I should think, as nigh as I can tell, an hour or over, with me.

8510. Did they get a promise from you?—No, they did not.

8511. And then they went away at last?—They went away at last.

8512. Do you recollect seeing either of them again the following morning?—I really do not recollect.

8513. Do you remember seeing them again?—Oh, yes, I saw them several times.

8514. Together?—I do not know.

8515. Did you see them to speak to them?—I spoke to them both afterwards.

8516. Do you remember them coming afterwards together and speaking about your vote?—I do not recollect whether they came together again or not. I think they did, but I do not recollect.

8517. Do you recollect one of them saying, "Well, "Apps, I am glad at last you made up your mind," and your saying, "Well, I have not," something like that; perhaps you do not remember that?—I do not remember it.

8518. Well, I do not at all wish you to say so if you do not, I am sure. You did vote at last?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

8519. This was in 1863. When you had the con-

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versation with Mr. Gower and Corderoy, had you at that time promised Mr. Wilkinson?—No, I had not promised him.

8520. When did you promise Wilkinson?—I promised him the next morning.

8521. Who canvassed you for him?—Mr. Mazden, I think. It was Mr. Mazden.

8522. He asked you for your vote, I suppose?—Yes, he asked me for my vote.

8523. Was Mr. Wilkinson there himself?—He was there the same evening, at Mr. Mazden's.

8524. Was it there that you saw him?—Yes.

8525. What made you go there?—There was a bit of a meeting there, and he sent for me.

8526. He asked you for your vote?—Yes.

8527. What was said about it; try and recollect?—I told him I should not promise then.

8528. The same as you had told Mr. Gower?—Yes; I said I should not promise till the day, either of them. Mr. Wilkinson came himself that night, or at least, not himself, his brother, Mr. Norman Wilkinson. They introduced the thing to me, and he asked me for my vote. I did not promise him, not that night.

8529. Was anything said then about your brother?—Not that I can recollect.

8530. You would recollect it, wouldn't you, if anything was said about your brother?—I am sure I do not know, it is so long ago.

8531. What was said about your voting?—There was nothing more said about it, no further than they asked me for my vote.

8532. Well, but you did not promise it that night?—No.

8533. Why didn't you promise it that night?—Because I thought I would not promise till I had a little better understanding.

8534. Exactly?—I did not know either of the men, not to say know anything of them. I knew Mr. Norman Wilkinson.

8535. What understanding did you come to at last, was it the next morning?—The next morning Mr. Wilkinson came to me, after Mr. Gower had been, and asked me if I did not have Mr. Gower in the field to me? I said, "I did." He said, "I hope he has "not had any influence over your vote." I said, "No, "not at all." Then he said, "You did not promise "him?" "No," I said. "Then," he said, "you "were the same with him as you were with me last "evening?" I said "I was," and he asked me then if I had made up my mind which way to go? I said, "I do not know at present," and he asked me a time or two, and I promised him.

8536. Why?—Because, knowing him, I knew that he was very liberal to the poor of Nutfield parish and those around.

8537. You were not one of the poor of Nutfield parish?—No, I was not then; and it did not matter much whether it was Nutfield or Reigate. I never had anything of him.

8538. Didn't you come to some understanding?—No, I did not, no further than I promised him there and then that I would vote for him; and there was nothing mentioned about any one thing, not about money or anything.

8539. Did he never promise you?—No, he never promised me a farthing.

8540. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Nor any one for him?—No; I never had a farthing.

8541. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Whom did you vote for this time?—Wilkinson.

8542. You say you never had a farthing; were you expecting it for six months after the election?—No.

8543. Didn't you expect anybody to call upon you?—No.

8544. Didn't you expect anything from Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—No, I did not.

8545. Do I understand you to say that you voted for Mr. Wilkinson entirely on principle?—I did.

8546. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But how came you so soon to shift your principle, because your principle the night before was to vote for the man who would give you the most money?—No; I never thought of such a thing.

8547. You said you were going to wait till you could get a better understanding. What do you mean by a better understanding?—To know which of the men was thought most fit by other people as well as myself, not as to any money at all, not in the least.

8548. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now, you know Holdsworth, don't you?—Yes.

8549. Have you got anything to do with Holdsworth?—No, not at all now.

8550. Had you in the election of 1865?—I was working with him.

8551. That is what I mean. Do you recollect having some conversation with Holdsworth about voting?—Yes.

8552. What did Holdsworth tell you?—Why, he asked me for my vote.

8553. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For whom?—For Mr. Monson, and I promised him.

8554. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Promised whom?—I promised Mr. Holdsworth that I would vote for Mr. Monson.

8555. When was that?—I cannot say justly when.

8556. Was that before you were canvassed by Mr. Gower?—After that.

8557. Was it after you were canvassed by Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—That was in the election before.

8558. Well, at that time you were working with Holdsworth, in 1863?—Not in 1863.

8559. Oh, I misunderstand you.

8560. In 1865 you were working with Holdsworth?—I was.

8561. I thought you negatived that. Did Holdsworth in 1865 ask you for your vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

8562. Did you promise it?—I told him that I would promise him the next day; I would tell him.

8563. What did he say when you did not promise him at once?—He did not say anything more but "You will make up your mind then, Jim, and let me "know to-morrow." I said I would.

8564. Did you let him know "to-morrow"?—Yes.

8565. Which way?—I told him I would vote for Mr. Monson.

8566. Why?—I was employed by Holdsworth, and I received very good wages; and I had a wife and children to look to.

8467. Had you any reason for supposing you would lose your work if you did not vote for Monson?—Two or three told me that he could not find me work all the winter, go which way I would. I said I did not know about that.

8568. Did Holdsworth tell you so himself?—No, he did not.

8569. Do you remember a conversation with Holdsworth when he was sitting on the corn bin in the stable?—No, there is no corn bin in the stable; so I am satisfied I do not.

8570. I ask you whether in 1865 you recollect a conversation with Holdsworth when he was sitting on the corn bin in the stable?—I said there is no corn bin there, so I could not recollect such a conversation.

8571. Do you remember a conversation when he was sitting on a corn bin not in the stable?—No; I have no recollection of anything that passed in the stable at all, because I do not recollect that ever he came into the stable to say anything.

8572. Do you remember any conversation with Holdsworth outside the stable about your vote, and about your wages and your work?—No, I do not.

8573. Did Holdsworth tell you that he certainly would send you away from his employment if you did not vote for Monson?—No, he did not.

8574. Did he say anything of the kind?—No.

8575. You are sure of that?—I am sure of that.

8576. Did Holdsworth ask you to work for Mr. Monson?—No.

8577. Are you working with Holdsworth still?—No, I am not working with Holdsworth.

8578. Didn't he ask you to be on Mr. Monson's committee?—He did ask me to be on the committee.

8579. Did he put you down on the committee?—I cannot say whether he did or not; I do not recollect whether my name was on or whether it was not.

8580. After he talked to you about putting your name down on the committee, he paid you money, didn't he?—No; only for my work.

8581. What did he pay you for your work afterwards?—18*s.* a week; that was my weekly pay.

8582. How did he pay you?—He paid me every week.

8583. Didn't he pay you a certain sum of 5*l.* on one occasion?—No, he never did.

8584. Didn't he pay you a sum of 3*l.*?—No.

8585. And didn't he pay you a third sum of 2*l.*?—No, he did not.

8586. Did he pay you any sums of money except the 18*s.* a week?—No.

8587. Do you know a man named James Fisher, your brother-in-law?—Yes.

8588. Do you recollect showing James Fisher the money?—No; I never did.

8589. Did you show him any money?—I might have shown him some money.

8590. Not what you *might*, but what you *did*?—Not any money which I had for my vote.

8591. I did not say for your vote. You had been asked to belong to the committee for Holdsworth?—Yes.

8592. Holdsworth was an active man for Mr. Monson. Did you show Fisher any money you had received from Holdsworth?—No.

8593. Did you tell him you had received money from Holdsworth?—No.

8594. You told me just now that you might have done so?—I might have shown him some money, but not for that.

8595. I suppose you would not show your wages. A man when he has received his 18*s.* a week for his wages does not show that. Any man is paid that as a matter of course. What do you mean by saying "I might have shown him some money"? Have you any explanation of that?—No.

8596. Did you show any money to Fisher at all?—Not that I can recollect.

8597. It is odd you should say to me, "I might "have done so," is not it?—Well, I do not know, I do not recollect anything at all of showing him any money at all.

8598. Do you recollect that when you got the money from Mr. Holdsworth you went and laid some of it out in buying a new coat?—I did buy a coat about that same time, but not with any money of that. I might go and buy a coat now.

8599. Did Fisher go with you when you went to buy your coat?—No, he never did. That I will be on my oath, any time.

8600. It would appear that I am wrong, from what you say?—He might say such a thing, but I am satisfied that he never did; and he never saw any money that I received from Mr. Holdsworth on that account.

8601. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Just revert to a point that I was going to ask you about, in reference to 1863. You had been offered 3*l.* for yourself and 3*l.* for your brother if you promised your vote to Mr. Gower?—Well, I understood that my 3*l.* was to be different from the other.

8602. You went to Mr. Wilkinson's committee room the day after?—No, he came to me in the plough field.

8603. But you did go to the committee room?—I went that night as Mr. Gower came in the afternoon.

8604. You saw Mr. Norman Wilkinson, and you did not then promise?—No, I did not then promise.

8605. And you told the Chief Commissioner that you wanted a better understanding?—I did.

8606. Now, I want you to explain to us what you mean by a better understanding?—Well, I wanted to see others, to see whether they knew any more about it, to inquire which they thought was the best way for me to go, which would be the likeliest man.

8607. You said you were not going to promise until the polling day?—I did say so two or three times before, and I do not know that I might not half a dozen times; I did say I would not promise. Then, of course, I altered my mind.

8608. Why did you not tell Mr. Gower and Mr. Corderoy, when you were offered the 3*l.* for yourself and the 3*l.* for your brother, that it was no use their talking to you about money, you intended to go on principle? Why did you not refuse the money at once?—I do not know how that was, I am sure; I cannot say about that.

8609. You say they were a very long time with you? They were an hour in the field?—I told them I could not trust to them; if they were to pay me the money first, I might go; and Mr. Corderoy said, "Oh, no." He said he could not do it like that; he could not trust to me. I said, "if you cannot trust "to me, I cannot trust to you."

8610. And is that the meaning of what you said when you said, "I wanted a better understanding"?—No, it is not.

8611. If he had given you the money then, should you have promised?—Yes, but I do not say that I should have voted for them though.

8612. You would have got the money and broken your bargain?—I think it is very likely I should.

8613. I think you mentioned Mazden in reference to canvassing?—Yes.

8614. He canvassed you in the last election of 1865?—Yes.

8615. What did he offer you?—5*l.*

8616. Did you get it?—No.

8617. That was for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

8618. He was against Mr. Gower in 1863?—Yes.

8619. On which side was Mr. Nicholls on that occasion, in 1863?—In 1863 he was for Mr. Wilkinson, the same as Mr. Mazden was, and the next time he is for Mr. Monson.

8620. These two gentlemen always go against one another?—No, they were both together.

8621. Was not Nicholls for Gower in 1863?—Yes, of course he was.

8622. Mazden was for Wilkinson. At this election Mazden was for Gower, and Nicholls was against Mr. Gower?—Yes.

8623. Have you seen other elections here before 1863?—No, leastways I have seen them, but I never was in one before.

8624. You never voted?—No, I had no vote.

8625. Now, Mazden offered you 5*l.*?—Yes.

8626. Mazden offered you 5*l.* for Gower?—Yes.

8627. Before he offered you for Wilkinson?—He offered me nothing for Wilkinson.

8628. Quite certain of that?—Yes, quite certain.

8629. Then did Mr. Norman Wilkinson offer you anything?—No.

8630. Are you quite certain about that?—I am quite certain. There was nothing said about money at this time at all.

8631. This was in the evening that you were at Wilkinson's committee, and I think you told us that on the following day you promised to vote for Wilkinson?—Yes.

8632. To whom did you promise?—Wilkinson himself, in the plough field.

8633. Did you go straight home from Wilkinson's committee room to your own house on that occasion?—Yes.

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8634. Then I suppose you went to bed and got up early to go to your plough?—Yes.

8635. What time were you at your plough? Five or half-past?—About 7 o'clock when I got to the plough, but I was down to the stable to attend to the horses about 5.

8636. Then you were about your ordinary business about 5 in the field till you saw Wilkinson when he came to canvass you?—I think that was about half-past 9 or 10 o'clock.

8637. Wilkinson was a stranger to you before?—Mr. Arthur Wilkinson was, but Mr. Norman Wilkinson I had known for several years. That is the reason I voted for his brother.

8638. Did you vote on account of Mr. Norman Wilkinson then?—I did, a good bit.

8639. What was the other bit about?—Well, I voted for his brother on account of knowing of him, and they said his brother was as good a man as he was, as liberal. That is all that I knew anything about.

8640. As liberal?—Yes, as liberal as he was himself. I thought he was the best man of the two.

8641. Didn't Mr. Norman Wilkinson say anything to you about the liberality of the election?—No further than he said his brother was a true Liberal, and Mr. Gower, he said, was a Tory. That is all that I know. I cannot recollect anything that he said to me beyond that.

8642. Well, but then, what was the other little bit that induced you to vote, beyond your knowledge of Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—Well, I had no other little bit that I know of at all.

8643. Do you mean to say that Mazden said nothing to you about payment?—Not at all.

8644. Had you told Mazden, or told Mr. Wilkinson, what your conversation had been with Mr. Gower the day before?—Yes.

8645. Whom did you tell?—The boy went and told his father first.

8646. Whose father?—Joseph Risbridger. The boy's name was George Risbridger; and his father asked him——

8647. Never mind about that; if it becomes of importance I will ask you presently. Did you tell Mr. Norman Wilkinson what had taken place between you and Gower and Corderoy the day before?—I did. Some of the committee had told him before, and he asked me about it.

8648. Some of the committee? Then had you told any of the committee?—Yes; I mentioned it that same night to Mr. Wilkinson.

8649. To Mr. Wilkinson the candidate you mentioned it?—I believe Mr. Thomas Penfold was there, and Mr. Rose, but I really do not know whether it was Robert Rose, or what his Christian name was, now; he was chairman.

8650. You mentioned it to Penfold and Rose; did you mention it to Mazden?—Well, I cannot say whether he was in the committee room or not when I told them of it.

8651. Didn't you tell them you did not agree to vote for Gower, because there was a little hesitation about when the money should be paid?—Yes, I did.

8652. Now, upon that, was not something said to you as to money?—No, nothing.

8653. Not by Mazden?—Not to my recollection, however, and I think I should recollect it if there was anything of that.

8654. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) About your not being a loser by supporting their side?—He never said anything of that to my recollection. There was not a word said, as I recollect, about money matters at all.

8655. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was there a promise of employment?—No promise of employment, or anything of the sort.

8656. Nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

8657. Now, was it with Mazden and Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Norman Wilkinson only that you had the conversation that you recollect about this matter?—I never did have any conversation with Mr. Arthur Wilkinson at all about it.

8658. But you mentioned the fact of Gower canvassing you the night before?—To Mr. Norman Wilkinson.

8659. But to Mr. Arthur Wilkinson?—No; he was not there, and I do not think I saw him at all then.

8660. Then you only mentioned it to Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—And to two or three others. I think Rose was there.

8661. Which Rose was it?—I do not know his Christian name. He works at the Asylum; he is a carpenter there.

8662. Then it would be Ephraim?—I do not know. He has a house at Mead-vale.

8663. Was it the Ephraim Rose who has been examined here?—I do not know. He has lost one eye. What his name is I cannot say.

(Short adjournment.)

J. Allen.

JOHN ALLEN called, sworn, and examined.

8664. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What occupation are you?—A labourer.

8665. All men are labourers; are you an agricultural labourer?—Yes, agricultural, or I work in the building trade.

8666. Which is it?—I work in the building trade.

8667. And you occupy a house with a rental of——?—5*l.* 4*s.* a year.

8668. Are you a voter?—Yes.

8669. Is that the rent you pay, 5*l.* 4*s.*?—Yes.

8670. How long have you been a voter?—I voted for Mr. Hackblock when he put up.

8671. How long have you been a voter; how many years?—I do not know how many years ago it is when Mr. Hackblock put up; seven or eight years, is it not?

8672. You have been a voter for seven or eight years?—Yes.

8673. Living in the same house?—Yes.

8674. And you pay 5*l.* 4*s.* a year rent; that is 2*s.* a week?—Yes.

8675. Do you pay it by the week?—No; quarterly, or how I can. Quarterly I generally send it.

8676, Where is it situated?—Redhill; near Redhill church.

8677. What is it rated at?—7*l.* a year it was a little time ago, but it is under a different Act now, I believe.

8678. How is it you only pay 5*l.* 4*s.* a year?—Why, I keep the place in repair myself. If there are any repairs wanted I do them.

8679. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you ever been objected to before the revising barrister?—Yes.

8680. And you have satisfied the revising barrister that your house is worth 10*l.* a year?—Yes.

8681. And no more?—No more. I have been here before the revising barrister.

8682. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many years ago?—Three or four, perhaps.

8683. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

8684. That is the first time you voted for Mr. Gower, I believe, was it not?—No; I voted for Mr. Gower before.

8685. Did you?—Yes.

8686. When?—Before this election; when he put up first.

8687. In 1863 ?—Yes.

8688. Had you ever voted for Mr. Monson ?—Not this present Monson.

8689. You voted for Lord Monson ?—Yes.

8690. The brother ?—Yes.

8691. When was that you voted for Lord Monson ?—I do not know how long ago it was ; I do not keep such things in my head.

8692. 1858 or 1859 ; 1859 perhaps ?—Perhaps it was. I voted for him when he put up, whenever it was.

8693. Who was his opponent? Who was against him ?—Mr. Doulton.

8694. That was in 1858, I believe ; did you vote for him ; that is the present Lord Monson ?—Yes.

8695. Did you vote for any of the Monson family after that ?—No.

8696. For whom did you vote in 1863 ?—For Mr. Gower.

8697. Who canvassed you in the last election ?—In this last election ?

8698. Yes ?—No one.

8699. Nobody came near you ?—No.

8700. On behalf of Mr. Gower ?—No.

8701. Nobody called upon you at all ?—No.

8702. Who canvassed you in 1863 ?—I cannot say now.

8703. Recollect, if you please, who called upon you ; did you see Mr. Gower ?—Yes, I believe I did see Mr. Gower.

8704. Whom did you see with him ; what friend did you see with him ; who was canvassing ?—I do not know ; there was somebody with him.

8705. Yes, of course, there would be somebody with him, but recollect, whom did you see ?—I cannot recollect.

8706. You must recollect ?—I cannot recollect who he was ; it is so long ago.

8707. 1863 is not so long ago ?—Three years.

8708. Whom did you see ; just recollect ?—I don't recollect, I am sure.

8709. Oh ! yes, you do ?—It was a stranger to me, perhaps.

8710. Who spoke to you about it ?—Mr. Gower.

8711. Did he say, "You have voted for Lord "Monson before," and that he had known you ?—Yes, he had known me before.

8712. There was a Monson up in 1863 ?—Yes.

8713. Were you canvassed on behalf of Mr. Monson in 1863 ?—No.

8714. Did anybody speak to you ?—No.

8715. Nobody canvassed you, although you had voted for Lord Monson before ?—Oh ! yes, I voted for Lord Monson.

8716. Now you can tell me who canvassed you besides Mr. Monson himself ?—No.

8717. Your eyes must have been rather ——?—No, they were not.

8718. They were not what ; your eyes were not what ; they were not closed ?—Closed, no, I hope not ; they are open now.

8719. Do you mean to say you did not know there was money going in 1863 ?—I did not know there was money going.

8720. Never heard there was money going in 1863 ?—No.

8721. Really, Mr. Allen ?—It is quite right what I am telling you.

8722. I am not asking you whether you had any money or not ; did you not hear there was money going ?—I did not trouble myself about the election.

8723. But we hear things without troubling ourselves much ; had you never heard that money was going in 1863 ?—No.

8724. Before the election ?—No.

8725. Nor after the election ?—No.

8726. Never heard that money was paid by Gower or by Wilkinson, or on Gower's behalf or on behalf of Wilkinson ? —I never had any from them ; there might have been money.

8727. But had you never heard that money was going ?—There was a talk about it, but I never saw any pass.

8728. But you had heard that there was money in 1863 ?—It was all the talk round ; anybody could hear it.

8729. Was it not the talk in 1863 ?—It was; but I did not receive any.

8730. Did you attend any of the committee meetings ?—At this last election I did.

8731. I am asking you about 1863 ?—No.

8732. Had you attended any public meeting ?—No.

8733. You attended no public meetings ; who brought you up to vote in 1863 ?—I walked over from Redhill.

8734. Did you come with anybody ?—No.

8735. Did you know who were Mr. Gower's agents in 1863 ; the gentleman who had been acting as his agent in 1863 ?—Oh ! yes, I knew Nicholls ; that was all ; he was his agent then, I believe.

8736. Any one else ?—No.

8737. You only knew Mr. Nicholls ?—I knew Mr. Nicholls.

8738. Did you know any other gentleman ?—Not that I know of, that was an agent of Mr. Gower's.

8739. Very well, you heard that money had been going in 1863 ; did you hear that money had been going in 1865, the last time ?—Oh ! I heard the talk of it.

8740. What did you hear was going for a vote, 5*l.* ?—I never heard the money named.

8741. Not any sum named ?—No, not any sum.

8742. Were you on the committee last time, in 1865 ?—I attended the meetings at Mead-vale.

8743. Were you on the committee ?—I believe my name was down.

8744. Did you canvass anybody on behalf of Mr. Gower ?—No.

8745. And nobody canvassed you ?—No.

8746. How come your name to be put down upon the committee list ?—I attended the committee meeting at Mead-vale, and I told them to put it down.

8747. Whom did you tell ?—Penfold.

8748. You told Penfold to put on your name ?—My name on the list.

8749. He was one of Mr. Gower's agents ?—Yes, I believe he was.

8750. Was he chairman of the meeting that you attended ?—Yes.

8751. Where was that meeting held ? — In the school-room, Mead-vale.

8752. Did you attend no other meeting except, out of school-room ?—No.

8753. Did you attend any other meetings ?—No.

8754. What was the use of having your name on the committee, then ?—There were meetings there almost every night.

8755. Have you spoken to any one else at all about your giving evidence before the Commissioners ?—No, not to any one.

8756. When were you summoned ?—Last night, about half-past 8 o'clock.

8757. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Perhaps you were not summoned last night ; you had your summons before ?—I never had it till last night ; Mr. Cheal was the gentleman that gave it to me last night.

8758. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had notice last night ?—Yes.

8759. You attended no committee meetings at all except those held at the school-room ? — That is right ; Mead-vale.

8760. You attended no public house meeting ?—No.

8761. None that was held in a public house ?—No.

8762. Who was generally chairman of that committee ?—Penfold.

8763. Was he chairman every night you attended ?—When I was there he was.

8764. About how many meetings did you attend ?—Well, I should say half a dozen, perhaps ; perhaps more.

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8765. Meetings held in the evening, I suppose?—Yes.

8766. At a considerable loss of time on your part, was it not?—Loss of time? Of course there was a little loss of time to me.

8767. What are your wages a week, if I may be so impertinent; about?—Suppose I say 30*s*., but they do not average that quite.

8768. But you could not well afford to lose your time, could you?—No.

8769. What arrangement was there about your loss of time?—There was no arrangement at all.

8770. No arrangement about your loss of time?—No.

8771. You had heard that others who were on the committee had been paid for their loss of time?—No, I never heard it.

8772. You had heard it before this time, before you were examined in the box?—I do not know that they were paid.

8773. You had heard that they were paid for their loss of time?—Oh! yes, for the loss of time, of course, on nomination day or election day; of course they have a right to be paid that.

8774. Then there are attending meetings and so on?—We do that in the evening, after we have done our day's work.

8775. Were you paid anything for the loss of time?—Yes.

8776. How much?—50*s*.

8777. When was that?—I should say it was three months after the election.

8778. 50*s*.?—Yes.

8779. You only attended the meetings in the evening?—That is all.

8780. You were here on nomination day and polling day, of course?—Yes.

8781. Who paid you?—Mr. Penfold.

8782. About two months after the election?—Two or three, I cannot say to a week or two; it might be a little more.

8783. Did you call on Mr. Penfold for the money?—No.

8784. How then?—He brought it to me at my house.

8785. Were you expecting him?—No, I was not.

8786. Came to your house with it, and you were not expecting him?—No.

8787. When he paid you did you give him any receipt or anything of that kind?—No.

8788. You were at home, and he said, "Well, Mr. "Allen, this is 2*l*. 10*s*. I have for you for your "exertions"?—Yes.

8789. For your support of Mr. Gower, I suppose?—Oh! no, for my work, for my losing my time on the nomination day and polling day.

8790. I asked you about your work, and you told me that none had been paid you?—For my loss of time; of course I was obliged to lose time on the nomination day and polling day.

8791. How did he know that you had been there on the nomination day?—How did Penfold know?

8792. Yes?—He did know.

8793. Did he engage you to be there?—No, he saw me there.

8794. But why should he pay you if he did not engage you; there were many at the nomination who were not paid, I suppose?—I do not know.

8795. Why should he pay you for being here on the nomination day if he did not engage you?—It was not likely I should attend without being paid.

8796. Why did Mr. Penfold pay you if there was no engagement between you and Mr. Penfold?—Well, he thought that I could not lose time for nothing.

8797. Why did Mr. Penfold pay you; you told me that nobody canvassed you?—No, they did not.

8798. Why should Mr. Penfold pay you more than anybody else?—Because he was agent.

8799. Agent for that district?—Yes.

8800. And your name was down?—Yes.

8801. Did you not see Mr. Penfold before the nomination day, and did you not arrange with him to be present at the nomination to support Mr. Gower?—I told them we should be there to support him.

8802. Told whom?—Mr. Penfold.

8803. What did he say you were to have?—There was nothing mentioned.

8804. But you were to be paid?—No.

8805. Did you expect to be paid?—I did for loss of time.

8806. I ask you if nothing was said, and no reports were abroad, why did you expect to be paid for attending on the nomination day?—Because I could not afford to lose time.

8807. That is no expectation; why did you expect to be paid if nothing was said?—Well, there was nothing more said.

8808. Nothing more than what; that persons who gave up their time for Gower would be paid?—No.

8809. Was it not said that those who exerted themselves would be remunerated?—No, that was not said.

8810. What was said before the 2*l*. 10*s*. was sent?—Nothing was said.

8811. He brought you the 2*l*. 10*s*.?—Yes, he brought it.

8812. He said, "Mr. Allen, this is for the work "you have done," I suppose?—Yes; for nomination day and polling day, and for attending the committee room, of course.

8813. You expected it to be paid then?—Of course I expected something for loss of time.

8814. How much did you expect?—As much as I could get.

8815. Perhaps you expected more?—No, I did not.

8816. Reality seldom comes up to our expectations, you know?—I expected what I got.

8817. Your expectations were larger, you expected more did you not?—No.

8818. You expected 5*l*.?—No.

8819. You expected exactly what you got?—What I got. If they did not pay me so much I should not have expected it.

8820. Why did your expectations fix upon 2*l*. 10*s*.?—Because he brought that sum; I did not expect that till he brought it.

8821. Then it came upon you by surprise?—I did not know he was going to bring it.

8822. Do you mean to say it came upon you by surprise?—There was nothing promised me.

8823. Do you mean to say that you did not expect to get any money between that time and the time it was paid you?—No, I did not expect it.

8824. You expected nothing at all?—Only for loss of time.

8825. I say for loss of time, did you expect it for loss of time?—Of course I expected something; I did not know what it would be.

8826. What did you estimate your loss of time at?—What they pleased to give me.

8827. Would you have been satisfied if you had got 10*s*.?—Yes.

8828. Do you think your loss of time would be amply repaid by 10*s*.?—I do not know about "amply repaid."

8829. But would it repay you in your estimation?—It would hardly repay me. Of course I cannot go about without having something to drink.

8830. Would 1*l*. pay you?—Hardly.

8831. Would 1*l*. pay you?—I think it would not.

8832. I want to know how you estimated your labour; do you think 1*l*. would have paid you?—No.

8833. Would 30*s*. have paid you?—No.

8834. Would 2*l*. have paid you?—No.

8835. Would 2*l*. 10*s*. have paid you?—Yes, that did pay me because I could not get any more.

8836. If you had no arrangement with Mr. Penfold, how did Mr. Penfold know exactly what would repay

you, 2*l.* 10*s.*? How did he know that if you had no arrangement with him or said nothing about it?—I do not know.

8837. That was mere guess work?—Yes.

8838. When you got the 2*l.* 10*s.* from him what did he say to you?—What did he say? He said nothing; he said, "There is your money for your time," and that's all; "There is the money for the work that you "have done, loss of time."

8839. Which did he say?—Loss of time.

8840. Oh, "Here is your money for loss of time"?—Yes.

8841. What did you say?—What did I say? "Thank you," I said.

8842. Did he say anything about something more being —— ?—Nothing more said.

8843. About the party might afford a little more to them?—No, nothing more said.

8844. Now that was in 1865; you had lost your time in 1863 also for Mr. Gower, had you not?—Yes.

8845. Attending on the polling day?—Yes.

8846. At the nomination?—Yes.

8847. What did you receive in 1863?—I received 2*l.*

8848. From whom?—Mr. James Nicholls.

8849. How soon after the election?—Well, I cannot say.

8850. About?—A fortnight perhaps.

8851. Did you go to Mr. Nicholls?—Yes.

8852. You went to him for the money?—No.

8853. What did you go to him for?—We were out here. I saw Mr. Nicholls, and he asked me if I would have a glass of ale, I was poorly at the time, and he gave me the 2*l.*; I never asked him for it.

8854. You saw Mr. Nicholls; did you go to his house?—No, I did not know where he lived then.

8855. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which Nicholls do you mean?—James Nicholls.

8856. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where did you see him?—Just here, in front of the "White Hart."

8857. Why did you go to Mr. Nicholls instead of any one else?—Why did I go?

8858. Yes; because you told me you had no arrangement with anybody?—In 1863 I took circulars out.

8859. You told me that in 1863 you made no arrangement?—No, not in 1863. I carried circulars out; I was supposed to have 5*s.* a day.

8860. Did Mr. Nicholls canvass you?—I suppose he did. I went to work for them, and I voted for them.

8861. In 1863?—Yes.

8862. And you were to have 5*s.* a day?—5*s.* a day for my work. I carried circulars round and posted bills.

8863. You do not mean to say you became a bill-sticker?—I was.

8864. Posted bills?—Yes.

8865. What else did you do?—That was all I did, besides attending on the polling and nomination, and I had 2*l.* for it.

8866. How many days were you engaged?—I do not know.

8867. About how many days?—I cannot say how many days, it is so long ago. I do not know how long the election was about.

8868. You cannot tell me whether you were engaged a fortnight or a week?—No.

8869. Now attend.—I suppose it was quite a week.

8870. Go on.—That is all I have to say. I was paid for it.

8871. That would be 30*s.*?—I was paid 2*l.*

8872. Then, what was there for the nomination day?—That is all I had for those days.

8873. The nomination day and the polling day?—And for my posting bills and carrying circulars.

8874. You had only 2*l.*?—Yes.

8875. You were better paid at the last election?—Yes, by 10*s.*

8876. And you did not do anything at the last election?—No, except attend meetings.

8877. At the school-room, Mead-vale?—Yes.

8878. Then you went, of course, to Nicholls, and you asked him for money, I suppose?—No.

8879. Why, you had been engaged to work, why should not you be paid? Why should you not ask him for money?—Because he knew he owed it to me. I suppose for my work. He paid me.

8880. Did he pay you in the street?—Yes, 2*l.*

8881. You met him in the street opposite the "White Hart," and he paid you 2*l.*?—Paid me 2*l.*

8882. Did he ask you how long you had been employed for that?—He knew.

8883. But, did he ask you?—I do not remember whether he did.

8884. Do you remember whether he did or did not?—No, I do not.

8885. Had you any book; was your name down in any book?—No.

8886. You voted for Mr. Monson in the former election?—Yes.

8887. Had you been employed in that election?—Carrying circulars.

8888. And attending meetings?—No, I never had anything to do with meetings.

8889. You were a voter?—Yes.

8890. How long had you been employed on behalf of Lord Monson?—I do not know how long.

8891. About how long?—I cannot say.

8892. Oh, yes, you can?—I cannot, really.

8893. Who employed you?—Nicholls.

8894. Nicholls was for Lord Monson then?—Yes.

8895. What did you receive?—I cannot say exactly what it was now. Something over 2*l.* for my work. I worked for him.

8896. Mr. Nicholls paid you?—Yes.

8897. How soon after the election?—I do not know. It might be five or six weeks.

8898. Had Mr. Nicholls engaged you?—To work for him.

8899. He was then acting for Lord Monson?—Yes.

8900. Had you promised him to vote for Lord Monson?—Yes.

8901. You received over 2*l.*, can you tell me how much over?—No, I cannot.

8902. Was it over 3*l.*?—No.

8903. Could you say whether it was over 3*l.* or not?—It was not 3*l.*

8904. Then you can tell me?—It was not so much as that.

8905. Was it 50*s.*?—Thereabouts.

8906. That was your first time of voting, I suppose? No.

8907. For whom did you vote in 1858?—I voted for Mr. Hackblock.

8908. Had you been engaged on his behalf?—No, I never had a farthing.

8909. You never had a farthing for that election? No.

8910. You voted for a gentleman who is dead, Mr. Hackblock, you say without receiving anything?—Yes.

8911. Now the next election would be February 1858, I think. There were two elections in 1858, do you recollect?—Two elections.

8912. Was one in February and one in October?—Yes.

8913. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) On the death of Mr. Hackblock?—Mr. Monson that was.

8914. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you employed in that election of February 1858?—Mr. Monson's?

8915. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) No; Monson was October. In February 1858 there was Rawlinson, Wilkinson, Walters, and James?—I voted for Rawlinson.

8916. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you been employed at all?—I was employed for posting bills.

8917. How much did your labour bring you in at that election?—We were paid 5*s.* a day.

8918. What did you receive altogether?—About 5*l.*, perhaps, for my work.

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8919. You received 5*l.* in February 1858 ?—Yes, for Mr. Rawlinson.

8920. Then upon his promotion there was an election in October ; then you voted for Lord Monson ?—Yes.

8921. And then you received 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—2*l.* I told you, did I not ?

8922. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Just bear the dates in your recollection. In 1859 you told us you received on account of the present Lord Monson, and from Mr. Nichols, over 2*l.* ?—Yes, that is right.

8923. The election in October 1858, you recollect, was upon the occasion of Sir Henry Rawlinson taking office ?—Yes, I know it was.

8924. Then there was an election, and Mr. Wilkinson and the Right Honourable Mr. Monson were the candidates ?—Yes.

8925. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For whom were you employed on that occasion ?—Lord Monson.

8926. Employed, I suppose, in delivering bills ?—Yes, circulars and so on.

8927. What did you receive ; what amount of money did you receive upon that occasion ?—Over 2*l.* ; 2*l.* 10*s.*, or something like that, I think.

8928. Have you any distinct recollection of how much you received in 1859 ?—No, I have not ; that was Hackblock, was it not ?

8929-30. No.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 1859 was the Honourable Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson.

(*The Witness.*) Yes, that was 1859.

8931. You have spoken of it ?—Yes, I told the other gentleman.

8932. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then if I understand you rightly it was this : that from 1857 you were employed in all the elections, and received certain monies ?—I was employed.

8933. And received certain monies ?—The money that I had I have told you.

8934. You voted in 1857 ?—Yes.

8935. And received nothing for Hackblock ?—Yes.

8936. No money was going for employment ?—Not at all.

8937. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you hear of any money going on the election of Sir Henry Rawlinson ?—No, only as I was paid for my work.

8938. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understood you to say that you did not hear that any money was going at all, except for work ?—That is all.

8939. I asked you early in my examination whether you had heard of any money at all passing, and you said that you did not hear that any money was passing, you meant then only for work ?—Only for work.

8940. How many were engaged with you in that district, how many men besides yourself were engaged ?—I do not know.

8941. Oh, yes, you do ?—No one else but me.

8942. How many of the committee men that you were in the habit of meeting were working ?—I do not know.

8943. About how many ?—I do not know.

8944. Do you know any ?—No, I know I was employed myself, that is all.

8945. Mr. Penfold did not engage you to do any work ?—No, no further than to be paid for my loss of time.

8946. When did he tell you you were to be paid for your loss of time ?—When he brought my money.

8947. When did he tell you what would be paid for your loss of time, before the time was lost ?—He never told me at all, only when he brought me my money.

8948. Was Mr. Penfold's understanding with you different from the understanding that you had with others ?—I never had any understanding with others.

8949. Never with any one who employed you ?—Not during this election.

8950. I am speaking of former elections ; you had been engaged for Sir Henry Rawlinson, had you a distinct understanding then about being paid for your time ?—For my work.

8951. With whom ?—With Nicholls.

8952. And with whom had you a distinct understanding to work for Lord Monson ?—With Nicholls.

8953. And with Nicholls for Mr. Gower ?—The first time.

8954. Then how is it you had not the same understanding with Penfold ?—I do not know how that was I am sure.

8955. Mr. Nicholls engaged you for Rawlinson, did he ?—Yes, he employed me.

8956. But you were not employed on the last occasion at all ?—Not particularly.

8957. You had no understanding with anybody ?—No.

8958. And the 2*l.* 10*s.* was given to you without any understanding at all ?—Yes, it was.

8959. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You remember the election of '59, when you voted for Mr. Hackblock ?—Yes.

8960. I did not understand whether you were paid for loss of time at that time ?—I was paid nothing.

8961. You were not paid for your loss of time ?—No.

8962. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you recollect whether you voted in 1852 ?—Who's that for ?

8963. Somers Cocks and Major Parott ?—No.

8964. Were you on the register then ?—No.

8965. Then you did not vote ?—No.

8966. You say that as far back as 1858 Nicholls engaged you for Rawlinson ?—Yes.

8967. And paid you 5*l.* for the work ?—Yes.

8968. He is an old friend of yours ?—Not at all.

8969. You have known him from, 1858 to 1865 ; is he a person long connected with the town ?—I do not know more about him than that I know him.

8970. He is connected with the county court is he not ?—I do not know, I have nothing to do with the county court. I never was before them.

8971. I suppose he is a person well known in this town ?—I dare say he is a person well known.

8972. Who kept the "Grapes" in 1863 ?—I do not know, I do not frequent such places.

8973. You knew him in 1858, and yet you say you did not know where he lived in 1863 ?—No, he might have lived in different parts of the town.

8974. What are you ?—Do you mean my trade ?

8975. Yes.—Why, I am in the building line.

8976. Are you a master builder or a journeyman ?—I am not a master.

8977. A journeyman ?—A journeyman, if you like.

8978. That is as you like. Are you a carpenter or bricklayer ?—No.

8979. A plumber or glazier ?—No, I work at stonework, preparing stone for building.

8980. In 1865 were you at your usual occupation, working at the stone ?—Not the nomination day, for I was here.

8981. But before that ?—I was here ; of course I was ; I went to the meeting in the evening.

8982. I suppose you thought the nomination could not go on without you ?—I did not think so.

8983. Who asked you at all ?—Nobody.

8984. In 1863 were you still the stonemason ?—Yes.

8985. And in 1863 did you continue your business as stonemason during the time you were canvassing ?—I was out of employ then.

8986. Altogether ?—Yes, and I took circulars and posted bills, and so on.

8987. When you were employed in '63, was it the whole of the day ?—We had so much per day.

8988. I want to know what you did for it ?—I took circulars, perhaps 200 or 300.

8989. That did not continue every day ?—No, but there were bills to post.

8990. Were those bills distributed pretty freely ?

—Yes, or there would not have been so many of them.

8991. And continuously?—Yes, by committee men and so on.

8992. How many voters were there on the register in '63?—I do not know.

8993. I think I can tell you?—More than 500 I think.

8994. There were very few persons to distribute these among, the constituency being so very small?—Over 500 I think.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) 547 I think.

8995. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were these circulars sent to the whole of the 547?—No, they were distributed to some of them, and I had to distribute them.

8996. How many were employed besides you, some 400 or 500?—No, I do not know of anybody but myself.

8997. In 1859 were you still a stonemason?—I think so.

8998. You were paid then?—Yes.

8999. Were you at work in 1859 in your business of a stonemason?—When I could get work.

9000. I suppose you generally get work?—No.

9001. Are you in work now?—Yes.

9002. Well, for the last few years there has been a good deal of building going on about here?—Yes, but sometimes it is slack; it is so now.

9003. What work did you do in '59?—Stone work.

9004. You did not do stone work then?—I do not know whether I was out of work or in at the time.

9005. You received *5l.* from Mr. Nichols, and that was only for sorting letters?—I have told you it was for delivering circulars and posting bills.

9006. No, I have only just asked you about '58; what did you do?—Delivered circulars and posted bills.

9007. Do you know whether you were out of work then?—I suppose I was, for if I had been at my regular work I should not have been here.

9008. Could you not have done that of an evening?—No.

9009. In October '58 were you out of work?—Of course I was nomination day and polling day. If I am employed at my own work I do it, but if I have nothing to do at election time I go and ask for a job, and perhaps they give me one.

9010. In 1865 you were in good work as a stonemason down to the nomination, and yet you were paid?—Yes.

9011. You were paid a large sum in '58, *5l.*?—I worked a long time for it.

9012. In October 1858 you worked for Lord Monson and got *2l.* or *2l.* 10*s.*?—That was not much, was it.

9013. I do not know what you did for it, what did you do for it?—Delivering circulars and posting bills, and as far as it went I was paid for my time.

9014. In 1865 you were paid *2l.* 10*s.* simply for attending two days?—I was at a meeting at the Meadvale.

9015. Committee meetings, I suppose they were, where you got some refreshment?—There was not any there at all.

9016. In 1865 you said you were supposed to have *5s.* a day?—Not in 1865, but in 1863.

9017. In 1863 you were supposed to have *5s.* a day?—Yes.

9018. And then you were employed delivering circulars and posting bills?—Yes.

Mr. T. Conway.

Mr. Thomas Conway sworn and examined.

9019. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you live at Wray-park, just above the town?—Yes, I do.

9020. How long have you lived there?—I think about seven years from 1859, just after the last election but two.

9021. Had you anything to do with the election of 1859?—Nothing whatever.

9022. I will begin with the election of 1863. You were here at the election of 1863?—Yes.

9023. That was between Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

9024. Were you then on the register?—Yes.

9025. And did you take an active part with Mr. Gower in that election?—Not an active part.

9026. Were you on his committee?—No.

9027. You interested yourself?—I am a Conservative, but on the retirement of Mr. Wortley I gave Mr. Leveson Gower my support, as against Mr. Wilkinson.

9028. Was that the Hon. James Stuart Wortley?—Yes.

9029. The late Recorder of London?—Yes.

9030. Did he come down then to contest the borough?—Yes, he was down here a very short time.

9031. He did not go to the poll?—No, he met 12 or 13 of us; he gave an address. Seven or eight of us walked over to the "White Hart," and we considered it would not do.

9032. You were a Conservative?—Yes.

9033. You have not Conservatives enough to support your principles here?—We have not, unfortunately, at Reigate.

9034. After Mr. Wortley retired, you then interested yourself for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

9035. Did you canvass for him?—Well, I asked a few friends, but I did not take an active part.

9036. Did you canvass for him, did you succeed in influencing any votes for him?—I am not aware that I did, I might possibly have done so.

9037. Did you succeed in obtaining any promises?—Very possibly I did, but I really do not recollect.

9038. Are you able to tell me whether in 1863 you put on any names which you canvassed on the committee list?—In '63?

9039. Yes?—Certainly not.

9040. You did not?—Certainly not.

9041. At that time you were not on the committee list yourself?—Certainly not.

9042. Did you do anything of this kind: did you canvass a man, and then report to the committee that it would be a good thing to put his name on the committee list?—No.

9043. You would remember that if you did?—Yes.

9044. Did you understand at the election of 1863 there was a good deal of money going about the borough?—No, I hardly took an active part, I really did not take a sufficiently active part for that, I heard nothing definite.

9045. Then, coming on to 1865, I believe you took a more active part in that year for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

9046. You were on his committee?—Yes.

9047. And attended that regularly, did you not?—No, I attended two meetings.

9048. Did you go about canvassing with Mr. Gower yourself sometimes?—No, I should have been very happy to have done so, but I had no time.

9049. You occasionally attended him, say once or twice, when he was canvassing?—I think not, I attended meetings, but I do not think I went about at all with Mr. Gower.

9050. Did you obtain promises for him?—I might have asked several whether they intended to vote for Mr. Gower, and they might have said they intended to vote for Mr. Gower. I might have canvassed them,

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but not in any but a casual way ; I might have met a friend or a relative, and have asked them.

9051. Was there not a voter in your employ of the name of George Walker ?—Yes.

9052. I suppose you canvassed him knowing he was a voter ?—No, I did not, but I believe he took a very active part.

9053. Do you know whether George Walker was on Mr. Gower's committee ?—Yes, I saw him.

9054. You yourself canvassed him, that is to say, you spoke to him ?—No, I understood he meant to vote for Mr. Gower.

9055. Had you not some conversation with him about it, and, if you had, tell us what that conversation was ?—No, we had no conversation that I recollect at the time.

9056. Do you not recollect any conversation you had with Walker about the election ?—No, I do not recollect it.

9057. Were you aware from Walker or from any other person that Walker had been promised a sum of money for what he had done on the election ?—Certainly not.

9058. You had not been made aware of it either by Walker or by anybody else ?—Not in any way.

9059. Did you ascertain from Mr. Smith that Walker had been promised something for his services ?—Certainly not.

9060. You think you would recollect it if you had ?—I am quite sure I should.

9061. Walker at the time of the election was in your employ, was he not ?—Yes.

9062. Do you recollect in a conversation with Walker some reference being made to money that had been promised previous to the election. This conversation I am referring to was after the election ?—No, I cannot recollect.

9063. But you would recollect that, for it is very remarkable ?—Decidedly.

9064. Did not Walker tell you something like this, "I have been promised something for what I did at "the election, and I am not getting it" ?—Not likely.

9065. Very likely that may be, but did he ?—Certainly not.

9066. Did he not tell you that he had been promised something by Mr. Smith ?—Certainly not.

9067. I suppose you would have recollected that if he had told you ?—Certainly he would not say that to me.

9068. Did you say to him at the time after the supposed conversation took place something of this sort, "Well, for what you did, for your services, you ought "to be paid fairly, and if Mr. Smith don't pay you I "will" ?—I do not remember saying anything of the sort. He was often absent from his work,—that I overlooked to the fullest extent ; I know nothing else ; I gave him leave. He said he was on the committee, and I said "Very well."

9069. You would know he had given up his time to Mr. Gower, and that would make such a conversation much more natural. Bearing that in mind, did you not long after the election say, "For the "services you have performed you have something "like a claim on Mr. Smith. I was aware of them, "and if he does not pay you I will," or "I will see "you paid" ?—Certainly I do not remember it. He was a man not troubled about his means at all. He may have said things to me which really I may hardly have listened to.

9070. He may well have begun the conversation and told it you rather like a tale of pity ?—But he is very well off.

9071. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not stop any wages from him ?—No, he is very well off, and no children.

9072. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you not think such a conversation as that may have passed between you and him ?—I do not recollect it at all, Mr. Allen ; I really do not recollect. I am not that sort of man as to enter into such a conversation with him on such a matter.

9073. You think from the impropriety of it ?—He might in walking round the garden tell me a few matters about the election, which would go in at one ear and out at the other.

9074. But this is more than that ; it is that you said to him, "You ought to be paid for the services "you performed, and therefore if Mr. Smith does "not pay you I will." I wish to know whether you would go as far as that ?—Certainly not. He said something one night that somebody had had so much, but I did not want to hear it.

9075. He naturally would go on ?—No, he would not have broken ground on this topic, and he relinquished it.

9076. He would say, "It is hard upon me, for you "know how hard I have worked, and know I have "nothing" ?—If he had said so I should not have the slightest hesitation in telling you.

9077. I only wish to assist your recollection about it. I have some evidence of it myself, on which I am now proceeding, and I only wish to know whether you said to him anything of the kind ; a conversation introduced by him, if you please, as most likely it was, in a casual way, and I wish to know whether you can tell me whether you went on to say, "Under the cir-"cumstances, if Mr. Smith won't pay you I will" ?—No, I do not recollect anything of the kind.

9078. Do you recollect on one occasion being present when Mr. Gower himself said something about the work that Walker, your gardener, had performed for him ?—No.

9079. To put it plainly ; were you present on one occasion when Mr. Gower said to Walker something of this kind, "Well, we all know how much you have "worked, we all know how active you have been, "and no doubt about it you have brought us many "voters to the poll, and no doubt Smith will pay "you" ?—Certainly not.

9080. Do you think this took place ?—I do not recollect it.

9081. You will not say whether it took place or not ?—I do not think it is at all likely. I do not think Mr. Gower would have said so.

9082. Do you recollect Mr. Gower in your presence acknowledging Walker's services, and saying no doubt Smith would pay him because he had brought so many voters to the poll ?—I am quite sure he never said anything of the sort.

9083. Now I will tell you this ; a witness has stated this much, that he heard Walker say that Mr. Gower in your presence acknowledged his, Walker's, services, and said that Smith ought to pay him for them. Another witness (not Walker himself) swore ; no, I was wrong in saying swore ; but he said a man had stated he was told by Walker that Mr. Gower in your presence acknowledged his services, and said that Mr. Smith ought to pay him for them, because it was well known he had brought so many voters up to the poll ?—This is utterly false, and I believe I shall be able to bring evidence to confute such scandalous lies, such scandalous and disgraceful falsehoods.

GEORGE ATTWOOD sworn and examined.

9084. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you a voter of this borough ?—Yes.

9085. How long have you been a voter ?—Only this last election.

9086. What is your qualification ?—I rent a house at 6*s.* a week.

9087. Where ?—Nutley-lane.

9088. What is your business?—A carpenter and joiner.

9089. By whom were you canvassed?—By Mr. Gower himself.

9090. First?—Yes.

9091. Did you promise Mr. Gower when he came to you at first?—Mr. Gower, Mr. Smith, Mr. Buckland, and Job Apted called on me. I told Mr. Gower when he asked me for my vote that he was rather sharp upon me, but I would give him an answer as soon as possible.

9092. Did you give your answer without being asked again?—I did; I called at Mr. Buckland's house going round, and told him I wished to vote for Mr. Gower, and I did not trouble any more about it.

9093. When you saw Mr. Buckland did he offer you anything for coming on their committee?—Nothing at all.

9094. Were you to get anything for coming on their committee?—Nothing at all, except he told me he would put my name on their committee.

9095. Is that all that took place before you gave your vote?—Yes.

9096. Did Mr. Joyes canvass you?—No, he did not.

9097. Frederick Joyes, I mean?—No, sir.

9098. You say Joyes never canvassed you?—No.

9099. Never spoke to you about your vote?—No, I do not think he did; I do not think I had any conversation with him about the vote.

9100. Do you know Alexander Rose?—Yes.

9101. Did you have any talk with him about your vote?—I might have said, "I am going to vote for "Mr. Gower."

9102. Did you have any talk with him about being on his committee?—I might have said so, I will not say I did, but I might have said, "I have been to see "Mr. Buckland, and I am going to be put on your "committee."

9103. You are quite certain Mr. Buckland said nothing to you about what the people were going to be paid?—No, nothing passed, except I told him to put my name on his committee.

9104. Were you to do any work?—No.

9105. Were you to canvass for him?—No; he said, "Do all you can to get voters," and I said, "Of "course I will."

9106. Did he not say, "You shall be paid like the "others"?—No.

9107. Or something to that effect?—No, I believe not.

9108. You believe not?—I believe nothing of the sort passed.

9109. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was it Buckland or Rose said, "Do all you can to get voters"?—It was Buckland.

9110. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long before the election was that?—I cannot say exactly, but I believe five or six weeks.

9111. Did you canvass?—No, I do not know that I canvassed; I do not think I did.

9112. Did you attend any meetings?—Yes.

9113. What meetings did you attend?—The committee meetings at this hall down stairs.

9114. Only those?—That is all; it was the general committee room; at least one of them.

9115. Do you mean to say you attended no meetings at public houses?—Not committee meetings.

9116. But you attended some meetings at public houses?—I went to a public house.

9117. During the time of canvassing for this election?—Yes.

9118. Tell me one?—I went to the "Black Horse."

9119. Was there a meeting there?—Yes.

9120. Who was in the chair?—I cannot recollect now.

9121. How long before the election was it?—It might have been three or four weeks, but I cannot exactly remember when it was.

9122. There was a good deal of drinking going on there, I suppose?—Not such a wonderful deal.

9123. Nothing extraordinary?—No; nothing to take me away.

9124. Nothing more than usual?—No.

9125. Did you pay for the drink you had at the "Black Horse"?—I paid for some.

9126. Not all?—No.

9127. Did you pay for more than what you drank yourself?—No; when I went in and had a glass at the bar I might, but then I went in and had some more inside.

9128. You did not pay for that in the inside?—No.

9129. Why did you not?—Some one asked me to drink, and I did.

9130. Did the entertainment go on for some little while at the "Black Horse"?—I was there an hour and a half.

9131. Tell me some other house you have been to?—I went to the "Bell."

9132. Do you recollect who was in the chair there?—No, I cannot remember.

9133. I suppose there was always a chairman at these meetings?—Yes; but I took no notice who was chairman and who not.

9134. They were all voters?—To the best of my recollection.

9135. Were you at Tyrrell's?—No; I do not know where it is.

9136. Who kept the house in Nutley-lane?—Muddle. I was there one night.

9137. Who was in the chair that night?—I do not know.

9138. Was it Alexander Rose?—I went into the house, but I do not know who was in the chair.

9139. You have seen Rose?—Yes, I have seen him several times.

9140. When have you seen him last?—Do you mean during the election?

9141. No, now.—I saw him last night.

9142. Where?—I saw him at Mr. Muddle's; that is the only house I go to of an evening.

9143. Who were with you there last night? There was Alexander Rose; and who were the others?—There were several of us.

9144. Several of your friends from Nutley-lane, neighbours?—Yes.

9145. Were they all voters?—I do not know that.

9146. Pretty well that, I suppose?—Well, I do not know that.

9147. Pretty well all voters, were they not?—In fact I do not know half the voters of the borough; and when I go into company I do not study whether they are voters or not.

9148. How many were there at this meeting last night?—It was not a meeting.

9149. Well, this assembly?—Several.

9150. Were there 20?—I do not suppose there was.

9151. A dozen?—There might have been a dozen.

9152. Were they neighbours of yours?—I do not know.

9153. Did any party ask you to go there?—Nobody.

9154. No one?—No.

9155. Was anybody in the chair?—No, there was no chairman; there was no chairman present.

9156. I suppose you told Alexander Rose you were coming here to-day?—He knew it as well as anybody that I was coming here to-day.

9157. How?—Did he not hear them called, or see the name on the door?

9158. No, not until this morning; for it is the first

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time they have been posted outside.—My name was called yesterday.

9159. Did you say to Alexander Rose you were coming here to-day ?—No. I was told of it when I was coming home from work last night.

9160. And then you went to Muddle's ?—Of course I did.

9161. Did you always go to Muddle's ?—When I go to a public house I go to Muddle's.

9162. You do not go there every night ?—I do not make a practice of it.

9163. Did any of the others say they were coming here as witnesses ?—I do not know.

9164. It was talked of ?—I do not know that it was.

9165. Do you mean to say this Inquiry was not talked of last night ? Come, look straight forward like an honest man, and answer me.—I can look like an honest man ; I cannot say it was talked of.

9166. Was not something said about it ?—Yes.

9167. And did you not say, "I am going there to-morrow" ?—I do not know that I did.

9168. Did you not intimate to the company you were coming here to-day ?—I was told of it there, and as I was coming home as well.

9169. Who told you ; was it Alexander Rose ?—No, it was not Alexander Rose.

9170. Who was it knew you were coming here to-day, and told you so ?—Mr. Miles told me my name was called ; he spoke to Mr. Cheal about it the other night, as I am from my home at work ; and when I went down to see Cheal he said, "If there is anybody "who hears your name called, it would do you a "kindness to tell you."

9171. Quite right. And he told you ; and did not that open your conversation about your coming here ?—No ; I do not know, though my name was mentioned, that anything passed about me to my knowledge.

9172. Do you mean to say there is no interest taken among you gentlemen at Muddle's about this Inquiry ?—Not more than at other houses.

9173. Do you mean to say that gentlemen who assemble at Muddle's do not take an interest in the matter so as to talk about it ?—Not much ; but it is the general conversation of the place.

9174. They did talk of it last night ?—They might have said something, but I did not listen.

9175. You were an interested party, I should have thought you would have listened ?—No.

9176. Was it not a subject matter of conversation between you men the thing was to be kept dark ?—No, not to my knowledge it was not said, nothing to be kept dark.

9177. Did you all agree to come here ?—I know what I mean to do myself, and not to study about other people.

9178. Did you receive any money after this election ?—Yes, I did.

9179. How much ?—30*s.*

9180. Who from ?—Mr. Job Apted.

9181. You told me Job Apted had not canvassed you before, and had only spoken to you about your voting, how came you to apply to Job Apted for any money at all ? Of course you applied to him before the voting ?—I understood from the talk they were going to be paid for their time. I saw Mr. Job Apted one day, and I said to him, "I hear that many are going "to be paid for their time ;" and he said he did not know.

9182. Did you see him again ?—I did not see him till some time afterwards.

9183. How long afterwards was it you got your 30*s.* ?—I think it was in September.

9184. How came you to know the men were going to receive money ? Who told you ; was it Buckland ?—No.

9185. Who did you hear it from ?—I cannot remember just now.

9186. Did you hear it at any of these meetings at Muddle's ?—No.

9187. From whom was it you heard the men were going to be paid for their time ?—I do not know, it was the general talk.

9188. You say it was the general talk ?—Yes.

9189. Did you hear it as general talk they were to be paid ?—Those that worked.

9190. Did you work ?—I attended all the committee meetings.

9191. Then you did not work ?—I do not know whether you call that work.

9192. I do not call it work, if you do not call it work ; I think you take a very right view of it. Have you ever had any boots from Apted ?—Yes, I have.

9193. He is a boot and shoe maker ?—Yes.

9194. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you mean in addition to the 30*s.* ?—No, not in addition.

9195. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did those boots and shoes you had come up in amount to 30*s.* ?—I do not exactly know what it was now, but somewhere about that amount.

9196. When did Mr. Apted let you have the boots and shoes ; I suppose they were for yourself and family ?—Yes, I don't know the time.

9197. Were those boots and shoes owing for at the time of the election ?—No.

9198. After ?—No.

9199. Has he forgiven you the debt for the boots and shoes ?—The 30*s.*

9200. In what way has he forgiven you the debt, has he given you a bill and a receipt ?—I saw him one day ; he said he had seen Mr. Smith, and he had got 30*s.* for me to pay me for my time at the election, and of course he deducted the boots from that.

9201. He said he had received the money from Mr. Smith ?—Yes.

9202. He has given you no money ?—No.

9203. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Or any account between you ?—No.

9204. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He has credited you 30*s.*, the amount of your bill ?—Yes.

9205. And he has not since asked you for the amount of your bill ?—No.

9206. Do you know a man of the name of James Brooker ?—Yes.

9207. He lives in the High-street ?—Yes.

9208. Did you canvass him the second time for his vote ?—I do not remember it.

9209. Did you work for him ?—No.

9210. Do you know the man I mean ?—I know there is a James Brooker who has a greengrocer's shop.

9211. Have you ever been with Frederick Joyes canvassing ?—No.

9212. Have you never gone out canvassing with him ?—No.

9213. Or alone ?—No.

9214. Or asked anybody for a vote ?—Yes, the first I saw was a party down our lane, Nutley lane. The only words that passed were these. I asked him how he was going on and if he was going to vote. He said he had not seen Mr. Gower, and I said, "All "right," and off he went.

9215. Did you tell him he was to be paid for his work ?—No.

9216. Did you tell Brooker he would be paid or was likely to be paid ?—I know nothing about that. I do not remember ever having any conversation with Brooker.

9217. Alexander Rose was a very active man ?—I believe so.

9218. He canvassed very largely amongst you men ?—Well ; he lived down the lane, and I suppose he did.

9219. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you saw Apted, who told you he had seen Smith, do you re-

collect Apted saying something about Brooker, you know Smith said there was to be some allowance, and he wanted to credit you a bill to the amount of 30*s.* you told this gentleman so ?—(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Yes.

9220. You recollect telling this gentleman just now ?—Yes.

9221. At that time did Apted tell you something about Brooker ?—I do not think he mentioned the name.

9222. Was not Brooker's name mentioned by somebody at the time ?—No.

9223. Do you remember meeting Brooker and saying you had your money ?—No.

9224. Or Brooker to you ?—No, I cannot remember anything about it.

HENRY AUSTIN sworn and examined. *H. Austin.*

9225. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I believe you live at Reigate ?—Yes.

9226. And carry on the business of a draper ?—Yes.

9227. You took a great deal of interest in the last election ?—Yes.

9228. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

9229. You were on his committee I believe ?—Yes, I was.

9230. And took the chair upon several occasions at the meetings ?—No, I think not.

9231. Well, you were chairman on some occasions ?—Well, I am not sure, but I think not.

9232. Can you tell me positively whether you were or were not ?—I came on several meetings in the room below, but I do not think I was in the chair.

9233. You would be a man most likely to be in the chair if you were early at the meeting ?—But I came in late, I was generally engaged till late ; I do not think I ever was, but I might have been once.

9234. You happen to have some influence in this borough ?—I am not aware that I have, I may have, but I used what I had in Mr. Gower's behalf.

9235. Did you support him in 1863 ?—No, I opposed him in 1863.

9236. On behalf of whom ?—On behalf of Mr. Wilkinson.

9237. And had you been active on this former election of 1863 ?—No, I was not. I might have gone to attend a meeting at the town hall.

9238. But you had not been so active ?—No, I was a stranger in the place then.

9239. When were you first on the register ?—I should think about 1859 or 1860, I am not quite sure.

9240. Then 1863 would be the first time you took any part in the election ?—I was here in the town at the time of the election of 1859, when Mr. Doulton put up.

9241. But you did not vote ?—No.

9242. There are some out-voters belonging to the constituency in Reigate, some persons who happen to be living outside the town or away at the time ?—Yes.

9243. Do you recollect one of them coming to you ?—Coming to me ?

9244. Yes, with regard to his expenses ?—No.

9245. Just recollect yourself, Mr. Austen ?—Not any man came to me respecting his expenses. I wrote to two out-voters to ask them for their votes.

9246. Who were they ?—John Baily, who is living at Cranley, and Henry Turner, of Bickley.

9247. Both voted, I believe ?—I believe they did.

9248. For Mr. Gower ?—I believe not. I believe Turner voted for Mr. Monson ; he told me he had on the day of polling.

9249. What I want to know is, have you not paid the expenses of any out-voter ?—No, I did not.

9250. Did any out-voters apply to you for expenses ?—No.

9251. Nothing of the kind ?—I believe I said in the letter I wrote them I would undertake to pay their travelling expenses if they wished it.

9252. Have you a copy of the letter you wrote ?—No.

9253. Did you see the voters ?—I saw them both on the day of the election.

9254. Baily did vote for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

9255. If you had promised his expenses would you not mention it ?—I met him in the street, but not a word passed about his expenses.

9256. Do you know whether he had been paid his expenses ?—No, I do not.

9257. Or, if so, who paid them ?—No.

9258. Then I understand you paid no out-voter any expenses ?—No, I did not.

9259. On any account whatever ?—No, not on any election.

9260. I mean in 1865 ?—No.

9261. Do you know a Mr. Tullett ?—Yes.

9262. Is he a voter ?—Yes.

9263. Do you recollect canvassing him on behalf of Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

9264. Was that in your shop ?—No, I met him in the street here, and afterwards he went in.

9265. Did he go into your shop with you ?—No, I believe not.

9266. He went in afterwards ?—I found him there when I got home afterwards.

9267. Did he promise when you canvassed him in the street to vote for Mr. Gower ?—He did.

9268. And I am afraid he had a bad hat. Had he not a bad hat ?—I am not aware that he had.

9269. Did not he go into your shop, and did not you treat him to a new hat ?—No, I did not.

9270. Did he purchase a new hat ?—That I am not sure about ; he purchased some article ; it was either two pair of hose or a hat, but I did not serve him with it, and whatever he had he paid for.

9271. Do you recollect whether he purchased anything ?—I recollect he purchased something, but whether it was a hat or hose I do not know. He told me when I went into the shop that he had purchased something.

9272. You had known him before ?—Yes.

9273. Do you recollect your saying anything to him about his going on the committee ?—I do not know.

9274. Had you seen him attending the committee meetings ?—No ; he had been ill, he had been laid up some time.

9275. That does not at all prevent them from being received on the committee ?—Well, I did not see him.

9276. Do you know whether he was engaged as a canvasser or messenger ?—No, I believe not ; he did not tell me he was, and I certainly did not ask him. I merely asked him for his vote, and he promised it for Mr. Gower.

9277. Did you promise that he should be well paid if he voted for Mr. Gower ?—No, I did not ; the man did not want to be paid, he promised me at once.

9278. Or anything to that effect ?—No, nothing of the kind, there was no promise or any arrangement about it ; there was no inducement held out.

9279. So far as you know, he did not require it ?—He did not to me, certainly.

9280. What time of the day did he vote ?—I presume it was about 11 o'clock. I met him in the town, and he told me he had voted.

9281. What is he ?—He is a gardener, a gardener for Mr. Thompson of Blaxton.

9282. So far as you know, there was no inducement ?—No ; I did not make him any promise. I believe the man was very much annoyed at some

SIXTH DAY. *H. Austin.* 28 Aug. 1866.

proceeding, taken by Monson's men, and therefore he did not vote for Mr. Monson.

9283. What was that ?—Some one had canvassed his master for him.

9284. They wanted to get his master to canvass for them, and then he became indignant ?—Yes.

9285. He wanted to be his own judge of his vote, and you found him in that mind and secured him ?—Yes, so far as taking his promise.

The Commissioner informed Mr. Austen that he was very glad to have had the pleasure of hearing his evidence, and, as there was nothing at all to implicate him, he would not be required any more.

The witness withdrew.

J. Brooker.

JAMES BROOKER sworn and examined.

9286. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you live in the High-street ?—Yes.

9287. What are you ?—A carpenter.

9288. What rent do you pay ?—13*l.*

9289. Who did you vote for at the last election, in 1865 ?—For Mr. Gower.

9290. Who did you promise your vote to ?—Mr. Gower.

9291. Mr. Gower himself ?—Yes.

9292. The first time he came to ask you ?—Yes.

9293. After you promised Mr. Gower, were you called upon by some of his agents ?—Yes, by Mr. Joyes.

9294. That is Mr. Frederick Joyes ?—Yes.

9295. And what did Mr. Joyes say to you?—He said something about some work, and he would pay for it.

9296. What was he to pay for it ?—I was to have five weeks' work at 1*l.* a week.

9297. At the time he called on you were there five weeks to work before the election, or not so much ?—More than that I should say, but I could not tell exactly.

9298. You do not mean five weeks' work as a carpenter ?—No.

9299. Are you a master carpenter ?—No.

9300. A journeyman ?—Yes.

9301. Do you keep a greengrocer's shop as well, attended to by your wife and family ?—Yes.

9302. You continued your work as a carpenter all that time ?—Yes, pretty much I did.

9303. I suppose you got your name put down on the committee ?—I do not know whether it was down or not.

9304. Perhaps you did not attend a committee meeting ?—Not a great many, I attended a few here in the town hall.

9305. Before the election took place did Mr. Joyes pay you anything ?—No.

9306. Did anybody pay you ?—No.

9307. You were not paid by the week as it was understood ?—No understanding at all.

9308. After the election was over were you paid ?—I received 2*l.*

9309. From whom ?—Mr. Joyes.

9310. When ?—Two months after.

9311. Was there anything on paper about the 2*l.* ; did you give a receipt ?—I think not.

9312. Did he tell you it was an instalment, and he promised to pay you more soon ?—Nothing was said more about it.

9313. When he paid you the 2*l.* did he say he hoped to pay you the residue ?—No.

9314. Who else was he paying at the time he paid you ?—I do not know.

9315. There were others ?—I do not know.

9316. Not in the room ?—He left it at my place.

9317. I suppose it was left with your wife ?—Yes.

9318. Did you see Mr. Joyes after the money had been left at your house ?—I have seen him since, but we have never said anything about it.

9319. Did you acknowledge it at all ?—No, not at all.

9320. Now, in 1863 what part did you take in the election ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

9321. And who canvassed you for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Mr. Joyes.

9322. The same gentleman ?—Yes.

9323. Was much the same sort of arrangement made then ?—Yes, not the same, but something like it.

9324. And on that occasion what did you receive ?—Not the same, as there was only two days' work that I was to have.

9325. You were to have two days' work in 1863 ?—That was all.

9326. What were you to be paid in 1863 for two days' work ?—2*l.*

9327. What did you receive ?—2*l.*

9328. That was for Mr. Wilkinson ?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

9329. Who did you vote for in 1863 ?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

9330. In 1863 you had the same arrangement ?—Not the same.

9331. But for the two days ?—Yes.

9332. And you were to be paid by Joyes ?—Yes, the 2*l.*

9333. For whom ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

9334. You have been here at the previous election ?—Not before.

9335. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In 1863 what was the work you were to do, the two days' work ?—The same ; I was to go to poll and attend on the nomination day.

9336. You were to attend on the nomination day and the polling ?—Yes.

9337. That was comprised in attending some of these public house meetings and drinking ?—No, I did not attend any.

9338. Not any ?—Only here at the town hall.

9339. You did not attend more than two or three committee meetings ?—No, merely at the public hall.

9340. You live on the opposite side of the way ?—No.

9341. Well, in the street ?—Yes, further down.

The witness withdrew.

W. Bristowe.

WILLIAM BRISTOWE sworn and examined.

9342. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are a voter for this borough ?—Yes.

9343. How long have you been a voter ?—Only the last election.

9344. What house do you occupy ?—A cottage and garden, at least a cottage.

9345. What rent ?—3*s.* 6*d.* a week.

9346. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A bricklayer.

9347. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you always paid 3*s.* 6*d.* a week rent ?—No, I have paid 6*s.*

9348. When did you commence to pay 3*s.* 6*d.* a week ?—I have been in this house a year and a half.

9349. When was your rent reduced from 6*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*?—About a year and a half ago, when I got a new house.

9350. You changed your residence, and then paid 3*s.* 6*d.* a week?—Yes.

9351. For whom did you vote at this last election?—Mr. Gower.

9352. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Nobody.

9353. Did anybody ask you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

9354. Somebody canvassed you?—No.

9355. But you were on the register of voters?—Yes.

9356. And did you not think it very extraordinary that you were not canvassed?—Well, I did not know.

9357. You voted for Mr. Gower?—I voted for Mr. Gower willingly.

9358. Willingly?—Yes.

9359. Did you attend at any of these meetings?—I think I attended two.

9360. Where were those meetings?—One was at the "Railway" hotel, Reigate, and one at Legg's beer shop.

9361. Did you join in taking the refreshments which were there?—I paid for what I had, very nearly so.

9362. You paid for what you had, and then gave your independent vote for Mr. Gower?—I had given my vote for Mr. Gower before that I had promised it.

9363. In 1863?—No, this last election.

9364. Was it after the election that you went to the houses you speak of?—No.

9365. Before?—Yes.

9366. After the election did you receive any money?—Yes.

9367. Who did you receive the money from?—From Mr. Smith.

9368. Did you go to him and ask him for the money?—I sent my bill into Mr. Smith.

9369. How did you make out the bill, what was it?—I made out my bill for work, and I worked for Mr. Gower for a little over three weeks.

9370. Did you work for Mr. Gower without being asked to work?—No, I was asked to work.

9371. Who asked you to work for Mr. Gower?—I was asked by some of the committee.

9372. Who was the gentleman of the committee who asked you?—I do not know who it was, there was a lot of them together.

9373. Where were you asked?—In this house here.

9374. Down below?—Yes.

9375. How came you down below?—I came here on a wet day, I walked in.

9376. In the evening?—No, in the middle of the day.

9377. What, at dinner-time?—12 o'clock.

9378. That would be the time you would leave off your work; did you go to work?—I was ill, and did not do any work.

9379. What was the matter with you?—I do not know what the matter was with me.

9380. Who asked you, Frederick Joyes?—There were about a dozen in the room.

9381. How came you to be employed; did you offer yourself?—No, I did not offer myself, I was at the meeting there, and they asked me whether I would do some work, and take out circulars, and I said "Willingly."

9382. How long before the election was that?—Over three weeks.

9383. What, used you to be there every day?—No, not always.

9384. Did you very often come into the committee after that?—I used to come every day over there almost.

9385. You did not get work nearly every day, did you?—No.

9386. They did not have so many circulars to send round, did they?—I do not know, they had a good many sometimes.

9387. Not very often, was it?—Sometimes.

9388. What, very often was it?—Pretty generally each other day.

9389. Each other day, how long would it take you each other day?—It would take me some time; my friend helped me.

9390. Who was your friend; was he a voter?—No, he was not, and he had nothing for it.

9391. Was anything said to you when you were engaged to take out these circulars, as to what you were to expect?—No, nothing at all.

9392. Nothing?—No.

9393. Nothing said about 5*l.*?—No.

9394. Or any sum a week?—No.

9395. Or any amount per day?—No.

9396. Nothing?—Nothing at all.

9397. Or anything mentioned about you were to have more if they won?—No.

9398. Or nothing if they beat?—No, there was nothing said to me either way.

9399. Did you attend the nomination?—Yes, I did.

9400. And you voted?—I voted.

9401. Now tell me how you made out your bill, what was the form of it?—I made out my bill for labour for three weeks' work.

9402. Did you write it yourself?—Yes.

9403. Was it so many weeks' work?—Yes.

9404. At how much?—5*s.* a day.

9405. How many weeks?—A little over three weeks.

9406. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Three weeks and two days, I suppose?—I do not know.

9407. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Smith know you were going to work?—I do not know that he did.

9408. You sent it in to Mr. Smith?—Yes.

9409. How soon after did you get it paid?—I should say it would be six weeks, perhaps, at the outside.

9410. How much did you get?—3*l.* 10*s.*

9411. For what did you make out your bill?—5*l.* 10*s.*

9412. You asked for 5*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

9413. And you got 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

9414. Were you satisfied with that?—I was forced to be.

9415. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you sure you asked for 5*l.* 10*s.* or 5*l.*?—5*l.* 10*s.*

9416. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When were you to get the remainder?—I did not have any now.

9417. You asked for it?—I asked for it.

9418. You charged them for attending the nominations?—I charged them the same as I did the other days.

9419. And the same for your voting?—Yes.

9420. And the same for the polling day. Did you have any circulars to take out on the nomination day?—No.

9421. Or on the polling day?—No.

9422. Then your charge was 5*l.* for the ordinary work and 10*s.* for the two days, the polling and nomination?—Yes.

9423. My friends here have calculated it up, and it would make it about right, 5*l.* for the ordinary work days and 10*s.* for the nomination day and polling; is that so?—(*The witness made no answer.*)

9424. Did anybody tell you to make it up to 5*l.*?—No, I made it up myself.

9425. Nobody helped to make out the bill?—Nobody at all.

The witness withdrew.

SIXTH DAY.

J. Bartlett.

28 Aug. 1866.

JAMES BARTLETT sworn and examined.

9426. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You live at West-street?—Yes.

9427. What are you?—A broker.

9428. And what house do you occupy; what rental?—14*l.* a year.

9429. Have you been long a voter for the borough?—Yes.

9430. How many years?—I have been here above 20 years.

9431. How long have you been a voter; you have not been a voter all that time?—I think so.

9432. Do you recollect 1857?—Who was the candidate?

9433. Mr. Hackblock?—Yes, I voted for him.

9434. There was an election upon the occasion of his death, in January 1858; do you remember for whom you voted?—Who was it then?

9435. There was Mr. Rawlinson, Mr. Doulton, and Mr. Monson; do you remember for whom you voted?—Neither.

9436. Did you not vote at all?—No.

9437. There was another occasion, later in 1858, upon the occasion of Sir Henry Rawlinson being placed in office; do you remember then for whom you voted?—Who were the candidates?

9438. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

9439. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You voted for Mr. Wilkinson on that occasion?—Yes.

9440. That brings us down to the election in 1859?—Who were the candidates in 1859?

9441. Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

9442. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson again; that brings us to 1863; for whom did you vote in 1863?—That was Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower?

9443. Yes?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

9444. In 1865 you voted for Mr. Gower, Mr. Wilkinson being dead?—Yes, that was the reason.

9445. Did you take an active part in the election?—No.

9446. Did you not take an active part on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No.

9447. You canvassed some persons?—Well, I do not know; I might have asked, "Who are you going " to vote for?" but as for going about canvassing I did not.

9448. You know Mr. Rose, do you not?—Yes.

9449. Do you recollect going with Mr. Rose to a voter named Fuller; do you know him?—No, not to my knowledge.

9450. Who is the Rose that you know best?—There is one in Nutley-lane, a carver.

9451. He is Alexander Rose; do you remember driving with him to call on a voter?—No, I cannot remember if I did; I would answer at once if I could.

9452. Oh, of course there is no harm in it; do you remember driving out to call on a voter?—No.

9453. Do you remember whether you did call on a voter?—I do not remember calling on any one, for I took no interest in it. I will not say I did not ask anybody, but I took no interest at all in it.

9454. You took no interest at all in it?—No.

9455. Were you canvassed yourself on behalf of Mr. Monson?—No, not by Mr. Monson.

9456. I am now asking you about yourself; were you canvassed for Mr. Monson?—William Holdsworth asked me if I would vote for him. I said, "No."

9457. I take it then that no offer was made to you?—No, never.

9458. No offer of money?—No, not by either party; I never was offered such a thing.

9459. Now I call your attention to Fuller; do you recollect going with Alexander Rose to the "Yew-Tree" public house?—Yes, I recollect going there.

9460. With Mr. Alexander Rose?—Yes, I believe he was there; that was the polling day.

9461. He drove you there?—No, the coachman, I think.

9462. I mean he was there?—He went up in the same trap.

9463. Was not that the polling day, or the day before?—The polling day.

9464. You were all very busy that day; what time in the day was it you went up there?—I should think somewhat about the middle of the day.

9465. And there was a great pressure for voters then; I suppose you went after a voter there?—We went up to see if we could get anybody.

9466. You went into the skittle ground?—No.

9467. Don't be angry, there is no harm in that.—I cannot play at skittles.

9468. No, you did not go to play at skittles, but you went into the skittle ground to look after a voter; you saw a voter there?—I saw Burrell, the landlord.

9469. Oh, no, I do not mean the landlord, I mean Fuller, who was there; Thomas Fuller, of Reigate; he is a labourer?—I do not know him.

9470. You did not recollect driving up with Mr. Rose at first on any occasion. Now I call your attention to the polling day, do you recollect seeing Fuller there?—No, I do not know him.

9471. Did you see a voter there?—Not that I know of. We went in there; I had something to drink, but I do not know whether there were voters there, or what they were.

9472. You went in search of voters?—That was the object.

9473. You were going up there in search of a voter?—Yes.

9474. I ask you with respect to a voter named Fuller; you say you did not know his name then?—And I do not know him now.

9475. You do not know him?—I know his name from your saying it, but I do not know him.

9476. Did you see Mr. Rose talk to Fuller?—I do not know Fuller; he was talking to several, but who they were I do not know.

9477. Did you see the man he was talking to go to the poll that day?—No, I did not.

9478. Did you see any person whom he was talking to there that day go to the poll?—No. They did not come with us in the trap.

9479. No, but did they promise to come down after?—No.

9480. Did not Rose tell you that he had got a man who was to come down?—No.

9481. Now we are at the "Yew Tree" public house, you and Rose together; how long did you remain there?—Perhaps ten minutes. I had a glass of grog.

9482. But you did not go for the glass of grog though you were there. Where did you go to afterwards?—I came back again.

9483. You came back again to the town hall?—Yes; and into the square.

9484. Who asked you to go there?—I do not know who did in particular.

9485. Who hired the trap?—That I do not know.

9486. Who paid for the trap?—That I do not know.

9487. Did not Alexander Rose ask you to go there?—He asked me to have a ride.

9488. How far is it from this place?—About half a mile.

9489. You went up and had a glass of grog there; did you see Mr. Rose talk to any person there apart, did he talk to any man privately?—No.

9490. Did he talk to any person there?—Yes.

9491. To whom? I do not mean the landlord, but to anybody else?—I do not know his name.

9492. There was a man there he talked to?—There were one or two there.

9493. He did not let you hear what he said, did he?—No.

9494. He walked up to them and had private conversations with them?—It was not private, because it

was in a passage there; if anybody had been listening he would have heard; it was inside the house.

9495. Did you remain in the trap while he went into the passage?—No.

9496. Where were you whilst he was in the passage?—Standing by the door having some grog.

9497. You did not hear what was said?—No.

9498. You did not see what was done?—No.

9499. Was it a dark passage?—No, open.

9500. It was open?—Yes, open.

9501. Now did you not learn from Mr. Rose—mind, he will be examined,—that he had secured his man?—It was not said to me.

9502. Did he not tell you coming down, "I have "got one other voter for Mr. Gower"?—No.

9503. Did he not tell you something of the kind? I cannot use his language, but did he not say something of the kind?—Not to me.

9504. To whom did he?—He might to somebody else, but not to me.

9505. You knew what he went up for?—To get anybody he could.

9506. And you knew that when he was talking to men at that critical time he was not talking for nothing to them, you knew that?—I did not pay much attention.

9507. You knew it was a very critical time. Did he not tell you he had secured a man when he came down, or something to that effect?—No, he did not give me anything of the kind, and I do not think he much cared; we were so far ahead that we did not care about voters then.

9508. You were secure of victory at that time?—He thought so, and so did I.

9509. He was in a very good humour?—He would have let you have a glass of grog if you had met him.

9510. Where did Mr. Rose see the men he was talking to in the passage?—In the passage; they were standing up there when we got there.

9511. Who was?—I do not know who it was.

9512. Oh, the men were in the passage?—Yes.

9513. When you got there?—Yes. I was in the bar; as you go in there is a bar on the right side, and then there is a passage.

9514. Then Mr. Rose left you after he called for a glass of brandy and water?—No; I called for a glass of brandy and water, and I paid for it.

9515. Then he talked to these men?—Yes; but I did not take any notice.

9516. You knew that he was a very active agent for Mr. Gower?—No.

9517. It was well known that he was one of the most active agents whom he had?—I knew I was not very active, for I had the gout most of the time.

9518. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you mean to say that you did not hear from Mr. Rose what was the result of his journey, of his canvassing?—No; he asked me if I would have a ride and go with him, but he did not say any one.

9519. Not any name at all; but did he tell you whether he had succeeded in getting a vote or not?—He never stated to me whether he had got one or not.

9520. How far did you drive to the "Yew Tree"?—Half a mile.

9521. All the way going along were you both perfectly silent?—I was smoking.

9522. Were you and Mr. Rose alone?—Yes.

9523. There was nobody else in the carriage?—There was the coachman there.

9524. He was on the box driving?—Yes.

9525. Do you mean to say Mr. Rose never told you what he was going for?—No, he did not.

9526. Nor when he came away what he had been for?—I knew he was gone to see if he could get a voter, but he did not say who or whom.

9527. Did you see Alexander Rose drinking at all?—Yes.

9528. Did he have anything?—Yes, he drank along with me.

9529. Did you see whether he paid?—I did not.

9530. You were engrossed in your brandy and water?—I had mine.

9531. And thought of nothing else?—No, I will not say that I did not ask them to drink out of mine.

9532. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you considered that it was pretty safe for Mr. Gower before the polling began?—I hardly knew which way it would go.

9533. Oh, you did not?—No.

9534. Not on the polling day?—No.

9535. You were applied to, were you not, on the other side?—What, do you mean Mr. Monson?

9536. Yes.—Mr. Holdsworth said, "You must come "on our side, you have always been on our side;" that was Mr Wilkinson's. I said, "No."

9537. That was some time before?—That was some time before, and I said, "It is no use bothering me."

9538. Two or three weeks before?—Two months before.

9539. Some time nearer the election were not you applied to on behalf of Mr. Monson?—No.

9540. Did not Mr. Monson's party come to you and say, "Well, now, we want you, you are a man of "good standing," or something like that, and "we "want you"?—Yes.

9541. I will ask you plainly; there was something more mentioned about money, was there not?—By whom?

9542. Why, somebody who came on behalf of the Monson party to you?—To give me money?

9543. Was there not something mentioned to you about money?—Not to give me.

9544. Was there not something mentioned to you about money; I do not say it was to give you money, but was there not something mentioned to you about money, and, more than that, a sum stated too?—To me?

9545. I do not say to give you any sum; but was there not a sum of money stated to you, try and recollect that if you please?—I do not understand you.

9546. In reference to the election?—Yes.

9547. Did not the Monson party come to you and ask you to come with them and be with them, and mention a sum of money?—Not so late as that.

9548. When was it?—A party came into the "Cross" to me and said——

9549. Is that the "Red Cross"?—Yes.

9550. Go on, we shall find it out, if you please?—He said, "You are going for Mr. Monson this time, "won't you," and I said "No." Mr. Holdsworth said, "You may as well, and you may as well go down with "me; here is five and twenty pound good to you," and I said, "Damn your five and twenty pound."

9551. Was that the phrase he used, five and twenty good to you?—Yes.

9552. And you said what have you told us?—Yes.

9553. That was Mr. Holdsworth?—No.

9554. It was at Holdsworth's house?—Yes.

9555. Tell me, please, who the party was?—Mr. James Nicholls.

9556. Did he make a display of anything?—No.

9557. Nothing at all?—No.

9558. No notes?—No notes, no nothing at all.

9559. Was that all that passed, so far as you can recollect?—Directly I said what I did he was done; he thought that was an answer I suppose.

9560. Were many people there then?—No.

9561. Was that all that passed about that?—Yes.

9562. Was there ever any other sum mentioned to you at any other time?—No.

The witness withdrew.

SIXTH DAY.

A. Balchin.

28 Aug. 1866.

ALFRED BALCHIN sworn and examined.

9563. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you a voter?—Yes, I was this last time.

9564. You were in '65?—Yes.

9565. Did you ever vote before?—No.

9566. What rent did you pay for your house?—I paid 4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

9567. You are a labourer, are you?—Yes.

9568. Do you work in digging out stone?—Yes, anything I can get, no particular work.

9569. Were you put on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes, I was.

9570. Who asked you to come on Mr. Gower's committee?—David Durrant I saw first.

9571. Where did he find you?—We were going home together.

9572. One evening before the election?—Yes.

9573. What is Mr. Durrant when there is no election going on?—A brewer.

9574. I suppose he met you and walked with you?—Yes.

9575. What did he say to you?—He asked me whether I was going to come along with them. I said I did not know; he said, "Make up your mind." Then Mr. Chitty came to see me next; he came to see me on the Sunday.

9576. Is that Thomas Chitty?—Yes.

9577. Did you promise Mr. Durrant in the first instance?—No.

9578. Did Mr. Durrant at that time make any arrangement with you?—No, he never did promise me anything.

9579. Then Thomas Chitty came to you on the Sunday?—Yes.

9580. What did he say to you?—He said he would do the best he could for me.

9581. Did you make any arrangement with him? No, I did not.

9582. Who then put you down on the committee?—On Monday night he sent for me, and I went down. He said, "I suppose I shall put your name down," and I said, "Yes, I will do the same way as the workmen "do." I did not know anything about elections at all. He said, "We will do the best we can for you."

9583. Was any arrangement made about what you were to do?—No, I was to do what they wanted me to do.

9584. Who arranged this with you?—Mr. Durrant arranged that with me.

9585. Why were you to work for them, why were you to do it for them?—To do it for them?

9586. You were to do what you could for Mr. Gower's party?—To see any one that wanted to vote on their side and speak to him I suppose.

9587. What were you looking to get if you did that?—I was to canvass any one who had got a vote.

9588. If you did canvassing, and if you did work as a committee man, what were you to get for it?—He told me that he would do the best he could.

9589. Did he mention any particular sum?—No, he did not, he said, "I will do the best I can for you."

9590. Did he say anything about what others were having?—No.

9591. Did he not say anything about what the other working men were having?—No, only the best he could do.

9592. Was the best pretty good that he did do?—I do not know much about that, he satisfied me.

9593. Was that after the election or before?—He paid me a little before the election and a little after.

9594. Just tell me how much he paid you before?—1*l.*

9595. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Durrant sent it?—Mr. Chitty brought it me, but I suppose it came from Mr. Durrant.

9596. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What was Mr. Chitty?—A gardener.

9597. What did they give you afterwards?—They gave me 35*s.* after.

9598. Was that all you received?—That was all.

9599. There was some little proposal made to you on the other side, was there not?—On the freehold.

9600. Who was it it came and talked to you about Mr. Monson?—Mr. Brown.

9601. What did he say about it?—He said he would give me 5*l.* for six weeks' work if I would do it.

9602. Was that after you had talked to Mr. Durrant?—Just at the same time; Mr. Durrant came to me first, I think.

9603. When Mr. Brown came you were already on Mr. Gower's committee, were you?—Yes.

9604. He said he would give you work for five weeks. Just go on?—What I had from Mr. Monson?

9605. Yes, I want you to tell me the story yourself about Mr. Monson's party?—He told me I could have five or six weeks' work if I liked; I said, "Very well;" he never asked me for any voting.

9606. He said you could have five or six weeks' work if you liked?—He never asked me for any vote. I said I should be glad of it, and of course I knew what he meant about that; I went and did what they set me to.

9607. You did?—Yes.

9608. What did they set you to?—Delivering forms and circulars.

9609. What did you get for it?—I had 5*l.*

9610. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You got your 5*l.*?—I did.

9611. From whom?—I cannot say which paid me, Mr. Apted and Mr. Brown were both together.

9612. James Apted, was it?—Yes.

9613. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now tell me where it was that they paid you, was that at Mr. Holdsworth's stables?—It was up there at the "Cross."

9614. At the "Red Cross"?—Yes.

9615. How long before the election was it that they paid you?—It was nomination day.

9616. It was late in the day, was it not, that they paid you?—It was 2 or 3 o'clock; I cannot say when it was; I did not know anything about the time.

9617. Did you have all the 5*l.*?—Yes; I had the 5*l.*

9618. You did better than most of them, did you not?—I do not know.

9619. Did not your friends congratulate you rather about how you came out of it?—I do not think they did; I do not think that they got much pull over it.

9620. They certainly did not get much pull, for you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

9621. Now I want to know this; where were you the night before the election, do you recollect?—Yes.

9622. Where?—At a private house.

9623. Whose house was it?—I cannot say.

9624. With some other men?—Oh yes.

9625. Were you locked up in a room?—I cannot say whether I was locked up; I was in a room when I woke up.

9626. Were there some other men with you?—Yes.

9627. You could not get out of the room, could you?—Yes, when I woke up.

9628. When you got up it was not till morning?—No.

9629. You do not know how the door was all night?—No.

9630. Tell me how many men there were with you in the room?—Two or three more.

9631. Did you find your shoes there when you got up or your boots?—No; my shoes were not in the

room; they were given to me as soon as I asked for them.

9632. In the morning?—Yes.

9633. They had not been in your room all night?—I do not know whether they were or not; they were not in in the morning. I was asleep when I laid down, I expect. I did not know anything about shoes, whether I had them on or what.

9634. I dare say you saw Robert Warren there that afternoon?—Yes.

9635. Was Truelove of the party too?—No, I do not know that he was.

9636. Thomas Goddard was there?—Yes.

9637. Do you recollect their making the same remarks as you did about their boots not being there?—They were not there, they were up before.

9638. Then you did not hear what they said?—I did not hear what they said.

9639. Tell me, what house it was, whose house?—Mr. Groom's.

9640. Is that a beer house?—No.

9641. A public house?—No.

9642. A private house?—Yes.

9643. Do you recollect who took you to Mr. Groom's house the night before?—No, we went altogether, I believe.

9644. Who went altogether?—A number of us; you see I do not recollect their names.

9645. Were you taken by anybody on behalf of Mr. Gower or on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Mr. Gower's men, I suppose, but I do not know who took us.

9646. Were you marched down, then, with a kind of guard?—No, I do not know how we went.

9647. I believe you had had refreshment, election refreshment, "election beer"?—I expect so.

9648. And you expect that you were taken down there by somebody for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

9649. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that after you had received the *5l.*?—Yes.

9650. At 2 o'clock in the day?—Yes.

9651. You had received the *5l.*?—Yes.

9652. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just go back to Mr. Holdsworth's stables, where you got the *5l.* There were two other men there, were there not?—Yes, two other men with me.

9653. Who were they?—The two whom you asked me about, Warren and Goddard.

9654. They were up at Holdsworth's?—Yes.

9655. Can you tell me whether they got anything at Holdsworth's?—No.

9656. But these were the two men who were up there?—Yes.

9657. Was it in the dark; they did not see what you received?—I do not suppose they did.

9658. Did they take you apart from these two men when they paid you?—No.

9659. They did not see what you received; how was that?—My money was put into my hands.

9660. Quietly?—Yes.

9661. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you see anything put into their hands?—No.

9662. Did you go into the stable separately?—No.

9663. Perhaps you were in different mangers?—No.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at 11 o'clock.

SEVENTH DAY.

Tuesday, 29th August 1866.

Henry Carpenter, from the Crown Office in Chancery, produced four poll books of the last election.

Joseph Digance sworn and examined.

9664. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You live at Nutley-lane, do you not?—No, at the bottom of Nutley-lane, in Albert-road.

9665. Did you live there at the last election?—Yes.

9666. What rent do you pay for your house?—*5s.* a week, exclusive of taxes.

9667. Who does the house belong to?—Farrington; he lives now under the some roof; they are attached.

9668. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is a separate house?—Separate, but they are attached.

9669. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is Farrington's Christian name?—Benjamin.

9670. Do you go in at the same door as he does?—No, they are separate, entirely separate, only it is under the same roof.

9671. You are a carpenter, are you not?—Yes.

9672. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

9673. Had you voted on the election before, in 1863?—Yes.

9674. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee in 1865?—Mr. Gower's.

9675. Did you promise him the first time?—Yes.

9676. Was he alone when he canvassed you?—No.

9677. Who was with him?—Smith, Apted, and Buckland.

9678. That was, of course, Job Apted?—Yes, Job Apted.

9679. Did they ask you then to go on the committee at that time?—No; Mr. Gower asked me himself; he said, "I should like to have you on my committee." I said, "Very well, if I can be of any "service I will put my name on the committee."

9680. Did he say anything about what you should do for him?—No, nothing whatever.

9681. Did either of the others say anything about what you should do?—No.

9682. What did you do?—I interested myself in his behalf.

9683. Yes, but what did you do for him? you did not stick up bills, I suppose?—Nothing of the sort.

9684. You had no time to do that; you were a carpenter, and had work?—Yes, I kept my work.

9685. You kept your work regularly; what did you do for him?—I pleaded his cause amongst my fellow-workmen, and if there was anything to do with the election I always attended the committees; I attended the committee meetings.

9686. You did not do any other work for him?—Certainly not.

9687. Was any arrangement made with you?—No, no arrangement whatever.

9688. What was done about it?—Nothing at all.

9689. Was any understanding referred to?—No understanding at all. I voted for Mr. Gower.

9690. But before you voted?—No, I never saw any one till then.

SEVENTH DAY.

J. Digance.

29 Aug. 1866.

9691. Till when?—Until Mr. Gower called on me.

9692. Between the time when you were canvassed and the election?—Oh no.

9693. During that time was there some arrangement made between you and any of Mr. Gower's party?—No arrangement whatever.

9694. What were you to receive for your services?—What was I to do?

9695. What were you to receive for your services?—Never to receive anything that I know of at the present time then. I was under no agreement to receive anything. He asked me for my vote, and I promised him.

9696. You said "at the present time *then*." You were under no agreement?—I never was.

9697. At first you said, "at the present time then"?—That remained till the last. I never had any agreement about money. I voted for Mr. Gower, not for money.

9698. You mean you did not vote for money?—I did not.

9699. Did you receive anything at all?—No, I beg to deny anything of the kind, that I voted for money. I received no money for voting at the election.

9700. Did you receive anything?—2*l.* 10*s.*

9701. What for?—For my services and loss of time.

9702. Now you see how unfortunate it is when men go ahead; we just have from you that you did not lose any time, but you kept regularly of course at work, and now you say you were to be paid for loss of time. You received 2*l.* 10*s.* From whom did you receive it?—Mr. Buckland.

9703. How was it Mr. Buckland came to pay you? you did not mention him as having been present at your canvassing?—Yes, I did.

9704. I understood you to say not?—Yes, Buckland, Job Apted, and Smith.

9705. Where did you receive it?—In the street.

9706. Were you sent for by him, or did you ask him?—No; I met him in the street, when I was leaving my work.

9707. You began to talk to him about it?—No, I did not.

9708. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he talk to you?—He said "Here, come down, I want to speak "to you."

9709. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You went down, and, cutting it short, did he give you then the money?—Yes.

9710. Was anything said about any future hopes he had for you?—No; that was merely for my services, and recompensing me for loss of time during the election.

9711. Was anything said about his hoping you would get something more by-and-by, or if there was anything to share by-and-by you should have your share?—I had no share to take.

9712. I ask you a very simple question; was anything said about your chance of getting something more?—Nothing whatever.

9713. Was 5*l.* ever mentioned?—No, never.

9714. Allow me to ask you, did 5*l.* ever pass through your mind?—No.

9715. It did not?—No.

9716. What house was it you principally attended during the election of 1865?—Several. Shall I name the houses?

9717. Yes, just name the houses?—I will make a statement if I may be allowed.

The Chief Commissioner told the witness he might make any statement he liked.

9718. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Name the houses, if you please?—The first I attended——

9719. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not care about the first, give me any?—The "Bell," and Legg's.

9720. The "Bell;" and what is the sign of the second house?—I really do not know what is the sign at all; it is Legg's house; there was a meeting there that night.

9721. Is that a beer house?—Yes.

9722. Tell me some more?—Sore's, the "Railway" inn, and the "Bat and Ball."

9723. Is that near the cricket ground?—No, leading to the station, what they call the London-road, the North London-road.

9724. Did you attend any other place?—Mrs. Thatcher's on the hill, and opposite was the "Beehive," in opposition at that time.

9725. Was the "Beehive" Mr. Monson's?—Yes.

9726. Can you tell me any other?—Yes, the "Black Horse."

9727. That is all?—Yes, that is all, I think.

9728. Were those evening meetings?—Yes.

9729. I suppose at all those places there were refreshments more or less?—Yes, in a moderate way.

9730. I do not mean in the least beyond the moderate way; you had refreshment like the rest, I suppose?—Yes.

9731. Did you ever pay for them?—No.

9732. How long did that continue; how long before the election?—I really cannot say.

9733. I do not want to tie you to time, but was it three weeks before the election?—More than that, I think, but I cannot say.

9734. Do you think it was five?—I really cannot say.

9735. It may have been four?—It may have been four, or it may have been five.

9736. I do not want to tie you to time; we will take it at perhaps four weeks before the election?—Yes, or it might have been more.

9737. Four weeks will do for me. I presume you never saw any of those refreshments paid for?—I did not.

9738. I presume you did not know who paid for them?—I did not.

9739. Did you ever hear any orders given by any of Mr. Gower's committee as to providing those refreshments?—No.

9740. In 1863 you were a voter, I think?—Excuse me, you did not allow me to make my statement.

9741. Well, you may make it now?—Yes, it is concerning 1865; a witness here of the name of Johnson.

9742. William Johnson?—Yes; he said I was at Hoad's beer shop one night, and that he was chairman and I was vice-chairman. I asked him how he came to say that, and he said he did not know whether it was me or Wells. I wished to correct his mistake; it is all very well for him to say I was there—

The Chief Commissioner (*interrupting the witness*) said that it was evidently a mistake, but there was no harm in being vice-chairman.

9743. Who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

9744. Were you canvassed by Mr. Gower then?—Yes, by himself.

9745. I do not recollect whether you promised him then, or did you afterwards promise one of his agents?—Mr. Gower was a perfect stranger to me then, and so I did not promise him.

9746. You did not?—No, I did not know what his principles were, and I told him I could not promise him then.

9747. Who did you afterwards give your promise to in his behalf, do you recollect?—I do.

9748. Who was it?—I will tell you.

9749. I should be glad if you will in your own way?—Well, if you will allow me I will. I did not vote for Mr. Wilkinson, and I did not promise either of them. Both of them wanted me previous to their commencing their candidature at Reigate, and I told them both I should not promise them till I had heard what their principles were, and I did not promise either. After I had heard Mr. Gower I think I was going home, and I met one of his sub-agents it might be. The subject of our conversation was his speech

of last evening. "Well," I said, "I shall vote for Mr. "Gower." "Oh, you will," said he, "Well, I am one "of his party, shall I put your name down?" "Cer- "tainly," I said, "I will vote for Mr. Gower." That was after I had heard his address the evening before.

9750. Now give us the name of the person, please?—That was Mr. Love the painter.

9751. You agreed with him that you would vote for Mr. Gower?—I made that statement.

9752. Were you put by Mr. Love or anybody else on the committee for Mr. Gower?—By Mr. Love himself; I met him two or three days after, and he said, "I have put your name on the committee."

9753. Did you do what you could for Mr. Gower after you had been put on the committee?—No, I never took any interest; I gave my vote; I thought that was as much time as I could afford.

9754. After the election of 1863 did you receive any money for your work?—No, I never did any.

9755. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For your vote?—No.

9756. Did you receive any money at all?—Yes, but not for voting.

9757. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive any money?—Yes, I received a sovereign in September of the same year.

9758. What time was the election, in February? On that election of 1863 did you go about and attend as much as you did this last time at the different houses?—No, I did not; I did not go anywhere.

9759. They rather wished you should be in attendance; you are rather a good one at singing?—I do not know; I used to sing very well, but I do not sing as well now.

9760. But you were probably at your best in 1863?—I do not know that I sang during the whole of the election in 1863.

9761. I dare say they regretted it?—I did not go anywhere.

9762. Had you any opportunities of observing the election in 1863, if you did not work on the committee?—No, I did not; I promised my vote and I did not trouble myself any further than that I voted.

9763. Had you opportunities of forming an opinion as to the way in which the election of 1863 was carried on?—I beg you will repeat that.

9764. Had you opportunities in 1863 of observing how the election was carried on?—Yes, I had every opportunity of course.

9765. Did it appear to be conducted much in the same way as the election of 1865?—Well, I did not see much difference.

9766. Did it appear to you that money was about as easy?—About the same I should think.

9767. You did not go to public houses in 1863?—No, I did not.

9768. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you say you received 1*l.* of Mr. Love in September 1863?—Yes.

9769. You say it was not for voting?—No.

9770. Or for work, because you had done no work?—It was as remuneration for my loss of time the nomination day.

9771. You had lost no time?—Yes.

9772. What time had you lost?—Nomination day; every candidate is eager to get the show of hands, and I lost time on that day.

9773. What else?—And the polling day, I lost that day; remember it was quite at my own discretion that I lost my polling day.

9774. Then, when you saw Mr. Love in September 1863, what did he say to you that the 1*l.* was for?—As a recompense for the loss of my time.

9775. For the nomination and polling; had you made a claim upon him?—No, none whatever; I never made it from the election to that time.

9776. I suppose all the persons that attended public houses were members of the committee, so far as you know?—I think they were.

9777. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose it was understood that those men who acted as members of the committee were all to be paid more or less for their trouble?—I will speak for myself; I had no idea of receiving any recompense for anything until Mr. Gower addressed us in the room below. Then he hinted we should put our shoulder to the wheel and do what we could for him, he did not wish but what we should be remunerated for our services.

9778. Up to the speech you had no expectation or hope of remuneration at any time?—None whatever.

9779. But when the speech was made you thought, perhaps not unreasonably from that speech, that if you worked you would be entitled to be paid?—Certainly, from his own words I thought that I should receive some slight remuneration for loss of time in agitating his cause.

9780. Was that the general impression, so far as you know, among the committee men?—I will not say; I speak for myself.

9781. So far as you know; persons who know each other exchange what is passing in their minds. So far as you know it was generally thought from that speech that those who worked for Mr. Gower would be paid?—I have no doubt they understood the same thing after those words.

9782. Can you tell me how long before the election that speech was made?—No, I cannot.

9783. Was it three weeks before the election?—It might have been three, four, or five.

9784. That was a turning point in your mind; after that you expected remuneration to some extent?—Yes.

9785. It was some three or four weeks before the election?—Yes.

9786. When Mr. Buckland spoke to you about giving you 1*l.* or 2*l.*, did he refer at all to Mr. Gower's speech?—Not at all.

9787. But he apologised for the smallness of the sum of money?—No; he said, "Here is a small re- "muneration for you." I said, "Thank you, what is "it?" He said, "There is 2*l.* 10*s.* awarded in your "favour, as a recompense for your loss of time."

9788. Yes, he said awarded?—Yes.

9789. That was being awarded by a general body I suppose?—I suppose so.

9790. Did he say it was about as much as they could afford to give amongst so many?—Nothing was said. I had no claim whatever; that was quite as much or more than I expected.

9791. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you hear Mr. Gower make a speech with regard to people being paid in 1863?—No, I did not; I do not think I did; I cannot recollect. I will say his committee in 1863 and 1865 were composed of very different people, in one sense of the word we had the "upper ten."

9792. Was not that speech of Mr. Gower's in 1865, that you referred to, about the committee being paid? Was not that a subject matter of conversation between you and your co-workmen? Did you not talk about it?—I do not know, it was the general conversation; of course when Mr. Gower had promised us in that way of course we expected a trifle in remuneration.

9793. Did you gather the general impression which you speak of as existing in conversations which you had had with your workmen afterwards?—I gathered it from Mr. Gower's words.

9794. No, I want to know what effect it had upon the minds of the general public?—I do not know I am sure.

9795. Did you not hear it spoken of?—I do not know; I did not attend to anything about it.

9796. You might have heard it afterwards?—I might have heard it, and taken no notice of it.

9797. Still your general notion was that it had that effect on the body of the voters that they would expect to be paid for their work?—I do not know; I know it was my impression, I shall receive a small remuneration for my services when the job is over.

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J. Digance.

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9798. Did you hear anything about the sum; anything like 5*l.* being paid for those who worked; was that mentioned about the town?—No.

9799. Did you hear that?—No; I had every impression that it was a strictly legal thing.

9800. Were you canvassed by the Monson party; by Mr. Monson?—Yes, and by a person of the name of Hendry; on a Saturday evening they were together.

9801. Did you see Mr. Nicholls at all?—I saw him.

9802. Did you speak to him?—I never spoke to him during the time of the election.

9803. Did any of those persons during the time of the election make overtures to you to vote for Mr. Monson for money?—No, no one ever made any overtures to me, either in 1863 or 1865, to vote for money on either side.

9804. Or to work for them?—No, nor yet to work for them.

The witness withdrew.

D. Boscawen.

DAVID BOSCAWEN sworn and examined.

[The witness stated that there was a mistake. His name had been called as Daniel, and it was David.]

9805. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you live near Station-road?—Yes.

9806. Are you down in the list of voters as near Station-road?—Otherwise I should not have voted.

9807. You are down in the list as Daniel Boscawen?—I did not answer to that name.

9808. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did answer to the name of Daniel at the last election?—I always answer to David; my name is David, and not Daniel.

9809. What were you called, then?—David.

9810. Look at the list?—Oh, that is immaterial.

9811. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But look at it?—I answered to David and not to Daniel.

9812. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

9813. Who for?—Mr. Monson; at least, Mr. Gower.

9814. If you answered in that way at the last election you would have voted for Mr. Gower; it was rather doubtful last election who you were going to vote for, was it not, Mr. Monson or Mr. Gower?—(*No answer.*)

9815. Pretty well up to the time of your going to the poll, was not that so, David?—(*No answer.*)

9816. Now, come, was it not rather doubtful as to whether you would vote for Mr. Monson or Mr. Gower up to the time of going to the poll?—(*No answer.*)

9817. When did you make up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower?—(*No answer.*)

9818. Come, you must answer?—Oh, that I will.

Mr. Commissioner Smith remarked that if the witness did not answer he would find himself in difficulties, or if he did not behave himself.

9819. Had you made up your mind for whom you were going to vote before the day of polling?—No.

9820. Had you not promised Mr. Monson's party some time before the day of election to vote for Mr. Monson?—I had.

9821. What do you mean by answering you had not made up your mind for whom you would vote up to the day of polling?—Because, walking through the street, a person asked me to come and be on the committee.

9822. Who asked you to come and be on the committee?—John Shepherd.

9823. Whose committee; Mr. Monson's?—Mr. Monson's.

9824. How long before the day of election?—Three or four weeks, perhaps.

9825. When he asked you whether you would go on Mr. Monson's committee, did you tell him you would?—I walked up some stairs and got into Langridge's room.

9826. Who is Langridge?—A person who keeps a public house; I do not know the sign of it, but it is close to the tunnel; I do not know whether you call it the "Warwick Arms" or not.

9827. Did you go to Langridge's public house?—Yes, I did.

9828. With Mr. Shepherd?—Yes.

9829. Did he treat you well then?—I went upstairs with him.

9830. Did he treat you well when you went upstairs?—Not first of all he did not.

9831. What was his treatment first of all?—First of all he said, "I have brought David Boscawen."

9832. To whom did he say that?—To Mr. Richardson.

9833. Which Mr. Richardson?—Well, I do not know; I only know he is a gentleman who lives on the top of the heights; I should scarcely know him to see him again.

9834. Was that the gentleman who was afterwards put up as a candidate?—I know nothing about that; I do not know what they have done.

9835. Oh, yes, you do?—I do not.

9836. There were three persons put up to vote for at the election?—I do not know that.

9837. In what state were you in on the day of nomination and polling?—At my work.

9838. Not drunk?—In a fit state to look to my work.

9839. If you were not drunk on that occasion, tell me this, whether the gentleman you saw at Mr. Langridge's house of the name of Richardson was the same person who was put up as a candidate to vote for at that election?—What is that?

9840. Was the Mr. Richardson you have spoken of as being at Langridge's public house when you were there with Shepherd the same person who stood at the election as a candidate?—I never saw Mr. Richardson, nor yet John Shepherd, not for a bit.

9841. Except on that occasion?—Except on that occasion.

9842. Where did that Mr. Richardson live that you have spoken of?—Well, somewhere at the top of Redhill; I hardly know where it is.

9843. Is there any name to the place where he lives?—Not that I am aware of.

9844. Do you know his Christian name?—I do not.

9845. Was he a voter?—I cannot answer that; I do not know whether he was or not.

9846. Was it George Gibson Richardson, of Garlands White Post hill?—I never have any recollection whatever of Mr. Richardson.

9847. You told us he lived somewhere at some place on the hill?—Just on the hill.

9848. Where is the Garlands?—I do not know I am sure.

9849. White Post hill, do you know that?—I do not.

9850. Will you swear you do not?—I swear I do not.

9851. How long have you lived here?—Fifteen years.

9852. Do you swear you do not know Garlands, White Post hill?—I do not.

9853. And do you expect us to believe that?—Certainly I expect you to believe it.

9854. Do you know Mr. George Richardson, of Wray Park-road?—I do not.

9855. Do you know Mr. William Richardson, of Hooley?—I do not.

9856. Where is Hooley?—That I do not know.

9857. Do you know Wray Park road?—I do not.

9858. Where do you live; in what part of the borough?—Warwick-town.

9859. In this part of the town?—No, not in Reigate-town.

9860. First of all, tell me what you are?—An engine fitter.

9861. Whom did you vote for?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

9862. What qualification?—I thought I would get him in first if I could.

9863. What is your qualification to be on the register?—To be on the register?

9864. To be on the register?—To be on the register? The qualification does not count beyond that.

9865. Beyond what?—Beyond the register.

9866. Do you understand what your qualification is on the register?—I understand what is my qualification on the register.

9867. But what is your qualification to be on the register; do you understand that?—No, I do not.

9868. I want to test your intellect?—Thank you.

9869. What house do your rent?—15*l.* 12*s.*

9870. 15*l.* 12*s.* a year?—Yes.

9871. Do you pay by the week?—Yes.

9872. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 6*s.* a week?—Yes.

9873. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You pay your rent by the week?—Yes.

9874. How much did you say by the week?—6*s.* a week.

9875. Now let us go back to Langridge's public house. You say that at the first they did not treat you well; did they treat you more kindly after you were there awhile; did they use you well while you were there?—As to using me well, they did not ask me to drink very much.

9876. How much?—When they asked me who I would vote for, and I said Monson, there was a glass of ale for me.

9877. Before you promised to give your vote for Mr. Monson, did you have your beer?—Oh, yes; I had plenty of beer before, previous to the voting.

9878. I am speaking about Langridge's public house; did Shepherd give you any?—Not that I am aware of.

9879. Did you have any?—I can hardly answer that question.

9880. Oh, yes, you can; we know what you have said about it. What do you believe?—I can scarcely answer that.

9881. Yes, you can?—No, I cannot.

9882. Whatever you had did you pay for it?—I do not know whether I did or did not.

9883. Did you pay for it?—I am sure I do not know.

9884. Did you pay for it?—Well, I might or might not.

9885. Have you been working this morning?—Yes.

9886. What time did you go to work?—Six o'clock.

9887. How long have you been from work?—Since half-past 8, from breakfast.

9888. Have you been drinking this morning?—Not much, a glass of gin and peppermint.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not appear very sober, and I give you this caution that you had better answer properly, or you will find yourself in difficulty.

9889. Was Mr. Richardson there the first time you were with Shepherd?—He was there the whole time since I first went in.

9890. Did he remain there?—He remained there till such time as I left.

9891. Did either Mr. Shepherd or Mr. Richardson say anything to you about what you were to receive for voting for Mr. Monson?—No, they did not.

9892. Did they make any promise to you about what you were to receive?—No, they did not.

9893. Did you not expect to receive something?—Otherwise I should not have gone in.

9894. If you expected to receive something, what did they promise you?—They did not promise me anything at all.

9895. What did they give you?—Nor yet give me.

9896. Do you mean to say you were not to get something for voting for Mr. Monson?—No, sir.

9897. Were you to be on the committee?—Yes.

9898. Were you to do any work for them?—To look about and see what I could find.

9899. What were you to receive for work?—I was to receive weekly wages, 1*l.* 10*s.* a week.

9900. Who told you that you were to receive 1*l.* 10*s.* a week?—John Shepherd.

9901. And Mr. Richardson was in the room at the time?—He did not tell me there.

9902. Where did Mr. Shepherd tell you that you were to have 1*l.* 10*s.* a week?—Out of doors.

9903. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Before you went in?—Yes.

9904. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before you went in to Mr. Richardson?—Yes.

9905. When Richardson went in did Shepherd say to him, "This is David Boscawen, who is going to "work for us, and I am going to give him 30*s.* a week "for that"?—Not like that.

9906. Was it anything like it?—No, nothing.

9907. What did he say, or what work did he mention?—All he said was, "This is Mr. Boscawen, "place him down on the books."

9908. Was that a committee meeting?—I expect it was.

9909. Was Richardson in the room besides Shepherd?—Oh, yes; there were several.

9910. Who was there besides Richardson, Shepherd, and yourself?—I was there.

9911. Was Nicholls there?—No, sir; I do not know him.

9912. Do you not know Mr. Nicholls?—No, sir.

9913. Who was there besides?—A person of the name of Crompton.

9914. Is he a voter?—I think so.

9915. Do you know Crompton's Christian name?—I do not.

9916. Do you know where he lives?—At Station-road, I believe.

9917. Can you recollect any other parties?—There might be a person of the name of Wood, whom they called old Thomas Wood, to make a distinction, old Tom Wood.

9918. Where does he live?—I do not know what employment he follows; sometimes he works at plastering, and sometimes at bricklayering.

9919. A plasterer?—He might be a plasterer's labourer.

9920. Was there anybody else there?—A person of the name of Richard Fuller.

9921. Anybody else that you remember?—Not at present I do not.

9922. Did Fuller speak to you?—I do not know; not that I am aware of.

9923. Was Henry Green there?—I scarcely know the gentleman.

9924. Was Thomas Reeve there?—I do not know him.

9925. Do you know Andrews?—I do.

9926. What is his Christian name?—John Andrews—at least, John.

9927. Had he spoken to you about voting?—There was no speaking at all as yet.

9928. Had he spoken to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—For Monson?

9929. Or for Gower?—No, sir, not for Gower.

9930. He did not?—No, sir.

9931. Had Henry Green spoken to you about working for Gower?—Not that I am aware of.

9932. Or Stevens?—I do not know; he probably might speak to me, but I do not know.

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9933. Had anybody spoken to you about working for Gower?—Nobody, that I know of.

9934. Did you work for Monson?—You may call it work.

9935. We are going to call it work. What did you do for Monson that you call work?—I done nothing.

9936. Were you paid anything?—Yes.

9937. Did you get paid anything?—Certainly, sir.

9938. You did?—Certainly, sir.

9939. How much did you get?—30*s.* a week.

9940. Did you get 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

9941. Who paid you?—John Shepherd.

9942. Were you paid for three weeks?—Yes.

9943. Can you tell me how long it was before the election that you went to Langridge's public house, was it four or five weeks?—I went very seldom to Langridge's public house or any where else.

9944. Was it the first time?—I did not go much with Shepherd.

9945. You told us you did go once to the house near the archway?—When I went with Shepherd it was at the latter end of——

9946. Of what month?—I cannot say that.

9947. The latter end of what?—I cannot say.

9948. How long was it before the election?—I will say as far as I know the truth.

9949. Was it before Mr. Gower was a candidate; was it before Mr. Gower had put out his bills to say he was coming as a candidate?—I did not take much notice of his bills; I always wish to get early to my breakfast in the morning.

9950. You did not take any interest, I presume, in the politics of either party?—Not a bit.

9951. What did you take an interest in?—In myself.

9952. Well, it had no reference to the election the interest you took; what did you take an interest in with reference to the election?—In myself.

9953. You considered how much money you could make out of it?—I did not care much about it.

9954. But you were very anxious to make something of it if you could?—No, not that I know of.

9955. And you did get three weeks' pay?—Yes.

9956. You were paid for three weeks' work for Mr. Monson by Shepherd?—Yes.

9957. Did not some one on the part of Mr. Gower offer you work?—No, sir.

9958. You have told me you did not make up your mind for whom you would vote till the day of polling?—No, I did not make up my mind.

9959. Did you not tell Mr. Shepherd you should vote for Mr. Monson?—I told him he might put my name down if he liked.

9960. How came you to vote for Mr. Gower?—I took it in my head all of a moment I would go and vote for Mr. Gower.

9961. How came it there; did nobody speak to you?—Nobody, that I am aware of.

9962. Did not somebody persuade you?—No.

9963. Did not somebody speak to you and ask you to vote for Mr. Gower?—No.

9964. Will you swear that?—I can; I will swear that.

9965. When was it you made up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower; was it on the day of polling?—It was in the morning part.

9966. The morning of polling?—Yes.

9967. Had you applied to Mr. Shepherd for any more money after the payment of the first three weeks?—There was a lot of people applying to them.

9968. Did you apply to him?—I did not say anything to him; I was only a-listening.

9969. Who were the parties amongst you applying to Shepherd for money upon that occasion, when you were listening?—There was nobody applying that I know of; they were listening to Mr. Shepherd.

9970. What was he saying?—They had only been paid up the last three weeks, and were expecting to be paid on the following Monday.

9971. Had you been paid in advance?—No, but we expected to be paid for the day of polling.

9972. Was that after?—It was only for the day, such as I term 30*s.* for the day.

9973. Were you to be paid 30*s.* for that one day?—We could not get it.

9974. Were you to be paid 30*s.* for that one day?—We could not get it.

9975. Did you expect to have received it?—I should have liked very much.

9976. I ask you again, did you expect to have received it?—I should have liked very much.

9977. Had you any expectation of receiving 30*s.* from Mr. Shepherd for polling for Mr. Monson?—I expected if I was there either one day or six to be paid just the same for one day as for the six for a job of that description.

9978. At 30*s.* a week?—I did, indeed.

9979. Did Shepherd hold out any expectations you would be paid in that way?—He did not.

9980. Who was with you when you were listening to Mr. Shepherd?—I can hardly tell you.

9981. Give me the names of one or two?—I did just now; Crompton for one.

9982. That was in Langridge's public house, the first time you went there?—And after.

9983. Were you only once in Langridge's public house?—Twice.

9984. When was the second occasion, was it after you had been, so called, working for three weeks?—Yes.

9985. On the second occasion?—Yes.

9986. Crompton?—Yes.

9987. Crompton was there on the first occasion, and on the second occasion?—Certainly.

9988. Do you remember any other person being there on the second occasion?—A person of the name, I think, of Phipps or Pipps; I do not know the name exactly.

9989. Is this the man, Thomas Phipps, 32, Ladbrooke-lane or road?—Something similar.

9990. And was he the person you remember being present on the second occasion?—There might be a few parties.

9991. Can you recollect one or two?—Yes, I might.

9992. Well, then, mention another; in the meanwhile let me just ask you a question, there were other persons?—Of course there was.

9993. Was there a person of the name of Tilder?—Of course there was.

9994. Tilder Brown?—Yes, of course there was Tilder Barham there; that was one.

9995. That is a female, isn't it?—I do not know, I am sure.

9996. Do you mean Tilden Barham, of Langbrook-place?—Some person like that.

9997. That is the man?—I believe so.

9998. Do you recollect any person else present on that occasion?—James Donaldson.

9999. Is he also of Ladbrooke-place?—Well, I never heard so; he lives here; I do not know much about him.

10,000. No. 39, Ladbrooke-place; that is where he is if you want to call upon him?—I never go there.

10,001. Is there anybody else that you recollect amongst them?—No.

10,002. Do you recollect whether Phipps was engaged to work for Monson?—No, I do not know anything about it.

10,003. Of course you did not see him doing any work?—Well, you may call it work if you like.

10,004. Is he a working man?—Yes, the same as myself.

10,005. Barham is the same as yourself?—He is an engine driver.

10,006. On this railway?—The "South Eastern."

10,007. Did you hear from him that he was engaged

to do any work, or was to do any work for Mr. Monson?—Well, I am sure I do not know anything about him, because he hardly ever speaks to me.

10,008. Then there is Donaldson?—I do not know anything about him, only he was on the committee the same as I was.

10,009. These were all on the committee the same as you?—Just so.

10,010. Now, was it before Phipps and Barham and Donaldson and yourself that Mr. Shepherd was making some observation about pay on the second occasion?—They were all at it before I came into it.

10,011. Did you hear from them that they had had anything?—No.

10,012. When did you hear that they had had anything?—Not a word.

10,013. How did you know that they did have anything?—Well, I expected such.

10,014. Only you "expected such"?—Because it was a system of voting on the committee.

10,015. Then it was an understood thing that the men upon the committees were to be paid?—I should expect to be paid for my labour, do what I would, ever so small.

10,016. If it was ever so small?—Yes.

10,017. I cannot at all understand why you did not speak to your party if you were so well paid. You know you have told me that you had no political principle, and you did not care a rush for that. I cannot at all understand why you voted for Gower?—I did not say "rush."

10,018. Why did you vote for Gower?—Because it pleased my mind.

10,019. And to please something else, yourself?—That was my mind.

10,020. Yes; what was it had such a very powerful influence over your mind?—Well, just my thoughts.

10,021. And your thoughts afterwards came round that you would vote for Gower?—Yes.

10,022. Having received money on the part of Mr. Monson?—Oh, I did not care about that.

10,023. Did you receive anything at all from Gower after the election?—No.

10,024. Or on the part of Gower?—No.

10,025. From anybody?—No.

10,026. No election money?—No.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do not be indignant.

10,027. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know Job Apted?—I do not; I should be very sorry.

10,028. Why should you be sorry?—Why should I be sorry, I would not deal with a customer like him.

10,029. Now, David Boscawen, just tell us, because we are not going to rely entirely upon your word, you must tell us; somebody paid you to vote for Mr. Gower; who paid you?—Nobody.

10,030. Did you attend any of their committee meetings?—I once went over to Earlswood-common.

10,031. Aye, when?—Oh, I do not know how far back.

10,032. Just before the election, was it?—It might be a long time before that.

10,033. Not it might or it might not, but was it?—Oh, it might be a week or two, perhaps.

10,034. Wasn't it less than a week before the election, before the nomination day?—Oh, no.

10,035. Wasn't it less than a fortnight?—No.

10,036. Whom did you see there?—Oh, I saw plenty of people; I am sure I do not know them.

10,037. Did you speak to anybody there?—I suppose to some that spoke to me.

10,038. Whom did you speak to?—I did not know them then.

10,039. Some strangers?—Well, they are strangers to me.

10,040. All men from the booth?—I was never near the booth.

10,041. Did you have any drink there on that occasion at Earlswood?—I had, at a beer shop.

10,042. You went into a beer shop?—Yes.

10,043. What beer shop?—On the left-hand side.

10,044. Do you know the name?—No.

10,045. Was it where there was a meeting being held?—There was a meeting on the common.

10,046. Was that an open meeting, or in a booth?—I do not know. I never was near it myself.

10,047. Do you know Titchener's beer house, Earlswood-common?—I was there once.

10,048. Was that the beer shop that you were in when you went to this meeting at Earlswood-common?—That was before the election.

10,049. Before?—Yes.

10,050. Do you know Tyrrell's?—I suppose that must be the place on the left-hand side going over the common.

10,051. Well, supposing it was, when were you there?—I went when there was a meeting on the common.

10,052. Now you can tell me, perhaps, now you remember Tyrrell's, how many days was it before the election?—Ah, that I cannot say! It was in the evening I went there.

10,053. Do you know a man of the name of Mazden?—I do not.

10,054. Now, there was a large number of persons, were there not, at this meeting on the common; some three, or four, or five hundred?—I never went there.

10,055. Not to the meeting?—No.

10,056. Only to the public house?—I saw them all together, and I went.

10,057. I think that was to Tyrrell's, if I recollect rightly. Did you manage to get into the house?—Yes.

10,058. You were lucky. A great many had to stop outside?—That I do not know at all about.

10,059. You saw a great many outside?—After we had done.

10,060. Did you pay for what you had there?—No.

10,061. Do you know who did?—That I do not know, I am sure.

10,062. Now, do you mean to say when you attended that beer house of Tyrrell's nobody spoke to you about your voting?—No.

10,063. They knew you were a voter?—They might do so.

10,064. Do you work in that neighbourhood?—No.

10,065. Did you live in that neighbourhood?—No.

10,066. Far away?—Yes.

10,067. How came you to go to Tyrrell's on that afternoon, then?—I thought I would take a walk; that is all.

10,068. You knew there was going to be a meeting there?—Somebody asked me whether I would come over.

10,069. Who asked you?—I do not know, first one and then another.

10,070. You can tell the name of some one?—No, I cannot. If I could I would.

10,071. You can tell me who it was asked you to go over to that meeting?—I cannot.

10,072. Where were you asked to go over to that meeting; near to your own house?—I am blowed if I know.

10,073. Near your own work?—No.

10,074. It was not there?—No.

10,075. Then it was near your own house?—It might be in the street.

10,076. Was it in the street?—It might be.

10,077. You know Tyrrell's is some distance from your house?—Yes, it is.

10,078. How far?—I do not know.

10,079. Two miles?—No, it is not a mile, hardly, I think.

10,080. But you do not often go there?—I walked a mile and a half once across there from the common.

10,081. Tell me who it was that asked you to go there. Think?—There is no occasion of thinking whatsoever. If I could I would.

10,082. Whoever it was that asked you to go there,

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what did he say to you when he asked you?—Oh, I don't know.

10,083. Did he tell you there was going to be a meeting at Tyrrell's, and on the common, of Mr. Gower's friends?—He only said, "Go on;" that is all.

10,084. Did he ask you to come on the committee?—No.

10,085. Gower's committee?—No.

10,086. Did he offer you work for Gower?—No.

10,087. Did he make any promise to you, that if you voted for Gower you should be paid?—No.

10,088. Do you know a man of the name of Henry Taylor?—No, I do not; not particularly.

10,089. Not particularly?—No.

10,090. Do you know a person of that name, a guard on the railway?—Well, I have heard the name of Taylor; that is all I know.

10,091. Where does he live?—Ah, that I do not know.

10,092. Now, you know him?—I wish I did. I would certainly say so.

10,093. Has not Henry Taylor spoken to you about the election?—Yes, he once did on the foot-plate.

10,094. On a foot-plate?—Yes.

10,095. What do you mean by "on a foot-plate"?—From the foot-plate of a locomotive engine.

10,096. What took place between you and Taylor on this foot-plate?—I do not know. He spoke to me.

10,097. He spoke to you about the election?—Yes.

10,098. About giving evidence?—No. He told me to mind what I was at.

10,099. In what way?—I do not know. He fancied something, and I fancied another.

10,100. Surely you had told him that you were going to give evidence somewhere?—I did not say anything to him about it. I told him to mind his own business, and hook it off the foot-plate quick.

10,101. Didn't you tell him you were not going to be such a fool as to open your mouth to fill other people's?—Certainly I did.

10,102. And is that the reason why you won't tell me why you voted for Gower?—I will tell you the candid truth.

10,103. Is it because you decline to open your mouth?—I can open my mouth as you ask me a question.

10,104. You are bound to come here and inform me, whether I ask you the question or not; but I do ask you now the question, who it was that bribed you to vote for Gower?—Myself.

10,105. That may not be bribery, but somebody bribed you to go to Gower; who was it?—Nobody.

10,106. Had you been to any other meetings except that one at Earlswood?—No.

10,107. Why did you hesitate when you said "No"?—I did not hesitate much.

10,108. But you did quite sufficiently to satisfy me that you went somewhere else?—Be it so.

10,109. Did you go somewhere else?—No.

10,110. First tell me where it is you live—in the freehold?—No.

10,111. What is the name of the place where you live?—Well, there is no name to the place where I live.

10,112 In what district do you live?—It is a place that runs out of Station-road towards Mr. Willet's, the baker's. There is no name up.

10,113. Do you know the "Warwick Arms"?—Yes.

10,114. That is kept by Mr. John Davis, is it not?—I believe that is the name.

10,115. Is that the house that you generally use when you want to get a little refreshment?—If I want a pot of stout, or what not, for home, I go for it there.

10,116. Now tell me, before the election were you not in the "Warwick Arms"?—Before the election?

10,117. Yes?—Just before the election, many a time I was.

10,118. Did you see any of the supporters of Mr. Gower at the "Warwick Arms"?—No; I never troubled myself about them.

10,119. Did you ever talk to any of the people at the "Warwick Arms" about the election, or they talk to you?—Some might say, "Where are you going?" I said, "I don't care; I am going my own road."

10,120. At that time you were advertised as being on the committee of Mr. Monson?—No, not then.

10,121. A week before the election were you not advertised as on the committee,—as soon as you told Langridge that you would consent to be put on the committee?—I was three weeks on the committee for Mr. Monson.

10,122. And everybody in the town had an opportunity of knowing that you were on the committee?—Certainly.

10,123. And of course they would know it at the "Warwick Arms"?—Certainly.

10,124. The "Warwick Arms" was one of Mr. Gower's houses, was it not?—I did not know whether it was so or not.

10,125. Did not John Davis ask you about your voting for Gower?—I do not know that name.

10,126. Well, the landlord of the "Warwick Arms," did he ask you?—Not that I know of.

10,127. Didn't he say, "You had better come over "to us"?—I never heard him.

10,128. Did anybody else at the "Warwick Arms" say, "You had better come over to us"?—No.

10,129. Did you ever attend any meetings at the "Warwick Arms"?—No.

10,130. Or go in and drink beer or have refreshments in the same way as you went to Tyrrell's?—No.

10,131. Did you pay every time that you went to the "Warwick Arms"?—Whenever I thought proper to have a pint of beer and porter I paid for my own.

10,132. At the "Warwick Arms"?—I did indeed, independent of the election; previous to that.

10,133. Did nobody at the "Warwick Arms" ever ask you to take a little refreshment, and then pay for you, treat you?—No, they were too close for that.

10,134. They were too close for it?—That they were, a good deal.

10,135. Well, I suppose you thought yourself very ill-treated at the "Warwick Arms"?—Well, I did not care much about it. As long as I had twopence in my pocket I paid for my own.

10,136. Well, but you would have liked to be treated by them?—Well, it is very acceptable.

10,137. Did you see others in the "Warwick Arms" having refreshment and not paying for what they had?—No, not I.

10,138. Were you at the "Warwick Arms" in the evening at all?—In the evening?

10,139. Yes?—I have been in several times.

10,140. There have been some of Mr. Gower's friendly meetings there; have you attended them?—No.

10,141. You have not attended them?—No, by no means whatsoever.

10,142. Now, are there any other houses that you had attended besides the "Warwick Arms"?—No, not that I am aware of much.

10,143. Had you ever been over to Redhill?—At the time I was speaking of, a little time back, to that beer shop; that is the only one.

10,144. That is not Redhill, that is Earlswood?—I do not draw a distinction between Redhill and Earlswood.

10,145. Perhaps I am not quite right in the geography of the place. Now Hoad's; do you know that?—No.

10,146. Reigate-heath?—Oh, no.

10,147. Were you ever at Reigate-heath?—This is the fourth time I have been in Reigate in 15 years.

10,148. Have you been living away from the place?—Near the Station-road.

10,149. Do you know Simmonds's, the "Thimble and Nutmeg-grater"?—Yes.

10,150. Were you there at any meetings?—No.

10,151. Why not?—The house is not half big enough.

10,152. Not to contain you?—No; other people.

10,153. But have you ever been there?—Not at the election.

10,154. At meetings?—No.

10,155. You went to some houses, surely, during the election, where there were some meetings going on. What house did you generally use that was big enough for you?—A very small house would be big enough for me.

10,156. Tell me where you went?—To Mr. Langridge's; that I told you previously, and likewise to the "Warwick Arms."

10,157. To Tyrrell's?—No.

10,158. Were those the only three houses that you attended?—There was one that they call the "Greyhound."

10,159. Where is the "Greyhound"?—I do not know what name they call it hardly; it is going up towards Redhill.

10,160. Who keeps it?—I do not know who keeps it now. I almost forget who kept it previously.

10,161. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are a Warwick-town man?—Yes.

10,162. Shepherd was on the Warwick-town district committee, wasn't he?—Yes.

10,163. So was Joseph Kenward, I believe?—I do not know that name.

10,164. You do not?—No, I do not know that.

10,165. I think you would?—No.

10,166. Langridge was on the Warwick-town committee?—Yes.

10,167. Do you recollect whether there were any more on the Warwick-town committee?—I said James Donaldson.

10,168. Where did Shepherd live?—I do not know.

10,169. Didn't he live in 34, Ladbrooke-place?—During the time I have been in Redhill I have only once passed Ladbrooke-place.

10,170. How recently have you seen Shepherd I want to know?—Never since he paid me the last 30*s.*

10,171. That was before the election?—When the 30*s.* was paid to me?

10,172. When the last payment to you from Shepherd was made was previous to the election, wasn't it?—Of course it was.

10,173. Have you not seen Shepherd since?—Yes, I did once.

10,174. Where?—Going round from Redhill, coming to Mr. Langridge's house.

10,175. When was it?—I cannot say.

10,176. Since the election?—Yes.

10,177. Not long ago?—Not far after the election.

10,178. Have you seen him recently?—No.

10,179. You are sure you have not?—I might have seen him two or three weeks ago while at work.

10,180. How long from this time?—Perhaps three weeks back; I cannot answer. It was in the way of business.

10,181. I am not talking about anything but the election now; where was it you saw him?—I saw him in the street.

10,182. In a street in Reigate?—No.

10,183. Well, tell me?—In Warwick-town.

10,184. Was he at work there at the time, do you know?—He was not working in Warwick-town then.

10,185. Has he got that work there now?—That I cannot answer.

10,186. Why not?—I am sure I do not know, I never look after John Shepherd.

10,187. Perhaps you can tell me?—If I could I would.

10,188. Can you?—I cannot.

10,189. Are you able to tell me where he is?—I cannot.

10,190. Am I to say that you have pledged yourself that you do not know where he is now?—I do not know.

10,191. Do you know whether he went to Horsham. Pray be cautious in your answer. I dare say you wish to do what is quite right, and I believe you do. Do you know whether he went to Horsham?—He has to work at Horsham.

10,192. Recently?—Yes.

10,193. How long?—It may be for three or four weeks back.

10,194. Do you believe he is at work in or about Horsham now?—That I cannot tell.

10,195. I know you cannot tell, but I ask you for your belief?—I do not believe he is.

10,196. If you do not believe he is, you must have some reason for your answer?—I cannot answer as to the reason for my belief.

10,197. Why do you think he is not at work at Horsham?—Because otherwise you would see him come and take his wages.

10,198. Where at?—Where he is at work.

10,199. If you saw him take his wages, you must see him come near Redhill. Is that what you mean? I do not want to fence about Shepherd at all, we can do that about something else. Why do you think he is not at Horsham?—Because I think he has gone somewhere else to work.

10,200. Why? I want to make it sure.—He is liable perhaps to go and look for a job somewhere else.

10,201. Have you reason to believe he has gone and looked after some other job?—Perhaps he might.

10,202. Have you reason to think that he has gone from Horsham?—I rather believe that might be his meaning.

10,203. Then you rather believe he has gone. Now I will ask you as an honest man to tell me where you believe Shepherd to be?—That I do not know.

10,204. Do you mean to say that if you wanted to communicate with Shepherd to-day you think you could not do it?—I make no communication with any person; only myself.

10,205. I do not know what you mean; but do you mean that if you wanted to find Shepherd you could not do so?—If I could I would.

10,206. Do you mean to say you think you could not find him?—I am confident I cannot.

10,207. Well, how much obliged to you I should have been if you had told me that before. So much for Shepherd. I understood you to say you did not know Kenward; is that correct?—I do not.

10,208. Am I wrong in the way I pronounce the name? Do you know a man of the name of Kenward?—I am sure I do not know that name.

10,209. At the election there were several men who were called railroad men, being attached to the railroad, who were brought up to vote, were there not?—I do not know anything about being brought up to vote.

10,210. Well, who came to vote?—I voted for myself.

10,211. Are you one of the railway men?—Yes.

10,212. Was there not an arrangement made previous to the election with all the railway men about there?—Not as I am aware of.

10,213. Do you know that there were as many as 18 voters who belonged to the railway?—I do not know how many there were.

10,214. Was there not an arrangement made with all the railway men?—Not as I am aware of.

10,215. That is a very decided answer. You never heard of it?—No.

10,216. Now, you have told us what you were paid by the Monson party some time previous to the election; after you had been on Monson's committee did Mr. Gower himself come and call on you at your shop?—No, not after I had been on Mr. Monson's committee. Mr. Gower never called on me.

10,217. Well, now, Mr. Gower did come and call upon you before the election?—Certainly.

10,218. When was that, if you please?—Well, it might be a week or two. I cannot exactly say.

10,219. Before the election; that would be after you were on Monson's committee?—That was a few weeks before the election.

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10,220. According to the dates, as you have stated it, that would be after you were on the Monson committee; but, however, that is a matter of observation. Well, one or two weeks before the election Mr. Gower called on you, did he?—Well, I might have said a week or two; I did not exactly mean it. It might have been two weeks.

10,221. I do not want to tie you to time at all, we will take it a week or two, as you like. Was it at your shop?—Yes.

10,222. He canvassed you for your vote?—Yes.

10,223. Be so good as to tell us very honestly what passed, so far as you can recollect, between you and Mr. Gower?—The moment he asked me about my vote I said to him, "I do not know I shall vote at all."

10,224. Go on, if you please?—That is all.

10,225. He did not walk out without saying anything; did he not express sorrow?—No. I said naught. I allowed him to go just as he liked.

10,226. Then, you won't help me any more as to that interview?—If I could I would.

10,227. Did he not say, "I will get some of my people "to call on you"?—No.

10,228. Did some of his people come and call on you afterwards?—No.

10,229. Are you sure of that?—I swear to it.

10,230. Do you know Apted; Job Apted?—I do not, only by seeing him the day before yesterday and Saturday.

10,231. Where did you see him the day before yesterday?—In this room.

10,232. Did you know anything about him before?—I forget.

10,233. Well, then, what made you tell my friend just now that you did not like to have any dealings with a man of that sort?—From his countenance.

10,234. From his countenance. I will take your answer if you like, only let me have it plainly. If that is really your answer I will take it; only I shall form my own opinion of it. Why did you not want?—I think myself he behaved rather ill to others, and as to myself I have nothing to do with him.

10,235. How do you think he is behaving ill?—Only by hearing people speaking in court.

10,236. That is all?—Yes.

10,237. I must ask you once more, are you sure that nobody called on you for Mr. Gower, or on his behalf?—Nobody.

10,238. Did you speak about giving your vote to Mr. Gower to any one on the polling day?—I never spoke to any one respecting my vote until I got up in the morning, and then I says, "Here goes to vote for "Mr. Gower."

10,239. I want to know whom you said that to?—John Andrews.

10,240. Who is he?—That is the gentleman (*pointing opposite.*)

10,241. What is he; was he one of Gower's party?—I do not know, I am sure.

10,242. You do not?—No; not a bit. (*Laughing.*)

10,243. Well, I am very willing to smile at any joke, but I cannot exactly see the point of that?—Well, it is very pleasant I am sure.

10,244. Do tell me who is Mr. Andrews?—That is the gentleman; excuse me pointing; the gentleman with a black moustache.

10,245. Perhaps he won't like it?—I do not mind about that.

10,246. Can you tell me whether Mr. Andrews voted for Mr. Gower or Mr. Monson?—I cannot tell.

10,247. Did he ask you to vote for Mr. Gower?—No.

10,248. How came you to tell him?—I did not tell him at all. I said, "Fetch me out, and I will go and "vote for Mr. Gower."

10,249. If you said that to him it is unnecessary to inquire whether you knew if Andrews was a Gowerite or not?—I do not know, I am sure.

10,250. And did he fetch you out?—Yes; he brought a trap, and of course I rode in it, and was taken round and voted.

10,251. He took you round?—Him and another did.

10,252. Who is the other?—His name is Vosper, I believe.

10,253. Vosper and Andrews put you into a trap and took you up to the poll?—Yes, they two took me away.

10,254. Where were you? Where did they take you from?—Oh, from my house.

10,255. Did they come and call you in the morning, or how was it that you happened to see Andrews?—I do not know. Andrews came for me out, and I went.

10,256. I suppose they said, "Now, come old fel-"low, and vote for Gower," or something like that?—No.

10,257. I beg your pardon for saying "Old fellow," I ought not to have said it; but did they say, "Now, "come and vote for Mr. Gower?—No; all they said was this, "Are you ready?" I said, "Yes." They said, "Go into it."

10,258. Very well, did they come into the house and take you out?—No, I walked out.

10,259. Pray do not misunderstand me. I did not mean took you out with the smallest violence or force. They said, "Well, then, come on, get into the trap"?—No. I merely went into Mr. Andrews' house till they thought proper to call for me.

10,260. He came and called on you. I understood you to say, Andrews and Vosper invited you out, and said, "Come into the trap"?—No. I said, "Go on, "I will go with you."

10,261. Did you want to go with him, or did he come into your house and ask you first?—I was in bed when he came in.

10,262. And he invited you to come up and vote at that election?—All he said was, "I want you."

10,263. I see Mr. Andrews, as far as I can identify him, shaking his head at you, a good deal at you. I suppose it means dissent; never mind about that?—I do not care for anybody. I come here to express myself.

10,264. Then you got up; and what did he say to you, I should like to know?—I hardly know what he did say; I cannot recollect what he said.

10,265. Did he know up to this time that you belonged to the Monson party?—Well, he might be a little aware of it.

10,266. Then, if so, it was rather strange to see him come in, who was a Gower man, was it not?—That I do not know.

10,267. Were you rather expecting him?—No, not a bit.

10,268. As he knew that you belonged to the Monson party, you would hardly expect him to come in, would you, into your house?—Oh, any one is liable, I believe, if they think proper, to go and see anybody.

10,269. So when he came in you treated him as a canvasser?—Not I; I say any person is liable to come in anywhere.

10,270. Inasmuch as he came into your house, I suppose you considered him a canvasser coming in?—No, I did not; any person is liable to go anywhere.

10,271. What do you mean by saying that any person may go anywhere they like if they canvass?—Yes, where they think proper to canvass, if they like.

10,272. What is the use of making that observation to me if it is not applicable to Andrews when he paid you this visit?—Well, he might come and see me, and have a pipe of tobacco, as he often has done.

10,273. He would hardly have a pipe of tobacco when you were in bed?—I often had a pipe of tobacco upstairs.

10,274. But you do not receive company in bed?—I do at times.

10,275. Did you dress while he was in the room? —He was not in the room at all.

10,276. Did you dress while he was in the house? —He was not in the house at all.

10,277. I am afraid you are contradicting yourself? —He was in the house before I dressed. I admit I was wrong there. I do not know whether he was in the house or out of the house when I dressed.

10,278. Was there any breakfast before you got into the trap? Did you give him breakfast?—(*No answer.*)

10,279. Where did you breakfast that morning? At the "White Hart"?—Nowhere at all.

10,280. Where did you lunch?—None at all.

10,281. You should not say that, because I know you have a good deal more intelligence than that?—You can rely upon it.

10,282. Where did you first eat on the polling day? —I can hardly tell you.

10,283. You say you did not breakfast, you say you did not lunch. Give it your own name. Where did you first have any refreshments on the polling day?—The polling day? Well, I do not believe I tasted a bit of anything that day.

10,284. Did you have anything to drink that day? Well, I had a share of a pint of beer with a man that carried boards round.

10,285. That was all?—And I paid for a bottle of ginger beer myself.

10,286. Where did you poll. At Redhill?—Somewhere thereabout.

10,287. The polling places are not "about" anywhere; they are at distinct places, very well known. Where did you poll?—I dare say about Redhill.

10,288. If you like to say that you do not know where you polled, I will take your answer if you like, but it will give a character to other answers too. Do you mean to say that you do not know where you polled that day?—I will say so. Yes.

10,289. You do not know?—No.

10,290. Well, I will take your answer. I am sorry that you made it for your own sake. Having taken that answer, I will ask you this question, were you promised anything for voting for Mr. Gower?—No.

10,291. By any person?—No.

10,292. You remember your last answer, that you do not know where you polled?—Yes, I do.

10,293. Did you receive anything at all after the election?—Not of Mr. Gower.

10,294. Did you receive anything at all after the election?—No.

10,295. From any person?—No.

10,296. What did you mean by saying, "Not from "Mr. Gower"?—I mean that it might be promised though.

10,297. Who promised it?—Nobody.

10,298. Was there any arrangement, or any hope expressed that you would receive something?—No, not from me.

10,299. Did you apply to Apted for it?—I do not know the gentleman.

10,300. Oh, yes, you know Job Apted, begging your pardon?—No.

10,301. You have expressed an opinion about him to-day. Did you apply to Job Apted after the election for something?—No; it is too far to walk from Redhill to Reigate.

10,302. Never mind the reason why. Let us have the fact first. Did you apply to Job Apted for anything?—No.

10,303. Did Job Apted refuse to give you anything?—I never spoke to him respecting anything.

10,304. Did Job Apted say he was sorry there was nothing for you?—No.

10,305. Did any person?—No.

10,306. Do you know Frederick Joyes?—Well, I saw him when I was here on Saturday. That is the first time that I knew him. That is all.

10,307. Did you ever make any application to Mr. Gower himself?—No.

10,308. Or cause any application to be made to him for anything?—No.

10,309. Do you wish me to take it that, though you voted for Mr. Gower at the last moment after receiving money from Mr. Monson's party before, you had no reason whatever for doing so?—I took my own mind, and voted according to my own mind.

10,310. What did your own mind get formed from? Was it entirely from what people call "caprice," or what was it?—Only I says to myself, "Here goes for "Mr. Gower."

10,311. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where were you the night before the polling?—In the "Warwick "Arms.

10,312. Were Vosper and Andrews there?—Not that I am aware of.

10,313. Did you see them that night?—I cannot say exactly I did.

10,314. Andrews, you say, you used to smoke a pipe with?—Ah, that is at my own house.

10,315. Was he at your house the night before the election?—No.

10,316. During the week before the election?—He might be there during the week.

10,317. If he was there during the week before the election, did he not speak to you about your voting for Gower?—No; he was too close for that.

10,318. I do not mean about promising you anything; but didn't he ask you during that week to vote for Gower?—No.

10,319. What time did they come to you on the morning of the poll to take you to vote?—Somewhere between 9, or from that to 11 or 12. Something of that sort.

10,320. Do you mean you were in bed so late as that?—I sometimes like to rest; especially as I had been out the night before.

10,321. Had you got drunk the night before?—No.

10,322. What time did you get to bed the night before?—I can scarcely tell you.

10,323. You do not know what time you got to bed?—It might be some time under 12, probably.

10,324. You were in bed as late as between 9 and 12 in the morning. Do you know what time you voted?—I cannot exactly say. Some time in the course of the day.

10,325. I know that. Was it in the middle of the day?—It might be; I cannot say, hardly. I cannot say whether it was before dinner or not.

10,326. You have no recollection?—No.

10,327. If you have no recollection what time you polled, or where you polled, were you sober when you polled?—I cannot answer exactly that.

10,328. Very likely you were not. Had you had any drink before you went to the poll?—No.

10,329. Did not Andrews and Vosper treat you before you went up to the poll?—No, not him.

10,330. Then how came Vosper and Andrews to have so much influence over you to induce you to vote for Mr. Gower?—I gave my vote myself, independently of Andrews. He had no influence over me whatsoever.

10,331. Was that the first time you thought of Gower, when they came to you?—I went and told them I would go with them.

10,332. But you say they came to you first. Had you told them that you would go for Gower before that morning?—No.

10,333. But they found you in bed?—But I went and told him.

10,334. Where was it you first told them that you would vote for Gower?—I do not know.

10,335. At your own house?—No; they did not come for me on Wednesday at all.

10,336. Did they come for you at all?—No, only to smoke a pipe.

10,337. Andrews did?—Yes.

10,338. Had he smoked a pipe with you before that week?—Not about elections.

10,339. About anything?—No.

10,340. He never came to you before to smoke a pipe?—Oh, yes; weeks and weeks.

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10,341. Were you old friends?—Certainly so.

10,342. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I should not like to do you an injustice, Mr. Boscawen, but I took down your evidence as this, "I should not have voted "unless I expected to receive something for it." You said that in the early part of your examination. Do you recollect?—No, not "expect."

10,343. You did, indeed, when you were promising for Monson. You said, "I should not have voted "unless"?—"I expected to receive something for it?"

10,344. That is what you said to my friend Mr. Smith. You did expect something from the Monson party?—No.

10,345. From the Monson party?—Oh, I beg your pardon.

10,346. You did expect. You would not have voted for the Monson party without money?—Oh, no.

10,347. That is what I mean?—I beg your pardon, I was looking at this gentleman instead of attending to you.

10,348. And I suppose you were greatly disappointed with the Monson party in not giving you more money?—Oh, no; I was highly pleased with what I did get.

10,349. You expected more?—Oh, no.

10,350. Why did you not vote for Monson as an honest and respectable man, when you had received money from Mr. Monson's party?—I thought myself very well satisfied, and that 30*s.* per week was very nice.

10,351. And you were not satisfied when you did not receive the last 30*s.*?—Well, I was satisfied so far as that, that I should like to be paid for my day as though I went to the poll.

10,352. Was that the reason you did not vote for Monson?—I think that is not further than a foot of it.

10,353. Having received the money for three weeks then, and not getting the money for the last week, you were dissatisfied, and you refused to vote. I suppose you wished to be paid the last week beforehand?—No.

10,354. Who refused to pay you the last week?—John Shepherd is the person who ought to have paid me.

10,355. Who refused to pay you the last week?—Oh, nobody refused.

10,356. How did you know you would not be paid, because you told me you know that you would have voted for Monson if you were sure of being paid the last week. How did you know that you would not be paid?—They said I might get it if I could.

10,357. Who told you you would not get it?—Nobody.

10,358. How did you know?—Because I would not trust their honesty.

10,359. You would not trust their honour for that. In fact, I suppose you were paid week by week?—Yes.

10,360. And the first time you were paid I suppose you received a week's wages in advance?—No, not in advance; only, on first going I received my wage.

10,361. Why did you not treat them with the last week, and continue?—When my time of servitude was worked I expected to have my wage.

10,362. You were paid your wage for the last week?—Yes.

10,363. Were not you paid weekly?—Yes.

10,364. Why did you not go on receiving the weekly wages?—Because they stopped it quick.

10,365. Who stopped it?—That I don't know.

10,366. Who told you it was stopped?—It was stopped.

10,367. Who told you?—I found it out.

10,368. How did you find it out?—Because I did not get it.

10,369. Who refused to give it to you?—I did not like to go and ask.

10,370. Who refused?—I did not ask.

10,371. You did not ask? Then you do not say you were refused. It puzzles me?—We do think to ourselves at times we are liable to be refused; but still at the same time I did not ask, because I thought I should be refused.

10,372. How did you read a refusal?—I put it to myself. I thought it was nearly a case with Mr. Monson, I thought it was all up with Mr. Monson for more money.

10,373. My difficulty does not end there, because I took down your words, they were very graphic, "I "had got into my head all in a minute to vote for "Mr. Gower"?—Yes.

10,374. Was it in bed it got into your head?—That is just the place to think.

10,375. At that very moment when you thought of it in bed Andrews and Vosper came in, as if by magic?—No, not Vosper.

10,376. Your waking thoughts were running on it. What time did Andrews and Vosper come?—I did not take particular notice.

10,377. You were in bed when they came?—In bed, no.

10,378. You told my friend so. You said, "I was "in bed when Mr. Andrews came, and he said, 'We "want you." Is that so?—Well, I will say in bed. I had got my trousers on, that is all.

10,379. What time of the day was it?—I can hardly tell you.

10,380. Yes, you can?—Some time between breakfast time and dinner time. I could not say to an hour or two.

10,381. Was it 12 o'clock, or was it 1 o'clock?—No.

10,382. Eleven o'clock?—I cannot say.

10,383. Perhaps at 6 o'clock you thought of voting, and said to yourself, "Gower is the man"?—Yes.

10,384. They came to you between 11 and 12?—Some time betwixt 9 and 12.

10,385. They did not canvass you to vote; but they said, "We want you"?—I told them I would go with them.

10,386. Didn't they say, "We want you"? They did not ask you to go and vote for Gower?—I did not say so.

10,387. Did they ask you to go and vote for Gower?—I told them I would go and vote for Gower.

10,388. But did they ask you?—I told them.

10,389. Did they ask you for whom you were going to vote?—No; they did not ask me who I was going to vote for.

10,390. Did they ask you whether you were going to vote for Gower?—No.

10,391. How did you know they came to you about your voting at all?—I told them I would vote.

10,392. How did you know they came to you about your vote?—I did not know what they came to me for.

10,393. You do not mean to abide by that answer?—How could I know?

10,394. But did you know?—Certainly I did not know.

10,395. And the first you said to them was, "I will "vote for Gower"?—Of course I voted for Gower. I said so.

10,396. What did Andrews say to you, "Now is the "time, we want you," or something of that kind?—I do not know what they said. I said, "Here goes, I "will vote for Mr. Gower."

JOHN ANDREWS called, sworn, and examined.

J. Andrews.

10,397. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I believe you are a voter of this borough?—I am.

10,398. I believe your place of abode is Station-road, and your qualification is a house and shop?—Yes.

10,399. What rental do you pay?—33*l.* a year.

10,400. What business do you carry on?—Furniture broker.

10,401. You acted, I believe, on Mr. Gower's committee at the last election?—I was on the committee,

but I had no orders to act, though I did act; I did my best for Mr. Gower.

10,402. That is what I mean; you were acting on the committee?—Yes.

10,403. In which district?—What they call the Warwick-town district.

10,404. Station-road?—Yes.

10,405. That brought you, I believe, a great deal in contact with a number of railway people?—Yes. I was about with every one, pretty much, about there.

10,406. Did you vote in 1863?—The first time of my voting was in 1865.

10,407. Did you support Gower in 1863?—I had no vote. This was my first time of voting. I was not here in 1863.

10,408. When were you first put on Mr. Gower's committee?—About a month before the election.

10,409. Did you canvass many of the men in the neighbourhood?—I canvassed a great many, but I did not get many votes.

10,410. A number of the men there were rather inclined for Monson, I believe?—Well, I tried to canvass the station men, but they had pledged their words for Monson for 30*s.* a week.

10,411. (*The Chief Commissioner.*)—The station men?—The station workmen, such as fitters and engine-drivers.

10,412. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many of them were there?—I think they went in a lump together; about a dozen or 15 who had pledged their word for so much.

10,413. You had learnt in the course of your canvass that some 12 or 18 of the station men were receiving 30*s.* a week from Mr. Monson?—I believe they were unanimous, one and all alike.

10,414. The last witness was one of these men?—He was, I believe; he was a station man; that is all I take it from.

10,415. Did you hear when that 30*s.* a week ceased to be paid to them?—Well, I believe it ceased on the Saturday before the election took place. I think they were generally paid on a Saturday.

10,416. What day did the election take place; what day of the week?—I cannot say what day; the fore part of the week, I believe.

10,417. You had heard that 30*s.* a week was paid up to the Saturday, and then you found they were free and open?—Well, I did not care who were open and who were not, as long as I could get them.

10,418. But you had heard that they had ceased so far?—They had ceased so far; that was their last payment.

10,419. Are you aware, or have you heard, or do you know from your own knowledge, that they went up on the Tuesday, and offered to vote in a body for Mr. Monson if they got their 30*s.* a week?—Not after that Saturday. I do not know.

10,420. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did they on that Saturday?—They had been taking their 30*s.* a week then for three weeks.

10,421. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On the Saturday did they not send a message up to Mr. Monson's committee, saying unless they got 30*s.* down in addition to what they had already received they would not vote for Monson, and if they did get the 30*s.* they would vote for him?—I know nothing of it.

10,422. When did you hear that they were refused the 30*s.*?—I believe they had it on the last Saturday.

10,423. When did you ascertain that they were not going to vote for Mr. Monson?—I never did ascertain that.

10,424. But you had heard the rumour, had you not?—We know there is such a thing as people taking money and voting in opposite directions.

10,425. But on the Monday or Tuesday did you not know that they were shaky?—I do not know about being shaky. While we were out canvassing we polled who we could.

10,426. And you found they were shaky, in fact?—I dare say they were shaky.

10,427. You found when you canvassed they were?—I only polled one.

10,428. You and your friends on the committee would report to each other on the committee, I suppose. I suppose there was a committee meeting on the Monday?—I never was at a committee meeting, except at the hall; at private committee meetings, not at public.

10,429. You reported to each other. Did you find that 12 or 18 men who were pledged for Monson were shaky?—We knew they had pledged their word to Monson a fortnight before the election.

10,430. Did you not know from your own report to one another they were then uncertain?—I might believe that they were shaky; they did not think 30*s.* sufficient.

10,431. I suppose that they were all canvassed on the part of Mr. Gower?—Not by me.

10,432. I did not say by you; some were canvassed by you, and some by others, I suppose?—I do not know one of the station men being canvassed, except by me.

10,433. How many did you canvass?—Boscawen.

10,434. How many station men voted for Gower?—Only this one that I am aware of. There were more, I think.

10,435. You know about how many of these station men were dissatisfied. I do not mean from personal knowledge, but a man on the committee would know how many of the 12 or 18 men were dissatisfied?—I think there might be three or four of the station men who voted for Gower.

10,436. All these men had been in receipt of money from Monson?—I cannot tell whether they were all.

10,437. But they were reputed to be so?—Yes; they were supposed to be on Monson's side.

10,438. When did you first ascertain that Mr. Boscawen was a shaky voter?—On the morning of the polling day.

10,439. That was on the Wednesday; had you not ascertained it before?—No.

10,440. Had you canvassed him before?—No.

10,441. Had you not spoken to him at all about voting?—I had spoken to him about the election.

10,442. That is what I mean. You had spoken to him about the election after the Saturday; these things become very well known in a little place; after the Saturday did you not speak to him about the election?—Only on the polling day, to vote for Gower.

10,443. But, before the polling day, had you not spoken to him about the election?—Yes, before he pledged his word to take the 30*s.* a week I had spoken to him; that was a month or six weeks before the election. It was before he took the money.

10,444. You told him, I suppose, employment was going on the part of Gower?—No.

10,445. There was employment on the part of Mr. Gower as well; it is not strange to you that there was employment on the part of Gower, is it?—I suppose we cannot return a member without employment.

10,446. But I mean that it was known that Gower was employing men?—Yes.

10,447. And he was paying them about the same rate?—I do not know. I got no payment.

10,448. Did any question of mine suggest that? I made no allusion to it. I do not suggest that in the slightest degree. You are mistaken if you think so. You had not seen the man, then, till the polling morning?—No.

10,449. Had you been at his house?—Yes, several times; his boy used to work for me.

10,450. Between the Saturday and the polling day had you been at his house?—Only on business. I used to run there for his boy to take goods home for me very frequently.

10,451. You had been to his house?—Yes.

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10,452. Did you see him at all between Saturday and Wednesday?—Yes.

10,453. You saw him and spoke to him?—I saw him every day.

10,454. Saw him and spoke to him?—Nine times out of ten when I saw him I did not speak to him.

10,455. We thought from Mr. Boscawen's answers that you were almost a stranger to him; now we find you employed his boy?—I did so.

10,456. And you were at his house more than once between the Saturday and the Wednesday?—I cannot think I was there more than once between those few days.

10,457. You have said so already. Did you see his wife?—Yes.

10,458. And spoke to her?—Yes.

10,459. Did you not speak to his wife about his voting for Gower?—No.

10,460. Not at all; just recollect?—Well, I had spoken to his wife to see how he was going to vote; that was before he took the 30*s.* a week.

10,461. Now things were coming to a crisis: you are aware there is a breach between the station men and Mr. Monson's party, and then you go to his house on business: now did you not speak to his wife, because now is the opportunity for a friend of Gower?—Not after I knew he was pledged to Monson.

10,462. Or on the committee?—No.

10,463. Did you say anything to his wife?—No; I do not canvass women when I want men to vote.

10,464. Then I am afraid you are not a good canvasser; it is said the women have a good deal of influence. You went to his house on the following day, what time did you get to his house in the morning?—I suppose it was about a quarter to 9. The polling was opened, and had been opened half an hour.

10,465. You took a trap with you?—No.

10,466. Had you a trap there?—No.

10,467. You had a trap there afterwards?—No, I never did take a trap to his house to poll him.

10,468. He says he got into a trap, where was the trap; did he get into a trap?—I suppose he did; it appears so.

10,469. Well, you heard him say so, did you not; you brought a trap there?—Not to his house.

10,470. Where?—To my private entrance.

10,471. Well, we get at it, you see, however private the entrance may be. How far is that away from his house?—I could throw a stone from one to the other. The trap was as well at my house as at his. You cannot drive down to his house, it is in a lane.

10,472. You had a trap for the purpose of bringing him to the poll?—It was a trap hired for the day to bring all people to the poll.

10,473. You went to his house?—I went to his house, and he got in.

10,474. You had not seen him to speak to him upon the Saturday, the time you know he ceased to receive Mr. Monson's money, and the Wednesday? Now just be cautious?—I had seen him.

10,475. To speak to him about the election?—I saw him on the eve of the polling day.

10,476. Your memory or mine is at fault. You know I asked you, and you told me that you had not seen him till the morning of the polling day?—Not about election matters.

10,477. But you had seen him on the eve of the polling day?—Yes.

10,478. On what business? Any business at all?—I say him at the "Warwick" hotel.

10,479. Was that a house of Mr. Monson's?—I cannot say; the "Warwick" hotel was a place where Gower's men went to.

10,480. Now the light is breaking in; it was a Gower house?—Gower house.

10,481. Then you saw him on the eve of the polling day, that would be the nomination day at the Gower public house?—Yes, at the "Warwick."

10,482. Were there many of those other men with him?—There was a lot of men.

10,483. I mean station men?—Not that I know of.

10,484. And I suppose from his being there you took the intimation that he was ready to vote for Gower?—I thought it strange to see him come in among the Gowerites, as I knew that he was on the Monson committee.

10,485. Did you speak to him upon that occasion? just recollect?—Not respecting the election.

10,486. I thought everybody's mouth was full of the election then?—So it was for them that we thought of getting.

10,487. What else was talked of then?—I think when a man pledges his word to vote for any gentleman, he ought to do so.

10,488. Did you speak to him about the matter then?—No.

10,489. Did you know then that he was ready to vote for Gower?—I did not till the morning I went to his house.

10,490. I am speaking of the eve of the polling day?—I thought it strange for him to be there.

10,491. Was he drinking?—He was having refreshments. I went for my supper beer to the bar.

10,492. I am not including you at all now in the matter, but those you saw there were having refreshment—what is understood as election beer?—I do not know what election beer is, I am not acquainted with it.

10,493. About how many were there?—I should think there might be from 20 to 30.

10,494. How did you know he was going to vote for Gower upon the morning of the polling day?—I did not know, only I thought he was a shaky one and that I would go and give him a trial; he was so near me, he was in my way.

10,495. Did you go to any one else, because I want to know what the doctrine of chances is; did you go to any other of the voters upon that day by chance?—No, I never went to another station man.

10,496. Do I understand you that this was by a mere chance you went to this man in the morning?—Yes.

10,497. Just recollect for a moment, you are a man of intelligence; do you mean to say that it was by chance you went to call upon Mr. Boscawen?—It was by chance.

10,498. You adhere to that answer?—Yes.

10,499. Who is Vosper?—He is a working man for Fuller, the tailor.

10,500. Did you take him with you?—No.

10,501. He was with you?—No, he was not with me when I took him from his house; he was not with me at Boscawen's.

10,502. You went to Boscawen's house alone?—I went when I had had my breakfast. I did not go for his vote.

10,503. What did you go for?—I went to see one of the boys.

10,504. You did not go for his vote that morning?—I heard he was not up.

10,505. You did not go for his vote, that was not the object of your visit?—It was not the object of my visit. It was too early in the morning.

10,506. Was it the object of your visit to go canvassing for Gower, or was it not? You know what you went for?—Well, I went over.

10,507. Is there any doubt that you went over to canvass and get him if you could for Gower?—Well, I did get him for Gower.

10,508. But did you go over with the intention of getting him if you could to vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

10,509. Why did you try to put on me the answer that you went merely on business? You expressed a very proper sentiment about not canvassing him when you knew that he was receiving money from the Monson party. When did you cease to think it was wrong to canvass a man who had received money from the Monson party?—I never did canvass him.

10,510. You called for him?—He told me that he was going to vote for Gower before I asked him.

10,511. But you told me that you went over for

the purpose of getting him to vote for Gower, if you could?—It was purposely for that; he told me he was going to vote for Gower before I asked him.

10,512. But you went over to his house?—I did go over to his house.

10,513. And for the purpose of getting him to vote if you could?—It was about a quarter to nine.

10,514. Had you been to his house twice that morning?—I cannot recollect that I had. I went once to his house.

10,515. You knew he wanted money?—No; I think he would have been satisfied without money on the other side, and the money was forced upon him.

10,516. You heard him say here to-day, "I should "not have voted unless I received money"?—Yes; I heard him say that.

10,517. But at that time you were in so much ignorance that you thought he would have voted without any money; is that what you say?—(*No answer.*)

10,518. What passed between you and him that morning when you went in?—Nothing at all.

10,519. Nothing at all?—No.

10,520. Come, what passed between you; tell us?—I have nothing to tell you.

10,521. What passed between you, now? I ask you upon your oath, what did you say to him to induce him to vote for Gower?—I did not tell him anything to induce him.

10,522. Upon your oath, now, what did you say to him to induce him to vote for Gower?—Nothing at all.

10,523. Nothing whatever?—I never asked him for his vote.

10,524. What did you say to him to induce him to vote for Gower?—Nothing.

10,525. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or "persuade" him, not "induce"?—No; when I went to his house he holloas down stairs and said he had made up his mind that he would vote for Gower instead of Monson.

10,526. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did that come upon you by surprise?—Yes.

10,527. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How did he know you were downstairs?—Because he heard me talking. It is only a one-storey house.

10,528. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you employed any other man at all on behalf of Gower?—No.

10,529. Had any money passed through your hands at all; I do not say for yourself, because I do not believe it; had any money passed through your hands at all for matters of expenditure or expense during the election?—Yes, one sovereign; not for myself.

10,530. To whom did you pay that sovereign?—I had it for the services of my boy taking out circulars; at least, not my boy, a boy that I employ.

10,531. A boy is not a voter?—No, but he took out circulars; he was under me and I lent him to the committee.

10,532. Had you yourself employed any one except your boy?—No.

10,533. Did any other monies pass through your hands?—Not a farthing.

10,534. What business do you carry on?—A furniture broker.

10,535. Only a pound for your boy?—That is all.

10,536. Was that boy this man's son?—Yes.

10,537. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Boscawen's son?—Boscawen's son.

10,538. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you not tell us that you employed Boscawen's son?—I did not employ him, I lent him; I lent him to Mr. Green to take out circulars.

10,539. I suggest a more respectful term than lending; however, you lent him to Mr. Green to take out circulars, and you received a pound for his services?—Yes, I paid him his weekly wages and I considered I ought to have it.

10,540. How long had the boy been employed?—I suppose three or four or five days. He went two miles round taking circulars; he took as many as a hundred at a time.

15,541. Was that between the Saturday and the polling day?—No, three or four or five weeks before the election.

10,542. The father was engaged on one side and the boy engaged on the other?—In fact it was before the committee was formed; almost at the birth of the election.

10,543. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say you saw no other money than that pound which passed through your hands?—No.

10,544. You received that money from Mr. Green?—Mr. Green.

10,545. I dare say you will forgive me for asking whether, although no money passed through your hands, had any money passed into them though not out again?—No.

10,546. What arrangement was made between you and Mr. Green when Green asked you to be on the committee?—None at all. Green never canvassed me.

10,547. Who did?—Mr. Gower himself. I gave him my vote the very first time he came to my house.

10,548. You gave him the promise of it?—My promise to vote.

10,549. Did you tell Gower you would be put on the committee?—No, he did not speak to me about the committee.

10,550. Who put you on the committee?—I suppose those that promised were committee men; I gave them no authority to put me on the committee.

10,551. But you found you were on the committee? I found I was.

10,552. Was the committee at which you worked a sub-committee or a general committee?—I suppose it was a general committee. I had meetings to attend night after night.

10,553. When you did attend who was in the chair at the committee?—Well, at the committee meetings we had different chairmen.

10,554. Was Green chairman sometimes?—No; I believe Webb was chairman once.

10,555. Was Shepherd chairman a good deal?—Shepherd was not with us at all.

10,556. What committee did you attend?—A Gower committee. Shepherd is a Monson man.

10,557. Who was it that attended as chairman of the committee?—I believe Mr. Webb was in the chair once.

19,558. Do you recollect anybody else?—I believe Mr. Featherstone was in the chair once.

10,559. Is that Mr. Featherstone, senior, or the young Mr. Featherstone?—Mr Featherstone, senior.

10,560. If you were canvassed by Mr. Gower, did you not report yourself either to Mr. Featherstone, or Mr. Webb, or somebody or other as being ready to do work?—No.

10,561. Then how did they know that you were a a man to whom they might send circulars?—Because I suppose Gower had told them that I had given him my promise.

10,562. Where did you see Gower?—He came to my house.

10,563. What passed between you?—Very few words. He came to solicit my vote and I gave it him.

10,564. Did he suggest that you should be on the committee?—No.

10,565. Did you attend a committee meeting at the town hall when Mr. Gower made a speech?—Yes.

10,566. Did you hear him say anything about the men who worked for him being properly paid?—No, nothing of that kind.

10,567. Had you an interview with any of Mr. Gower's people after you had the interview with Mr. Gower?—No.

10,568. None at all?—No.

10,569. Then if anybody comes here and says he

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had an interview with you on behalf of Mr. Gower it won't be true, will it?—I think not.

10,570. But thinking won't do. If a man comes here and says, "Mr. Andrews reported to us that he "was ready to do work, and I waited upon him and "desired him to work and promised to send him "circulars;" if anybody comes and says that it will not be true?—I do not think it will.

10,571. I do not wish it to take you by surprise; I have no trap at all for you; and if anybody comes here and says that, will it be true or not?—No.

10,572. Do not answer hastily; may you have forgotten it?—I never had any interview with anybody about work.

10,573. Did you make any arrangements with any of Mr. Gower's people that if circulars were sent to you you would see that they were posted up?—They took the liberty of posting them on my house, which was a corner house.

10,574. Who did so?—Those who were posting for Gower.

10,575. But who?—A man of the name of Somers. He was not a general poster.

10,576. Who told him to do so?—Green.

10,577. Who told you so?—He did.

10,578. I want to find out who of Mr. Gower's people you had any talk with about working for Mr. Gower; do you know Job Apted?—Yes, very well indeed.

10,579. Did you have any talk with him about being willing to do services for Gower?—No.

10,580. Did you have it with Joyce?—No.

10,581. Who then; I wish you would think?—I believe it was Mr. Green. I believe he was the right man.

10,582. Did you go to Green yourself, or did Green come to you apparently on Mr. Gower's report?—I met him accidentally in the street and we talked electioneering matters over.

10,583. That is right; just tell us what you said about services?—He said we must do our best, all of us.

10,584. What did you say?—I said, "Decidedly so."

10,585. Did you say "And I am willing to do the "best"?—He could see I was willing.

10,586. Did you say so?—Yes.

10,587. Did he then say "Mr. Gower will pay "fairly for what is done"?—Well, he said something about "Those that work will be paid."

10,588. Did he tell you at what rate the others were being paid?—No, he never mentioned any pay at all.

10,589. He did not mention any sum you mean?—No sum.

10,590. Did he mention you would be paid like the rest, or to that effect?—Pay is pay. I was to be paid for labour of course; he did not mention any sum.

10,591. Did he not say, "Very well, all right; go "to work, you will be paid like the rest"?—He said I was to do my best.

10,592. Did he go on to say you will be paid like the rest. I am going to call Mr. Green, there will be no concealment about that; did he not say "You will "be paid like the rest," or something like that?—He said I should be fairly paid.

10,593. You were on the committee; now what in your judgement would be fair payment?—You see I am not like a man that goes out to work; I give my full time at the election.

10,594. Therefore you would expect rather more?—I should say so. I do not know that I expect anything, only when a man says "You will be paid," he ought to see you are paid, if you have any pay to come.

10,595. What did you receive?—No money at all.

10,596. Have you never received anything since?—Not a farthing.

10,597. Tell me how is that?—I do not know.

10,598. You did not receive anything before the election?—No; only that pound I told you about.

10,599. Quite right. You have made an application have you not?—I cannot say that I have made an application.

10,600. You cannot say you have not?—I cannot say that I have not.

10,601. You cannot say you have not made an application?—No.

10,602. Did you make it to Mr. Green or to whom?—Well, after the election was over I of course expected to be paid for labour done, having bills posted on my house, and so forth; and I said something to myself about payment.

10,603. What did Green say to you?—He told us to wait; he expected a petition.

10,604. What?—He said we were to wait; we should all be paid in time.

10,605. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What age was this boy of Boscawen's?—About 16 years of age.

10,606. What wages do you pay him?—I do not know; he has left me now; from 5*s.* to 6*s.* or 7*s.* a week. He was come to me as an improver; I think it was 6*s.*, as near as I can say; I am not going to bind myself.

10,607. You told us that he was away delivering circulars about four days?—About four days. He came to me to be apprenticed, and his father took him away; that is the reason he did not have more wages.

10,608. Then you told us also that you thought as he was your servant, and you paid him his wages, you ought to keep the sovereign for his services?—The sovereign was paid to me.

10,609. He only went out four days?—Oh! that does not matter to me; he is worth a pound a week working for me although he only took 6*s.*

10,610. Then you took the property?—I was entitled to do so; apprentices generally earn more than their wages are worth.

10,611. (*The Chief Commissioner*) Yo you remember telling Green that you could lend your boy?—He came and asked for his services; he knew I had got a boy.

10,612. Was that after you had the conversation with him, when he said you would be paid for your services?—That was before; it was at the commencement, six weeks before the election, Mr. Green came to me. It was a hard job to get a boy to go out at the time.

10,613. He came to you with circulars?—He brought a lot down.

10,614. Was anything said to you about your vote?—No.

10,615. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ever tell the boy that you had received a sovereign of Green on his account?—No.

A short adjournment took place.

T. Ford.

THOMAS FORD called, sworn, and examined

10,616. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—Carpenter and joiner.

10,617. Do you live in what is called in Lesbourne-road?—Yes.

10,618, What rent do you pay for your house?—17*l.* a year.

10,619. Do you pay by the year or weekly?—Weekly.

10,620. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

10,621. For Mr. Gower?—Yes.

10,622. Did you vote at the election of 1863?—No.

10,623. Did you hear of that election?—I was in Reigate.

10,624. Now at the election of 1865 when you

voted for Mr. Gower, did he canvass you himself ?—Mr. Gower canvassed me himself.

10,625. When he canvassed you did you promise him your vote ?—No.

10,626. What did you tell him ?—I told him I had not made up my mind ; I should not give him a promise then, there was plenty of time.

10,627. Was that four weeks or a month before the election ?—I do not know how many weeks ; it was when they first begun to canvass.

10,628. Were you afterwards canvassed by Mr. Monson's party ?—No.

10,629. I do not mean by Mr Monson himself, but by any one for him ?—No, not one.

10,630. How soon did you promise Mr. Gower your vote ?—I think it was about a week after he called.

10,631. Then your promise to him was made a good while before the election ?—Yes.

10,632. Probably a month ?—I cannot tell how many weeks. It was a week after he came that I gave him my promise.

10,633. Whom did you see the second time when you spoke about it ?—I told Mr. Buckland.

10,634. Where did you see Mr. Buckland ?—Coming down the High-street.

10,635. Did you go up to him and speak to him ?—I think we passed "good evening," it was in the evening. I said, "You can put my name down as one "for Mr. Gower."

10,636. On the committee ?—I told him to put my name down ; that I should vote for Mr. Gower.

10,637. Did you tell him to put your name down on the committee ?—No ; he afterwards asked me if I would do any work for him.

10,638. Was that on a different occasion ?—I think it was afterwards ; whether it was the next day I cannot positively say.

10,639. Not on the same day you think ?—I would not say for certain.

10,640. He asked you if you would do any work for him ; what else did he say ?—He said he would pay me for what I did.

10,641. Did you say you would do any work ?—Yes.

10,642. What was he to pay you ?—Nothing was said as to what he was to pay.

10,643. Did he tell you he would pay you the same as the others ?—No ; he said he would pay me for what I was to do.

10,644. Did he say more than that ? Did he say, "I will pay you the same as the others," or, "I will "give you so much a week"?—He said nothing about the other people.

10,645. Were you to be paid by the week ?—Nothing was said about that.

10,646. What were you to do ?—I was to canvass all I could, and also to carry out circulars, attend to him and go where he wanted me to.

10,647. Did you do work ?—Yes.

10,648. After the election what did he pay you ?—Altogether he gave me 3*l.*

10,649. When was that ?—I had it on three different occasions before the election.

10,650. Did he pay you on Saturdays at the end of each week, or how ?—No ; I cannot tell you what days he did pay me.

10,651. Did you go and ask him three different times for an advance of money, or something of that sort ?—No, I did not ask him for it.

10,652. When did he come and pay you the first time ?—I think it was a fortnight after I had been working for him. He asked me if I should like to have any money. I told him I should.

10,653. Did he then hand you 2*l.* ?—I think it was a sovereign the first time.

10,654. You are not sure ?—I cannot speak positively as to what it was.

10,655. Are you sure it was not 2*l.* ?—I am sure it was not 2*l.*

10,656. When did you get the second payment ?—I forget now when it was.

10,657. I wish you could give me a little more information.—I do not recollect ; I will give you all I do recollect.

10,658. Was it a week or so, again ?—It might be three weeks.

10,659. No, the election would be on then ?—It might be a week, it might be a fortnight.

10,660. Do you recollect how long before the election the third payment was made ?—I said I received the three before the election. I think it was only two before the election, and one after.

10,661. Do you feel a doubt about it, or are you quite sure the last pound was paid you after the election ?—I think it must have been after, to the best of my recollection.

10,662. Now where was Buckland when he paid the last pound ? At his office or his house ?—He paid me at his office.

10,663. Had he got a list there ?—I never saw any.

10,664. Were some other people there as well as yourself ?—No.

10,665. How did you get there ? Did he send for you, or did you meet him ?—I had a little business to go there for.

10,666. Other business ?—Other business.

10,667. And did you mention there was still a sum coming to you ?—No, I did not mention anything about it.

10,668. Be so good as to tell me how it took place ?—He said he thought to pay me a little more money for what I had done, and he took and paid me a sovereign.

10,669. Did you see a list ?—No, I saw no list at all.

10,670. Did you give him a receipt for it ?—No.

10,671. Did he say he was in hopes there would be something more for you ?—No, nothing ; he never mentioned about any more.

10,672. Was the sum of 5*l.* ever mentioned ?—No, never was mentioned ; no sum was ever mentioned.

10,673. The sum of 5*l.* ?—No, never.

10,674. Was the sum of 5*l.* floating in your mind ?—No.

10,675. Were you to canvass ?—Yes.

10,676. Whom did you canvass ?—I canvassed Jupp.

10,677. George Jupp ?—William Jupp is his proper name. Some call him William, some George.

10,678. However, he is the Jupp that we have had here as a witness ?—I do not know. I have not been here until to-day.

10,679. You say you are a carpenter. Now, from the time you gave in your name, as you have told us, did you go on doing your work as a carpenter ?—I did the best part of the day.

10,680. It was of an evening that you attended the meetings ?—I neglected my work to do what I did do.

10,681. How was that ?—Because at the time we were busy, and I was ordered to work late at nights.

10,682. That is overtime ?—That is overtime.

10,683. What work you did for Mr. Gower you did late at night, I suppose ?—Not all of it. I worked two or three days ; three days, I think.

10,684. In doing what ?—In waiting about and carrying about circulars for Mr. Buckland, and going messages.

10,685. Be so good as to tell me anything you did in the daytime ?—That is what I did.

10,686. Any one message that you took to any particular person ?—I can hardly tell you now, because I do not recollect enough about it.

10,687. Tell me anybody you canvassed besides Jupp ?—James Trussler, at Mead-vale.

10,688. Jupp and Trussler ?—They did not give me their promises.

SEVENTH DAY.

T. Ford.

29 Aug. 1866.

10,689. Who else did you canvass?—A Mr. Millbank.

10,690. Who else?—A person named Geer.

10,691. Can you tell me anybody else, because I shall have an opportunity of talking to them about it, if I like?—There were several more, but I can hardly recollect.

10,692. I should rather like the names, if you could give me them.—I do not think I can.

10,693. Did you take a message to any person that you can mention?—I think I took a message to a man named Penfold.

10,694. Penfold was a biggish man, an active man?—He is rather tall and slight.

10,695. I mean a biggish man in the election?—No, he is not.

10,696. From whom did you take the message to him?—They were circulars that Mr. Buckland gave me to take. I do not know what was in them.

10,697. Did you take any other message, do you recollect?—Well, I took one to Mr. Eve.

10,698. Who else?—I believe I took one to Mr. Lucas.

10,699. Anybody else?—I cannot think of anybody just now; I did not take much notice of it.

10,700. When you went out canvassing had you any book with you, any sort of canvassing book?—No, I had no book at all.

10,701. Were you desired to go to particular people and canvass them, or did you go from your own knowledge to where you thought a likely man was to be found?—From my own knowledge.

10,702. I suppose all the time you were employed you went to the public houses of an evening where other people went?—I went to two or three.

10,703. Were you in the habit of attending public houses where there were meetings?—I went to two or three.

10,704. Did you occasionally have refreshments when you went there?—I always had some.

10,705. For which you did not pay?—I often paid for it myself.

10,706. But not always?—Two or three times I went and never paid for it.

10,707. I do not want to go more into particulars about that. You had nothing to do with the election of 1863?—Nothing whatever to do with it.

10,708. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know whether Jupp, Trussler, Millbank, and Geer were canvassing also? Were they on the committee?—Not on Mr. Gower's committee, not at the time.

10,709. But afterwards?—I do not know that they were on the committee.

10,710. Did you ask them to go on the committee?—I asked them who they were going to vote for, and I asked them to vote for Mr. Gower. They would not give me any promise.

10,711. Do you know whom they did promise?—No; I know whom they voted for. Trussler and Jupp voted for Mr. Gower, but to whom they promised I do not know.

10,712. Did Millbank and Geer vote for Mr. Gower?—No, I believe they voted for Monson.

10,713. They voted for Monson?—I believe so.

10,714. Did you offer Millbank and Geer employment?—No, I did not.

10,715. Did you offer Trussler and Jupp?—No.

10,716. Did you tell them if they came on the committee there would be something paid for that?—No, I never promised them anything of the sort.

10,717. Never showed them the five fingers?—No, I did not.

10,718. Or touch them by hand, "five fives," or anything of the sort?—No.

10,719. Or give any sign that they would be remunerated?—No, I give no sign whatever.

10,720. Millbank and Geer went afterwards for Monson?—I believe they voted for Monson.

J. Ede.

JAMES EDE called, sworn, and examined.

10,721. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You reside in Nutley-lane, and are a gardener by trade?—Yes, a working gardener.

10,722. What rent do you pay for the house for which you vote?—Not any.

10,723. Is it a freehold house?—It is my own.

10,724. What is the value of it; what would it let for?—I should think about 12*l.* to 15*l.*

10,725. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

10,726. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

10,727. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

10,728. For whom?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

10,729. First I will inquire about the last election. Do you know Mr. Alexander Rose?—Very well indeed.

10,730. He canvassed you, I believe, for Mr. Gower?—No.

10,731. Were you working with him on behalf of Mr. Gower?—Yes, working with him.

10,732. On behalf of Mr. Gower?—Yes.

10,733. Were you at all employed for work, Mr. Ede?—Yes.

10,734. You told me you are by trade a gardener; were you in employ at the time, or were you working on your own account during the election?—I was working on my own account.

10,735. I mean as a gardener?—Yes.

10,736. Do you employ men?—No.

10,737. And besides working as a gardener you were employed for Mr. Gower?—I was.

10,738. Who engaged you?—Mr. Apted.

10,739. Is Mr. Apted here?—Yes.

10,740. Is this Mr. Apted (*pointing out a person in Court*)?—Yes.

10,741. Was anything said about what you were to have, or anything of that kind?—Nothing.

10,742. How much a week, or anything of that kind?—Nothing.

10,743. What did Apted say to you?—Nothing was said at all.

10,744. You know one man does not employ another without saying something?—Well, he asked me to vote for Mr. Gower, and I said, "Oh, yes."

10,745. Well, go on?—And he said, "Can you "render us any assistance"? "Oh, yes," I said, "I "am quite willing to do that." I went on.

10,746. Did he not say further you would be paid for it?—No, he did not say anything about it.

10,747. Or, "I'll take care that you are paid for "it"?—Not a word said about it at all.

10,748. Did you understand him to mean that you would be paid for it, no matter what was said?—No, there was nothing of the sort.

10,749. Did you understand that you were to be paid for what you did?—No.

10,750. Do you mean to tell me you did not expect to be paid?—Mr. Apted never said anything about my being paid.

10,751. Did you expect to be paid if you were set to work for Mr. Gower?—No; he did not say anything about that.

10,752. I did not say he did; but did you expect to be paid if you had to work for Mr. Gower?—Well, I expected a recompense for the time.

10,753. Exactly; you know you were not engaged by the hour. Before I go further, tell me what did you receive?—Do you mean for what I did?

10,754. Yes.—5*l.*

10,755. When did you receive 5*l.*?—I can hardly say.

10,756. Was it from Mr. Apted?—No, Mr. Buckland paid me.

10,757. Mr. Buckland paid you the 5*l.*?—No, Mr. Apted; yes—no, Mr. Buckland paid me the 5*l.*

10,758. Did he pay you in one or two payments, or how?—No, he paid me all at once.

10,759. Did you go to him after the election, or was it before the election that Mr. Buckland paid you?—It was after.

10,760. How soon after, a month?—Well, I should think it was.

10,761. About a month after?—A month or five or six weeks after.

10,762. What is Mr. Buckland in business?—I really do not know what business he calls himself.

10,763. What do you call him?—He is secretary to a building society.

10,764. The Freehold Building Society?—Yes.

10,765. Did you go to his office?—I did.

10,766. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that the Freehold Land Society?—There is more than one.

10,767. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was Mr. Apted who asked you to do the best you could; why is it you went to Mr. Buckland? Were you referred to him by one one?—No; I do not know how I went. I dropped in accidentally.

10,768. People do not drop in accidentally and get 5*l.* My friend here and myself we know a little of the world, and we know that people do not drop in accidentally and get 5*l.* You went to Mr. Buckland, did you not?—No, I did not; I dropped in accidentally that morning coming down town.

10,769. You dropped in accidentally on Mr. Buckland and you found him there?—Yes.

10,770. At his desk?—I hardly know that he was at his desk.

10,771. Was there anyone else there besides you and Mr. Buckland at the time?—I think Mr. Rose and me and Mr. Buckland.

10,772. Was that Alec Rose?—Alec Rose.

10,773. Did you pick up Alec Rose accidentally that morning?—Well, I do not know. I think I saw him in his shop.

10,774. Then Mr. Rose joined out, and you went by accident to Mr. Buckland's?—We came down town.

10,775. You and Mr. Rose came down together?—Yes.

10,776. You were associated a good deal with Mr. Rose at the election time?—At all times.

10,777. I mean at election time; you associated a good deal with Mr. Rose at the election time?—Yes.

10,778. You met him and picked him up accidentally, and went by accident to Mr. Buckland's?—Yes.

10,779. Is that it?—Yes.

10,780. Both by accident?—Yes.

10,781. Rose knew that you did a good deal at the election?—Oh, yes.

10,782. He knew you were a very valuable man?—I do not know about that.

10,783. He knew you were an active, busy man?—Yes.

10,784. Why did you take Rose to Buckland's?—Well, we dropped in accidentally.

10,785. Why did Rose go with you?—I do not know.

10,786. How far was it from Rose to Buckland's?—It is out of Nutley-lane down the street.

10,787. Half a mile?—No, it is not half a mile; a quarter of a mile.

10,788. Then, did you say to Mr. Buckland, "I "want a little money," or did he know by looking at you what you came for? Which do you think? Did he guess what your errand was?—He might do so.

10,789. Did you say anything to him, or did you look at him, or what? or did he look at you?—He might have done so.

10,790. But did you say anything to him?—Well, I don't know that I did.

10,791. Did he say anything to you?—Oh, yes.

10,792. What did he say?—He said he had got 5*l.* for me.

10,793. Did Rose receive any money on that occasion?—He did.

10,794. It was a lucky accident. How much did Rose receive?—The same as myself.

10,795. 5*l.* a piece?—Yes.

10,796. That was your first visit to Mr. Buckland, or had you called on him before?—No, I do not think so.

10,797. I want to know, in consequence of the simple words Mr. Apted said to you, how is it that you called on Mr. Buckland? Why did you go to him? Did you understand he was paymaster?—Yes; oh, yes.

10,798. From whom did you understand he was paymaster? Who told you?—Well, I don't know.

10,799. Yes, you do know. These are important matters. You had been at work, and naturally you would say to yourself, "Now, who is to pay me for "this"? Then you would inquire. Now, who told you that Mr. Buckland was the man?—No one; I had heard that Mr. Buckland paid.

10,800. That is what I said. From whom did you hear that?—Well, I cannot tell you. It was the general talk, I suppose.

10,801. You were a head man upon the occasion; you had men under you?—Yes; I canvassed ever so many.

10,802. I know you canvassed; everybody is a canvasser and messenger in Reigate; they canvass each other. But you had a number of men under you; you had Mr. Fuller?—Yes.

10,803. He is a voter?—Yes.

10,804. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What Fuller is that?—Thomas Fuller.

10,805. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you employ him?—Yes, they were all committee men.

10,806. Then all the committee men were paid? All were understood to be paid?—Well, I understood so by what Mr. Gower said.

10,807. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You understood it from Mr. Gower?—Yes.

10,808. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You mean you refer to the speech he made in this hall?—Yes, below.

10,809. You understood from that that all the committee men were to be paid?—Yes.

10,810. Paid handsomely?—I do not know about that.

10,811. Did you put Thomas Fuller on the committee?—Yes.

10,812. How much did you pay him?—I paid him 30*s.*

10,813. From whom did you receive that money?—From Mr. Apted.

10,814. You received 30*s.* from Mr. Apted for Thomas Fuller?—For Thomas Fuller.

10,815. When?—Well, several weeks after the election; I could not tell you the exact time.

10,816. How much money did Mr. Apted hand you over for the purpose of paying others?—I think it was 30*l.* to me and to Mr. Rose.

10,817. Were you both together?—We were both together.

10,818. Where did he hand you over the 30*l.*?—At his own house.

10,819. In sovereigns?—Yes.

10,820. Did he take any acknowledgment from you?—No.

10,821. He counted out 30 sovereigns?—Yes.

10,822. Did you take 15 of them, and Rose 15, or did you take them all?—I picked up none.

10,823. Who took it?—Mr. Rose.

10,824. And no acknowledgment was given for the money?—No.

10,825. Did Rose afterwards divide it with you to pay away, or how?—Rose gave me the money.

10,826. He gave you all the 30*l.*?—No.

10,827. How much did he give you?—He gave me Fuller's money,

10,828. I must know more than that. How much money did Rose give you out of the 30*l.*?—It was 7*l.* 10*s.* I think; I forget.

10,829. How much did he give you? Did he give it to you in one sum, or did he give it to you in various sums, as you wanted it?—I believe he gave it me at two separate times.

10,830. You can tell me did he give you 10*l.*, 5*l.* each time?—I think he gave me 3*l.* at one time, and I think he gave me the other afterwards.

10,831. How much?—I forget.

10,832. 7*l.* or 8*l.*?—7*l.* or 8*l.* altogether.

10,833. You paid Fuller 30*s.*?—Yes.

10,834. You paid Steer 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

10,835. You paid John Brooker 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

10,836. And you paid J. Ede, who is J. Ede?—Josiah Ede; 1*l.*

10,837. How is that? Is he your brother?—No, he is my uncle.

10,838. Who is August?—He is a gardener.

10,839. Is he a voter?—Yes.

10,840. You paid him 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

10,841. Is that all the money that passed through your hands?—Yes.

10,842. Not all, is it?—That is all.

10,843. Not more?—No, none at all.

10,844. How came you to go with Mr. Rose to Mr. Apted for the 30*l.*? Who told you to go there?—We called in to see if there was any recompense for these men.

10,845. Why did you not get your own money from Mr. Apted?—I do not know why.

10,846. Why did you not get your own money from Mr. Apted?—I can't say.

10,847. How long after did you receive your own money, the 5*l.*?—After the election.

10,848. You distributed these sums; when did you distribute these sums?—I should think about five or six weeks after the election.

10,849. Had you received your own money then?—I had not.

10,850. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you live in Nutley-lane?—Yes.

10,851. You lived at the election of 1863 in Nutley-lane?—I did.

10,852. At that time were you engaged on Mr. Wilkinson's committee or not?—No, I was not on his committee at all.

10,853. You were engaged by his committee as messenger?—That is right.

10,854. At that election you saw Nicholls and a man named Corderoy frequently working in the election?—Yes.

10,855. Who were they working for?—I believe they were working for Mr. Gower at the time.

10,856. They came and talked to you about Mr. Gower?—I do not recollect that they said much about Mr. Gower.

10,857. Do you recollect the evening before the nomination day, or the evening of the nomination day being at Reigate, and going towards the town hall, and meeting Nicholls and Corderoy?—Yes, I met them.

10,858. Do you remember Nicholls then coming up to you, and speaking to you about the election?—Yes.

10,859. Well, did he not ask you who were you going to vote for?—I think he did.

10,860. He did not feel quite sure about your vote, did he, at that time?—I do not know.

10,861. Perhaps you will know if you remember what your answer to him was. Did you not say you were not quite sure, "you hadn't made up your mind"?—Well, I might have said so.

10,862. Do you remember upon that whether Nicholls said anything to you? Do you know a public house called the "Little Crown"?—Very well, indeed.

10,863. Did you and Nicholls go in there?—We did.

10,864. Was Corderoy with you too?—He was.

10,865. When you got into the house did you notice what Corderoy did? Did you notice something rather particular that he did?—He went into more rooms than one, did he not?—No, I think not.

10,866. You did not notice him look into all the rooms?—Well, he might have done so; I stood in the passage.

10,867. Did you notice Corderoy upon all the doors that were within reach from the passage and look in?—No, I did not notice that.

10,868. At last Corderoy found a room into which he took you, didn't he?—I think not.

10,869. Then he didn't find one; but he came back to you in the passage?—I do not know.

10,870. When he came to you in the passage, be so good as to tell me what he said to you. You will have no difficulty in recollecting, it was about voting you know?—Well, I do not remember what he did say, but I know there were motions made.

10,871. I have not got to the motions yet. I know all about the motions. Before we get to that just tell me what he said to you. He said, "Well now, "Ede, ——" Just tell me how he introduced the motions. What did he say about your vote?—I cannot remember at all.

10,872. I do not want the exact words?—I know he made motions.

10,873. Not the exact words, but to what effect? Did he say, "Now, Ede, the time is getting on, the "polling day is to-morrow; what do you want for "your vote"? Do you recollect his saying that?—No, I do not; I do not remember that.

10,874. Don't you recollect he said something of this sort, "Well, Ede, now what do you want for "your vote"?—Well, I do not remember at all what he did say. He might have said such a thing or he might not.

10,875. He might have said such a thing; that is quite enough for me?—I could not tell you; I know he made motions.

10,876. I will come to that now. When he said that he did he take you by the hand?—Yes he did.

10,877. When he took you by the hand, just describe what motions he made?—Well, I think he said this, "one—two—three—four—five." (*Here the witness tapped with the fore finger of one hand upon the palm of the other.*)

10,878. You are sure that the last stroke came down five?—Yes.

10,879. Did he then make a kind of note of interrogation (*holding up the fore finger*)? Did he do that?—I suppose he meant that.

10,880. It looked as if he was asking you a question; while he was doing this one—two—three—four—five?—I supposed it might be.

10,881. Did you leave your hand there to let him go on tapping once or twice more, eh? or did you draw your hand away, thinking that plenty?—Well, I think I drew my hand away.

10,882. At No. 5. You were a little more plain, and I think you said "That will do"?—No.

10,883. I thought you did; I thought you said "Yes." But you think you did not?—No.

10,884. Now you saw some money with him at the time; do you recollect that you saw some sovereigns?—I think I saw a pinch of sovereigns.

10,885. You do not mean a pinch like a pinch of snuff?—Yes, like a pinch of snuff.

10,886. When he showed you that he said something, didn't he; did he not say, "Don't be shy, "we've got plenty of money"?—No, I don't think he said that. He popped the money back into his pocket.

10,887. But did he not say something of that sort, "We're all right in money"?—I do not know that he said that.

10,888. Do you remember he said something else to you to which you did not agree?—I do.

10,889. Just let us have that from you, yourself, will you. I would rather get it from you?—Well, he asked if I would be willing to go down to the "White Hart" and be locked up.

10,890. The polling was next day?—Yes.

10,891. He rather made that a condition; he said, "Well, but you must be locked up"?—Yes.

13,892. I think you did not much like that?—Not much.

10,893. And so you did not agree to be locked up all night. Then how did you arrange with him at last? Was it arranged that you should go down there in the morning?—I think it was; that I was to go down next morning.

10,894. But you were not locked up that night?—No.

10,895. You would not condescend to that?—No.

10,896. As you did not condescend, did he hand you over the five sovereigns then?—No; he popped them back in his pocket.

10,897. Do you not think it would have been better if you had taken his terms?—Well, it might have been so.

10,898. In one sense only. I suppose you would have got the five sovereigns?—Well, I might have done.

10,899. I believe you then had a glass of stout or something to drink in the house?—I think he left me, and I had a glass of stout.

10,900. Did he pay for it?—I think it is very likely he did.

10,901. Whom did you vote for next day?—Mr. Wilkinson.

10,902. Why did you vote for Mr. Wilkinson at last?—Well, I had promised to do so.

10,903. Did you think it would pay better?—To vote for Mr. Wilkinson?

10,904. Yes?—Oh, no.

10,905. Did you get anything for voting for him?—No.

10,906. Not a farthing?—Not a farthing.

10,907. Were you promised anything?—Not a farthing. I was employed.

10,908. Employed for him?—Yes.

10,909. You were not on his committee?—No. I was employed as messenger from day to day.

10,910. By whom?—By the committee; I do not know who it was.

10,911. Were you not paid for your services from day to day?—Paid by the week.

10,912. You can tell me who paid you for Mr. Wilkinson?—I forget his name.

10,913. How much a week was it?—30*s*.

10,914. You were paid by the week?—Yes.

10,915. How many weeks?—I think about three.

10,916. Did you receive 4*l*. 10*s*.?—Yes.

10,917. By the week; I mean paid weekly?—Yes.

10,918, Not more than that?—No.

10,919. I wish you to tell me who paid you?—I believe the gentleman's name was Mr. Geer; I am not quite sure.

10,920. May I put down that you think it was Mr. Geer?—Yes; I think that was the gentleman's name. It was the gentleman who always acted in the committee room over at the "Swan."

10,921. Now for that 30*s*. did you really do any service?—I did.

10,922. What did you do?—Carried circulars all over the town.

10,923. What were you at that time?—I worked in the garden, but I had nothing to do then, I think; if I remember it was the winter time. I was put on as messenger.

10,924. When you were put on did they tell you what you were to be paid?—No, I do not think they did.

10,925. Try and recollect; did you not know what you were to receive? Because after the first week you received 30*s*.?—I do not think I did previous to that.

10,926. What are your services worth when you are in employ as a gardener?—About a pound a week.

10,927. It was pretty good pay then?—Not very; I think not.

10,928. You do not think it good pay?—No.

10,929. A pound a week is about what you earn?—That is about what I earn, but I do not think it is very good pay.

10,930. But you see there was something more than service. Did they tell you who you were to vote for when they agreed about your employ?—Not a word mentioned.

10,931. Did you see Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—No.

10,932. Do you know him?—Oh, very well.

10,933. Have you ever done any work for him?—No.

10,934. He is a very good man, is he not?—I have heard so.

10,935. You do not know it?—No.

10,936. You know nothing of any other elections further back?—No.

THOMAS CHAPMAN sworn and examined. *T. Chapman.*

10,937. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you a voter for this borough?—I am.

10,938. And voted at the last election?—Yes.

10,939. What is your qualification?—The rent of my house and shop is 14*l*. a year.

10,940. How long have you been a voter for this borough, many years?—Yes, ever since 1852.

10,941. You voted at this last election for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

10,942. Who was it canvassed you, Mr. Chapman?—Mr. Relf.

10,943. Is Mr. Relf your landlord?—He is.

10,944. Did he ask you to be one of the committee men for Mr. Gower?—No.

10,945. When he asked you to vote for Mr. Gower, did he make any promise to you?—No, sir; not in the least.

10,946. Did he at any time?—No, sir.

10,947. Did you owe him any rent at the time?—I did, sir.

10,948. How much?—I cannot tell you.

10,949. More than half a year?—I might have done.

10,950. Did not Mr. Relf, that is, Mr. Samuel Relf, promise to forgive you half a year's rent if you would vote for Mr. Gower?—No such thing; he did not.

10,951. Do you owe Mr. Relf any rent now?—I do.

10,952. How much?—I do not know exactly what it is.

10,953. What was your last payment of money to him?—14*l*.

10,954. And when did you pay it?—Last September.

10,955. Then in last September you paid him 14*l*.?—No, I only paid him 7*l*.

10,956. Then last September you owed him a twelvemonth's rent, and paid him 7*l*.?—Yes.

10,957. Did he give you a receipt for 14*l*.?—No, he gave a receipt for the 7*l*.

10,958. Was that a receipt in full of all demands?—No, sir.

SEVENTH DAY.

T. Chapman.

29 Aug. 1866.

10,959. Have you got that receipt?—I have, at home.

10,960. Perhaps you can tell us what was in the receipt?—"Received 7*l.*; due for rent."

10,961. Up to September?—Yes.

10,962. Did you take your house from September; Did you go in at September or Lady-day?—No; I went in in November.

10,963. Have you paid him any more rent?—No, not since.

10,964. Do you pay him rent half-yearly or quarterly?—Yearly is my time to pay him.

10,965. You pay him every September?—Yes, when I do pay him.

10,966. Then you will not have to pay him any more more money till September?—I have got the 7*l.* to pay.

10,967. Have you ever been asked for it?—Yes.

10,968. Who asked you?—Mr. Nicholls.

10,969. When did Mr. Nicholls ask you for that?—He has asked me.

10,970. When—when?—This year.

10,971. When did he ask you; was it yesterday?—No.

10,972. Was it a week ago?—More than that.

10,973. A fortnight?—I told him I would pay him as soon as I could.

10,974. Was it since the hearing of the petition?—No.

10,975. Was it before?—Yes, before the petition was on.

10,976. Did you receive any summons to attend the committee?—No.

10,977. You were expecting to be called?—No.

10,978. When Nicholls came and asked you for your rent you were very likely to have been called up before a committee of the House of Commons, and then it would be convenient to settle the 7*l.*?—Well, he never spoke to me on the subject.

10,979. Why did you not pay Mr. Relf the whole of the twelvemonth's rent at September?—If I had got it I should have done so, but I had not got more than 7*l.*; I paid him all I had.

10,980. When you paid Mr. Relf the 7*l.* was not something said about the election?—Not a word.

10,981. Did you do any work on the election?—Yes; I posted some bills.

10,982. Did you do so on several occasions?—Yes; I posted some bills for both parties.

10,983. We will take our position at Mr. Gower's committee first; were you on his committee?—No.

10,984. You merely posted his bills?—Yes.

10,985. Were you to be paid for posting his bills?—That I do not know; the bills were sent to my house to be posted from Mr. Gower's committee.

10,986. Who brought the bills?—I do not know; they were brought to my house to be posted.

10,987. You are a grocer, I believe?—No, I am a hairdresser.

10,988. Do you usually go posting bills; you are not a common billsticker as well as hairdresser?—I do anything I can to get an honest living.

10,989. Do you go out posting bills as well as cutting hair?—I have done so.

10,990. Not very often, I suppose?—No.

10,991. Generally at election time?—No; I have posted bills for H——, the printer.

10,992. You were posting bills for both parties, and therefore you would not stick these bills up as a matter of principle for both parties, but it would be for what you could get?—Yes.

10,993. Did you make any application after the election, or during the time of the election going on, to be paid for the sticking up of those bills?—I did not.

10,994. Do you mean to say nobody has been to your house to offer you money for sticking those bills?—They have not.

10,995. But you expected to be paid?—I did, indeed.

10,996. Who did you expect would pay you?—I did not know who would pay me.

10,997. Who did you expect would pay you?—I thought they would be honourable enough to pay me.

10,998. Who?—Mr. Page sent somebody to my house.

10,999. Was he one of Mr. Gower's committee?—No.

11,000. Was he one of Mr. Monson's committee?—I do not know.

11,001. Did Mr. Relf ever apply to you for the remaining 7*l.* before Mr. Monson came to you?—No.

11,002. Mr. Nicholls is the county court officer, is he not?—Yes.

11,003. Did he come to you with a summons from the county court for the 7*l.*?—No.

11,004. He came in his private capacity, and not in his public capacity?—Yes.

11,005. Did he say he had come for Mr. Relf?—He gathers the rent.

11,006. Was he gathering the rent for Mr. Relf?—Yes.

11,007. Do you usually pay the money to Mr. Relf?—I did not pay the 7*l.* to Mr. Relf, but to Mr. Nicholls.

11,008. Did he tell you that Mr. Relf would forgive you the other half on account of your voting at the election?—He never said nothing about that.

11,009. Will you swear that?—I will.

11,010. Did Mr. Relf say anything to you about the 7*l.*?—No; he never said nothing about it.

11,011. Will you swear that?—I will.

11,012, How soon after you had paid the 7*l.* did Mr. Nicholls apply to you again for the money?—I think it was in July he applied for more money.

11,013. This last July?—Yes.

11,014. Had he applied to you between September and July for the 7*l.*?—No, sir.

11,015. But you told me just now he applied to you before the petition for the 7*l.*, and now you say it was not until July?—It was not until July.

11,016. It was not till July that Mr. Nicholls came to you to ask you for the 7*l.*?—No, it was not.

11,017. You had heard that this Commission was coming down here to inquire into these matters before Mr. Nicholls applied?—I heard it mentioned, but I did not think it would come.

11,018. But I dare say Mr. Nicholls did?—I cannot tell what Mr. Nichols thought.

11,019. Did he say anything to you about the Commission?—Not a word.

11,020. He was too cautious, I suppose, to say anything about that; he did not say anything about it?—He did not.

11,021. You live in this town?—In Linkfield-street; about a mile from here.

11,022. You have been a voter here since 1852?—I have.

11,023. Perhaps you can tell me about the previous election. Did you vote in 1863; I will take you back, your recollection will have become quieter; did you vote in '63?—I did.

11,024. Who for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

11,025. Was Mr. Nicholls acting for Mr. Wilkinson at that election?—No.

11,026. I see he was for Gower; he changes sometimes. Mr. Mazden was acting for Mr. Wilkinson?—I do not know.

11,027. Did Mr. Mazden canvass you in 1863?—No.

11,028. Did Mr. Mazden act for Wilkinson?—Yes.

11,029. Who did canvass you?—Mr. Wilkinson himself.

11,030. Did you do any work in 1863?—No.

11,031. Nothing whatever?—No.

11,032. You did not post a bill?—No.

11,033. Try and remember?—No.

11,034. Did anybody promise you anything in 1863?—No.

11,035. Did you get anything?—No, I did not.

11,036. Did you apply to any one to have anything for loss of time for the nomination day and polling?—No.

11,037. Did you consider it working attending the nomination, or loss of time?—It was loss of time.

11,038. There is loss of time at the nomination; did you expect to be paid for that?—I did not then.

11,039. Did you attend the nomination in 1865?—I did, sir.

11,040. Of course you considered that as loss of time?—Yes.

11,041. You told me you did not expect to be paid in 1863, but you did in 1865; did you expect to be paid?—Yes, I expected something, but I did not get anything.

11,042. What did you expect, how much, *5l.*, or what you could get?—I thought I should have been paid.

11,043. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) A day's loss of time attending the nomination, giving your attendance?—And for polling day.

11,044. Losing time?—Yes.

11,045. Who did you expect would pay for the loss of time, 10*s.*? Out of whose pocket did you expect it would come?—I did not know.

11,046. Perhaps you did not care?—I did not care much where it came from so they paid me.

11,047. Did you expect the candidates to bear the expense?—I cannot say.

11,048. You were going to vote for the Liberal candidate, and the most liberal, I suppose?—I cannot say that.

11,049. That one is most liberal who would pay the costs of the days I have mentioned?—Mr. Gower is a very good Liberal.

11,050. Why is he a good Liberal?—For his politics; I never received anything from him.

11,051. You expected it in 1865?—I ought to have been.

11,052. Who did you vote for in 1859; did you vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—I did.

11,053. Who opposed him then; Mr. Monson?—Yes.

11,054. Were you defeated by the Monson party then?—Yes.

11,055. Were you defeated by the Gower party in 1863?—No, sir.

11,056. Not then?—No, sir.

11,057. Were you offered any work or any payment by any party?—No, sir, I was not.

11,058. You say you stuck bills also for the Monson party in 1865?—I did.

11,059. Who employed you?—Mr. Page sent the bills to my house; he asked me if I would have the kindness to post them, and I did.

11,060. Did you see Mr. Page about the posting these bills?—No.

11,061. Did you do it generally?—No.

11,062. Was there any understanding between you and the Monson party you were to be paid anything?—No.

11,063. Did you expect to be paid one penny for these bills?—By some one.

11,064. Did you do any other work for the Monson party in 1865?—No.

11,065. Excepting posting these few bills?—No.

11,066. Were you canvassed?—No.

11,067. Somebody I suppose asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

11,068. Did you not think it very strange you should not be asked?—No, because I had promised to vote for Mr. Gower.

11,069. Had you said so?—Yes, when they came to me and asked me.

11,070. Did you ever see Job Apted in the election of 1865?—I have seen him many times.

11,071. Had he spoken to you about it?—No.

11,072. Or Green?—No.

11,073. Or any other person who took an active part then?—Not in the least.

11,074. Did not Mr. Nicholls ask you for a vote?—No, I never saw Mr. Nicholls.

11,075. Who was it you promised your vote for Gower; did you promise Mr. Relf?—I did.

11,076. I suppose he knew at the time you were indebted to him for the rent?—I dare say he did.

11,077. Will you swear that he never made any allusion to you about the rent that was owing?—Yes.

11,078. Either that or at any other time?—He has asked me several times, "Chapman, what rent do you "owe," and I have told him I did not know.

11,079. You might have owed him more; did you owe him more than the 12 months' rent?—There was some left behind.

11,080. How much, did you owe two years' rent?—No.

11,081. In the previous year had you paid your rent up?—No, I had paid some off.

11,082. Tell me how much did you owe?—I am not certain.

11,083. You might have owed two years' rent?—Well, I cannot say.

11,084. I should very much like to see the receipt; perhaps you will be good enough to bring it?—Very well.

11,085. How far do you live off?—About a mile.

11,086. Would you be good enough to bring it here this afternoon or to-morrow morning?—Yes.

11,087. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you voted in 1863 who was your landlord?—Mr. Relf.

11,088. Did Mr. Relf and you vote on the same side on that occasion?—I think not.

11,089. You voted for Wilkinson?—I did.

11,090. And who did your landlord vote for?—Mr. Gower.

11,091. At that time did you owe him something for rent?—Yes.

11,092. Do you know what rent was in arrear?—No, I cannot tell you how much.

11,093. But there was some?—Yes.

11,094. Did Nicholls and Relf vote on the same side at that election?—I think not.

11,095. Have you ever voted on the same side with Nicholls at an election?—Yes.

11,096. When?—At Rawlinson's election.

11,097. But not in 1863?—No.

11,098. Rawlinson's election was in 1858?—Yes.

11,099. That was when there was the general election, when Mr. Doulton came down; is that the one you mean?—Yes.

11,100. Who did you vote for at that election?—Rawlinson.

11,101. He gained it, did he not?—Yes.

11,102. You were on the winning side?—Yes.

11,103. Did you receive something for your services then?—Not a halfpenny.

11,104. What had you done for him?—I had done nothing at the election except going and voting.

11,105. Did you see much of that election?—No.

11,106. Have you been at any elections before that?—Yes.

11,107. Do you recollect Mr. Hackblock opposing Sir Henry Rawlinson in '57?—Yes.

11,108. Hackblock beat Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Yes.

11,109. Did you vote for Hackblock at that time?—I did.

11,110. Was anything paid on that occasion?—Nothing.

11,111. Was anything promised?—No.

11,112. No suggestion made about any payment after voting?—Not in the least.

11,113. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you expect to be applied to after you had voted for your rent that was in arrear?—The rent ought to have been paid, but the circumstances were such that I could not pay it.

SEVENTH DAY.

T. Chapman.

29 Aug. 1866.

11,114. There is nothing against you for that, nothing at all; but did you expect to be asked for the arrears of rent after you had paid the 7*l.*?—Certainly I did; I expected to pay it all.

11,115. And you thought you would be asked for it?—Yes.

11,116. And you had no reason to expect but that you would be asked for it?—Certainly not.

The witness withdrew.

W. Child.

William Child sworn and examined.

11,117. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Child?—I am a cellerman at a brewery.

11,118. Where do you live?—At Lesbourne-lane.

11,119. What rent do you pay for your house?—15*l.* a year.

11,120. You voted for Mr. Gower on the last election?—Yes, sir.

11,121. Was that your first election?—Yes, sir.

11,122. You did not vote in '63?—That was my first election.

11,123. Were you put on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

11,124. Who put you on?—Mr. Dann.

11,125. Who used to be mayor of this place?—Yes.

11,126. Did you do any work for it?—I went about to meetings.

11,127. Did you do any work?—Not particularly so.

11,128. All the time of the election you were going on with your own proper work in the brewery?—Yes.

11,129. Who did you promise your vote to?—To Mr. Dann.

11,130. Mr. Gower in fact?—Yes.

11,131. Who did you give your promise to to vote for Mr. Gower?—To Mr. Dann.

11,132. This was just before the election?—It was about a fortnight before the election.

11,133. I thought you did not promise your vote till it was near the time of voting?—It was a fortnight as near as I can tell.

11,134. I thought it was not till two or three days before the election; I suppose I am wrong in that?—I suppose you are.

11,135. Had you not wavered in your mind two or three days before the election?—No.

11,136. But you went steadily on under Mr. Gower's colours?—After I had told him I would vote for him.

11,137. That was a fortnight before?—Yes.

11,138. I do not wish to tie you down at all to a day or two?—That was the time.

11,139. Was Mr. Dann on the committee?—I believe he was.

11,140. Did Mr. Dann make you any promise?—No, sir.

11,141. None at all?—No.

11,142. Who did you have any conversation with about what work you were to do besides Mr. Dann?—Mr. Joyes.

11,143. And Mr. Apted?—No.

11,144. Did you not see him?—I saw Mr. Apted, but I did not speak to him.

11,145. Did you have any conversation with Buckland about it?—No.

11,146. Only with Frederick Joyes?—Not Mr. Frederick.

11,147. But William Joyes?—Yes, William.

11,148. When you saw William Joyes what did he say?—He asked me if I was agreeable to work for them.

11,149. Was it a fortnight before the election, or more, or less?—It might be a fortnight, but I cannot recollect.

11,150. Was it the same time you promised Mr. Dann?—It was after that.

11,151. What arrangement did you make with Mr. Joyes?—He offered me 3*l.*

11,152. What were you to do?—Anything he required me to do.

11,153. And you were agreeable to that?—Yes.

11,154. And did you say "Done, like," to this bargain?—I do not know what you mean.

11,155. Did you say "Done?" Did you make the bargain with him?—I would do what he required me to do.

11,156. When was he to pay you the 3*l.*?—No time was stated when he was to pay me.

11,157. Did he pay you before the election?—No, it was paid after; some weeks after the election the 3*l.* was paid.

11,158. Were you paid by Mr. Joyes?—No.

11,159. Who were you paid by?—I was paid by Mr. Buckland.

11,160. I suppose you attended the public houses here to hear what was going on, when your work was over?—No, I got enough in the brewery.

J. Ede.

Josiah Ede sworn and examined.

11,161. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What rent do you pay for your house?—4*s.* a week.

11,162. What are you?—I look after two horses now, and work in my garden.

11,163. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

11,164. For whom?—For Mr. Gower.

11,165. Had you been employed by Mr. Rose in his behalf?—James Ede and Apted came to me about four weeks before the election.

11,166. James Ede is your nephew?—Yes.

11,167. He came when you were at work?—Yes.

11,168. And they found you work?—Yes.

11,169. What were they going to pay you; how much?—I asked them what they were going to pay me, and they said the money would mount up to 3*l.* or 4*l.*, perhaps.

11,170. Or perhaps to 5*l.*?—They did not exactly say that.

11,171. But they gave you to infer that it might?—Yes.

11,172. And you said, of course you would do all you could for Mr. Gower?—I did, sir.

11,173. You did not do anything; you were not called upon to do anything?—No; I was not.

11,174. You remained at your work?—I remained at my work.

11,175. But you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

11,176. What money did they give you after voting?—2*l.*

11,177. Only 2*l.*?—No.

11,178. Who paid you the 2*l.*?—Mr. Joyes.

11,179. Did you not receive 30*s.* from your nephew, James Ede?—No.

11,180. He said so on his oath?—He never did.

11,181. 1*l.* I mean. I asked him particularly why he paid you so badly. Recollect now, did you not receive 1*l.* from him?—I never did.

11,182. The money you did receive was from Mr. Joyes?—Yes.

11,183. How came you to go to him?—James Ede took me to him.

11,184. Your nephew took you to him?—Yes.

11,185. How long was that after the election?—I cannot say, but I think it was about six weeks.

11,186. About six weeks after the election?—I should think it was.

11,187. Were you promised any more when you were paid the 2*l.*?—Yes, I was to have some more afterwards.

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11,188. And that was what Mr. Joyes said?—No, I do not know that Mr. Joyes said so, but James Ede did.

11,189. Did he tell you how much more you were to have?—Ede told me it would amount up to *5l.*

11,190. Did you apply to any one after that?—I did come down again once.

11,191. To whom did you apply?—To James Ede.

11,192. And then he told you it was all up?—No; he said there was going to be a settling, and I should get something.

11,193. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it your nephew or Joyes paid you the *2l.*?—No, sir, Joyes, up at the shop.

11,194. Joyes?—Yes.

11,195. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) To go to the last election previous to '65, had you voted in '63?—Yes.

11,196. For whom did you vote on the occasion?—For Mr. Gower.

11,197. What did you receive?—I never received anything.

11,198. You did not receive anything on that occasion?—No, I never received anything.

11,199. Did they promise you anything?—No, sir.

11,200. They did not from Mr. Gower?—They never promised me anything.

11,201. Were you canvassed on behalf of the other candidate in 1863, and did they promise you anything?—No, never; they never offered me a halfpenny, and I never had a drink of beer.

11,202. This was the first time you ever had any money?—It was, and it was paid by Mr. Joyes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I dare say; I accept your evidence with the greatest confidence.

11,203. That was the first time you ever received any money?—Yes.

11,204. And your nephew came to you?—Yes. I was at the election at 1863. I did not promise Mr. Gower, and Cline said to me, "You will give a vote "to Mr. Gower; will you mind giving it to Mr. "Gower?" I said, I did not. Four or five days before the election I was taken badly with the rheumatics; that was in 1863; and I kept my bed. Mr. Steel attended to me, and he said, "How much are "you offered for lying here?" I said, "Nothing at "all." He said, "Were you offered 9*l.* or 10*l.*?" I said "No;" and I was not, not a halfpenny; and he even got me out of my bed, and got me to vote for Mr. Gower.

11,205. And you received nothing?—No.

11,206. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose Mr. Steel thought you were shamming?—He did.

11,207. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you voted at other elections?—Yes, for Hackblock and Doulton; and I voted twice for Mr. Monson.

11,208. Hackblock was a gentleman of great local influence, and deservedly so; did you receive anything from him on account of voting?—No, never; nor expected from any one.

11,209. Did you from Mr. Doulton?—No.

11,210. Nor for voting for Mr. Monson?—No.

11,211. You never received anything except on the last occasion?—No, I never received a halfpenny.

11,212. You were never employed in any way?—No.

11,213. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was there a great deal of money going about at the election when Mr. Doulton was here?—I firmly believe there was, but I got none of it. Doulton had some large placards, and I went a few days to carry them about the town, and all I received from him was 3*s.* a day.

11,214. You got 3*s.* a day?—Yes.

11,215. Were there many people carrying them about?—I think five or six.

11,216. Not more?—I will not swear there were that.

11,217. Did you attend any public houses in 1858, at Mr. Doulton's election?—No.

11,218. You did not?—No.

11,219. And you took no more interest in it than carrying those bills?—Nothing except carrying those bills.

The witness then withdrew.

EDWARD EDE sworn and examined.

E. Ede.

11,220. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you live in Nutley-lane?—Not now.

11,221. You did?—I did live there.

11,222. At the election?—Yes.

11,223. Where do you live now?—At Holmesdale.

11,224. What rent do you pay?—6*s.* 6*d.* a week.

11,225. What rent did you pay at the election?—5*s.*

11,226. What are you?—A day labourer.

11,227. How many elections have you voted at?—Only one.

11,228. You had nothing to do with the election of '63?—No.

11,229. Had you a vote?—No.

11,230. Whom did vote for in '65?—For Mr. Gower.

11,231. Did Mr. Gower call upon you for your vote?—No.

11,232. Who did?—Mr. Rose.

11,233. That is Alexander Rose?—Yes.

11,234. What relation is James Ede to you; not the older man, the younger man?—He is a nephew of mine.

11,235. Are you a brother of Josiah Ede?—Yes.

11,236. Did your nephew, James Ede, call upon you about your vote?—Mr. Rose called upon me.

11,237. I will begin with Rose then. How long before the election did he call?—I am sure I do not know.

11,238. What arrangements did you make with Rose?—No particular arrangement.

11,239. No, not particular, but tell me what it was generally?—All the arrangement I made was for giving my time and my vote. I was to have as much as other people.

11,240. How much was that?—I don't know.

11,241. Well, go on, I do not want to stop you?—There was no quantity of money mentioned at all.

11,242. Where did this conversation take place? Was it in Rose's house?—Yes, I think it was.

11,243. Were you fetched up to Rose's by your nephew, James Ede?—Yes, I think I was.

11,244. You did vote?—Yes.

11,245. Did you do any work?—No.

11,246. You were paid 3*l.* instead of 5*l.*?—No.

11,247. You were paid 3*l.*?—No, I had 2*l.* 5*s.*

11,248. I thought it was 3*l.*?—No.

11,249. By whom were you paid?—I had 35*s.* from Rose and 10*s.* from Joyes.

11,250. Did Rose pay you first?—He paid me the first money.

11,251. Was that before or after the election?—I had my money in instalments.

11,252. Did you receive any money before the election?—Yes, half-a-crown.

11,253. How soon after the election were you paid part of the 35*s.* by Rose?—The day after the election half-a-crown more was paid, and half-a-sovereign I had from Joyes the day after the election, and the t'other I cannot tell you about.

11,254. But it was some time after the election?—A long time after.

11,255. Did you see something of the Monson party before you voted?—Well, yes, I did.

11,256. Be so good as to tell us about it in your own way?—I was going along with the team of

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horses, when I met Mr. Holdsworth and Mr. Monson together in the road, and he asked me to stop my team. He asked me if I had promised my vote, and I said I had to Mr. Gower.

11,257. Had you at that time promised it?—Yes.

11,258. Well, go on, and tell us what else passed?—I have nothing more to say about it. I did not promise any one else.

11,259. Did they ask you who you had promised it to?—Mr. Monson said, "Did you promise the vote "to Mr. Gower himself, or to his agents"? I said, "To his agents." They said, "That is nothing." I said, "My word is my bond, and I shall vote for "Mr. Gower."

11,260. Was not something more said?—No.

11,261. After that did you see any of the Monson party with Mr. Monson himself?—No, I never saw any more of them.

The witness then withdrew.

J. Ede.

Josiah Ede (a former witness) here addressed himself to the Commissioners, saying he wished to correct a mistake he had made in his evidence.

The Chief Commissioner observed they would be happy to hear anything he had to say by way of explanation.

(*The Witness.*) I made a mistake. My nephew, Jem Ede, I recollect, did pay me a pound.

11,262. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who wrote this (*holding up a small paper writing before the audience*)?—(*A Policeman.*) I did.

11,263. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who got you to write it?—(*Policeman.*) The old gentleman (*Josiah Ede*).

J. Ede.

Josiah Ede further examined.

11,264. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you seen your nephew in Court?—There he is (*pointing out a young man near the Bench*).

11,265. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was it a mistake?—Yes.

11,266. Then you did receive the 3*l.*?—Yes, I did.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien expressed himself as being quite satisfied with witness's evidence.

J. Dormer.

James Dormer sworn and examined.

11,267. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your qualification; what rent do you pay?—15*l.* 12*s.*

11,268. Where do you live?—Holmesdale-road, Wray-park.

11,269. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

11,270. To whom did you promise your vote for Mr. Gower?—Himself.

11,271. After that promise had been given did anybody else come to you about your vote, or did you see anybody?—No.

11,272. Were you on the committee?—Yes.

11,273. Who put you on the committee?—Alexander Rose, I believe.

11,274. Did he ask you to be on the committee?—Yes.

11,275. After he asked you to be on the committee did he tell you that the men who were on the committee would be paid?—Yes.

11,276. Did he tell you what you could expect?—He said I should have a 1*l.* a week if I liked to go out and work for them.

11,277. Was that after you had promised Mr. Gower?—Yes.

11,278. Had you been canvassed by the Monson party?—No.

11,279. Not at all?—No.

11,280. Not during the election?—No.

11,281. Were you put on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

11,282. How soon after you had promised Mr. Gower were you put on the committee?—About a week or ten days after.

11,283. Did you not think it very strange that the Monson party did not canvass you?—No.

11,284. Why not?—Because I had pledged my word.

11,285. You had not told the whole public you had pledged your word?—A good many knew it.

11,286. And Alexander Rose said you were to have a pound a week for working; did you do any work?—I delivered a few bills.

11,287. On how many occasions did you deliver bills?—Three or four different times; perhaps three or four times in the week.

11,288. It took you about half an hour to do it?—More than that.

11,289. One hour?—Yes.

11,290. What are you?—A gardener.

11,291. You worked at your usual occupation during the day of course?—Not all the time.

11,292. As often as you could get work?—I was in a regular place.

11,293. You worked your usual hours for your master did you not?—If he liked to let me off I could go.

11,294. Whose service were you in?—Mr. May's.

11,295. Who did he vote for?—I believe for Mr. Gower.

11,296. Were you at weekly wages?—Yes.

11,297. How much a week?—1*l.* 1*s.* a week.

11,298. You always got your 1*l.* 1*s.* from your master?—Decidedly.

11,299. He gave you permission to deliver bills for Mr. Gower?—I asked before I went.

11,300. You never left without asking?—Decidedly not.

11,301. Then he paid you for the time you were taking these bills in fact?—Yes.

11,302. And you got your 1*l.* a week from the committee?—No, I did not get it.

11,303. Did you ask for it?—Yes.

11,304. When did you ask for it?—On several occasions.

11,305. After the election was over?—Yes.

11,306. Did you ask for any money before the election?—No.

11307. Not till after?—No.

11,308. How long after was it?—Three weeks or a month.

11,309. To whom did you make the application?—To Alexander Rose.

11,310. When you applied to him for money, what did he say?—He said he had not got any.

11,311. Did he refer you to any one?—No.

11,312. He did not refer you to Job Apted?—No.

11,313. Or to Mr. Smith?—No; I got something after; 30*s.* six weeks after.

11,314. Mr. Rose gave you 30*s.* six weeks after the election?—Yes.

11,315. When he gave you 30*s.* at that time did he not give you more money?—Not at all; only the 30*s.*

11,316. Was that at his own house?—No.

11,317. At yours?—No.

11,318. Where?—On the highway.

11,319. Was he alone?—Yes.

11,320. Were you alone?—Yes.

11,321. He promised you you should have more?—Yes.

11,322. You have not succeeded in getting any?—No.

11,323. Then Mr. Rose told you why he could not pay you any more?—He had not got any himself.

11,324. Did he say anything about this money in reference to the petition?—No, I do not recollect that he named it.

11,325. Whether you would be paid in February?—No.

11,326. Or after it had been to parliament?—No, I do not recollect.

11,327. Did you receive money from anybody else?—Yes, 5*s*.

11,328. Who from?—Mr. Apted.

11,329. When did you receive the 5*s*. from Apted?—Before the election.

11,330. What was that for?—For services going to Catterham.

11,331. Oh, that was your railway expenses in going to Catterham?—Yes.

11,332. Did Job Apted request you to go to Galton?—Yes, I believe he did.

11,333. You are certain he did, or else why should he give you the 5*s*. for going to Catterham?—Yes.

11,334. That was so?—Yes.

11,335. That was a week before the election?—More than that.

11,336. Did he tell you where it was at Galton?—No, I knew where I was to go.

11,337. From Mr. Apted?—No.

11,338. Who told you?—I knew myself.

11,339. How did you know?—I knew where the man lived whom I was to go to see.

11,340. How did you know you were going to that man?—Mr. Apted sent me.

11,341. You said you knew before Mr. Apted sent you you were to go to this man; it was a man of the name of Ashford, a voter, was it not?—Yes.

11,342. You were to go and see this man and canvass him?—Yes.

11,343. Did Apted tell you you were to offer him any money?—No.

11,344. What were you to offer him?—Nothing.

11,345. What did you offer him?—I did not offer him anything.

11,346. Did Apted tell you to offer him anything or not?—No.

11,347. Tell me what took place between you and Mr. Ashford?—I asked him for his vote.

11,348. Did he promise?—No.

11,349. You went to get the vote if you could?—Yes, decidedly.

11,350. What sort of a man is Ashford, a working man?—I believe a bailiff.

11,351. A farm bailiff?—Yes.

11,352. Did you not offer him work if he would come?—No.

11,353. Will you swear that?—Yes.

11,354. Why did you hesitate when I asked you if you were authorized by Mr. Apted to offer him work?—I was thinking whether anybody else told me.

11,355. Did anybody else?—No, I was thinking at the time.

11,356. Did they?—No.

11,357. Do you mean, upon your solemn oath, that Apted did not offer any inducement to the man to vote?—No.

11,358. This vote was important to get was it not?—I believe it was.

11,359. Apted was very anxious to get votes then?—Yes.

11,360. You knew that promises were pretty freely made by Apted to get votes?—Yes.

11,361. Do you mean to tell us that was the only vote Apted was desirous to get without making a promise?—He never made any promise to me.

11,362. Did he authorize you to make a promise to Ashford?—No.

11,363. Just tell me precisely what Apted told you when he requested you to see Ashford?—There was no one knew Ashford. I said I knew where Ashford was, I knew his address and would go and find him; I would go and see whether I could secure his vote.

11,364. Do you mean upon your solemn oath that Mr. Apted, upon that occasion or upon any other, did not tell you to offer the man Ashford money if he would come and vote?—No, he did not.

11,365. Or to be paid for coming?—He might tell him he should be paid his expenses to come down.

11,366. If he was to be paid his expenses, what expenses was he to be paid?—I do not know.

11,367. Did you say your general expenses?—I might say the expenses of coming down on the polling day.

11,368. The polling day?—The polling day only.

11,369. Did you canvass anybody else?—No.

11,370. Was Ashford the only man you asked for a vote?—I might ask several.

11,371 Did you, when asking anybody for votes, tell them that they were to be paid for their time?—Yes, when they were to come on the committee; but this man I knew would not go on the committee; he would not attend.

11,372. He might have been named on the committee, though living down at Catterham, to swell the list; that was one of the objects to swell the lists?—I suppose so.

11,373. It did not signify whether a man came down to work or not?—I should have thought it did.

11,374. We have got enough evidence to satsfy us that that was not so. You tell me upon your oath that you did not offer him money or make a promise of anything; do you still hold with that?—Yes.

11,375, And that nobody else authorized you to offer him any money?—No.

11,376. Was Apted the only person who authorized you to see this man?—I believe so.

11,377. You believe so; are you certain? Was he spoken of in the committee room?—Yes, I believe he was.

11,378. Who spoke of him in the committee room when you were there?—I think Apted did.

11,379. Did Apted in the committee room say anything about it, though not to you?—I did not hear it.

11,380. Did you hear anybody in the committee room speak about offering this man Ashford money, or saying overtures were made to him?—No.

11,381. It was sometimes spoken of when in the committee room about offering men work?—Sometimes it was; not always.

11,382. Sometimes it was?—Yes.

11,383. And they were to be paid, and paid well, if they worked?—Yes; if they liked to work.

11,384. Did you hear Mr. Gower say so himself in the committee room?—In the room below.

11,385. Some few days before the election?—Some time before the election.

11,386. How long?—It might have been a fortnight.

11,387. That those who worked should be paid, and paid well?—Yes.

11,388. Having that in your mind, did you think it would be a matter of inducement to Ashford, if he came to work, that he should be paid well; that that might influence his vote?—No; I thought he was beyond that.

11,389. That he was too pure?—Yes.

11,390. For that to tempt him?—Yes.

11,391. Did you think so?—Yes, I did.

11,392. Really and truly?—Yes.

11,393. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that your only election?—There was 1863.

11,394. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

11,395. Had you voted previous to 1863?—No; 1863 and 1865.

11,396. You did not vote before 1863?—No.

11,397. Who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

11,398. And who canvassed you; did he himself?—Yes.

11,399. When he came did you promise him or did

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you say you had not made up your mind?—I did not promise him.

11,400. Did you promise him before you voted?—Yes.

11,401. How long before the election can you recollect that you promised him; before the polling day?—I cannot say.

11,402. About?—A month, perhaps.

11,403. After you promised him you stuck to him?—Yes.

11,404, Before you promised him did you have some talk with Mr. Gower's friends who were there opposing Mr. Wilkinson?—He came and asked me for my vote.

11,405. Who came?—Mr. Gower himself.

11,406. What did you say to him? You had not promised anybody then, you know?—I had not promised.

11,407. Did you tell him you had not promised when he canvassed you?—Yes.

11,408. What did he say? Did he ask for your vote for him?—Yes.

11,409. And did you promise him?—No.

11,410. What did he say to you?—He wanted my vote.

11,411. And you said you had not promised him? What did he say to induce you to vote for him?—I do not recollect the words now.

11,412. I do not want the words. Did he say anything, if you voted for him, you know?—No, he never said anything about that; he said he should like my vote.

11,413. Did you see anybody else in his behalf in this election of 1863?—No.

11,414. Afterwards?—No.

11,415. Soon after that did you promise your vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

11,416. Did you see anything of Mr. Gower's party after that?—No.

11,417. Before the voting?—No.

11,418. Did you go on Mr. Wilkinson's committee?—No.

11,419. Did you take an active part in the election?—No.

11,420. Did you receive anything for your vote?—Yes.

11,421. From whom?—Frederick Joyes.

11,422. Before the election or after?—After.

11,423. How much?—2*l.*

11,424. Nothing more than 2*l.*?—No.

11,425. What did he tell you the 2*l.* was for?—Nomination day and polling day.

11,426. Had you done anything at all on the nomination day and polling day, except attending and shouting, and that sort of thing?—Yes.

11,427. What had you done?—Circulars.

11,428. You had not given up your regular engagement at that time as gardener, had you?—No.

11,429, (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you in the same place then?—Yes.

11,430. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was a goodish sum, 1*l.* a-day, for polling and nomination day; did you not consider it good pay?—Oh, yes.

12,431. You seem to be an honest man. I am going to ask you this question, did you not consider that the 2*l.* was also for your vote?—No, not exactly.

11,432. No, not all of it, not exactly; but tell me as an honest man, you have given your evidence very straightforward, did you not consider that the 2*l.* included your vote?—I considered that was in the vote.

11,433. Tell me, if you can, was there a good deal of refreshment at the election of 1863?—I do not know; I did not attend any of the meetings.

11,434. Were you at any previous election?—Only those two.

11,435. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Your master paid you just the same wages in 1863 at the end of the week, notwithstanding you were away for two days for polling and nomination?—Yes.

11,436. You got the 2*l.* and your master's pay as well?—Yes.

11,437. And your master knew you were away?—Yes.

11,438. Did he know you had received the 2*l.*?—I do not know that he did.

11,439. You did not tell him?—No.

The witness withdrew.

J. Eastmond.

JOHN EASTMOND sworn and examined.

11,440. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, what is your business?—A carpenter.

11,441. What rent do you pay for your house?—It is my own house.

11,442. What is the value of it?—18*l.* or 20*l.* a year.

11,443. You were on the register, of course, and voted at the last election?—Yes.

11,444. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

11,445. Was that the first time you voted?—No; I voted for Mr. Gower before.

11,446. In '63?—Yes.

11,447. Had you voted before that?—Yes.

11,448. In '59 did you?—I have voted twice for Mr. Monson, once for Mr. Doulton, and once for Mr. Hackblock.

11,449. Then you voted for Mr. Hackblock and Mr. Doulton once each, for Mr. Monson twice, and twice for Mr. Gower?—Yes, that is so.

11,450. Now direct your attention to the last election. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

11,451. Himself?—Yes.

11,452. But you saw some others of his friends?—No, he came eight or nine weeks before the election.

11,453. Did you know Mr. Featherstone Green?—Yes.

11,454. He was a friend of Mr. Gower's, a supporter?—Yes.

11,455. He canvassed you, did he not?—No.

11,456. Had you not any conversation with him about how you were to vote?—No;

11,457. Not a word?—Not a word.

11,458. Did you know Mr. Murray?—Yes.

11,459. He was a strong supporter of Mr. Gower's, was he not?—I believe he was.

11,460. Had you no conversation with him about who you would vote for?—No.

11,461. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

11,462. What district?—Warwick-town.

11,463. That is near Redhill?—Yes.

11,464. Did you attend pretty well?—Yes, I was there generally every night.

11,465. Where were the committee rooms?—At the new town hall.

11,466. And at public houses and other places?—The town hall was for our district.

11,467. You worked hard, I suppose, on behalf of Mr. Gower?—I did what I could for him.

11,468. You canvassed?—Yes.

11,469. Did you canvass at all in the expectation of being remunerated or paid for your work?—Was I to receive anything?

11,470. No; did you canvass under the expectation of being paid for your work?—I thought I might.

11,471. Did you hear Mr. Gower's speech?—No.

11,472. Did you read it in the papers?—I do not know that I did.

11,473. Did you hear from those who had heard it that all men who worked for Mr. Gower should be paid?—No, I never heard of it till to-day.

11,474. But you expected to be paid for your work?—Yes.

11,475. How many weeks do you think you were at at work for Mr. Gower?—About seven or eightweeks.

11,476. What would you think a fair remuneration for your work during that time?—I did not think anything in particular.

11,477. What should you think would be a fair remuneration; 1*l.* a week?—I did not think anything of what would be paid; I knew what was paid the time before.

11,478. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You knew what was paid the time before?—Yes.

11,479. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What was paid the time before?—Seven shillings a day.

11,480. That would be two guineas a week; how many weeks were you employed before for Mr. Gower?—About three weeks.

11,481. How much did you receive; it would be about six guineas?—Yes.

11,482. You remember you did receive six guineas?—I believe that was it.

11,483. You expected to be paid at the same rate this time?—I thought I might.

11,484. Were you at all paid for your work this time?—I received 2*l.*; but I did not consider that was for my work; my son was about three or four weeks delivering circulars.

11,485. Your son was not a voter?—No.

11,486. You received the money?—That was what I received.

11,487. From whom?—From Mr. Green.

11,488. Is that Featherstone Green?—Henry Green.

11,489. When did you receive the 2*l.* from him?—I should think it might be a month or five weeks after the election.

11,490. Was Mr. Green the paymaster in that district?—He gave that to me. I believe he was.

11,491. Does he live in that district?—Yes.

11,492. And you went to him for the money, I suppose?—No.

11,493. Did he come to you?—He came to me.

11,494. And paid you the 2*l.*?—Yes.

11,495. That was a small amount for your work, was it not?—Yes, it was not much.

11,496. We had a very honest witness, and as we have now a very respectable man, and we put to him whether or not he considered the 2*l.* was paid on the vote, I will read to you what he said, because I thought it was a very graphic answer, he said, "I "considered that the 2*l.* was in the vote." Did you consider the six guineas you received before in '63 was in the vote?—No; I should have voted the same if I had not received anything.

11,497. Do you think you would have received it if you had not promised your vote?—I do not know.

11,498. You do not think so?—No.

11,499. Had you been employed in the election before '63?—No, I do not know that I was employed.

11,500. You voted in '59?—Yes, I was with Mr. Doulton; I did a little for Mr. Doulton.

11,501. I thought you did. That was the time that the employment commenced, or nearly so. What were you employed in on behalf of Mr. Doulton?—I think I canvassed one or two for him.

11,502. How much did you receive for that?—I think it was eight and twenty shillings.

11,503. You canvassed two persons?—Yes.

11,504. You received more than eight and twenty-shillings?—I do not think it was.

11,505. Just think?—I will not be sure.

11,506. You received more?—I do not know; I thought it was four days, but I will not be sure.

11,507. Did you not receive 2*l.*—I think not.

11,508. Did you receive on any other election any other amount?—No.

11,509. Then it was eight and twenty shillings, six guineas, and 2*l.*?—I think that was it.

11,510. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote for Mr. Doulton?—Yes.

11,511. You did four days work for him, I understood you to say?—Four or five days I was working to my own mind.

11,512. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you mean that you did work four days?—Yes, I think that is what I was paid for.

11,513. Did you tell Mr. Green when he came to you, "This is a very poor sum, 2*l.*, to give me for my "services to Mr. Gower"?—No, I said nothing of the sort.

11,514. Nothing at all?—No.

11,515. You took the 2*l.* and were satisfied?—Yes.

11,516. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I thought you said the 2*l.* was for your boy?—I thought it was for him.

11,517. What age is your boy?—Fifteen.

11,518. Did you give the 2*l.* to your boy?—I did.

11,519. You did?—I did.

11,520. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you mean you handed over your money to your boy?—Yes; he gave Mr. Green the receipt for it, I think.

11,521. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And you did not get it back again?—No.

11,522. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me this, you voted at the elections of '58, did you not vote at the first election of '58, and then afterwards you voted again in the second election of '58, when Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson were candidates?—Yes.

11,523. Do you remember pretty well that occasion?—I remember when it was.

11,524. At the time when Mr. Monson got in by the majority of 15?—Yes.

11,525. When you voted for Mr. Monson; did you get anything on that occasion?—No.

11,526. I do not mean for your voting, but were you paid for your services?—No, I did not receive anything.

11,527. Did you expect anything?—No.

11,528. What had you done on that occasion, anything except voting?—For Mr. Monson?

11,529. Yes?—I do not know that I had.

11,530. I wish you would try and recollect?—No, I do not know that I had. Not to lose time.

11,531. Do you recollect whether he canvassed you?—Yes.

11,532. Did you promise him at once?—Yes, I promised him at once.

11,533. There was nothing at all about money, neither expressed nor understood?—No.

11,534. Then in the next election the thing was reversed. Mr. Wilkinson beat Mr. Monson at the end of the next year?—Yes, I think so.

11,535. Did you vote for Mr. Monson that time?—I voted for Mr. Monson then.

11,536. Did you go on his committee then?—No, I think I did not.

11,537. Oh, I made a mistake, there was a majority for Mr. Monson also at the second election. In '59 you voted then for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

11,538. You were on the winning side?—Yes.

11,539. Did you go on his committee?—I believe I did.

11,540. Did you do some work for him, messages, or bills, or canvassing?—I do not know that I went with any letter or message. I might have canvassed.

11,541. Perhaps that is more in your line. I suppose you did not work then for nothing?—I did not receive anything.

11,542. Did you do what you did do for nothing?—I did not do it for anything.

11,543. I do not mean that you received anything, but did you do it hoping or expecting something would be due to you?—No.

11,544. Do you remember the election pretty well?—Yes.

11,545. Can you tell me whether money was pretty free at that election?—I do not know that it was. I know that I did not receive any.

11,546. I am taking your word for yourself, but I mean among other people?—I am not aware of it.

11,547. Was there much treating?—At Mr. Monson's and Mr. Wilkinson's election?

SEVENTH DAY.

J. Dormer.

29 Aug. 1866.

11,548. Mr. Monson beat Mr. Wilkinson by 99 votes, that was at the general election in '59. I want to know if you can recollect that?—I think there was a good deal of drinking at that time.

11,549. A good deal of drinking or treating?—Yes, drinking.

11,550. About the money. Do you not think there was a good deal?—I cannot say; I speak for myself.

11,551. I am satisfied that you received nothing, but what was your notion as to other people. You may have canvassed other people?—I do not think that there was much money down at that time.

11,552. Did you, yourself, make promises at that election?—No.

11,553. Had you authority to do so?—No.

T. Chapman.

THOMAS CHAPMAN recalled.

11,554. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You told me that you always paid your rent to Mr. Nicholls as agent for Mr. Relf?—Yes.

11,555. And you told me you paid that 7*l.*, not to Mr. Relf, but to Mr. Nicholls in the usual way?—Yes.

11,556. Did you pay it to Mr. Nicholls?—No, to his young man in the office.

11,557. What is his young man in the office?—I do not know. His name is on the bill, Joyes; Alfred Joyes.

11,558. Is he any relation to Frederick Joyes?—I do not know. I should think he was by the name.

11,559. I understand he is nephew to Frederick Joyes?—Yes.

11,560. Is he in the service of Mr. Nicholls?—Yes.

11,561. You told me you paid it to Mr. Nicholls, but in fact you paid it to Alfred Joyes?—Yes.

11,562. Did Mr. Nicholls say anything to you, that the other portion of your rent was put in your vote?—No.

11,563. Did he tell you that the other 7*l.* was for your services, for voting?—No.

11,564. He did not say a word about the election?—Not a word.

11,565. Did you ever see Frederick Joyes with reference to this?—No.

11,566. Nobody?—No.

11,567. Excepting Alfred Joyes?—Excepting Alfred Joyes.

11,568. I see in the previous year you did pay 14*l.*, that is the 22nd of March '64. Did you pay any rent between the 22nd of March '64 and the 29th of September '65?—No.

11,569. Nothing?—No.

11,570. That is a year and a half's rent due?—Yes.

11,571. Then you pay 7*l.*, and they do not make any application to you until this last July. He must be a very kind landlord?—He is indeed.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at 11 o'clock.

EIGHTH DAY.

W. Banks.

30 Aug. 1866.

EIGHTH DAY.

Thursday, 30th August 1866.

WILLIAM BANKS sworn and examined.

11,572. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you tell me whether you voted at the last election?—Yes.

11,573. Did you vote for Mr. Gower?—No, for Mr. Monson.

11,574. What rent were you paying at the last election?—4*s.* a week was what I was paying at the last election. I pay a little more now.

11,575. Whose house is it?—My landlord is Mr. Skilton.

11,576. Is he a voter?—No.

11,577. Is not he a voter?—No.

11,578. Were you canvassed by Mr. Gower first, or by Mr. Monson first?—I was canvassed a little by Mr. Gower first; not by Mr. Gower personally.

11,579. Who canvassed you, was it Mr. Durrant?—Yes.

11,580. He canvassed you for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

11,581. And after that you were canvassed for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

11,582. Who canvassed you for him?—Mr. Brown.

11,583. What did you tell Mr. Brown when he came to canvass you?—I never told him anything in particular; he told me that if I was in want of money, which I was at that time, that I could have 5*l.* if I canvassed for Mr. Monson.

11,584. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Give me the christian name of Mr. Brown?—James.

11,585. Do you know his address?—No, I do not.

11,586. He was a voter, I suppose?—No,

11,587. Was he a Reigate man?—Yes.

11,588. What was he?—A plasterer. I worked for him.

11,589. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He told you about the 5*l.*, did you agree about that?—Yes.

11,590. Did you tell him you had been canvassed by Mr. Gower?—I told him that I had had a few meetings with Mr. Gower, but I had not promised my vote; not to Mr. Gower personally.

11,591. Who had you promised your vote for Mr. Gower to?—I told Mr. Durant that I was in favour of Mr. Gower, and he said if I did go for him I should have the same as other men; we were all neighbours together, and I should have the same.

11,592. He said the same as other men?—Yes.

11,593. What was that?—I do not know. He never stated it.

11,594. What did you understand was the amount?—I never had any understanding with him.

11,595. Not with Mr. Durrant, but in your own mind what did you understand?—That was the very reason why I did not go for Mr. Gower, and went for Mr. Monson; because I could not get any understanding.

11,596. Tell me, if you please, did Mr. Durrant at that time or afterwards specify a sum?—No.

11,597. He did not at all?—No.

11,598. Now you did put your name down on Mr. Monson's committee?—I believe it was down on Mr. Monson's committee for anything I know of; but I do not know whether it was or not.

11,599. You supposed it to be?—I supposed it to be, whether it was or not.

11,600. Had you been down on Mr. Gower's committee?—I believe not; I never saw it down myself. I told them they were not to put it on.

11,601. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You told them not to put your name on?—Yes.

11,602. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you do any work for Mr. Monson?—I was employed for him in canvassing.

11,603. Did you do any work for him?—The same as other men.

11,604. What was your work at that time?—A labourer.

11,605. At what?—A plasterer's labourer.

11,606. In the employ at that time of Mr. Carruther's?—Yes.

11,607. I suppose you went on with your employment?—Yes, only when I was employed. I then lost two days.

11,608. We will come to that. Did Mr. Carruthers know that you were working for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

11,609. Did you stay two days' work on the nomination and polling day?—One day on the nomination and one day at polling day.

11,610. Were you paid anything extra for polling and nomination?—Nothing at all.

11,611. When were you paid the 5*l.*?—I had 2*l.* 10*s.* on one Saturday.

11,612. Before the election?—Before the election, but I cannot remember the day.

11,613. Who by?—Mr. Brown.

11,614. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He paid you 1*l.*?—No, 2*l.* 10*s.*

11,615. When were you paid the other 2*l.* 10*s.*?—One polling morning.

11,616. Who paid that?—Mr. Brown.

11,617. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Before you polled, of course?—Yes.

11,618. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) They were quite fair with you, and paid you what was promised?—Yes.

11,619. Was this your first election?—Yes.

11,620. Where were you in '63?—I was living in the same house, but I was not on the register. I ought to have been, only I was missed.

11,621. Did you take any part in the election of '63?—Nothing at all, only I came about to look in the town.

11,622. You did not know much what was going on?—No.

11,623. You cannot give me any information about it, you think?—Nothing at all, because I never attended any meetings.

11,624. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not attend any meetings in 1865?—Yes, I attended a few meetings in 1865.

11,625. Did you take any interest then in the politics of either party?—No, because they were both Liberal. I thought one man was as good as the other.

11,626. You did not care which came in?—I was sure of the money. I was a little in debt, and I wanted to pay it off. I had a large family.

11,627. You say James Brown was not a voter?—He was not.

11,628. Did he take an active part in the election?—He did.

11,629. Was he very active?—He was not very busy.

11,630. Did you see him canvassing others besides yourself?—I know he tried others.

11,631. Amongst your workmen?—No, I cannot say that he did.

11,632. Can you give me the name of any person you know Mr. Brown canvassed?—I can give you the name of one; he tried pretty well, but he never got it.

11,633. Who was that?—Hodge, at the "Angel;" he tried hard, very hard.

11,634. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But he failed?—Yes.

11,635. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is Mr. Hodge living at the "Angel" now?—Yes.

11,636. Where is that?—It is on the Brighton-road.

11,637. What is his Christian name?—I am sure I do not know.

11,638. He is a voter, is he not?—Yes.

11,639. Do you know anybody else he tried very hard?—There were Balchin, Warren, and Goddard; Thomas Goddard.

11,640. Balchin?—Yes, Alfred Balchin.

11,641. Thomas Goddard; who is he?—He is here now.

11,642. He is here now in the court?—Yes.

11,643. Did Mr. Brown tell you what he had done with Goddard?—No.

11,644. You only know that he tried hard?—I only know that he tried it.

11,645. Do you recollect anybody else?—William Warren; he went over to Mr. Gower.

11,646. Notwithstanding Mr. Brown tried?—Yes.

11,647. Can you recollect any other name, any other person who was tried by Mr. Brown?—No.

11,648. Those three or four he was unsuccessful with?—Yes.

11,649. Can you tell me anybody he was successful with?—No; the others were my neighbours, and that was how I knew it.

11,650. Did you know from Mr. Brown who employed him to canvass?—No, I do not know who employed him, no more than it was the Monson party.

11,651. Were you there with Mr. Brown at any place of entertainment?—No.

11,652. No public house?—No public house.

11,653. Did you go to the "Grapes" with him?—Yes, I was at the "Grapes;" that was when I first came over.

11,654. Were you there when you promised Mr. Brown?—Yes; when I gave him my word.

11,655. Was any one else there?—Yes.

11,656. Who was with you?—Francis.

11,657. Henry Francis?—Yes.

11,658. And Holdsworth?—Yes.

11,659. Did Henry Francis and Holdsworth take part in endeavouring to persuade you to come to Mr. Monson?—No; I had made up my mind before I came there to vote for Mr. Monson.

11,660. Did you then get the 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

11,661. You did?—Yes.

11,662. And Francis and Holdsworth were present when you were paid?—Yes.

11,663. Did you see Mr. Nicholls?—I have seen him; I had no conversation.

11,664. Was he present at that time?—No.

11,665. Did you see where Mr. Brown got the money from?—Yes.

11,666. Where did he get the money?—From Mr. Holdsworth.

11,667. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The publican?—Yes.

11,668. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The man who keeps the "Red Cross"?—Yes.

11,669. Did you see where Mr. Holdsworth got the money from?—No, he took it out of his pocket; that is all I know.

11,670. Did you see anybody else receiving money that morning at the "Grapes"?—No.

11,671. Nobody?—Nobody.

11,672. Have you had any conversation with Mr. Nichols at all at the "Grapes"?—No.

11,673. Not at all?—Not at all.

11,674. I think you said, that you did not hear from Mr. Brown who engaged him?—No, I did not.

11,675. When you were paid this 2*l.* 10*s.* on the day of polling; where were you paid it?—At Barker's.

11,676. Is that a public house?—I believe it is a beer shop.

11,677. What is the name of it?—I do not know the sign of the house; there is no sign out.

11,678. Is it in Reigate?—Yes, in Reigate.

11,679. Is it opposite the polling booth?—Opposite the new hall.

11,680. Did the polling take place here?—At the new hall.

11,681. You say that Mr. Brown paid you the 2*l.* 10*s.*; was anybody with you when Mr. Brown paid you the 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, Mr. Apted.

11,682. Which one?—Mr. Apted of Bell-street.

11,683. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) James Apted?—Yes.

11,684. The poulterer?—Yes.

EIGHTH DAY.

W. Banks.

30 Aug. 1866.

11,685. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where did Mr. Brown get the money from ?—From Mr. Apted.

11,686. Apted gave Mr. Brown the money ?—Yes.

11,687. Did Brown ask for the money ?—No, not that I am aware of ; Brown told me, "You had better "come and poll now, or perhaps it may be no use."

11,688. Was that before you went to Mr. Barker's ?—Yes.

11,689. He did not take you direct to the poll ?—We went to Barker's and had a drop of beer together.

11,690. And then went to poll ?—Yes.

11,691. Did Mr. Brown tell you the object in going into the house ?—No, we went along the street together and went in there.

11,692. Did you not say anything about the 2*l.* 10*s.*, the balance of the 5*l.* ?—He promised me that he would see that I had it.

11,693. You got the 2*l.* 10*s.* before you polled ?—Yes.

11,694. Why did you get the 2*l.* 10*s.* before you polled ?—That was my agreement.

11,695. When Mr. Brown asked you to go to poll did you not say, "I will have my 2*l.* 10*s.* first "?—He told me I should have it before I did poll.

11,696. Was that the reason why you went to Apted before you did poll ?—We all three went together.

11,697. Was Apted with you ?—Yes.

11,698. Did Apted say, "Let us go to Barker's "?—No ; we all three went in together.

11,699. Where did he get the money from ?—Out of his pocket.

11,700. He had it ready ?—Yes.

11,701. Did Brown ask him for it ?—No.

11,702. Was not something said by James Apted or by Brown that you were to have the 2*l.* 10*s.* before the polling ?—Nothing was said that morning ; they knew I had agreed.

11,703. They gave it to you without your asking for it ?—Yes.

11,704. Who took you to the poll ?—I cannot tell you the man's name ; it was a man who came in directly after. I should not know the man again.

11,705. When this person came in you did not know him. Upon receiving the 2*l.* 10*s.* was there something of this kind said "Banks has got his money, "will you see he votes" ?—Something was said about "See he goes the right way," and Mr. Brown said, "No "fear about him, he will go the right way."

11,706. They did send the man with you to see you were all right ?—Yes.

11,707. And that was the reason why you voted for Mr. Monson, because you received 5*l.* ?—That is it.

11,708. And the only reason ?—Well, I thought one was quite as good as the other ; both were Liberals and both professed the same thing.

11,709. You could not get an agreement with the Gower party, and as you got a distinct promise from the Monson party you went with them ?—Yes.

11,710. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You know a good many men in your own rank of life and class of life in your neighbourhood ?—Yes, I know several.

11,711. So far as your knowledge goes, did most of the men whom you know of go in the same way that you did, for the man who would give them the most money and the best wage ?—Some went one way and some the other.

11,712. According as they got the money ?—According as they got the money or the promises.

11,713. Do you know any men of your own class of life of the voters who did not act in that way, do you know any one ?—I know no more than what I mention ; whom we tried, some went one way and some the other.

11,714. How many in your class of life do you know, how many voters I mean ?—I do not know.

11,715. Two or three dozen ?—I do not know their names.

11,716. But you do know them ?—I know them by sight.

11,717. But not by their names ?—But not by their names, I know a great many, I have been about Reigate now some time.

11,718. It was generally understood amongst you that you were to vote in that way ?—Yes.

11,719. That was so, was it not ?—Yes.

The witness then withdrew.

T. Goddard.

THOMAS GODDARD sworn and examined.

11,720. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—A labourer.

11,721. What rent do you pay for your house ?—4*s.* 3*d.* a week.

11,722. What labour do you work at ?—Anything that I can get.

11,723. You have no stated business as a plasterer ?—No ; sometimes I work for a gentleman in a garden.

11,724. You are a sort of gardener ?—At times I am.

11,725. You can turn your hand to anything, you are a general labourer ?—Yes.

11,726. You were on the last election register ?—Yes.

11,727. As a voter ?—Yes.

11,728. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

11,729. Do you know a man of the name of James Brown, mentioned by the last witness ?—Yes.

11,730. Did Brown canvass you on the part of Mr. Monson ?—No.

11,731. Are you quite certain of that ?—Yes, I am.

11,732. Did he ask you to vote for Mr. Monson ?—No, he did not.

11,733. Did ?—For Mr. Brown

11,734. Yes ?—No, we never went together.

11,735. You know the person ?—Yes, I know the person.

11,736. The last witness said Brown tried to get you to vote for Mr. Monson ?—He never did but once, at the "Grapes," when I denied him ; he asked me once to come in and have a glass of something to drink there, and I denied him.

11,737. Did you not promise to vote for Mr. Monson ?—No, not to anybody.

11,738. Were you canvassed by anybody else for Mr. Monson excepting James Brown ?—No, I do not think I was.

11,739. Are you certain ?—James Brown did canvass me once, I think.

11,740. Brown asked you once to vote for Monson and you refused him ?—Yes, I refused him.

11,741. Did anybody else ask you except Brown ?—No.

11,742. When Brown asked you to vote for Mr. Monson did he offer you anything to go on the side of Mr. Monson ?—No.

11,743. Are you quite certain ?—Yes.

11,744. Did he ask you to come on their committee ?—No.

11,745. Did he ask you to work for Monson ?—No.

11,746. Are you quite certain of that ?—Quite certain.

11,747. Then Brown tried you hard, as the last witness said ?—No, he did not try me hard ; he only asked me once, and I refused him.

11,748. Were you canvassed by the Gower party ?—The other party ?

11,749. Yes ?—Yes, I was canvassed for Mr. Gower.

11,750. Were you canvassed by Mr. Durrant ?—No.

11,751. Were you canvassed by anybody else ?—Yes.

11,752. Who was it ?—I was canvassed by Mr. Gower himself.

11,753. Did you promise Mr. Gower ?—Yes, I did.

11,754. The first time you saw him ?—Yes.

11,755. Did you go on the committee ?—Yes, I did.

11,756. Did you work as a messenger ?—No, I did

not work, I was on the committee, but I did not work.

11,757. Who asked you to go on the committee?—I think it was Durrant, I believe he asked me if I would go their way; I said "Yes, Mr. Gower had "canvassed me." He said, "Will you go on the com-"mittee," and I said "Yes."

11,758. Did Durrant say you would be paid for your work on the committee?—No.

11,759. Did he say you would be paid like other persons on the committee?—No, I was offered nothing in particular.

11,760. I did not say you were offered anything in particular, but were you to receive the same as others who worked for Mr. Gower?—No.

11,761. Did you expect to be paid as others?—Not in particular.

11,762. But something out of the particular you expected to be paid?—No, I did not.

11,763. You are a man who worked generally?—I did not work.

11,764. I suppose you could not afford to give them your time?—I never gave up any time.

11,765. Did you attend any committee?—Only one.

11,766. Did you attend on the nomination day?—Yes.

11,767. Did you attend on the polling day?—Yes.

11,768. And you voted?—Yes.

11,769. After the election did you ask anybody to pay you for the time you had lost on the nomination day and polling day?—No.

11,770. You never asked any one?—No, I never asked any one.

11,771. But when you voted you expected to be paid?—I should like to have been paid; still I never asked anything, and no one ever offered me anything.

11,772. I suppose you heard that others were paid?—I heard it the last day.

11,773. On your side, on Mr. Gower's side?—Yes.

11,774. Did not that make you a little desirous to be paid?—No, not at all. Mr. Gower was a man I intended to vote for, and I did not care whether I was paid anything or not.

11,775. Most of those who promised had that intention, but from what we have learnt they wish to be paid for it, and I wish to know whether you were not of the same class?—As far as that goes, if I had been offered anything I should not have refused it.

11,776. What did you expect to have been offered you?—I did not know any particular amount at all.

11,777. Did it ever cross your mind you might have 5*l.*?—No.

11,778. You knew that others were going to have that sum?—No.

11,779. Did you ever hear it?—No.

11,780. Not from anybody?—Not from anybody.

11,781. Did you ever see Job Apted about your voting? Did he ever speak to you?—I cannot say he did not speak to me, but nothing about the election that I know of.

11,782. Did he ever say that if you were on the committee you should be paid like other men?—No, not to my recollection.

11,783. What committee did you attend?—Mr. Gower's.

11,784. The one that sat under this room?—No, I was never here.

11,785. Where was your committee?—Well, I cannot say. I was put on the committee, but I never attended a meeting except down at the "freehold."

11,786. That was the only one?—Yes.

11,787. Was Mr. Gower there at that time?—Yes.

11,788. Was anything said by Mr. Gower to the effect that anybody who worked should be well paid?—I never heard it.

11,789. And you were never at a meeting at this hall?—Not at this hall.

11,790. Who came up to poll with you?—Thomas Williams was one.

11,791. Was he Mr. Gower's man?—Yes.

11,792. Did he bring you up to the poll?—He came up with me.

11,793. Where did he find you?—At the "Barley Mow."

11,794. Were there many of you at the "Barley Mow"?—There was a goodish many.

11,795. At that time?—Yes.

11,796. What time was that?—Between 7 and 8 in the morning.

11,797. Where did you sleep the night before the polling?—At Grooms'.

11,798. Is that a beer house?—No, a private house.

11,799. Where is your house?—About a stone's throw from his.

11,800. Are you a married man?—Yes.

11,801. And a family?—Yes.

11,802. How came you to sleep there?—We were asked, for a few of us felt sleepy, and he said we might go into another room.

11,803. Who were the others who felt sleepy?—There was Balchin and Warren.

11,804. When did you go to Grooms' on the day before the polling day?—It was late in the evening.

11,805. Who took you to Grooms'?—No one.

11,806. Who asked you to go there?—I do not know that any one did.

11,807. This is a private house?—Yes.

11,808. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is it a private house?—Yes.

11,809. Mr. Groom actually invited you, Balchin, and Warren to go and take tea with him?—No.

11,810. Was Durrant there?—No.

11,811. Did you see him before you voted?—Not at all.

11,812. Did you see anybody besides Groom, Warren, and Balchin?—Yes.

11,813. Who was there besides?—I cannot tell; but I was reckoning there might be ten or a dozen.

11,814. All of them voters I suppose?—For anything I know.

11,815. You knew all the party well?—I might at that time, but I could not name them now.

11,816. I don't ask you to name them, that might try your recollection too much. You knew who were in the house with you?—I might at the time.

11,817. Was Job Apted there?—No.

11,818. Or Alexander Rose?—No.

11,819. Was anybody there in the house with you who was taking an active part for Mr. Gower?—Not that I know of.

11,820. Did Groom take an active part during the election of Mr. Gower?—I have no doubt he did.

11,821. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is it William Groom?—Yes.

11,822. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He is on the Holmesdale estate?—Yes.

11,823. What refreshment did you get there? You did not go to Groom's to take tea?—No; beer and cider.

11,824. Anything else?—I think there was a little ginger beer.

11,825. Was there anything else besides the beer and cider?—Nothing at all.

11,826. Do you recollect what time you went to bed?—It might be 12 o'clock.

11,827. Did you feel very sleepy when you went to bed?—Not particularly.

11,828. You have a very clear recollection of your going to bed?—Oh yes.

11,829. Then you were not drunk at all?—No.

11,830. Not in the least?—No.

11,831. Were others the worse for the bee?—I think Balchin was rather.

11,832. Was Warren?—No.

11,833. As this was only 12 o'clock, why did you not go home to your wife?—I do not know any reason.

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11,834. Did not Groom suggest some reason?—No.

11,835. Is it your custom to sleep out from your wife?—No, not at all.

11,836. You had not done it since you were married; well give us some sensible reason for doing it then?—I first laid down on a stool that we sat on, when Mr. Groom said, "If you like to go into my next room "there is a carpet you can lay your heads on."

11,837. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You laid on the carpet?—Yes.

11,838. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If you were not so very fatigued, how came you to lay down on a stool?—I suppose I was sleepy.

11,839. Did it come on you suddenly?—It might have done.

11,840. Did it not come suddenly over you?—Yes, it did.

11,841. You say you were kept there on the suggestion of Groom?—Yes.

11,842. Had Balchin or Warren retired to rest?—I was in last.

11,843. Were Balchin and Warren in the same room with you?—Yes, we slept together.

11,844. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On the carpet?—Yes.

11,845. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Of course you did not undress?—No, we had nothing but our shoes off.

11,846. What became of your boots and shoes?—We left them in the room we went out of.

11,847. When you got up in the morning could you find them?—Yes, they were where I pulled them off.

11,848. Did Balchin find his?—I was up before him.

11,849. Were you up before Groom?—I saw him about 5 in the morning.

11,850. He was up then?—Yes.

11,851. Was anybody with him?—That I do not recollect.

11,852. Oh, yes, you do, you know very well whether he was alone or somebody else with him?—I do not know.

11,853. Were you at all a diffident voter; had not some of the Monson party been with you a few days before the election?—No, only Mr. James Brown down here.

11,854. How long before the election was that?—On the Monday.

11,855. Wednesday was the polling day?—Yes.

11,856. Nomination day was Tuesday?—Yes.

11,857. Mr. Brown saw you on the Monday?—Yes.

11,858. Did you tell Mr. Groom or any of the Gower party that you had seen Mr. Brown?—Not to my recollection.

11,859. Might you have done so?—I do not think I did.

11,860. Do you not think that they had got some suspicion that Mr. Brown had been to you?—I do not think they had.

11,861. Did you see Mr. Brown at the nomination?—Not at the nomination.

11,862. Did you see him on the nomination day?—Yes, I did.

11,863. Then that is a second time you saw Mr. Brown?—Yes.

11,864. You told me before that you had only seen him once. Did you speak to Brown on the nomination day?—I did.

11,865. And he to you?—And he to me, he only asked me once.

11,866. Did he not speak to you about the election?—Yes.

11,867. On the nomination day?—Yes.

11,868. Did you walk with Mr. Brown?—I did.

11,869. Where did you walk with him, in the High-street here?—In the freehold.

11,870. What distance did you walk with Brown?—Three-quarters of a mile.

11,871. Mr. Brown was a very notorious character, was he not, for any one on the Gower side to be seen with?—Yes.

11,872. As being interested for Mr. Monson?—I do not know.

11,873. You knew him to be interested for Mr. Monson?—I knew the man.

11,874. Now in that three-quarters of a mile did you come through any of the public thoroughfares, where the houses or the shops are?—Yes.

11,875. Would you pass Mr. Green's or Apted's? At all events it would be a public thoroughfare?—Yes.

11,876. Where you and Mr. Brown might have been seen together?—Yes.

11,877. After the election did you make any application to any of the Gower party for money?—No.

11,878. Was any money given to you?—Nothing at all.

11,879. Was not money offered to you?—None at all.

11,880. Not from the Gower party?—No.

11,881. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me who took you into Mr. Grooms' that night, just recollect?—Mr. Groom asked me if I would go up there, if I would come with him.

11,882. Did you have any talk with Mr. Groom about voting for Mr. Gower?—No, I do not think he named it.

11,883. Who did then?—No one that, I know of.

11,884. You are on your oath; now bear that in mind, and do not let us have any trifling. Was not an arrangement made with you that you should vote for Mr. Gower, but that you should be locked up at Mr. Groom's all night?—No, there was not.

11,885. Nothing of the kind?—No.

11,886. How was it you were locked up there?—We were not locked up.

11,887. That you swear?—Yes.

11,888. You swear that?—Yes, I swear we were not locked up.

11,889. How do you know that?—The door was open when we got up, and there was no one in the room.

11,890. I am quite aware that there were only three in the room; but how do you know that you were not locked up?—If they did they opened the door next morning.

11,891. Now only state things that you know, I ask you this very plainly, there is no disguise about it, was it not arranged that you were to vote for Mr. Gower, but you were to be locked up?—No.

11,892. What were you to get for voting for Mr. Gower?—Nothing at all.

11,893. No pay for your services?—No pay at all.

11,894. Now answer me this; did they know very well that you were a shaky voter?—I do not know, I cannot say.

11,895. You are on your oath; do not say you do not know; answer my question and with some consideration; did they know you to be a shaky voter?—I believe not.

11,896. Do not answer in a hurry; answer like an honest man; were you a shaky voter?—I was not, I promised my vote for Mr. Gower, and I gave it him.

11,897. When did you first promise your vote for Mr. Gower; a fortnight, or three weeks, or a month before the election?—It might be.

11,898. Do you mean to say you had had no interview at all, or any talk with the other side?—Oh, yes, I had a little talk.

11,899. Now, do you mean to repeat you were not a shaky voter?—I was not.

11,900. You were not?—No.

11,901. Do you know James Apted?—Yes.

11,902. Who was he acting for?—For Mr. Monson.

11,903. Do you know Mr. Holdsworth?—Yes.

11,904. You know his house too?—Yes.

11,905. You have been in his stable, have you not?—I have.

11,906. When were you in the stable before the election?—On the nomination day.

11,907. That was the day on which you met the enemy in Mr. Groom's house; now then, will you still say you were not a shaky voter?—Yes.

11,908. Who was in Mr. Holdsworth's stable with you?—Warren and Balchin.

11,909. Do you still say you were not a shaky voter in fact, whatever they may have thought you?—Yes, I do.

11,910. What were you to do in Holdsworth's stable? who were you going to vote for if you were there?—Mr. Gower.

11,911. Why did you go to Holdsworth's stable?—Because they asked me to go.

11,912. Who asked you?—Apted.

11,913. Why did you go there if you had made up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower? Holdsworth and Apted were both Mr. Monson's men?—They were.

11,914. Why did you go over and talk with the enemy in a stable if you were not a shaky voter?—At Park-hill I met Apted and James Brown, and they strongly persuaded me to go back to Holmesdale inn, and on our return about 11 yards Apted looked round to me and said, "Tom, I hear you have "worn your coat off your back going about at this "election," and I answered him in a joke, "Yes, and "I have come down here to put a new suit on." We went down there, and I do not think we had more than a pot of beer and ginger beer.

11,915. Where is the Holmesdale inn? But go on, if you please, in your own way?—We were coming back again and he said, "What do you want?" I said, "Seven for a good suit." He said, "That is too much, "I will give you 5*l.*" He said, "I can't pay you all "now, but you can have the other when you have "been to poll;" I said, "I do not care for you or your "men."

11,916. What men?—Balchin and Warren. "Well," he said, "if you go back up to the 'Castle' along with "me, I will go and get you 30*s.* each." We went there and received it.

11,917. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where did you get that?—At the "Castle."

11,918. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that from Apted?—Yes.

11,919. You were to have the money in the afternoon?—We were to have the money at 3 o'clock, but we did not get it so soon as that.

11,920. Go on in your own way, if you please, and tell us, will you?—We went back again about 3, and we went to the "Red Cross" inn.

11,921. That is Holdsworth's?—Yes; about 3, and we had the remainder in the stable.

11,922. That was 3*l.* 10*s.*?—5*l.*

11,923. Oh, the remainder; you had 7*l.*?—No; 15*l.* was divided among the three.

11,924. Then I was right, it must have been 3*l.* 10*s.*, but never mind; who paid you, did Apted?—Yes.

11,925. Was Holdsworth there when you were paid?—No, he was not.

11,926. At what time in the day was that?—It might have been 5 o'clock, or it might have been more, I cannot say.

11,927. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understood you to say, when you were examined by Mr. Smith, that you were not canvassed at all on behalf of Mr. Monson, or by any one except James Brown?—I was canvassed by James Brown.

11,928. But you said you were not canvassed by any one else?—No.

11,929. Then you told a lie, that is the simple fact, for you were canvassed by these men, Holdsworth and another?—Where?

11,930. You were canvassed when you received the money from them, the money to vote for Mr. Monson?—They never asked me.

11,931. Was not the money to vote for Mr. Monson?—They never asked me.

11,932. Was not the money to vote for Mr. Monson? Did you not receive the money under the understanding you were to vote for Mr. Monson?—(*No answer.*)

11,933. Did you not receive it on the understanding you were to vote for Mr. Monson?—I did not understand it.

11,934. Did you not give them to understand you were to vote for Mr. Monson?—I did not.

11,935. Just attend to what you say; when you went back into the stable, did you not give them to understand you were to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

11,936. What did you receive the money for?—For a new suit of clothes.

11,937. What were you to do for it; what were you to do for the money; you might as well answer the question at once?—Well, they did not ask me.

11,938. I do not say they did ask you, but what did you understand you were to do for the money?—I did not know.

11,939. What were you to do for the money you received, the 30*s.* and 3*l.* 10*s.*?—I can't say.

11,940. Did you not understand you were to vote for Mr. Monson?—No, I did not.

11,941. What did you understand you were to do for it?—Nothing.

11,942. You went with the other two men there; what did you understand you were to do for it; now remember you are upon your oath, and everybody in court is hearing you; did you not understand, or did you not give them to understand, that for receiving that money you were to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

11,943. Did you not think they expected you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Perhaps they might.

11,944. Now about the night you slept out, did you tell your wife you were going to sleep out?—No.

11,945. Did you send word home you were going to sleep out?—No.

11,946. What family have you?—Eight children.

11,947. You did not send up to them?—No.

11,948. Will you tell me this? If you were voting of your own free will for Mr. Gower, how came you to sleep in Mr. Groom's house that night, if you were not doubtful?—He asked me there.

11,949. How came you to sleep there? You say you were a free voter for Mr. Gower, then how came you to sleep at Mr. Groom's that night?—I do not know anything particularly.

11,950. Now I ask you upon your oath, did you not receive money from Mr. Gower?—I received money from Mr. Monson.

11,951. I know that, but upon your oath did you not receive money on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No, I did not.

11,952. Why did you vote for Mr. Gower when you received money on the other side?—He was the man I promised.

11,953. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you offered anything for your vote by the Gower party?—No.

11,954. To record your vote?—No.

11,955. Do you think it was honest, after having promised Mr. Gower, then to take money from Apted, his opponent. I want to see what notion you have of honesty; do you think it was honest?—I do not know that it might be honest.

11,956. Was it dishonest? I put it plainly to you; do you not think it was very dishonest?—Perhaps it was.

11,957. Do you not think it was?—Yes.

11,958. You say you were offered 7*l.* for your old coat?—No, not for an old coat.

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11,959. What was it for?—Nothing at all.

11,960. What do you give for your suits of clothes?—I never have a suit at once.

11,961. If this money was not given you for your voting, what took place between Apted, Balchin, and Warren about their monies; what were they to do for their money?—It was for the same.

11,962. For new suits of clothes?—Yes.

11,963. Was anything said to Warren and Balchin about their voting for Mr. Monson?—No.

11,964. You are quite certain about that?—I am quite certain that nothing was said in my hearing.

11,965. You were in the stable?—Yes.

11,966. And you swear upon your solemn oath that nothing was said about the election when you and the others were paid?—There was nothing said, only when we received the money.

11,967. When you received the money was anything said?—Apted said, "You vote for Mr. Monson early "in the morning;" we said we would be there early, but I never told him who for.

11,968. Then the talk about voting was after the money was paid?—Yes.

11,969. And then you were to vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

11,970. When Apted said, "Now you be there early "and vote for Mr. Monson," did you say that you would vote for Mr. Gower?—No; I said, "We will be "there early." I never told him who for.

11,971. Did you not understand from Apted that because you had received the money you were expected to vote for Mr. Monson early?—When we got the money?

11,972. Did you lead Apted to suppose you were going to vote for Mr. Monson?—No, I did not.

11,973. Why did not you tell Apted when you got the *5l.*, all or one of you, that you were going to vote for Mr. Gower; why did you not have the common honesty to say that?—We ought to have done so.

11,974. Is not this very much like obtaining money under false pretences. You received this money, having in fact promised, and it being strictly understood, that you were to vote for Mr. Gower, and then go with Warren and Balchin to Holdsworth's, and never said that you were going to vote for Mr. Gower?—Oh, yes.

11,975. What, in the stable?—No, not in the stable.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien remarked that Balchin had promised Mr. Gower his vote, that he then received *5l.* from the Monson party, and afterwards obtained *55s.* from Mr. Gower's friends.

11,976. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you know that Balchin received money from Mr. Gower?—No, I did not.

11,977. On your solemn oath do you?—No, I do not.

Mr. Commissioner Smith remarked that from his evidence he was not at all willing to believe the witness upon his oath.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien expressed the same opinion.

11,978. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Let me put it to you, upon your solemn oath, did not Balchin state he had received money from Mr. Gower?—No.

11,979. On behalf of Mr. Gower?—No.

11,980. Before or after the election, has not Balchin told you that he received money after the election?—No, he never told me.

11,981. Now, having received *5l.* from James Apted to vote for Mr. Monson, why did you vote for Mr. Gower?—I promised him.

11,982. Then did you consider the promise that you made on behalf of Mr. Gower binding upon your honour?—Yes, I did think I was to vote for him.

11,983. Then in that case, so far as that goes, you were honourable?—I was honourable to him.

11,984. Why could not you be honourable to James Apted?—I do not know; I could not be to both.

11,985. Do you not think that it is very much like a downright piece of robbery on Mr. Apted to take that money from him; let me have your notion of honourable dealing?—No.

11,986. I recollect now that you did admit that it was dishonest. Did you tell anybody you had been in Mr. Holdsworth's stable; did you tell Mr. Groom or anybody?—Yes, I did.

11,987. When did you tell Mr. Groom?—I think I told him that night.

11,988. Before you went to Mr. Groom's?—No, I do not think it was before.

11,989. When you were at Mr. Groom's?—Yes.

11,990. Was that before you went to sleep on the stool?—No doubt about it.

11,991. Having told Mr. Groom that you had received that money from James Apted, did he not tell you you had better be locked up all the night?—No, he did not.

11,992. Who went to poll with you?—Williams.

11,993. What time did you poll?—At 8 o'clock in the morning.

11,994. Did you see James Apted?—I do not recollect.

11,995. You did not want to see him?—I did not mind about that.

11,996. You did not mind about that; you had a little modesty in the morning; you did not want to see James Apted?—I do not know about wanting to see him in particular.

11,997. Or Mr. Holdsworth, did you meet him?—Oh, yes, on the Park-hill.

11,998. After you had voted?—Yes, I think it was.

11,999. Did you tell Holdsworth you had been and voted for Mr. Gower?—No.

12,000. Did he ask you to come and vote for Mr. Monson?—No, not then; he never spoke to me.

12,001. Perhaps he did not see you; you saw him and you got out of the way very likely?—I was in a carriage.

12,002. In a carriage; what, riding about like a gentleman; were you bringing up the voters then?—I had been to poll, and got back again.

12,003. Were you taken to the poll in a carriage? Yes, I was.

12,004. Were you taken from Mr. Groom's house to poll?—No.

12,005. I beg your pardon, from the "Barley Mow"? Yes.

12,006. What time in the morning did you go to the "Barley Mow"?—I cannot say; it might have been about 6 o'clock.

12,007. Did Mr. Groom take you to the "Barley Mow"?—No.

12,008. Who went with you?—No one.

12,009. Did not Balchin or Warren go with you?—I walked by myself to my own house.

12,010. You had gone home first?—Yes.

12,011. What time did you go, 5 o'clock?—Yes.

12,012. Of course you told your wife where you had been?—Yes.

12,013. Was she up?—Yes.

12,014. Waiting for you?—No, she had been in bed.

12,015. Was she much alarmed at your being away all night?—No, not at all.

12,016. Not at all?—Not at all.

12,017. What time did you go to the "Barley Mow"?—Six o'clock.

12,018. You went from your house to the "Barley Mow"?—Yes.

12,019. Who did you go with?—By myself.

12,020. Who did you meet there at 6 o'clock in the morning?—Several persons; I cannot say who they were.

12,021. Who told you to go to the "Barley Mow"?—No one at all.

12,022. How came you to go there?—I went in company there with the rest of the voters.

12,023. In company with who?—The rest of the voters.

12,024. Who were they?—I cannot say all their names.

12,025. Give me one, was Balchin with you?—Not when I went there; he was there when I got there.

12,026. He was there first?—Yes.

12,027. Who took you there?—I do not know.

12,028. Did you find Mr. Groom there when you got there?—No.

12,029. Was Warren there?—I do not know, I cannot say.

12,030. Did you find many of those men there whom you had met the night before at Mr. Grooms'?—Yes, there were some.

12,031. A good many of them?—Yes, I think there was.

12,032. What did you do at the "Barley Mow" that morning, did you go in and drink?—I had some coffee and meat.

12,033. Was there a breakfast laid out?—Yes, there was.

12,034. You all sat down to breakfast?—Yes.

12,035. Did you go in a carriage from the "Barley Mow" to poll?—Yes.

12,036. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me, who is James Brown?—He is a plasterer.

12,037. Did he employ you at that time. Where was he living at that time, where he lives now?—No, Glover's-fields, I think.

12,038. Is that where he lives now?—No, he has gone away from here.

12,039. Where has he gone to?—I think he is somewhere in London.

12,040. Is he in court to-day?—I do not know.

12,041. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you seen him in the town during this Inquiry?—No.

The witness withdrew.

RICHARD DEWDNEY called, sworn, and examined.

R. Dewdney.

12,042. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you vote for Mr. Gower at the last election?—Yes.

12,043. At what time of the day did you vote?—I will tell you as near as I can recollect.

12,044. It was late in the day, was it not?—Something about the middle of the day, I do not know the hour.

12,045. Who canvassed you to vote for Mr. Gower?—I do not know that I was asked by anybody particular; I said I should give Mr. Gower my vote.

12,046. Did not anybody call on you on behalf of Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower called upon me, I believe, once.

12,047. Did Mr. Apted or Mr. Joyes call upon you? Have you seen Mr. Job Apted?—I do not recollect that I did.

12,048. Did anybody else call upon you?—I do not know that I was called upon by any one particular; Mr. Gower called once, I believe.

12,049. Did not Mr. Buckland call upon you?—No; I do not think he did.

12,050. You were on Mr. Gower's committee, were you not; your name was up as belonging to Mr. Gower?—Yes, I believe it was.

12,051. Who put it on, whom did you tell to put it on?—I do not know that; I did not know it was on; I am not certain it was on.

12,052. Did you tell anybody to put it on?—I told no person.

12,053. Just try and recollect, it will save you and me some trouble. Don't you recollect whom you told to put your name on?—I am sure I don't know.

12,054. It would save a great deal of trouble if you would tell me. Who were Mr. Gower's friends that you knew were working for him, and going about for him?—I do not know; I did not know Mr. Gower, only by name.

12,055. But who were his friends that you knew were working for him. There were persons working for him, were there not?—I don't understand you.

12,056. Were there any persons going about asking people to vote for Mr. Gower in your district?—Mr. Gower called upon me once, I know.

12,057. I know that; but were there not other persons?—I met him once on the road, and he said, "Will you vote for me."

12,058. But did not anybody else speak to you, anybody that was going about on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No one in particular.

12,059. I am not asking about anybody in particular, but did you know anybody; give me the name of any one that you saw with reference to the election. Can you recollect?—No, I cannot.

12,060. Will you give me the name of the person who promised to put you on the committee?—I really do not know.

12,061. Well, did anybody call upon you on behalf of Mr. Monson?—I do not recollect that any of Mr. Monson's party called upon me.

12,062. Who took you up to vote for Mr. Gower; who went with you?—His name was up; most people voted for him, I believe.

12,063. But with whom did you go up to the poll?—I do not know that I went up with anybody.

12,064. Who took you to the poll?—I do not know; I really do not recollect.

12,065. Who took you to vote for Mr. Gower?—I do not know that any one did particular.

12,066. Did you walk, or did you go in a carriage?—I walked.

12,067. Whom did you go with; you did not go alone; did you go with any one?—I do not recollect that I did when I went to vote.

12,068. Try and recollect, it is not so far back. Did somebody come for you and take you; I dare say he brought a carriage for you?—It was somebody in the borough; I was called upon.

12,069. Who called upon you; that is what I want to know?—That I cannot tell you exactly.

12,070. Was it Mr. Apted, or Mr. Buckland, or Mr. Joyes, or Mr. Rose?—I do not know now.

12,071. Do you know Mr. Buckland?—Oh, yes, I know him.

12,072. Now, I ask you, did not Mr. Buckland see you about the election?—I do not know that he did.

12,073. Did he not see you about the election and talk to you about it?—No; I do not recollect that he did.

12,074. Now, will you tell me who came for you on the morning of the polling day?—I am sure I do not know; I was in town here, I believe.

12,075. But who came for you?—I was not sent for in particular by any one.

12,076. Was it not Buckland who took you to the poll?—I do not recollect that any one in particular took me to the poll.

12,077. Did you see Buckland to speak to him on the polling day?—I do not recollect that I did.

12,078. Your memory is very bad, Mr. Dewdney. Did you see Mr. Mazden on the polling day?—No, I do not know that I did; I forget.

12,079. Did you see Mr. Frederick Joyes on the polling day?—Oh, no; I do not know that I did. I might see him; I forget; I do not recollect who I did see and who I didn't.

12,080. Can you not tell us whom you saw on the polling day, who spoke to you and asked you to come up and vote?—I was asked my name by the clerk,

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and he asked me for whom I would vote, and I said, "For Mr. Gower."

12,081. But did you not speak to any one before that?—I do not recollect that I spoke to any one in particular.

12,082. Did you do any work for Mr. Gower at the election, or go about attending meetings; did you attend any meetings?—I might hear some, but I do not recollect anything about them.

12,083. I will ask you, did you receive anything for your work, or for what you did; did you receive any money?—Oh, no, not a farthing; I had no bribes.

12,084. I did not ask you about bribes; I ask you, did you receive any money at all?—No; I received no money.

12,085. Was this the first time you voted at an election; did you vote for Mr. Gower in 1863?—Yes, I think I voted for him before; as for money, I had no money offered me.

12,086. Did you vote for him in 1863?—Most likely; I can't say now how that was.

12,087. Am I to understand that you never received any money for what you did, for your loss of time, and the loss of a day going up to vote for him; were you not paid for that?—Oh, no, I didn't receive a farthing.

12,088. For the loss of time?—No, not a farthing.

12,089. What rent do you pay, Mr. Dewdney, for your house?—I think it is rated at 8*l.*

12,090. What rent do you pay?—I may say it is my own in a great measure; I do not pay any rent in particular.

12,091. Is it your own house?—Yes; I suppose it is; it belongs to the family.

12,092. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to ask you, were you put on Mr. Gower's committee?—Oh, no; I believe not; I do not recollect anything at all about it.

12,093. About what?—My name was not there, I believe.

T. Bradford.

THOMAS BRADFORD called, sworn, and examined.

12,094. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Bradford, what are you?—An agricultural man.

12,095. A labourer?—Yes.

12,096. What rent do you pay for your house?—5*l.* 17*s.* a year.

12,097. What rent were you paying in 1865, the same?—Yes; I have been there 19 years.

12,098. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who is your landlord?—Widow Ede; I do not know what her Christian name is.

12,099. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is your house worth by the year?—I cannot say.

12,100. Is it worth more than 5*l.* 17*s.*, or is that the fair value of it?—It is worth more, according as houses are asked.

12,101. How much more?—I cannot say, I am not a valuer.

12,102. Do you remember the election of 1865?—Yes, I suppose so.

12,103. You voted, did you not?—Yes.

12,104. Then there can be no difficulty in recollecting it?—I know I voted.

12,105. Then tell me, whom did you vote for?—For Mr. Gower.

12,106. Were you canvassed first of all by Mr. Gower?—Yes, that I was.

12,107. You did not promise at first, I think?—I never promised anybody else.

12,108. Didn't you; we shall see. Were you canvassed by Mr. Monson's party?—I was not.

12,109. Did Mr. Monson call on you?—Yes; I think there was somebody came to me, but I never promised him.

12,110. Were you canvassed for Mr. Monson; that is my question?—Oh, no! oh, no!

12,111. Who came to you for Mr. Monson; I want the name?—It is so long ago, I forget.

12,112. I am talking of the election of last year, that is not long ago at all?—I do not remember that any one came to me.

12,113. I have no doubt about somebody coming to you; I want to know who it was?—I do not think anybody did.

12,114. We shall see, perhaps. Who came to you from Mr. Gower?—It was down in a field I saw him.

12,115. I want his name?—I cannot think of his name now.

12,116. I dare say you will by-and-by?—It was Mr. Durrant.

12,117. You see you can recollect who it was that called upon you for Mr. Gower. Now, see if you cannot recollect who it was that called upon you for Mr. Monson?—I do no remember that any one did.

12,118. But you were spoken to about Mr. Monson?—I may, perhaps; very likely; I do not remember that.

12,119. Why do you not remember one as well as the other; does it not strike you as rather odd that you can remember one and not the other? Did you know any of Mr. Monson's friends?—No, I did not.

12,120. You never heard of any of Mr. Monson's friends?—I knew people were troubling themselves on the other side.

12,121. Who were they?—That I do not know; I did not trouble myself at all about it.

12,122. Only answer the question. Who were troubling themselves for Mr. Monson that you knew? Did you know any man named Apted?—Yes; I believe he was one.

12,123. What is his Christian name; is it James Apted?—James Apted.

12,124. Did you know Holdsworth?—Oh, yes.

12,125. Did you know anybody else that troubled themselves for Mr. Monson?—I do not know the names, not now.

12,126. Did Holdsworth call on you?—Not while I was at home; whether he did or not I cannot say.

12,127. Did Apted call on you?—No; not when I was at home.

12,128. Did you hear that anybody called at your house? Are you married?—Yes.

12,129. Did your wife tell you that anybody had been calling?—She did not tell me of anybody at all.

12,130. Did anybody?—No.

12,131. We will now go back to Mr. Gower's party. Do you know Frederick Joyes?—Yes.

12,132. Did he call upon you for Mr. Gower?—No.

12,133. Did you meet him?—I dare say I have seen him a great many times at the time, but I never thought anything about him.

12,134. At the time of the election you called on him several times?—No; I never called on him.

12,135. Then I am wrong. You saw him several times about the time of the election?—I saw him, I dare say.

12,136. Did you have any talk with him about the election?—No, nothing particular; only passed a word or two, perhaps.

12,137. About what; about the election?—No; I do not know anything particular about that; I cannot remember exactly; I have not got anything to say.

12,138. That is exactly the reason why I am helping you by questions. We shall see by-and-by whether we succeed or you. Did Frederick Joyes speak to you about your vote?—No.

12,139. Not a word?—I do not remember. To the best of my recollection he never said anything about a vote.

12,140. To whom did you promise your vote?—Mr. Gower.

12,141. Himself?—No.

12,142. That is the very thing I am asking you about; to whom did you promise your vote?—I promised it to Mr. Gower.

12,143. Did you see Mr. Gower?—No, I do not think I did.

12,144. Then you could not have promised Mr. Gower that you would give him your vote?—No.

12,145. To whom then did you promise that you would give Mr. Gower your vote?—Mr. Durrant.

12,146. What is his Christian name?—David, I think, but I am not sure.

12,147. Where did Durrant talk to you about it?—At my house.

12,148. Did he call on you at your house?—Yes.

12,149. Did he ask you to vote for Gower?—Yes.

12,150. Did you say you would?—I told him I would consider upon it.

12,151. Now we shall get it perhaps, did you consider?—Yes.

12,152. For how long?—When he saw me again I told him I would.

12,153. How soon afterwards?—I cannot say.

12,154. About how long?—A week or so perhaps.

12,155. Can you tell me before the election how long that was, when you said you would vote for Gower?—I do not know.

12,156. About how long, a fortnight?—A fortnight or three weeks.

12,157. What did you say to him?—Nothing, only that I should vote for Mr. Gower.

12,158. What did he say?—He said, "Very well, "I shall depend on you then."

12,159. Was anything said about putting your name on the committee?—No.

12,160. Was your name put on the committee?—Not that I know of.

12,161. You did not hear anything about it?—No.

12,162. Did you take some bills about?—No.

12,163. Did he ask you?—Yes, he asked me.

12,164. He said, "You'll be wanted to take some "bills about"?—Yes.

12,165. And did you say "Very well"?—I said, "Very well, I'll see about it," but I did not take any.

12,166. That is what I am coming to. You did not take any bills about I believe?—No.

12,167. What else did he say when he said you would take bills about if it was wanted?—He said he would satisfy me if I did so, but I did not take any.

12,168. And did you say "All right," or something like that, and agree with him?—Yes, I said I would give him my vote.

12,169. And you did give your vote?—I did give my vote.

12,170. Before the election did Durrant give you any satisfaction?—No.

12,171. Did he not give you any money?—No.

12,172. It was afterwards, was it?—Yes.

12,173. How long after?—About a week I should think.

12,174. What was it he gave you?—*2l.*

12,175. You see it has come out now?—It is true.

12,176. Did you you get more than *2l.*?—No.

12,177. You were satisfied with the *2l.*?—Oh, yes, I was satisfied enough.

12,178. Were you expecting any more?—If the gentleman liked to do it, but they never promised me any more.

12,179. I know; but were you expecting a little more?—No, not at all.

12,180. When he told you he would give you satisfaction for what you did, in the first instance, what did you expect to get?—I don't expect anything particular; he gave me what he pleased.

12,181. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

12,182. Whom did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

12,183. Who talked to you then about your vote?—Mr. Gower.

12,184. No, no; you did not know Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower came to me.

12,185. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In 1863?—At the time I know he did.

12,186. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 whom did you promise your vote to?—I promised Mr. Gower and I gave it to him.

12,187. Never mind the giving it to him, was it to him that you promised?—No.

12,188. That is what I want to get at?—I do not think I did; he spoke to me about it.

12,189. Who was the person you promised, was that Durrant?—Yes.

12,190. Durrant again, and what did Durrant promise you in 1863?—He gave me the same.

12,191. I suppose you did for Durrant and the party much about the same in 1863 as you did in 1865?—There was not much difference I reckon.

12,192. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then did Durrant give you *2l.* in 1863?—Yes.

12,193. Before or after voting?—After.

12,194. Soon after?—Yes, a little while.

12,195. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me, had you voted at previous elections, had you voted in 1859, when Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson stood, the Hon. Mr. Monson, afterwards Lord Monson?—Yes, I think I did.

12,196. That was a general election; whom did you vote for then?—I voted for Mr. Monson once.

12,197. Was that in 1859, can you recollect?—I do not know.

12,198. Do you recollect who was on the other side when you voted for Mr. Monson?—No, I do not.

12,199. How many times before 1863 had you voted?—I can't say.

12,200. Are you able to tell me at how many elections you have voted in your life?—No, I cannot.

12,201. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or for elections at Reigate; how many times for Reigate?—I do not know, I cannot give an account.

12,202. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How long have you been a voter?—Well, I don't know, I cannot say now.

12,203. How long have you been at Reigate?—I have been at Reigate a good many years, I have been in this house 19 years.

12,204. Have you voted at every election since you have been at Reigate?—No.

12,205. Can you tell me how long you have been a voter?—No, I cannot.

12,206. Have you been a voter these ten years?—Yes, I think I have.

12,207. Rather more?—Very likely I may; I can't say.

12,208. Have you voted at every election at Reigate since you have been a voter?—No, I have not.

12,209. How is that; if you were a voter, why did you not vote?—Why? Because I did not choose to.

12,210. I want you to tell me honestly why you have not voted every time?—It did not suit, I could not get away every time.

12,211. I want to know why it did not suit you?—For no particular reason.

12,212. You have voted latterly, why did you not vote at all the elections?—If I liked to I might.

12,213. But why did you not like?—I say I had no particular reason; for want of time, perhaps.

12,214. Can you tell me how many elections you have voted at?—I do not know.

12,215. We have got three, you know, we have got 1865 and 1863 and we have got the general election

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of 1859, between Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson, did you vote before that?—I do not know.

12,216. Do you remember Mr. Doulton being down here?—No.

12,217. That was early in 1858?—I do not remember that.

12,218. Do you not remember Mr. Doulton and Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I remember a little talk about Rawlinson.

12,219. Did you vote that time when he was up?—No.

12,220. Have you ever voted without getting some money for work you have done?—Oh, yes.

12,221. When?—Two or three times.

12,222. I beg your pardon, because we have only got three votes, and you got money for two of them. Have you ever voted without getting some money, I do not say for your vote, but for your services?—Yes, I can say that I did not get any.

12,223. When?—That I do not know, nor how long ago; I cannot say; I do not think about these things.

12,224. When you voted for Mr. Monson in 1859, how much did you get then?—Nothing at all.

12,225. Yes, I beg your pardon?—I did not, I take my solemn oath.

12,226. Then I am mistaken; you will take your solemn oath?—That I will.

12,227. You did not get it before or after?—No, not from Mr. Monson I did'nt, not a halfpenny.

12,228. Were you promised some?—No.

12,229. Now mark! were you promised some and were you disappointed?—I was not promised any.

12,230. Were you expecting some, and were you disappointed?—No, I was not disappointed at all; I did not expect any.

12,231. Had you done nothing for Mr. Monson, not worked for him?—No.

12,232. Not for Apted?—No.

12,233. He came to you and asked you himself I suppose?—I do not remember whether he did or not; I worked for Mr. Nash, and he came to me and asked me to vote.

12,234. Is that Mr. John Nash?—Mr. John Nash.

12,235. Is he here?—I do not know.

12,236. Was he an agent for Mr. Monson?—I know he wished me to vote for him, and I did so.

12,237. Were you in his employ?—Under his employ.

12,238. Had you any arrangement with Mr. Nash?—No.

12,239. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You pay 5*l.* 17*s.* rent?—Yes.

12,240. How long have you paid that same rental?—Nineteen years come Michaelmas.

12,241. Do you think your house is worth 10*l.* a year; would you be willing to pay it; suppose they asked you 10*l.* a year, would you pay it?—I could not pay it, that I could not.

12,242. On the first occasion that Durrant canvassed you you said you would consider. You knew Mr. Gower, because you voted for him in 1863?—Yes.

12,243. Having voted for him in 1863, and knowing Mr. Gower, why did you not at once promise Mr. Durrant that you would vote for Mr. Gower; what were you going to consider?—Nothing particular that I know; I thought I should not vote at all, I said I should not, I told them I should not.

12,244. Were you dissatisfied with the party and their politics?—No, I would rather not have voted; I told them so.

12,245. Had you ever considered the political principles of Mr. Durrant at all?—No.

12,246. Or Mr. Monson's?—Oh no; I said I would wait and see.

12,247. Did you care anything at all about politics?—No.

12,248. Did Mr. Durrant on the first occasion say anything about your taking circulars round?—Yes, he mentioned it.

12,249. When he first canvassed you?—Yes.

12,250. Did he make you any offer that you would be paid for it, on the first occasion?—He said if I took anything round he would pay me for it.

12,251. Was that the first occasion of his canvassing you?—Yes.

12,252. He paid you 2*l.* at the election of 1863; why did you not close with Mr. Durrant on the last occasion when he first asked you for your vote, did he not tell you you should be on the same terms?—That is right.

12,253. As in 1863?—Yes.

12,254. Was that on the first occasion or the second, you know you saw him twice?—I did.

12,256. If on the first occasion he offered to pay you the same as in 1863, why did you not agree with him?—I said I didn't think I should vote at all; that was the reason.

12,257. Now, when you said you thought you would not vote at all, did Mr. Durrant still continue to offer you the work of carrying circulars round?—No, he said nothing about it.

12,258. He walked away then, when you said you would not vote at all?—Yes.

12,259. And dropped the circulars?—Yes.

12,260. How soon after that was it that Mr. Durrant came to you again, a few days?—A few days.

12,261. Did he make the same offer to you again?—Yes.

12,262. The same terms as in 1863, 2*l.* and the vote?—Yes.

12,263. You promised him the vote then?—Yes, I did.

12,264. And you got your 2*l.*?—Yes.

J. Comber.

JOHN COMBER was called sworn, and examined

12,265. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you, Comber?—I am milkman and cowkeeper.

12,266. What rent do you pay?—6*s.* a week.

12,267. Who is your landlord. Mr. Green.

12,268. Henry Green?—Yes.

12,269. How long have you been a tenant of Henry, Green?—I cannot say exactly within a year.

12,270. For some years?—Eight or ten years, perhaps a year longer.

12,271. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

12,272. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes, for Mr. Wilkinson.

12,273. Mr. Gower was a candidate then, was he not?—Yes, Gower and Wilkinson.

12,274. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*) And you voted for Wilkinson?—Yes.

12,275. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith*) Do you recollect which side Green voted for at that election?—Mr. Gower.

12,276. Had you voted before that?—Oh, yes.

12,277. In 1859 it was Monson and Wilkinson you know. Do you recollect whom you voted for then,—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

12,278. I am asking you about the election in 1859, when the Hon. Mr. Monson was a candidate and Mr. Wilkinson. Did you vote for Monson or Wilkinson?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson. I don't think I voted for Mr. Wilkinson only but once, when I come to think about it.

12,279. Then in 1859 you might have voted for Monson?—No, I did not.

12,280. Did you vote at all in 1859? The Hon. Mr. Monson was a candidate, and Mr. Wilkinson?—Oh, yes, I recollect now. Yes, I did. I think it was in 1859.

12,281. Did you vote for Mr. Monson then? I think you said you had only voted for Mr. Wilkinson once?—That is quite right.

12,282. Did you vote at the election of 1859?—For Mr. Monson.

12,283. That was so I am told; you did vote for Monson?—Yes.

12,284. Did you vote at the general election in 1589, when Rawlinson and Doulton, the Hon. Mr. Monson, Wilkinson, Waters, and James were down here; the great election of 1858?—I remember it, but I did not vote for Mr. Doulton.

12,285. Whom did you vote for at that time?—I never voted at all.

12,286. Were you asked to vote?—Yes.

12,287. Who asked you to vote?—I was asked by Mr. Doulton.

12,288. Did you promise him?—I do not know that I did.

12,289. Did Doulton offer you any money?—The reason I didn't vote at that time was, I'm a milkman, and I go about to gentlemen's houses with milk, and I heard a something.

12,290. Did you hear that they were going to take away their custom for milk from you?—I heard somewhat similar to that.

12,291. Whom did you hear that from?—I can mention one gentleman.

12,292. Mention him?—No, not at that time it was not, when I come to recollect.

12,293. First mention the name, and then we will take the time. Give me the name, that is the most important?—Why, I don't know that I can mention any one's name. I went by what other people said about it.

12,294. What did other people say?—Other persons, said, "If you didn't vote so and so, don't vote "at all." It took great effect in that way.

12,295. Yes, but in all that long answer you didn't mention the name?—I will tell you, I will not give you any particular statement upon it. It was the last time I voted. The gentleman on the top of the hill, just against the mayor's, he said he didn't want me to call with any more milk. That is Capt. Swann; but I don't think he was hardly right in his head.

12,296. Did you receive any money at that election in 1858, or any promise of money?—No, not a farthing.

12,297. Did Doulton canvass you?—Yes, Mr. Doulton and Mr. Featherstone.

12,298. Were you on Doulton's committee?—No.

12,299. Was that your only reason for not voting on that occasion. You were afraid of losing Capt. Swann's custom in milk?—I voted then, because that was not at Doulton's time.

12,300. You were going to give me some reason why you did not vote in Doulton's time?—I told you I went by what other people said. There was a little intimidation about.

12,301. Was that intimidation on Doulton's side?—Well, I don't know that. It might be; Doulton might be a very good man. Of course I was told this.

12,302. Which side did you hear say was intimidating?—I do not know the man, not now.

12,303. You can tell me which side the man was going to vote. You knew him as an active agent belonging to one of the parties?—I do not know that he was agent for any one. I cannot exactly mention the gentleman's name.

12,304. Never mind about his name. Can you recollect on which side he was interesting himself?—I can't.

12,305. Was he acting for Mr. Monson?—No, I believe not.

12,306. Was he acting for Sir Henry Rawlinson?—No; perhaps he was quite an independent voter, that is, no voter at all in the place. I have been told of this when I have been perhaps miles away from the parish altogether.

12,307. And you do not know for whom he was acting?—No, I do not.

12,308. Was that your only reason for not voting for Mr. Doulton?—That was my only reason.

12,309. Were you not offered money by one side or the other not to vote?—None, not a farthing.

12,310. Or to vote?—No.

12,311. Not offered any money by Monson's party in 1858?—None.

12,312. Or by Sir Henry Rawlinson's?—No.

12,313. You are quite certain of that?—Quite certain.

12,314. Now let us come to the present election and see whether you recollect anything about that. You voted for Gower?—I voted for Gower the last time, and I did vote for Mr. Hackblock.

12,315. You did vote for Mr. Hackblock?—Yes, I believe that was the first time I voted.

12,316. Did you receive any money for voting for Mr. Hackblock?—No, I didn't.

12,317. Or any promise?—No, none. All I received when I came up in this room was "much "obliged," and a shaking hands.

12,318. But you had no promise of money at that election when Mr. Hackblock was a candidate?—None.

12,319. Now let us try 1865?—The last election you are now upon.

12,320. Yes, the last election. I see you want to be a little careful. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower at this last election of 1865?—Mr. Gower himself.

12,321. Who was with Mr. Gower when you promised him? or did you promise him then?—I did promise him when he called upon me the first time.

12,322. You voted against him in 1863?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

12,323. Against Mr. Gower?—Right.

12,324. Who was with Mr. Gower when you promised him your vote?—Mr. Webb.

12,325. Were those two gentlemen alone, or was there anybody with them?—I think, from what I can recollect, to the best of my recollection, that Mr. Webb's son was along with him.

12,326. Was Job Apted with them?—No.

12,327. You promised at once, did you?—I promised at once, as soon as he came.

12,328. You did not hesitate about the matter?—Not a bit. I didn't want gentlemen to be calling at my house every day; I didn't want to be worried about it every day.

12,329. Were you asked to go upon Mr. Gower's committee?—Well, I believe I was. I was asked to do so.

12,330. They wanted to get you; your name would be very valuable on the committee if you promised immediately. Who was it asked you to go on the committee?—Mr. Gower.

12,331. Had you told Mr. Gower you would go on the committee?—I said, "No, sir, I would rather "not."

12,332. Was your name put on the committee?—No, I believe not; not by my orders.

12,333. Did you see anybody else who asked you to go on the committee?—No, I never saw any one else.

12,334. Then do I understand you to say that Mr. Gower, and Mr. Webb, and his son were the only three persons you had seen with reference to your vote?—I was going to tell you just now. Mr. Smith, I think, was present at the time; I believe these were the only four.

12,335. Did Mr. Smith ask you to go on the committee?—No.

12,336. To whom was it you said you would rather not go on the committee, to Mr. Gower himself?—Yes.

12,337. Did nobody else come to you after that to ask you about going on the committee, or working for Mr. Gower?—Well, Mr. Gower did say to me, when he stood talking to me he said, "I should like you to "go on the committee, and I should very much like "for you to work for me."

12,338. Mr. Gower said that?—Yes.

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12,339. Did Mr. Gower tell you what work he wanted you to do?—No.

12,340. After that did you see——

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you say to that?

12,341. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you say to that?—I said, "I know you've been in the "House," and I believe I said, "I don't see myself "that we want to send schoolboys there every day." I said, "You are a tried man, as you have been "there," and I said, "I don't think we can send a "better gentleman."

12,342. Was there anybody else? Did Henry Green come to you and ask you anything about the election?—Yes, he did.

12,343. First of all let me have your version of that interview with Mr. Green?—Well, he said I was to do what I could; that is, of course, to get all the voters I could. Of course I worked and did all I could. I had a brother or two, and I worked among them and other friends that I was acquainted with; and, of course, if I could not get them to poll I was not to be blamed for that. I tried my best.

12,344. You tried your best, and if you did not get them you were not to be blamed?—That is quite right.

12,345. Did that take you much time to canvass those people?—Well, sir, of course I worked about. I have a great deal more time upon my hand than what most persons, because my work lay chiefly of a morning and an evening.

12,346. Then you worked about among those peeple that you knew?—Yes, particular friends that I associate with.

12,347. How long before the election?

12,348. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many weeks?—Either three weeks or a month; I will not be positive. That is the outside time, a month is.

12,349. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Of course Green said if you did that you would be paid for your work?—You are right, sir.

12,350. Did Green tell you what you were to be paid?—No; no promise was made; none.

12,351. Nor to be paid 1*l.* a week?—Oh no! no! no!

12,352. Was there any sign made by Green as to what you were to be paid?—Not in the least.

12,353. He did not hold up his hand and show the five fingers?—No.

12,354. Or just tap you in the palm of the hand four or five taps?—No.

12,355. No little signs of that sort?—Not in the least.

12,356. Or nod his head five times, eh?—No.

12,357. He was "mum" upon that, as to what you were to be paid?—Well, we had no interview of anything of that sort, nor of money matters.

12,358. Only you were to get something for your work; it was indefinite then?—Of course every man that works has a right to be paid.

12,359. You voted for Gower?—Yes.

12,360. After the election did you see Green?—After we had polled do you mean?

12,361. Yes, after you had polled?—Well, I might have seen him, but not to have anything to say to him.

12,362. You did not ask him for your remuneration for the work that you had done?—No; I will be on my oath on that.

12,363. Very well. You did not succeed in getting those voters that you asked?—Well, I believe I had a brother.

12,364. Be good enough to give me the names of those gentlemen that you canvassed. You said four or five. One is your brother. What is your brother's Christian name?—I believe it was my brother Ted.

12,365. Commonly called Edward?—Yes, that is it.

12,366. Now give me another?—I got four besides myself. I spoke to them all. I recollect now perfectly well. I believe that two voted for Mr. Monson. I voted for Mr. Gower, and one more voted for Mr. Gower.

12,367. Your brother Edward, whom did he vote for?—He voted for Mr. Gower; so did I.

12,368. Now give me the two that voted for Monson?—My brother George.

12,369. Who was the other?—William.

12,370. Another brother?—Yes.

12,371. And yourself the fourth?—That's it.

12,372. Then that was the work you did; you canvassed your three brothers?—I worked among other friends as well; I worked the same for them.

12,373. But more particularly your work lay in canvassing the three brothers, Edward, George, and William?—Well, I don't know about that; I worked among my friends as well.

12,374. How many friends did you work among?—Well, I dare say to put them together I may be acquainted, perhaps, with ten or a dozen more.

12,375. Did you canvass the whole ten or dozen?—No; I believe some went one way and some another.

12,376. Can you give me the names of any one of the 10 or 12 that you canvassed by asking for a vote? I do not mean by canvassing securing a vote. When I say canvassing, I mean asking to vote. Can you give the names of any of those 10 or 12 that you asked to vote for Mr. Gower?—I don't think I can.

12,377. Did you ask your brothers Edward, George, and William to come on the committee and work for Mr. Gower?—I didn't ask them to come on the committee, I asked them to come and work for him.

12,378. Did you tell them that if they came to work for Mr. Gower they would be paid like the others for their work?—No, I did not.

12,379. It was pretty well understood that everybody who worked would be paid?—Well, those who worked expected to be paid. I was not an idle one.

12,380. Then you did not consider yourself an idle one?—No, not in the least.

12,381. Not thinking yourself an idle one, of course you expected to be paid?—You are right, sir.

12,382. Now, if you expected to be paid, how much did you expect to get?—Well, I could not say, because there was no limited sum mentioned.

12,383. You would have been satisfied with 5*l.*?—Well, that would have been rather more than what I thought I should have earned.

12,384. If they had given you 5*l.* you would not have refused it?—Well, I don't know.

12,385. Or 2*l.* 10*s.*?—That would look more like business.

12,386. Then you really did it as a matter of business?—Yes.

12,387. Did you get 2*l.* 10*s.*?—I did.

12,388. Who paid you?—Mr. Green.

12,389. Henry Green?—Yes.

12,390. Was that after the election?—Yes.

12,391. Did you apply for the 2*l.* 10*s.*? Did you apply for any money to Green?—No.

12,392. Did he come and pay you?—Yes.

12,393. Was anybody with you when Green paid you?—Yes, I believe there was.

12,394. Who?—My wife.

12,395. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your brother Ned got 2*l.* 10*s.*

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Edward get anything?—I do not know, sir. I will not be answerable for him.

12,396. If Mr. Green should say he did not give you 2*l.* 10*s.* I suppose your wife will come here and say she saw you paid?—Oh, yes, sir.

12,397. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your wife was there when you got the money?—Yes. You'll excuse me for speaking. I didn't have the money, not the day before the poll, it was six months after that.

12,398. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In October or September?—It might have been in January or February; I can scarcely say which.

12,399. About six months after?—Yes.

12,400. Now when you canvassed George and William, did they tell you that they had promised Mr. Monson?—They said they had partly promised him.

12,401. Did they give any reason why they were going to vote for Monson?—Not in the least; not to me.

12,402. They did not tell you they had received money from Monson, or had been promised money on the part of Monson?—Not at all.

12,403. Did Mr. Green tell you that any person you asked for a vote you might tell them that if they voted for Gower they would be paid, or if they worked for Gower they would be paid like the other men?—Nothing said of the sort.

12,404. Not by Green?—No.

12,405. He only said so to you?—Well.

12,406. I thought he might have given you some authority to persuade the others to come over?—No, not in the least. None whatever.

12,407. Do you know John Mulley?—The milkman?—Yes.

12,408. A brother milkman?—Yes; quite right.

12,409. Is he in partnership with you?—No.

12,410. He does not interfere with your interest?—Not in the least.

12,411. I suppose you are very good friends?—Very good indeed. If he has got a gallon of milk and I want it, he will let me have it.

12,412. Whom did he vote for?—Mr. Gower, I believe.

12,413. Did he ask you about voting, or say anything to you about voting?—Yes, I believe he did. He said, "I hope you won't run away from Mr. "Gower," or something like that.

12,414. Did he tell you anything at all about being remunerated for your work?—None whatever.

12,415. Did he tell you that he was going to be remunerated?—Not a word was said.

12,416. Did he tell you he was working for Gower?—No; I believe that was not spoken.

12,417. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You tell us Mr. Mulley said he hoped you were not going to run away from Mr. Gower?—Mr. Mulley said so.

12,418. You told my friend here just this instant that he said he hoped you were not going to run away from Mr. Gower?—Well, he asked me. I do not know as I said anything about running away.

12,419. Is it your own expression; you can correct it if you like. Mulley said to you he hoped you would not run away from Mr. Gower. It was your own expression?—He did ask me about sticking to Gower certainly.

12,420. If he did not say "running away," did he say "I hope you will stick to Mr. Gower"?—Some similar words.

12,421. What I wanted to know was this: just a short time before that he had seen you with some of the Monson people or some of the Monson people with you?—Very likely he might have done.

12,422. Now, who was it that you had had one interview with on behalf of the Monson people?—Nobody about the election, because I promised my vote to Mr. Gower.

12,423. I know you did; but I want you to tell who of Monson's party you had been with? I dare say you can recollect?—I can't. No; I can't.

12,424. You said just now, you dare say he had seen you with some of Monson's people?—Very likely he might. He might have seen me pass in the road.

12,425. No, no; talking with them, I mean?—Well, I believe that I could mention one man that very much pressed me.

12,426. That is the very thing I want to know?—No.

12,427. Who was it?—I do not know that he came on purpose, because we merely met.

12,428. Will you tell me who it was?—It was Mr. Brown.

12,429. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that Mr. James Brown?—No, Mr. Stephen Brown.

12,430. Does he keep a public house?—He keeps a public house and cows.

12,431. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The "White Lion," is it not?—Yes.

12,432. How soon before that had Stephen Brown been with you? I will not trouble you to a day or two?—About the polling day.

12,433. How many days before the polling day?—I should expect it was about a week or ten days.

12,434. He pressed you a good deal. Tell me, what did he say?—He said, "You had better come over "my side; we shall be safe to win." I said to him, "We shall see whether you win or not, we shall see "that tested out."

12,435. I am anxious to get what passed between you and Brown. I would rather get it from you, if you will be kind enough to help me?—I do not think there was anything else.

12,436. Was there any reason given why you should go over to Monson's party?—I do not know what reasons there were.

12,437. Did he not say something?—He did say something.

12,438. That is what I want to know. I would rather have it from you than put it into your mouth. Tell it in your own way?—Well, in a romance he did say, "If you get up into other parties' traps I'll "turn you over."

12,439. Tell me what he meant by that—what you understood him to mean?—I will tell you as plainly as I can; I did'nt mean any harm at the time.

12,440. No, we know that. It is only a "romance," you know?—That is all.

12,441. Just go on with the story. What did he mean by that?—I do not know; no particular meaning; no further than what I told you.

12,442. What did you understand him to mean?—He might not be very first-rate, because he could not get me over to the other side.

12,443. And he didn't get you over; you were staunch?—Yes.

12,444. There is no imputation upon you. How did he try? He did'nt succeed?—No.

12,445. How did he try you? You say he pressed you a good deal?—Well, I never went into his house that morning, I'll be upon my oath. I was going up the street, and I merely meets with him. He's a man that I know. We passed the time of the day to one another. We are very good friends.

12,446. That was the beginning of it. Then he got on to the election, and about your getting into other parties' traps, you know. Just tell us what else he said?—He did say candidly what I have told you. He said if I was to get into other parties' traps he would turn me over. Of course I laughed at that.

12,447. I am not quite so bright as you were; I do not quite exactly see what he meant by that; I want you to tell me?—I think, sir, you can see.

12,448. Well, I do not think I see so sharp as you do quite. Just give me a little information about that?—I do not know, only he said so.

12,449. What did he mean?—He meant he could not exactly bring me over the other side.

12,450. You say he said he should throw you over?—We very often romance with one another.

12,451. But most romance is founded on some probability?—None whatsomever.

12,452. No, he had no pull upon you, but what did you understand him to mean? He was not to say anything unpleasant along your milk-walk, or anything of that sort. What did he mean by throwing you over?—Well, the only reason I have got for it is, because it was he found I had given my vote to Mr. Gower, and he could not turn me.

12,453. What did he say to turn you besides that?—I do not know that he said anything.

12,454. Did he say, "It will be worth your while,"

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something like that?—There was nothing said; I will take my oath upon that.

12,455. I want to find out what was said. Did he say it would be worth your while?—No.

12,456. I do not mean in those words. Look here, you gave me credit for understanding you, and so I will give you credit for understanding me; you know what I mean?—I do, sir.

12,457. Did not he say something that meant that?—Nothing like that.

12,458. Did not he say something which might have meant that?—No.

12,459. Supposing you had gone over quietly and voted with him, don't you think it would have been all right?—I should not think, sir, I could come here and kiss the book to do like that.

12,460. You would have expected it to be made all right?—I would rather trust it to Mr. Green.

12,461. Would not you have expected, if you had gone over, Stephen Brown would have reported you to the proper place, and they would not have forgotten you?—I should have been rather doubtful about that.

12,462. What I want to know is, I am not doubting your honesty, but did not you think Stephen Brown meant that?—Well, sir, he might mean it, but the question is whether he would do it or not; he would like his own pocket too well.

12,463. Do not you think he meant you to understand that?—Perhaps he did.

12,464. I want you to say whether or not you believe he did?—Well, he might possibly, but still I did not take the hint.

12,465. Do not misunderstand me, I never hinted you did; I am talking about Brown, not about you. Did not you think Brown meant that sort of hint that you would not be forgotten?—Well, I do not know what his thoughts might be at the time; I know what mine was.

12,466. What did you think?—I thought as I had promised I would stick to Mr. Gower.

12,467. Just answer me this question, aye or no; did he promise you any sum of money?—Not in the least.

12,468. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or hint that you might have some?—Not in the least.

12,469. You know what an electioneering hint is?—I know what it is perfectly well, but there was nothing of that sort passed.

12,470. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have told me you received after the election 2*l.* 10*s.* from Green in 1865?—Quite right.

12,471. Did you receive anything for work you did in the election of 1863? You voted for Wilkinson in that election of 1863, and I dare say you did your best for him?—Yes.

12,472. Probably you canvassed your brothers then if they had votes; had they?—Yes.

12,473. Did you receive something for the work you did? A man is generally paid for his work, you know?—I done all I could, and I believe, to speak the truth about it, I had one sovereign.

12,474. Who was that from?—From Mr. Wesley, the builder.

12,475. That was after you voted?—Yes, after the election.

12,476. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you do any work for him?—Yes, I canvassed in the same way.

12,477. Your brothers?—And other friends besides them.

12,478. You did not go beyond your personal friends for the sovereign?—Well, I not know as I did.

12,479. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you set to work about canvassing and doing what you did on an agreement that 1*l.* was to be paid you, or was no sum mentioned?—None at all.

12,480. You did not know what you were to be paid?—I know I was not canvassing so long at that time as I was in Mr. Gower's time.

12,481. Before you set to work you did not know what you were to be paid in 1863?—No, sir, nothing was said about it.

12,482. You have voted at a previous election, in 1859, when Lord Monson and Mr. Wilkinson were opponents; do not you recollect you voted for Lord Monson?—For the present lord that is in the House of Lords now; I did so.

12,483. Did you work for him too?—No, sir.

12,484. Not at all?—No.

12,485. Did not you canvass?—No.

12,486. Were you on his committee, do you recollect?—I cannot recollect.

12,487. Do you think you were?—I won't say, not to be positive.

12,488. Did you receive something for your work?—No, sir, because I did not work.

12,489. Did you receive something on that occasion after the election?—No, sir, not one halfpenny.

12,490. Were you promised something?—No, sir.

12,491. Was that altogether for love?—All that was all gone away.

12,492. What do you mean by that?—Why, the money.

12,493. Before you got it?—I never did get it.

12,494. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You mean it was all spent before you asked for it?—Well, I will give you a reason presently.

12,495. Give it us now before you forget?—I have an objection against voting at all for a man; well and why is it? I think, myself, electioneering is very well when it is carried on perfectly right, but of course a man has other work and so on to attend to.

12,496. What do you consider being carried on all right?—Why, for every man to be honest.

12,497. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1859 was there something that you were expecting when you voted for Lord Monson?—Do I think it was carried on all right?

12,498. Yes?—I believe, for what I can say, it was.

12,499. Now, will you be kind enough to tell me that bit more that you were going to let out about the election?—Many other persons perhaps might know; I was drove here at about five minutes before four in the time of Lord Monson; then of course I had a very limited sum by being drove here so very late. It was reported so. It was said I had 50*l.* that time, but I never got it, sir.

12,500. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you to have it?—Never was promised one halfpenny.

12,501. Because you told me just now the money was all gone?—I do not know whether there was any about or not.

12,502. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where did they find you so late, just five minutes before four?—I had a reason for not voting. I never promised ne'er a one. They went from here up to the old church; one road runs the way to Redhill, and one road takes you to Wray-common; they were on hunt for me, which of course they were very much drove for a man, or they would not run after him like that. I were just been and milked the cows, and I got out and I had a quiet walk, and I got out in the fields instead of being seen about the place. I had not got my time in my pocket, and I happened to start a little too soon, and of course the time was getting on, the gentlemen wanted their milk. As I were travelling through a field that I rented of Captain Ingram at the time; the gentleman is not here now; a very nice gentleman, that I respect very much; I do sir, though I never received one halfpenny from him.

12,503. So far I am believing all you tell me, so why not go on?—A very nice gentleman. There is a road runs by this field, sir; as I was going along, I got I suppose about half way down the field, Mr. Surgey

who lived at Wray-common; he stops his gig, and there were a lot more; he jumps the hedge, sir, hands over head, from the road over into the field. He says, "Ay, we will have you now, my nobs;" so I says, "What am I going to do with the milk?" He says, "Well, look," he says, "I will send word home to "your wife to come and fetch it; set it down, she "will know were it is." So I set it down under a hedge, of course I could not say no, because I did like the gentleman, because he was a good gentleman and I come here along with him. The gentleman is not here, mind, now.

12,504. Where is he now? Gone away?—He is gone away, sir; I do not know exactly the name of the place; he left Wray-common.

12,505. Never mind, the truth won't hurt him?—There wern't no bunch of "fives."

12,506. Nothing passed, but you had to get over the hedge, and you had something to do before you got into the trap; he did not get you over the hedge for nothing?—Well, sir, I will be put upon my oath for that.

12,507. Nothing said all the way into the town?—No further than we drove very hard, sir.

12,508. Nothing said about money?—The horses' shoes struck fire with the flints very much.

12,509. Nothing at all said?—No.

12,510. Did not you think something was due for all that?—No.

12,511. Nothing passed?—Not the least; not in the shape of coin.

12,512. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In the shape of anything else? in the promise of a new milk-walk?—No.

12,513. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then it seems to me I have rather been running on a false scent; you have rather been leading me on a false scent?—Perhaps I have sir, on that.

12,514. Don't you think you owe it to me to tell me something else that is a little more interesting to finish up with?—I won't say which time it were, whether it was that time, or the time before, but the same gentleman went to my house, my wife she went out, because she was worried very much and so on with the people, and locked up the house.

12,515. Mind, you are not to deceive me this time?—I shall in one way, sir.

12,516. Well, now, go on, I trust to you?—He come there; of course he could not be exactly satisfied what the other people told him in the neighbourhood, that I wern't about. He got his knife and put the sash on one side, and got in the house, and searched the house.

12,517. For you?—Yes.

12,518. Did he find you?—No, sir.

12,519. Is that all?—That is all.

12,520. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said upon that election when Surgey came to you over this hedge, that you were desirous to get out of the way; not to go and vote?—I was.

12,521. Perhaps you will be able to give us some solution to this; if you were so desirous not to vote, how came you to be so desirous to vote at five minutes to four?—Well, sir, look here, it was in this way, I told you before he is a gentleman I respect very much as a gentleman, and of course I could not very well refuse him from going.

12,522. Did you serve him with milk?—I did so.

12,523. Was anything said to you about the milk?—Not in the least.

12,524. You simply went because you served this gentleman with milk?—Yes.

12,525. You know what an electioneering hint is, you have told us?—Yes.

12,526. And you have twice put up your hand in this kind of way, (*showing*) closing your four fingers and then knocking it down in your hand; who did you ever see do that at the election?—I never see any one.

12,527. Where did you learn to do it off so cleverly twice, and always in the same kind of way?—I did not want any learning.

12,528. Have you ever done it before?—Well, I have.

12,529. When you have been asking for a vote?—We very often do, in this way; we go into a fair, or go anywhere to buy things, and then of course that is done there; that aint electioneering.

12,530. Why should you do it at a fair?—Because we perfectly understand one another.

12,531. And then you perfectly understand one another when it is done at an election?—We cannot be off from doing it. I do not make a practice of it here.

12,532. That is what you call a fair style of electioneering?—No, sir.

12,533. Did you ever practise it on electioneering?—No.

12,534. Never once, not when you canvassed your two brothers who were going over to Mr. Monson?—No, sir.

12,535. Or your private friends?—If I know a man has promised his word I let him keep to it.

12,536. But sometimes he wants to get a little inducement; did you never work a voter in that way?—No, sir.

12,537. Or in some other way to give a little hint that he might expect something?—Not in the least.

12,538. You trust to your own persuasive arguments to bring them round?—Yes, they can do as they like after I have tried them, whichever way their inclination goes.

12,539. How do you try them?—I merely ask them; say, "Well, I am going to vote for so-and-so, and I "believe him to be a good man."

12,540. That is all you do say? If they do not give way to that you do not introduce your little fair signs?—Not in the least.

William Gibbs sworn and examined.

W. Gibbs.

12,541. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—Carpenter and joiner.

12,542. What rent do you pay for your house?—8*s.* a week.

12,543. That is a 20*l.* house?—We pay 13 months to the year; we pay it weekly.

12,544. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

12,545. Had you voted in 1863?—Yes.

12,546. For whom?—Mr. Gower.

12,547. Had you voted before that election?—No, that is the only two.

12,548. About how long have you been a voter?—About five years.

12,549. I believe you were on Mr. Gower's committee?—No, I was not, not that I am aware of.

12,550. Did not you attend any of his committee meetings?—I did attend two summonses I had.

12,551. That shows you were on the committee?—I was not in the committee downstairs, I was only up here in this room.

12,552. Have you the paper that you got to attend the committee?—No, I have not, sir; it came from Mr. Smith.

12,553. How many committee meetings did you attend?—I was summonsed twice.

12,554. But you attended more, did you not?—No, never any besides.

12,555. You took an interest in Mr. Gower's election, did you not?—No, not much.

12,556. You canvassed people for him?—No, sir, not one.

12,557. Nor acted as messenger, did not you?—No.

15,558. You were quite satisfied with the result of the election, were you not; did not you express yourself satisfied?—Yes.

12,559. Although it was not as good as you thought,

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something of that kind?—Oh, no, nothing of that kind.

12,560. With whom did you go to the poll on the polling day?—I was voted to look after one of the cabs myself; we all went down in a line together, we all got into one cab, and all went down together.

12,561. From where?—From Nutley-lane to the polling place.

12,562. Who came down the night before, do you recollect?—It was the meeting here, where I was summonsed.

12,563. I suppose you were present at the nomination?—Yes, I was.

12,564. And at the polling day?—Yes.

12,565. And lost some time?—Three days.

12,566. How much did you get for the loss of time?—I got 3*l.* altogether in three different instalments.

12,567. You did not canvass?—No.

12,568. But how would you make out the third day; the nomination day and polling day; how do you make out the third day?—Well, I never done much, only walking about.

12,569. From whom did you receive the 3*l.*?—From Mr. Apted.

12,570. Did you receive any before the election?—I received the first 1*l.* the morning of the nomination. I received 10*s.* on the Saturday night previous to that.

12,571. From Mr. Apted?—Yes.

12,572. And 1*l.* on the nomination morning?—Yes.

12,573. When did you receive the next pound?—I received the 30*s.* the second of September.

12,574. Is that all you have received?—That is all I have received from an election.

12,575. In any way?—Well, I went down to Mr. Nichols, and he asked me when I went down there what I wanted for my vote, and I said I would not take his word at all, I said he owed me half a crown for half a day's work, which he promised to pay me, which had nothing to do with the election at all; it was previous to that. It was in the dark where he had me, and he gave me two half-crowns, as he said, into my hand to say no more about that, and when I got home I found it was a two-shilling piece instead of 2*s.* 6*d.*, so that it was 4*s.* 6*d.* instead of 5*s.*; that is all the money I received.

12,576. How long before the election did he put this 4*s.* 6*d.* into your hands?—About three months.

12,577. He wanted you to vote for Monson?—Yes.

12,578. He offered you more money?—Well, he wanted to know what I wanted for my vote, and I would not tell him.

12,579. You not relying upon him did not tell him?—No.

12,580. Did he tell you at all how much was going?—No, he never said a word to me.

12,581. He told you money was going?—Well, I knew that a little, but I do not know as he told me of it; I knew that there was money flying about.

12,582. Did he send for you?—Well, I have got rather forward in my story; I should like to begin it. I worked for Mr. Carruthers eight years, and he come to me one day and wanted to know which way I was going. He says, "Gibbs, which way are you going?" I said, "I am going for Mr. Gower I believe," and he said, "Why are you going for Gower?" "Well," I says, "I voted for him last time, and I am "going for him again;" and he says "Why you "never got paid last time," I said, "I got satisfied "very well, and I shan't say no more;" he says to me, "I suppose a little money would alter your mind." I says, "Well, I dont know;" "Well" he says, "whatever you have been promised on the other side, I dare "say you have been promised something." I said "Yes "I had;" "Well" he says, "whatever you have been "promised, I will give you a pound more if you like to "vote for Mr. Monson;" and so he says "Whatever "you are saying to me aint going no further." I says "Very well," so I did mention a sum; 6*l.*, though I never was promised that in my life.

12,583. He asked you how much you were promised, and you told him you had been promised 6*l.*?—Yes, and he told me that he would give me a pound more. He says, "You have not promised your vote, have you?" "No," I says, "I have not." When Mr. Gower came to me I told him about my vote first. He came to me before Mr. Carruthers came to me. He asked me for my vote, and I told him I thought it was very likely he could have it, and I told him I would not promise it to him it just at present, but I would see what I would do in time; but I told him it was no good him coming to me before.

12,584. You did not want to be bound by a promise Your master told you he would give you 1*l.* more?—Yes, and he said, "I suppose you have not "promised your vote;" I says "I have not." "Well" he says, "don't you promise it till you have seen "me again."

12,585. When did you see your master again?—I see him again underneath the shop; and he says to me, "well, how do you go now;" "Well," I says "I have not altered my mind at all." "Well," he says, "I can do something for you if you like to "vote for Monson; and if you go for Gower, I shall "be shortening hands very soon, and you will be one "that will have to go."

12,586. Does your master employ many men?—Yes.

12,587. You are not at work with him now?—I got discharged, I believe, through that and nothing else. That was the last time he said anything to me; he went through the passage, and left me to do as I liked.

12,588. How long before the election was this?—About six weeks I should think.

12,589. And then you had no other conversation with your master?—Not at that time. He had a third visit to me about my vote; he came up in the shop again.

12,590. Nearer the election time, within a week or two of the election?—It might have been a fortnight. He came up to me again and he says, "Gibbs, have "you made up your mind which way you are going"; I said, "No, sir, no further than what I have said "before, I am going for Gower." "Well," he says, "you know what you told me the other day, that you "had been promised 6*l.*," I said, "Yes, I do." "Well," he says, "tell me the man that promised you;" and I says, "I shall not." He says "Why won't you;" I says, "I shant tell you." "Oh," he says, "very "well, there are two gentlemen coming up to see you "to-day, and they will make you tell them;" and I says, "You may lead a horse to water, but you cannot "make him drink."

12,591. Did the two gentlemen come up to you?—No, they did not; and he says, "Will you say it "was one of the agents that promised it to you?" I said, "I shan't say no such thing." "Oh," he says, "that is near enough," and never said no more to me; I suppose he told one of the men that was there if I voted for Gower that I should always rue the day, it would be the worst day's work that I ever did.

12,592. How did Nichols come to you, or did you go to Nichols?—He wanted me to go and see Mr. Nichols, that is how I come there. With that I thought I did not want to get out of employment, so I went down to Nichols and saw him. I attended a public house meeting where Gower was at.

12,593. But you went and saw Nichols?—Yes; Nichols was there at the public house meeting in Nutley-lane, and Mr. Carruthers was there too. I had a little talk with Nichols; then I come down the town, and he was shortly after me. He called me and says, "I want to speak to you;" I asked him what he wanted. He said he wanted me to go over and go into the "Grapes," and I went in, and that was how it occurred.

12,594. Did he name any sum at all which he was to give you?—He was to give me 2*l.*, what he called

"spending money," and then if he won the day he would handsomely treat me.

12,595. 3*l.* more ?—I don't know what it was. He asked me to name it, and I said I could not name it.

12,596. At any rate under any conditions, winning or losing, you were to receive 2*l.* spending money ?—Yes.

12,597. And if he won then you would be treated handsomely ?—Just so.

12,598. Did he offer you the 2*l.* ?—No, he said he should give it to me on the Friday night; and Friday at dinner-time he sent Mr. Monson up to me up in the shop, and all the men in the shop were round me like a lot of bees, and I promised Mr. Monson before their eyes on purpose to get rid of them.

12,599. I believe you did not receive the money on the Friday ?—No.

12,600. Did you expect to get it on the Friday ?—No.

12,601. How was it you did not expect it when you promised Monson?—Why, I only promised Monson to get rid of him.

12,602. But he did not know that ?—I was asked to go down ever so many times to receive the 2*l.*, but I did not go down.

12,603. You were told it was ready for you ?—Yes.

12,604. Where, at Nichols' ?—I suppose so.

12,605. I mean, when you were asked to come down and receive it did you understand it was at Nichols' ?—Yes, I suppose it was so.

12,606. In 1863 did you vote ?—Yes.

12,607. Had you been employed for Mr. Gower ?—No.

12,608. What did you receive at that election for loss of time ?—I received 3*l.* 10*s.* at that election, but I was not promised it; I had it given me after the election some time.

12,609. Who paid you ?—Mr. Job Apted.

12,610. Did he pay you any money ?—No, I received it in goods.

12,611. You only received 3*l.* in 1863 ?—Yes.

12,612. Did you receive it in money or goods ?—Not money.

12,613. Did you take it all out in goods in 1863 ?—Yes.

12,614. Some time after the election ?—Yes.

12,615. Had you voted before 1863 ?—I had not.

12,616. Were you here in 1859 ?—I was here on the nomination day; I came here the very same day from Dorking.

12,617. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know James Brown. He was a fellow workman with you at Carruthers' ?—No, sir, I never saw the man in my life, as I am aware of.

12,618. Banks worked at Carruthers' ?—Yes.

12,619. He spoke of a person of the name of James Brown ?—I know the man you mean, though I have not seen him; he is a plasterer, and worked for Mr. Carruthers'. I was always working in the shop.

12,620. Did Brown speak to you about voting ?—No, sir, never said a word to me.

12,621. Never spoke to you ?—No.

12,622. He was influential, was he ?—Not among the workpeople. I never saw him in the shop. He is a man I do not know. I could not pick him out, because I do not know him.

THOMAS DENTON called, sworn, and examined.

T. Denton

12,623. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A painter.

12,624. Where do you live ?—Warwick-town, No. 4, West-street.

12,625. What rent do you pay ?—4*s.* 6*d.* now; but I was not living at the same house I am now at the time of the election.

12,626. Where were you living then ?—No. 4, Grove-road.

12,627. What rent did you pay ?—4*s.*

12,628. You voted at the last election in 1865 ?—I did, the only one I have.

12,629. Were you here in 1863 ?—Yes, I was.

12,630. Had not you a vote ?—No.

12,631. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower, this time.

12,632. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower ?—Mr. Edward Potter was the first that spoke to me about Mr. Gower's election, a neighbour of mine.

12,633. Did you make him any promise of your vote ?—No, sir, he did not ask me for that.

12,634. More like conversation ?—I was away at work all the summer at East Grimstead. Mr. Potter came to me on Sunday evening and asked me if I was a mind to be down on Mr. Gower's committee, and I said, "Well, I do not care, put me down if you like." "Well," he said, "I will put your name down." I said, "I shall not be there," because I was away at work.

12,635. About how long before the election was this ?—I think it was about three weeks, but on the Friday night previous to the Sunday, the next Friday night following, I had finished up the job at Twyford in Sussex, and had taken my money on the Friday night, and was going on Saturday morning to see about another job to take that, and I took a smart little sum of money that evening, and I came home here and brought it, because I thought I should have fresh lodgings to take in East Grimstead, and I would bring my money home. On the Friday night I came home there was a meeting at Redhill, and who should I see but Potter, and he said, "There's a meeting "to-night, will you go?" "I said, "I don't mind, I "have not seen anything of it yet." I went. Mr. Featherstone was there and Mr. Webb at the top of the hill, and several more that I know. Mr. Featherstone says, "Good evening, Mr. Denton;" I said, "Good "evening." He says, "Have you any objection to "having your name down on the committee?" I said, "No, sir, I believe you have it;" "Oh, yes," he says, "we have got it, but we wanted your sanction." "Well, then," I says, "you might put it down for Mr. "Gower." That is all I see of the meeting of that side. On the next Sunday night Edmund Bailey come to me to canvass me for Mr. Monson. He knocked at my door about twenty minutes past ten on Sunday evening, as I had just got my boots off to go to bed, and my wife was gone. I opened the door and saw it was him. He says, "Good evening, Mr. "Denton;" "Good evening, Edmund," I says. He says, "I have come to see you." "Oh, have you," I says, "you have come just in time, for I am just "going to bed." He says, "How do you get on for "trade;" I says, "I have plenty at present, but it is "a long way from home." He says, "I want to "speak to you a minute." I put my boots on and went outside the door; when I got outside I saw Joseph Kenward. Edmund Bailey asked me if I wanted to do myself any good this election. I said I did not want to do myself any harm; and he says, "Well, come across to that man, he will talk to you," but, however, I had not a chance to go across there. He came to me and asked me if had promised my vote. I said, no, I had not, no more than I was down on Mr. Gower's committee, for I told them to put my name down myself, and he said, "Well, we don't "mind about your being on his committee, will you "come on ours;" and I said, "No, I think not, one's "enough." He says, "It is no use being on so many." "Well," he says, "will you come down as far as "Langridge's along with me." I believe it is called the "South Eastern" hotel. We got down there, and he said he would allow me 30*s.* a week, and he would pay me for the time back that had been passed.

12,636. Who said about paying you, Mr. Kenward or Langridge ?—Kenward; 30*s.* a week, and he would pay me back from the time the election began, which

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I think he said then I should have a fortnight due to me, and he would pay me 1*l.* for nomination day and 1*l.* for polling day.

12,637. At that time ?—That same time.

12,638. He did pay you that ?—No ; he said he would pay me.

12,639. How much for polling ?—1*l.* each day, nomination and polling.

12,640. Then, you know, that would be 2*l.* ; commencing with the 2*l.* you would have very near 8*l.* ?—I think it came to about 6*l.* 10*s.*

12,641. What did you receive ?—30*s.* on the next Saturday night, as polling day was on the following Wednesday.

12,642. From whom did you receive it ?—From Joseph Kenward.

12,643. Did you receive any more ?—Yes ; I received 10*s.* on Sunday evening after the Saturday, next day evening, from Joseph Kenward.

12,644. How much more ?—Nothing more ; but I was going to tell you the observation that he made, that he did not pay me up the full amount that he had promised to pay me ; I was to have the full amount on the Saturday evening for the end of the election right up to the polling day.

12,645. What was it ?—It was on the Saturday evening, when I went to him at the proper time ; he told me I was to come there and receive the money. We were in Langridge's back yard ; he went out one way and I went round the other, and he says, "I am "rather short to night, I cannot give you what I promised to give you." He says, "I have paid away "rather more than I expected, I had more names on "the book than I had thought of." This was about a quarter past nine or a quarter before, I won't be sure which. "But," he says, "I shall be over at Mr. "Nichols' to-night, and I shall get the remainder, and "I will pay you to-morrow morning at nine o'clock."

12,646. But on the Monday there were the 10*s.* ?—The Tuesday he did not give to me at all.

12 647. Did you get any money ?—No ; only the 2*l.*

12,648. Did you get any more after the election ?—No.

12,649. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But he asked you questions. Did he say, "I have got no more, "gentlemen" ?—No ; he said, "I am short of money, "Denton, I cannot pay you what I promised you."

12,650. Had there been anybody there before you ?—No.

12,651. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was the Sunday before the polling day ?—Yes ; that was the Sunday before the polling day.

12,652. Eventually you did vote for Mr. Gower ?—I did ; and I can tell you my reason why.

12,653. If you please ?—Because I found he was not a man of his word ; he was not the man for me ; if he had given me his word I should have voted for him. I received 30*s.* one time and 10*s.* at another.

12,654. Who did you go and tell you were going to vote for Mr. Gower ?—My neighbour, Mr. Scotton ; he was a neighbour of mine ; and I said the same to some of them ; and Mr. Mulley, he canvassed me on the polling morning.

12,655. Can you recollect what passed then ?—I do ; Mr. Mulley said, "I will satisfy you for these "two days, but for anything more I will have nothing "to do with ; but as to the amount he did not say, I "should have the same as the rest for two days."

12,656. And you may have the same as the rest ?—Yes.

12,657. But no amount was mentioned ?—No amount was mentioned.

12,658. Was anything more proposed to you, in any more definite way, before you voted ?—No.

12,659. And so you went up and voted for Mr. Gower ?— I did.

12,660. Did Mr. Mulley keep his word and pay you for the two days ?—No.

12,661. Did anybody ?—No.

12,662. Did you receive anything more before the election for Mr. Gower ?—No ; but I remember I went to the market house, and I believe some money was paid, but that is only what I was told ; I am no scholar.

12,663. Mulley had said what the practice was ?—Yes.

12,664. Was anybody by ?—Mr. Scarlett was one.

12,665. There was like a witness by, then ?—Yes.

12,666. Did you not apply to Mulley for it ?—Yes ; I have applied.

12,667. What has been his excuse ?—He said after Mr. Gower was sworn in at the House of Commons or the House of Lords these things would be paid.

The Chief Commissioner stated to the witness he was much obliged for the straightforward way in which he had given his evidence.

The witness then withdrew.

J. Cooke.

James Cooke sworn and examined.

12,668. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Your name is James Cooke ?—Yes.

12,669. What are you, Cooke ?—A jobbing carpenter.

12,670. What house do you occupy, what rent ?—Mead-vale ; it is my own.

12,671. What is it worth a year ?—The rates are 6*l.* 10*s.*

12,672. What is the estimated value of it in the rate books, do you know ?—No, I have not considered that, but it is a valuable place to me.

12,673. Is it a separate house or in a row of cottages ?—No ; it is separate, and a garden to it.

12,674. You consider it worth more than 10*l.* a year ?—Yes.

12,675. If you were going to let it, what rent would you ask ?—A considerable deal more than that.

12,676. Did you vote at this last election ?—Yes.

12,677. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

12,678. What time in the day did you vote ?—I believe it was somewhere between 9 and 10 in the fore part of the morning ; but I cannot say exactly to half an hour.

12,679. Had you been canvassed, or asked to be for Mr. Monson ?—No.

12,680. Not by anybody ?—Not by anybody.

12,681. You had intended to vote for Mr. Monson ?—No.

12,682. Never ?—Never.

12,683. And had you never promised anybody you would vote for Mr. Monson ?—No.

12,684. Were you at the nomination ?—Yes. Do you mean the day before the election ?

12,685. Yes ?—When the candidates were proposed.

12,686. That was at the new town hall, I believe, and you were there ?—Yes, I was.

12,687. Where did you sleep that night ?—At home, in my own house.

12,688. Are you quite certain about that ?—Yes, that I be.

12,689. Where do you live ?—At Mead-vale.

12,690. And you are quite certain you slept at Mead-vale that night ?—Yes, that I am.

12,691. Do you know Mazden ?—Yes.

12,692. When did you promise to vote for Mr. Gower ?—When Mr. Gower came round to me one evening. There was Mr. Smith and some one else with him. I was standing, the same as I am here, on my own premises, and he came up to me and asked if I would give him my vote, and Mr. Smith said to me, "Mr. Gower," and I said, "Is it ?"

12,693. Mr. Smith introduced him ?—Yes ; and I

said "Yes." Mr. Gower bade me good morning, and that was all that was said.

12,694. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

12,695. Were you advertized as being on the committee?—James Mazden asked me (I had no work at the time), "Would you like to go on the com- "mittee," and he put my name down.

12,696. That was Mazden?—That was James Mazden.

12,697. Did Mazden ask you to work for Mr. Gower?—Yes; he said, "As far as any letters are "concerned, if I wish you to deliver them, will you "do it;" he said, "There are five to take over to the "committee room, will you take them," and I said "Yes."

12,698. You had known Mazden a good many years?—Yes.

12,699. I suppose you would have been very happy to have done that to serve him as a friend?—I had nothing else to do.

12,700. And you would have been very happy to have served him as a friend in carrying a letter?—Yes.

12,701. Did Mazden tell you that you would be paid for it?—He said he would see that I was paid for it.

12,702. Did he tell you what you would be paid for this carrying of letters?—No, he did not say.

12,703. That was quite uncertain?—Yes, it was quite uncertain.

12,704. How long before the election did Mazden ask you to carry letters?—It was five weeks or a month, but I cannot say exactly which.

12,705. When he told you that you would get paid for it, did he make any sign with his fingers?—No.

12,706. Or give you any hint as to what you were likely to have for it?—No.

12,707. Were you paid at the rate of 1*l.* a week?—No.

12,708. Was it said that it would be a good thing for you if you did come and take these letters?—No; he only said he would see me paid.

12,709. Did you carry any letters for Mazden?—Yes, I delivered them round to the voters.

12,710. I suppose not many?—A good many at times.

12,711. How many times did you carry letters for Mr. Mazden?—Several weeks.

12,712. Did you carry very many in the week?—Sometimes I might have only to come over here, and sometimes I might go over to Mead-vale to Warwick-town.

12,713. Did you always receive them from Mazden?—Penfold gave me one letter.

12,714. Do you think Mazden gave you 50 letters to distribute?—I cannot say.

12,715. Or 20?—I cannot say.

12,716. You only received your letters from Mazden and Penfold?—That is all.

12,717. Did you receive any money from Mazden for carrying these letters?—I received 1*l.* before the election, and three weeks or a month after the polling day I received another 1*l.*, and that made 2*l.*, from Mr. James Mazden.

12,718. How long before the election did you receive the 1*l.*?—I believe it might be a week.

12,719. When Mazden paid you the 1*l.* did he tell you what it was for?—He said, "It is part of your "money for your labour."

12,720. Had you promised him you would vote for Mr. Gower before he told you you should be employed about these letters?—Yes, Mr. Gower asked me for my vote, and I said "Yes;" and Mr. Mazden said the next morning, "Did you see Mr. Gower," I said "Yes, and I told him I would vote for him," and he said, "Do you mind your name being put on the com- "mittee," and I said, "You can do it if you like."

12,721. You are quite sure you were not asked for the Monson party?—No.

12,722. Not just before the election?—I believe it was Mr. Monson came and spoke to me these words, before the election; he said "Is your name Cooke?" I said, "Yes;" and he said, "Have you promised your vote," and I said, "I have promised it to Mr. "Gower." I did not know it was Mr. Monson.

12,723. Were you walking with any of Mr. Monson's friends or supporters?—No, not to my knowledge.

12,724. Do you mean to say you avoided them? Do you mean to say you avoided their society?—I might pass them on the road.

12,725. You know what I mean by avoiding their society. Did you pass them on the road?—No.

12,726. Do you mean to say Mr. Gower's friends and supporters would look to you as a staunch supporter and friend?—Yes.

12,727. You are quite certain about that?—Yes; when I promised my vote I intended I would keep to my promise.

12,728. Do you mean to say you would have no communication whatever with the Monson party up to the time of the night before the polling?—I am certain.

12,729. And you are quite certain you slept at home that night?—I am certain.

12,730. Do you know a man of the name of John Dennis?—He is a nephew of mine.

12,731. Did you see him the night before the election?—He is living under me; he lodges at my house.

12,732. Is he a voter?—Oh, no.

12,733. Where did you enjoy your evening the night before the polling?—At home.

12,734. Are you quite certain you were at home?—Yes, along with my wife and family.

12,735. Like a reasonable man?—Yes.

12,736. I hope it was so?—I know it was so.

12,737. Are you quite certain of that?—Yes.

12,738. You were not at home the whole evening?—I cannot exactly say just to a few minutes.

12,739. Or an hour?—I might go away for a few minutes over to Mazden's to fetch a drop of beer for my wife and smoke my pipe.

12,740. You were there?—I believe I was.

12,741. We will call it the supper beer?—Yes, we will call it the supper beer.

12,742. Did you merely go in to get your supper beer?—Yes.

12,743. And did not stop there?—No.

12,744. Let me put this question to you. Were you not in the company of some person that evening, and did you not drink?—No.

12,745. Will you swear that?—Yes, I will; for I do not allow myself to get drunk.

12,746. Election times may be different?—Well, I was not.

12,747. Did you ever attend any of the meetings of the Gower party at the town hall?—I was at one meeting with Mazden.

12,748. Was that shortly before the election?—I could not say how long it might be.

12,749. Was it a week before the election?—It might be a week before the polling.

12,750. Were there many people at Mazden's at that time drinking?—So many people come in and out that you could not tell whether they belonged to the election or not.

12,751. When you were there in the evening before the election did you pay for all you had?—I said I might drink a glass of ale along with a friend.

25,752. I did not mean simply drinking a glass of ale in the ordinary way, but did you sit down at the table and have your refreshment without paying for it?—I might have had some, but not all the time.

12,753. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In case any one asked you you took it?—Yes.

12,754. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take just so much as to be put to bed with another man?—No.

EIGHTH DAY.

J. Cooke.

30 Aug. 1866.

12,755. Then if we have reason to say another man said so, was it a mistake ?—It must be a mistake.

12,756. Where is George Dennis ; does he still live at your house ?—Yes.

12,757. Then if anyone has ever reported that to have taken place you say it is untrue ?—Yes, that is it. I am quite satisfied about that.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then it has been said ?

(*The witness.*) I am very sorry for it, and if I knew who has spoken it I would tell him of it certainly again.

The Commissioner observed that if there is no truth in it he was glad to have given the witness the opportunity of saying what he had that day.

(*The witness.*) There is no truth at all in it.

12,758. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have been living here some time ?—Yes.

12,759. Pretty well all your life ?—All my life.

12,760. How long have you been a freeholder, about ; I am not particular to two or three years ?—It belonged to my father, and then it came to me.

12,761. Have you succeeded your father 15 years ?—Oh, yes, longer than that.

12,762. You remember a good many elections ?—I remember some in the time of Earl Somers.

12,763. You remember Mr. Hackblock's time ?—No, I had nothing to do with that.

12,764. Do you not recollect that ?—I remember hearing of it, but I was not at Reigate.

12,765. I thought you had been at Reigate 15 years ?—More than that.

12,766. At Hackblock's election were you at work here ?—No, not about Reigate. I was in the parish of Reigate.

12,767. That is in the borough of Reigate ?—It might be.

12,768. Did you not vote at that time ?—No.

12,769. Did you vote at the great election when Mr. Doulton was down here ?—No, I had no vote ; at least I had never put my claim in.

12,770. When was your name first on the register ?—I put my name on when it was reported Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower were going to put up, and then I put in my claim.

12,771. Was that in 1863 ?—In 1863.

12,772. Was that the first time you were on the register ?—It was the first time I put my claim in.

12,773. Did you vote at that time ?—Yes ; for Mr. Wilkinson.

12,774. You remember the election pretty well in 1863 ?—Oh yes.

12,775. That is not so long ago ?—I remember that very well.

12,776. Do you remember whether Mr. Wilkinson canvassed you himself ?—Mr. Wilkinson met me in Mead-vale as I was going to my home from my work; Frederick Joyes was with him. Mr. Joyes said to Mr. Wilkinson, "This is one of the voters," and Mr. Wilkinson then turned to me and said, "Is "your name Cooke ?" I said, "Yes ;" and he said, "Who do you intend to vote for," and I said, "Mr. "Wilkinson."

12,777. Who else asked you for your vote after that ?—James Mazden asked me. Mr. Wilkinson said in the first place, "Would you like your name to be "on my committee," and I said, "Yes ;" and when Mr. Mazden wished me to come to the committee room at the "Swan" he gave me a letter. I was to come here and see the clerk.

12,778. I understand. Mr. Mazden gave you a letter, and you were to do what you did do ?—Yes.

12,779. I suppose it was not much ?—Sometimes it was.

12,780. What did you receive for doing it in 1863 ?—I was paid at the "Swan" here 5*s.* a day during the time.

12,781. That is 5*s.* a day when you worked?—While I was here.

12,782. Did you work all the time during the election ?—I believe the first money I received on the Saturday was 1*l.*, and the next week was 30*s.*

12,783. Well, that is 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes, that is 2*l.* 10*s.*

12,784. That was before the polling day ?—Yes.

12,785. That is 2*l.* 10*s.* altogether ?—Yes.

12,786. Who paid you that ?—Mr. James.

12,787. And after the election what money did you receive ?—Five and twenty shillings.

12,788. No more ?—No more.

12,789. Who paid you that ?—Ephraim Jones.

12,790. Did you get any more money ?—No.

12,791. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

12,792. And you were paid by him ?—Partly paid.

12,793. Was there any agreement made as to what was to be paid you for the nomination and polling day ?—Not anything particular. On the polling day in the evening Ephriam Rose was at Mazden's. He got home before me. When I went home he sent for me, and said, "I wanted you," and said, "I have got "25*s.* for you for what you have done at the election." That, I suppose, was the nomination day and the polling day. Since that time I received 30*s.*

12,794. But you were not paid, in fact, 25*s.* at one time ?—That was after the election.

12,795. You were paid 30*s.* at the election ?—No.

12,796. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I took it wrong. I took it as 2*l.* 10*s.* You took notice of the election in '63 ; as it was going on you saw it all ?—I did not take particular notice about that.

12,797. You are a man of observation ; tell me in a word, altogether did the election of 1863 appear to you as to treating and public houses much the same as '65 ?—That I cannot say.

12,798. I was going to say did it appear to you to be much the same sort of thing, proceeding as in 1865 ?—I saw people about.

12,799. If you think it was different say so ?—I think they were both alike.

12,800. Were public houses open at both elections ?—I do not know whether they were free for any one.

12,801. Do you know whether people of your own standing in life went in and got refreshment at public houses, and were not called upon to pay ?—I never knew any one to go in and call for anything.

12,802. At the last election of '65, when you were going about to your work you used to go into a public house occasionally ?—Yes, but I always paid for what I had.

12,803. Did you never have anything without paying for it ?—Only at those two meetings ; one, at James Mazden's; I had a glass or two of ale there.

12,804. At Mazden's, in 1865, you did not pay ?—Yes.

12,805. Not on that day at that meeting ?—I do not say I paid for everything I had to drink.

12,806. But you went into Mazden's and took refreshment ?—Yes.

12,807. You did not pay for that ?—Some of that I did.

12,808. But not for all of it ?—I cannot say that I did for all of it.

The witness then withdrew.

D. Goacher.

DANIEL GOACHER sworn and examined.

12,809. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A milkman.

12,810. What rent do you pay for your house ?—4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

12,811. How long have you been a voter for this borough of Reigate ?—I voted for it twice.

12,812. You voted in 1863 and 1865 ?—Yes.

12,813. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Gower.

12,814. For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

12,815. Now I suppose you were on Mr. Gower's committee?—No.

12,816. You were not on his committee at all?—No.

12,817. Who canvassed you; who asked you to vote for him?—Mr. Gower.

12,818. You had seen Mr. Mazden?—I see him every day.

12,819. Did he not ask you to vote for Mr. Gower?—He asked me after Mr. Gower.

12,820. Did you see any other of Mr. Gower's people besides Mr. Mazden?—No.

12,821. Nobody else came to you?—No.

12,822. Did anybody come to you on the part of Mr. Monson?—No, sir, not one.

12,823. How long before the election did Mr. Mazden speak to you about voting for Mr. Gower?—I cannot say how long.

12,824. Was it about three weeks or a month?—It might be a fortnight or three weeks.

12,825. Did he tell you to be at the nomination?—I was not there.

12,826. He would expect you to be at the nomination?—He did not say he would expect me there.

12,827. Nor at the polling?—Yes, I was at the polling.

12,828. But not at the nomination?—No.

12,829. Who came with you to the poll?—Mr. Mazden.

12,830. Did he drive you there?—He drove me there.

12,831. Where did he find you?—At my own house.

12,832. Was it early in the morning?—No, about the middle of the day.

12,833. Were you not going to vote at all till he came for you?—I promised Mr. Gower.

12,834. I know you did. I suppose if he had not come for you you would not have voted?—He told me he would come for me.

12,835. When did he tell you that?—In the morning.

12,836. What time in the morning did he tell you that?—About 8 in the morning.

12,837. Did you see him the night before?—Most likely I did, for I see him most nights.

18,838. I suppose you recollect the nomination well. Did he not tell you Mr. Gower had a great show of hands and was sure to win, or something of that kind?—I forget.

12,839. You don't indeed?—Yes, I do.

12,840. Did he come to see you in the morning?—I went to his house with the milk.

12,841. And then he told you he would call for you in the middle of the day?—Yes.

12,842. What was he to give you for your loss of time that day?—He did not give me anything.

12,843. I do not say he ever did, but how much was he to give you?—There was nothing said about it.

12,844. How much did you expect?—I did not expect anything.

12,845. Why did you hesitate. How much was he to give you; was he to give you anything, and, come, we shall have Mr. Mazden here. Was he to give you anything?—Nothing was said about it.

12,846. But was he to give you anything?—He did not give me anything.

12,847. Was he to give you anything, whether anything was said about it or not?—No.

12,848. Mr. Mazden will be called, you may rely upon it. Had Mr. Mazden spoken to you; come, I ask you, what was he to give you for your loss of time?—There was nothing of the kind said.

12,849. It may be implied; was there nothing of the kind said?—Nothing to me.

12,850. Was he to give you a pound or two?—Nothing at all.

12,851. Did you get any more?—Yes, sir.

12,852. When?—After the election.

12,853. How soon after the election?—About three weeks or a month.

12,854. Did he look at you; come, don't look so unhappy?—I am not unhappy.

12,855. Well, I am glad of that. I am glad to see you smile. Did he look at you?—No, I was at his house.

12,856. Did you ask him for the money?—No, he gave it me without asking.

12,857. What did he say?—He said, "This will "satisfy you for your trouble for what you have "done."

12,858. But you did nothing at all; you did not even attend the nomination. You told me you did nothing?—I said I was not at the nomination, but I was at the polling.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then you got the 2*l.* for voting.

12,859. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He gave you 2*l.*?—Yes, that was it.

12,860. You told me nothing was said about it?—I thought you meant that day.

12,861. You said nothing was said and nothing was understood. Were you much surprised when you got the 2*l.*?—No, sir.

12,862. Then you did expect it. What is the use of your keeping it back; did you not expect money from Mr. Mazden for going up polling?—He said, "That will satisfy you for your trouble for what you "have done."

12,863. Did he not say that when he took you up to the poll?—He might.

12,864. You voted in 1863, did you not, for Mr. Wilkinson, and you were living in the same house?—Yes.

12,865. And you are a neighbour of Mr. Mazden's?—Yes.

12,866. And Mr. Mazden was acting for Mr. Wilkinson on that occasion; you know he was. Did you go with Mr. Mazden to the poll in 1863?—I went with several, but it is so long ago that I forget.

12,867. Who took you to the poll in 1863?—I do not know.

12,868. Milkmen are too valuable to stray about, as we have heard from other milkmen to day; who took you up in 1863?—It is so long ago that I forget.

12,869. Do you recollect the time you polled in '63?—It might be 10 or 11 o'clock.

12,870. With whom did you poll?—I do not know.

12,871. Who spoke to you about it?—Mr. Wilkinson.

12,872. Somebody else did?—No, sir.

12,873. Somebody else did?—No, sir.

12,874. I will ask you again who it was who spoke to you about the polling in '63, was it one of Mr. Wilkinson's friends?—I do not know his friends.

12,875. Who spoke to you in '63 about voting for Mr Wilkinson?—It is so long ago.

12,876. Well, just recollect?—I will try, but I do not expect I shall.

12,877. Who went with you to the poll?—I do not know.

12,878. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not go alone?—That is not likely, there were plenty.

12,879. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you walk there or go in a fly; did you walk there or go in a carriage?—(*No answer.*)

12,880. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it Mazden?—No.

12,881. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are quite certain of that?—Yes.

12,882. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What money did you receive on that occasion?—10*s.* nomination day and 10*s.* polling day; and that is all I received.

12,883. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Ephraim Rose take you to the poll?—No.

EIGHTH DAY.

D. Goacher.

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22,884. You recollect Ephraim gave you the 10*s*?—Yes.

12,885. Was that all you got?—Yes.

12,886. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was a poor election?—A good many had better I hope.

12,887. You knew a good many had better?—No.

12,888. Who told you you would be paid for nomination and polling days?—Nobody.

12,889. But you were?—Yes.

12,890 (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you go to Ephraim Rose to get the 10*s*.?—He sent for me.

12,891. How did he know what you were to have—He knew that.

12,892, Was Ephraim Rose the man who took you up to the poll?—No.

12,893. You are sure?—Yes.

12,894. Do you know Mr. Nichols of the "Grapes"?—I do not know anything particular about him.

12,895. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mazden was not for Mr. Gower in '63, though he was for him in '65; but Nichols was for Mr. Gower in '63?—Was he?

12,896. You know it?—No, sir.

12,897. Were you not taken to the "Grapes" to have your little refreshment in 1863?—No.

12,898. Do you live in Ephraim Rose's district?—I live at Earlswood.

12,899. Does not Ephraim Rose live in the neighbourhood?—At Mead-vale.

12,900. Ephraim Rose was an active man for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—Yes.

12,901. And you went under his colours?—That is the amount he paid me.

12,902. Will you be on your oath, Ephraim Rose having paid you, that he did not take you to the poll?—No.

12,903. Who was it? You all say it was not Ephraim Rose; who else could it have been if it was not Ephraim Rose? It was somebody about Mead-vale?—There were many at the same time.

12,904. It was somebody about Mead-vale, was it a neighbour of yours?—I think Sendall went at the same time with me.

12,905. You can recollect who went with you. Who was it that took you; you surely must recollect that; come, say who it was?—I cannot recollect.

12,906. Do you recollect who it was you promised you would vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—Mr. Wilkinson himself.

12,907. Anybody else?—Not that I know of.

12,908. Were you on Mr. Wilkinson's committee?—No, I was not.

12,909. Were there three or four went up with you, was the carriage full?—Yes.

JOHN FIELDER sworn and examined.

J. Fielder.

12,910. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A baker.

12,911. Where do you live?—In Mead-vale.

12,912. What rent do you pay?—12*l*. a year.

12,913. When you voted for Mr. Gower did you pay 12*l*. a year?—Yes, I have a larger house now, but I pay less rent.

12,914. Never mind that; you are still on the register I suppose?—Quite correct.

12,915. Who canvassed you at the last election?—Mr. Mazden.

12,916. For whose side?—On Mr. Gower's.

12,917. How long before the election?—Four or five weeks I think.

12,918. Did you agree to vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes, I told Mr. Mazden I would vote for Mr. Gower.

12,919. Did you ask him to put your name on the committee?—No, I never asked anything about that.

12,920. Did he say anything to you?—No.

12,921. Were you put on the committee?—I think not, I acted as clerk to the Gower committee at the British school. I worked from 5 in the evening till 10 o'clock at night; John William Hewett and I used to take it in alternate turns.

12,922. You relieved one another?—Yes.

12,923. What were you to be paid for your services as clerk?—7*l*.

12,924. Did Mr. Mazden make the arrangement with you?—Yes.

12,925. For how many weeks?—For abont five weeks.

12,926. Then was there to be anything at the last part of the election?—Nothing at all, that was all that passed between Mr. Mazden and myself.

12,927. Did he say anything to you about nomination day and polling day?—No, nothing at all. I never attended at the nomination day.

12,928. No, but this was beforehand?—There was nothing of the sort mentioned.

12,929. How much a week do you consider you were paid?—I was paid 6*l*. 10*s*.

12,930. I thought you were paid 7*l*.?—No, that was the agreement. I only received 6*l*. 10*s*.

12,931. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you?—Mr. Mazden paid me 30*s*., and Mr. Smith 5*l*.

12,932. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not attend the nomination?—No.

12,933. You did not work from 5 o'clock in the evening till 10 o'clock at night?—Yes.

12,934. I want to know during the day what were you doing?—Attending my own business.

12,935. Did your own business ever last as long as as 8 o'clock in the evening?—Yes, 9 o'clock at night; when I set my fire was the last job.

12,936. You were able to do that after you got home from the committee room?—Yes.

12,937. Was any of your labour interfered with?—No, I am not aware that it was.

12,938. Have you got a man who is working in the same bakery?—I do it all myself, with the assistance of my wife and children.

12,939. Had you ever anything to do with the election of 1863?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

12,940. What were you doing on the election of 1863; were you clerk to him?—No.

12,941. What were you?—I did nothing at all.

12,942. Were you on the committee?—No.

12,943. Nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

12,944. Was Mr. Mazden the person who canvassed you?—No, Mr. Gower canvassed me himself.

12,945. Whose side was Mr. Mazden on?—I think he voted for Mr. Wilkinson then.

12,946. You are quite right, Mr. Gower canvassed you himself; but you know somebody else besides Mr. Gower, do you not?—No.

12,947. Did you do any work for Mr. Gower in 1863?—No, none at all, not anything.

12,948. Did you receive any money in 1863?—No.

12,949. Not at all?—No.

12,950. Not before the election?—No, not at all.

12,951. Nor anything after the election?—No, not a farthing.

12,952. Were you not to have received anything?—No, not anything.

12,953. Have you had anything to do with previous elections?—No, with none at all.

The witness withdrew.

C. Farley.

CHARLES FARLEY sworn and examined.

12,954. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you a voter for this borough?—Yes.

12,955. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

12,956. And for what qualification?—11*l*. 10*s*. is my rent.

12,957. What are you?—A carpenter and joiner.

12,958. Did you vote without being canvassed or asked to vote?—Mr. Gower canvassed me with Mr. Smith and Mr. Penfold; the first time he came round to canvass the borough he canvassed me.

12,959. Did you promise at once?—Yes.

12,960. Who did you promise?—Mr. Gower.

12,961. Yourself?—Yes.

12,962. Were you on the committee?—No.

12,963. Did anybody afterwards come to you and offer you work for the election?—No.

12,964. Were you to do any work for the election for Mr. Gower?—No; there was nothing said at that time when I promised Mr. Gower.

12,965. When was it said?—As soon as we commenced the committee meetings I went about to some of the meetings, seeing how things were going on. I laid what I had got before the committee, though I was not on the committee. Some one asked me to have my name on the committee, and I said I would rather not have it on, but I would see what I could see. I heard how things were going on without having my name in public, so that they would not have any suspicion. I had made up my mind to vote for Mr. Gower, but I would not have my name stuck up. I said that at the committee, and my name was not on.

12,966. You were going on to say something about work. You have not arrived at that part of the story yet?—Work?

12,967. Yes?—Well, that was the commencement of the work.

12,968. Now let me draw your recollection back; you said nothing was said about work at the early part of the canvass?—Not at that time.

12,969. What time?—The time Mr. Gower asked me for my vote.

12,970. It was not at that time; now, I ask you to tell me when it was?—It might have been, perhaps, a fortnight or three weeks previous to the election.

12,971. When it was mentioned about work, what was said?—There was not anything said, only I was to ascertain how the election was going.

12,972. Were you asked then to work?—I do not know whether I was asked, or whether I offered my services.

12,973. To whom did you offer your services?—To Mr. Penfold, I think.

12,974. When you offered your services to Mr. Penfold, did you express to Mr. Penfold that you thought your services might be of some value?—I do not know that I did.

12,975. You thought your services were of some value?—If I did not think so, I should not have offered them to get Mr. Gower returned.

12,976. You did not intend to give your services and work freely, gratis, for nothing?—I never like working for nothing, I do not agree with that.

12,977. Nobody does; but not intending to give your work for nothing, what were you to get?—There was nothing mentioned; I did not ask anything; I was not offered anything.

12,978. Perhaps not; but did Mr. Penfold lead you to suppose that you would get something?—He never mentioned that.

12,979. No particular sum was mentioned?—No.

12,980. But you did expect to get something for your services, you know perfectly well; did you not know that all those who were working for Mr. Gower were working to get something?—I did not.

12,981. Or that they had been promised?—I never heard of any promise. I do not know of any such promise; what I did was done on the quiet. I did not say to any one what I was doing.

12,982. I think you say you understood Mr. Penfold led you to suppose you were to receive something. Tell us what you did on the quiet, what was your little quiet work; pray do?—I went and attended at the meetings to see what was going on. I got what information I could.

12,983. You went to some of the quiet meetings, did you not?—I did not say quiet meetings.

12,984. No, it was quiet work, I beg your pardon; you went to some of the meetings?—Most of them.

12,985. Were those meetings held at different public houses?—Yes.

12,986. Where were the meetings held that you went to?—At this hall one or two, and at the committee meetings, public meetings.

12,987. They did not want to pay you for you to tell them what was done in their own committee room. Now, let us see, did you go to any of the houses where Mr. Monson's party assembled?—I called in at the "Grapes" once or twice.

12,988. No more than once or twice?—No.

12,989. Did you see Mr. Nichols there?—I do not recollect seeing him.

12,990. Did you go in the private room or stop at the public bar?—No, I did not go into the private room.

12,991. Well, in a quiet way what did you do at the "Grapes"?—I went in and had a glass of ale to hear what was going on in the front of the bar.

12,992. Did you hear anything going on at the front of the bar?—I cannot say.

12,993. You heard nothing about the election?—It was all electioneering conversation of course.

12,994. Did you come back to your own committee and then report what you heard to Mr. Mazden?—I reported to Mr. Penfold and Mr. Mazden what had happened, not there particularly, but in the daytime.

12,995. Mr. Penfold and Mr. Mazden?—That was the first time you mentioned Mr. Mazden's name?—Yes.

12,996. Did you have any little understanding with Mr. Mazden about these quiet perambulations of yours?—No.

12,997. Did Mr. Mazden tell you that you would get paid for your work?—No.

12,998. Or that you might expect to get something for your able services?—He did not say anything to me about it.

12,999. Are you certain?—Quite certain.

13,000. Did you get anything for the election?—Yes.

13,001. What did you get, 5*l.*?—5*l.*

13,002. Who paid you?—Mr. Mazden.

13,003. Mr. Mazden did?—Yes.

13,004. Did you go to Mr. Mazden for the 5*l.*?—To Mr. Smith's first.

13,005. To Mr. Smith the principal agent?—Yes.

13,006. What did you ask Mr. Smith for?—I took my account to him.

13,007. A written account?—Yes.

13,008. Have you got a copy of it?—Mr. Smith had it.

13,009. You remember how you drew up the account; give me the words of the account?—I did not put any items, I made up an account for services rendered at the election of Mr. Gower, the date, July 1865, and total, 5*l.*

13,010. For so many weeks?—No, not at all.

13,011. Why did you put the total at 5*l.*?—I made an account previous to that.

13,012. What was the amount of that account?—6*l.*

13,013. Who told you to alter it from 6*l.* to 5*l.*?—Mr. Penfold said he did not think he should be able to get the money for me. He said he did not say but what I was worth it, but perhaps he would not be able to pay me.

13,014. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The previous account was one long sum; of 5*l.*?—The 6*l.* was.

13,015. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The previous account was a lump sum, you did not make it in this way, 5*l.* for work and 1*l.* for nomination and polling day?—Not to my knowledge.

13,016. When you made that account out did not this cross your mind; 5*l.* for my labour, and the extra for my polling and nomination days?—No.

13,017. Did you not expect to get a little extra for polling and nomination days?—No, 6*l.* I made out my account for.

13,017*a*. Certainly I have nodoubt what the amount

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was, but how did you arrive at the amount, how did you get at 6*l.* ?—My loss of time and money I had spent going about round to the public houses.

13,018. Where did you spend your money ?—At the public houses some of it, not their money but my own.

13,019. When you went to these public houses did you pay for what you drank ?—Yes.

13,020. Did you pay when you went to the Monson house, the "Grapes"?—I went twice to the "Grapes;" I have been a good many times since, but only twice at that time.

13,021. I am speaking before the election when you had anything at the "Grapes" ?—Yes.

13,022. Did you pay when you went to Mr. Gower's own houses ?—Yes.

13,023. Always pay ?—Yes.

13,024. And then you charged what you drank those evenings to Mr. Gower ?—No.

13,025. Then it was 5*l.* for your labour and 1*l.* extra for what you drank ; was that the way you made out your account ?—I did not make out any item at all.

13,026. Did you frame it so in your own mind ?—No, I put it in a lamp sum of 6*l.*

13,027. And the other men were to receive 5*l* ?—I do not know that.

13,028. Oh, yes, it was a common understanding that all who worked were to receive 5*l.* ?—I am on my oath and tell you I did not know that.

13,029. Do you mean to say that you were moving about like a dark horse at the election and did not know that ?—I never heard of 5*l.*, and never was offered 5*l.* or 6*l.*; I never asked any such sum only three or four months after when I made out my account.

13,030. You told them you would not have your name put down on the committee because Mr. Monson's party would suspect you ?—Yes.

13,031. Did you expect to get anything from Mr. Monson's party if you voted for them ?—No, I was not offered anything by Mr. Monson or any of his agents.

13,032. You were not ?—No.

13,033. Do you mean to say they allowed you to go into the "Grapes" and walk about without asking you to vote ?—A good many in the "Grapes" did not know I was a voter, I was only just on the register.

13,034. Mr. Nichols did ?—He did not, it was only just registered.

13,035. Do you mean to say that Mr. Nichols, the active man, did not know you were to vote ?—I believe not.

13,036. Did you work on his part ?—I worked for Messrs. Jackson and Shaw's the builders.

13,037. Some way away from Mr. Nichols ?—About a mile.

13,038. Had you been at Mr. Nichols' house before the election some time ?—No, I do not think Mr. Nichols had lived there long before the election, it was only just a short time before the election that he took the "Grapes."

13,039. Did you fall very much in love with Mr. Gower's politics ?—I knew his principles.

13,040. You knew Mr. Monson's also ?—I had heard him address two or three meetings.

13,041. So far as you were personally concerned, both of them being gentlemen of large intellect, you had very little to choose between them ?—No.

13,042. There was little difference between their politics either ?—Mr. Gower was an old servant, and I did not see why he should not have my vote. He came first and I promised him.

13,043. Mr. Monson never canvassed you at all ?—Mr. Monson never called at all, neither himself or his agents.

13,044. Had you not publicly said that you were quite prepared to vote for the party that gave you the biggest sum of money ?—I never said such a thing.

13,045. Suppose the Monson party had come and offered you a larger sum of money, that would have had an influence on your mind ?—No.

13,046. You are quite certain of that ?—I am quite certain.

13,047. And if anybody had said that you said that you would vote for the man that gave you the largest sum of money, that is untrue ?—I should not have done any such thing.

13,048. Is it untrue ?—I beg your pardon, I do not hear.

13,049. I wish to give you an opportunity of saying whether it was true or not. If it has been reported by anybody that you publicly said that you would only vote for the person, or were willing to vote for the person, who gave you the most money, is that a truth, or is it false ?—If any one said so he has said an untruth ; I never said so, and I am sure I should not say so.

13,050. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you tell me; you moved about and found out what you could, and took notice of everthing before the election ; was there much treating going on ? You know what I mean ?—No, there was not.

13,051. You think not ?—Not in my presence.

13,052. But from all you knew would you say that refreshments were pretty plentiful ?—Very scarce.

13,053. On both sides ?—On both sides.

13,054. From your own observation I mean ?—Yes.

13,055. You think they were scarce ?—Yes.

13,056. You know James Apps ?—Yes.

13,057. You knew him at that time ?—Yes.

13,058. What was James Apps ?—I believe he was a cabman ; a carter.

13,059. A cabman ?—Yes ; Apps of Mead-vale, you mean. He was carter at the same place where I was working previous to the election ; he was working for Jackson and Shaw the builders.

13,060. Previous to the election ?—Yes.

13,061. Do you remember having some conversation with him about his vote ?—Yes.

13,062. How long before the election ?—I think about a week, I would not say to a day, but I think about a week.

13,063. I dare say it was rather a particular conversation, and probably you will be able to tell me the nature of it ; what did Apps say about his vote ?—I understood him before this conversation took place, the evening perhaps you are alluding to, that was three or four days previous to the election, he intended to vote for Mr. Gower, and I understood he promised Mr. Gower himself one evening, (whether it was Thursday or Friday previous to the polling day, I do not remember), he came into Mazden's, and I believe he had a jug in his hand for his supper beer, I am not positive, but I should say so as far as I can recollect ; of course electioneering was then all the topic of conversation, and we got into conversation about it. In the course of the conversation he said that Mr. Holdsworth had been speaking to him about his vote and he was not sure that he should go with us. It was at the bar at Mazden's, and I believe he was present behind the bar. I was in the passage, so I cannot say the words that passed, but, however, the sum and substance of it was, that he said "Rodney has been "out with me to-day."

13,064. Who is Rodney ?—A name that Mr. Holdsworth goes by. He said, "Rodney has been out to "me to-night, and had half an hour at me about it. "He sat down on the oak chest and gave me a good "talking, and told me that there would be no winter "work if I went the other way." I said something to him, I cannot say the words now, and I think Mazden might have made a remark; but, however, in the course of conversation I said, "Well, if it has come to that, "and Rodney has been at you, we shall not see any "more of you." After that I believe the conversation ended that night, and I did not see or hear any more of him.

13,065. Do you know which way he voted ?—For Mr. Monson, I believe.

13,066. Holdsworth was for Mr. Monson?—Yes, I believe so.

13,067. Rodney?—Yes.

13,068. I mean by reputation?—Yes; I suppose most people at Reigate know what we mean by saying Rodney.

13,069. As I understand you, there was no hope for him; you mean Rodney would be too strong for him?—He might take it as he liked, that was my meaning.

13,070. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I quite forgot to ask a question; did you call at Mr. Smith's with your account?—I made out my account.

13,071. Did you see Mr. Smith?—Yes.

13,072. What did he tell you when he had your account?—He said he had no money in hand of Mr. Gower's.

13,073. Did he refuse to pay you, or decline to pay you anthing?—No.

13,074. Except that he had got no money?—He was just going out in his trap, the horse was being put in; I handed him in the account; he looked at it; it was my account, signed by Mr. Penfold and Mr. Mazden, for 5*l.*

13,075. Certified, in fact?—Yes, they considered my services were worth the money.

13,076. Then upon that did Mr. Smith refer you to anybody?—He said, "I beg your pardon, are you not "Farley;" I said, "Yes." He said, "I did not know "you;" I said, "You knew me when Mr. Gower can-"vassed me, you knew me all very well then."

13,077. You thought it was rather strange that he should know you before the election and not recognize you after?—He said, "I have not any money in hand "of Mr. Gower's, and not knowing you . . . . ; but, "however," he says, "as soon as I see either of those "parties you shall have your money."

13,078. Those were Mr. Mazden and Mr. Penfold?—Yes.

13,079. How long after that was it that Mazden came and paid you the 5*l.*?—He did not come and pay me.

13,080. You were paid?—Yes, I received it in his name.

13,081. How long after?—Two months.

13,082. You had no more communication with Mr. Smith or any of them until you received this money from Mr. Mazden?—Not with any of them, either one or the other.

HENRY FINCH sworn and examined.

H. Finch.

13,083. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A gardener.

13,084. What rent do you pay for your house?—15*l.* a year.

13,085. How long have you been a voter for this borough?—1863 was the first time, and then came 1865.

13,086. The last election?—Yes.

13,087. For whom did you vote?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

13,088. Do you know Mr. Mazden?—Yes, I know him very well.

13,089. You live near him?—Yes, close by him.

13,090. He is a leading man, a man of a leading position in the district in which you live?—I do not know much about that, but he did not lead me.

13,091. We will hear about that; who canvassed you for Mr. Gower?—No one.

13,092. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—No one.

13,093. Did anybody call upon you?—Nobody called upon me.

13,094. Whether on behalf of Mr. Gower or Mr. Monson?—No, neither side at all.

13,095. They overlooked you?—They overlooked me, I was forgotten.

13,096. How came you to vote then? With whom did you come up and vote?—I came up and voted for Mr. Gower.

13,097. With whom did you come up on that morning?—I do not know that I came in the morning, it might have been between 1 and 2, I think very likely it was.

13,098. With whom did you come up?—I do not know, I believe there was Mr. Laker's man, and there were two or three ladies in the trap.

13,099. Whose man?—Mr. Laker's man.

13,100. And two or three ladies?—Yes, two or three ladies in the trap, I do not know anybody else.

13,101. Did he come for you and bring the trap for you?—It was standing in the village, and I jumped up in the trap and came over.

13,102. They sent traps round?—Yes, it was in the village; I jumped up in it, and came over.

13,103. Did not anybody at all speak to you about your vote?—No person at all ever came and canvassed me or asked me for my vote in any way whatever.

13,104. Were you on the committee?—No.

13,105. Did you attend any meetings at all?—I attended a good many at the town hall.

13,106. Did you ever attend any committee meetings?—No.

13,107. Or public meetings?—No public meetings, only at the town hall or the schools; I might have gone there.

13,108. You heard the speeches I suppose?—Yes.

13,109. Did you do any work on behalf of Mr. Gower?—Yes, I took a great many circulars round.

13,110. Who gave you the circulars?—Sometimes Mr. Hewett, the clerk at the school, he gave them to me sometimes.

13,111. Who else?—He gave me the chief part.

13,112. Who else gave you the others?—Mr. Mazden and Mr. Penfold perhaps.

13,113. Persons did not come and put circulars in your hand; did they not speak to you to tell you you were to distribute them on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No, the first circulars I had I was asked if I would take them round; I answered yes, I did not mind taking them round.

13,114. Who asked you?—I do not know whether it was Mr. Penfold or Mr. Mazden.

13,115. They did not ask you to take them round for nothing?—They did not say anything.

13,116. Do you mean that?—I went two or three times, and I asked who was to pay me; they had fixed upon me, I suppose, because I used to carry letters.

13,117. To whom did you say "Who is to pay me"?—Mr. Mazden; he said, "Whatever circulars or letters "you take out, I will see that you are satisfied for it."

13,118. At that time of course he knew you were to vote for Mr. Gower?—No, he did not.

13,119. Do you know any persons who were employed who were in the enemy's camp; do you pretend Mr. Mazden would employ one of Mr. Monson's men to carry out circulars?—He did not know but what I might do it for both, I am certain he did not at first.

13,120. Very likely he did not at first; but when was it he knew you were to vote for Mr. Gower?—He never did know that, not till I had been and polled.

13,121. Did anybody speak to you on the other side at all?—Neither side at all about my vote.

13,122. They spoke to you on Mr. Gower's side?—No.

12,123. They asked you to go and carry out circulars?—That was not canvassing one.

13,124. They spoke to you. What else did you do?—I did nothing else with them.

13,125. You carried out circulars?—Yes.

13,126. How many days?—I do not say I was out every day, but I was out nearly six weeks, but not every day.

13,127. How many days?—I could not say.

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13,128. About how many days a week ?—I had little or much to do every day.

13,129. What were you to receive a day ?—There was nothing said.

13,130. You knew what you were to be paid?—I expected them to say what I should be paid when I went and told them what it was.

13,131. What did you tell them ?—I could not say until I got my job done.

13,132. What did you want them to pay after you did your work ?—*5l.*

13,133. Generally people make bargains when they go about in that way. Who did you want to pay *5l.* ?—I asked Mr. Mazden after I had been two or three times with the letters who was to pay me, and he said he would see it was paid ; nothing more was said about it.

13,134. When did you apply to him for the *5l.* ?—I never applied to him at all.

13,135. Did you apply to him for any money ?—No, he asked me when it was over what he was to pay me for taking the circulars, and I told him.

13,136. You told him what ?—*5l.*

13,137. That is what I call an application for money. He asked you what he was to pay ?—He said he was in my debt.

13,138. And you said *5l.* ?—Yes.

13,139. What did he say to that ?—He gave it to me.

13,140. He gave you *5l.* ?—Yes.

13,141. When ?—I do not know when ; it was some time after the election.

13,142. How long after the election ?—It might be two or three weeks.

13,143. Did he come to you, or did you go to him ? I was going in his house.

13,144. He asked you in ?—He called me in.

13,145. He called you first ?—He called me to the door ; he did not call me in.

13,146. I mean that ; he said, "Finch, what am I "in your debt for the services you rendered ;" something of the kind ?—He asked what he was in my debt for carrying the circulars, and I told him *5l.*

13,147. Did you give him any bill?—I gave him no bill ; he asked me what it was, and I told him.

13,148. And he paid you immediately the *5l.* ?—Yes.

13,149. Can you tell me at all how many circulars you took out?—Sometimes 50, and sometimes 70 perhaps.

13,150. Fifty a week ?—No, 50 at a time.

13,151. You were a gardener ; you were at work at that time ?—I could not be when I was carrying the circulars.

13,152. Were you at work during that time ?—Yes, I was at work ; I had work to do.

13,153. You had got work to do ?—I was at work for a time.

13,154. You were not out of work ?—I was not out of work.

13,155. Where were you working ?—At Meadvale.

13,156. With whom ?—I was at work at different places ; I was out sometimes carrying these circulars about.

13,157. And you continued to work, did you not, during that time ?—Yes.

13,158. It did not interfere with that particular time when you were taking out the circulars; you took them out morning and evening ?—No, sometimes in the middle of the day ; generally in the middle of the day.

13,159. When you were going to dinner and coming from dinner ?—No, never when I was going to or coming from dinner ; sometimes it took me five hours to deliver them, sometimes six.

13,160. Tell me any particular day when it took you five or six hours to deliver the circulars ?—I cannot.

13,161. Were you not at gardening work during the whole time; did you not do jobbing work during that time for the five or six weeks ?—No.

13,162. You did not ?—No ; I might have worked, perhaps, two days a week.

13,163. More than that ?—No, I do not believe I did more than two days a week.

13,164. What used you to be paid for work as a gardener ?—*5s.* a day.

13,165. What were you to get for the nomination day ; were you here at the nomination day ?—No, I was delivering some circulars on the nomination day.

13,166. Could you say how many you delivered on the nomination day ?—No.

13,167. Did you at all make out any list for what you were employed at so much a day ?—No.

13,168. He did not ask you for your account ?—No; he asked me how much I considered he was in my debt, and I said I did not know, but I supposed about *5l.* ; I considered that by that time I had lost nearly four days a week.

13,169. How many weeks ?—Five weeks.

13,170. That would be 20 days ?—Yes.

13,171. That is how you worked it up ?—Yes, I do not think I worked any more than two days a week at most during that time.

13,172. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What work do you mean ?—Gardening work.

13,173. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were not working at any particular loss, you were gardening on the job ?—Yes.

13,174. Do I understand you to say that Mr. Mazden never canvassed you at all, and that he did not know you were going to vote for Mr. Gower till you did poll ?—No.

13,175. Do you adhere to that answer, for if you do it will make me doubt everything you tell me ?—He never mentioned it.

13,176. Do you mean to say you were carrying out circulars to Mr. Mazden's knowledge during the whole six weeks, and he did not know you were going to poll for Mr. Gower ?—He might have expected it.

13,177. He did expect it ?—I do not know that.

13,178. Had you been at his house after ?—I am always there every day.

13,179. In what way ?—I go to get something to drink.

13,180. Was the committee meeting held there ?—No.

13,181. Were any meetings held at Mazden's house during these times ?—Not that I know of. I was once at a meeting at Mazden's.

13,182. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you tell me, going about with circulars and doing what you had to do, did you sometimes get amongst the Monson party ?—No, I do not know that I did.

13,183. Do you remember sometimes that your curiosity or your business took you up to Mr. Holdsworth's at the "Red Cross" ?—I do not think I was there during the election.

13,184. Do you know Apps ?—I know James Apps.

13,185. Do you remember seeing Apps there ?—No, not that I can remember. I do not remember that I did.

13,186. I will try to refresh your memory ?—It will be of no use, I am sure I was not in the house.

13,187. Just allow me to have a try. Do you recollect being one evening in Mr. Holdsworth's stables ?—No, I never was in Holdsworth's stables in my life.

13,188. Do you remember seeing Mr. Holdsworth and Mr. Nicholls together up in the neighbourhood of Mr. Holdsworth's house one evening ?—No.

13,189. Do you remember seeing Mr. Holdsworth in company with Apps ?—No.

13,190. Do you remember seeing Mr. Holdsworth on one occasion when Mr. Holdsworth had some money ?—No.

13,191. Do you not remember that ?—No.

13,192. I am sure you will tell me ; try if you can recollect it ?—No, I do not remember it.

13,193. Do you remember seeing Mr. Holdsworth take some money out of his pocket or out of a bag ?—No.

13,194. Do you not remember seeing Mr. Holdsworth one evening, it was in the evening I think, rather late ; he had some money ?—No.

13,195. Do you not? I dare say you recollect Apps talking to you about being with Mr. Holdsworth and saying Mr. Holdsworth had some money ?—No.

13,196. You know Mr. Holdsworth ?—Yes.

13,197. Do you not remember Apps telling you Mr. Holdsworth had some money ?—No, I do not.

13,198. Do you remember Apps saying he had a conversation with Mr. Holdsworth, and Holdsworth had been pressing him to vote for the Monson party ?—Yes, he told me something of that sort.

13,199. Now we shall get to it. Apps told you something about Holdsworth having pressed him for Mr. Monson ?—He did not exactly say that he was pressed to vote for him ; but he told me that he thought if he did not vote for Mr. Monson that he should lose his work.

13,200. Did he tell you why he thought so ?—I suppose they had given him hints to that effect.

13,201. Do you remember his saying more than that ? Do you remember his saying, if he did vote for Mr. Monson, he should probably get something for doing it ?—He said he should get satisfied, he said no more.

13,202. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were these circulars that you took round open circulars, or in an envelope ?—In envelopes.

13,203. Did you see the same lying on the table ?—No, they were all done when I went there.

13,204. Did you ever see any of these circulars, so that you might read them ?—Yes, I read them sometimes when directed to me.

13,205. To yourself ?—Yes.

13,206. Have you any of those circulars ?—No.

13,207. They were only valuable at the time of the election ?—Sometimes I did open to read them, and sometimes I did not.

13,208. What circular was it ?—It might be to say that there was a meeting ; if there was a meeting at the town hall, or any place, you would have a circular to be delivered to the voter.

13,209. Those circulars were delivered to the voters?—If there was a meeting at the town hall, or any committee room, there were circulars to distribute in the neighbourhood.

13,210. You say that some of those circulars were addressed to you ?—They sometimes have been.

13,211. Were any of those circulars that you took round convening meetings at any of the houses of refreshment ?—No, not that I know of. I never went to any house, I had not got time.

13,212. I did not ask you that ; that is not the question. Were any of those circulars convening meetings at the public houses ?—I do not know any one that did. I did not go into any one of those houses.

13,213. They would not insult you by asking you to attend a meeting at the public houses ; but were any of these circulars to your knowledge for that purpose, for the voters to attend at any public house ?—Not that I know of.

13,214. Do you know, in fact, that there were a great many evenings kept by committees at the public houses ?—Not that I know of, only what people might do themselves.

13,215. Have you been told several times that the voters were there ?—Only by hearing it ; but if they sent circulars, I have not seen them, and therefore I cannot say.

13,216. Are you quite certain you never saw it ?—Yes.

13,217. The only circulars you saw were to attend at the town hall ?—At the town hall, or one of the schools.

13,218. At the town hall, not any of the houses of refreshment ?—No, not any that I remember, except one.

13,219. Tell me that one ?—That was when they had the booth on the Earlswood common.

13,220. Did you deliver the circulars ?—I did to say there was to be a meeting at the booth to be erected on the common.

13,221. Did you go to that meeting ?—No.

13,222. That was not a house of refreshment ?—Well, I did not call it a house of refreshment ; you asked me any other places besides school-rooms, and so on, and you cannot call a booth a school-room or a town hall.

13,223. You never took a circular calling persons together to meet at the "Angel," or some house of that sort ?—No, I never did. I never had one to deliver that I opened, not of my own, and of course I could not look at other people's.

13,224. You saw the circulars on the table ?—No, they were all sealed when I had them.

13,225. You did not tell me what the circulars were ?—I do not know ; if I could I would.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN FLINT sworn and examined.

J. Flint.

13,226. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you live at Nutley-lane ?—No.

13,227. You did though ?—Yes.

13,228. Where do you live now ?—In Holmsdale-road.

13,229. You are a gardener ?—Yes.

13,230. I think now you pay 10*l.* 5*s.* rent for your house, but when you did live in Nutley-lane you paid about 14*l.* ?—14*l.* and a few shillings ; 14*l.* 6*s.*

13,231. You lived there at the time of the election of 1865 ?—Yes.

13,232. Did you vote in 1863 ?—No, I was not a voter ; I had only come into Reigate a short time.

13,233. Now, on the election of 1865 you voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

13,234. When did you make up your mind for whom you would vote, long before the election ?—Perhaps five or six weeks.

13,235. Five or six weeks before the election did you make up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

13,236. You did not change your mind at all ?—Not at all ; I had no reason for it.

13,237. Were Monson's party of that opinion, or did they make a little attempt upon you ?—No, never, only that Mr. Monson and his friends came to solicit my vote.

13,238. It was all fair ?—Yes.

13,239. Were any overtures made to you from the Monson party at all ?—Not at all.

13,240. Were you put down after that on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No.

13,241. Did you not do anything for Mr. Gower ?—I did.

13,242. What was that ?—I went as messenger.

13,243. But you were not on the committee ?—No.

13,244. For how long did you work as messenger ?—I should think for near a month.

13,245. Who arranged with you to be messenger ?—William Joyes, the newsvendor ; he came down with the paper on the Saturday, and I asked him how the election was going. I said I had no work, and if there was anything to do I should be glad to take it of him.

13,246. What did he say ?—He said I had better go to the committee at the town hall, and they would allow me to go round with circulars ; that was on the Saturday. Afterwards I did do so, and was put on.

13,247. Who by ?—By Mr. Smith ; he went out to

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his office, and he wished me to come here, and then Apted put me on to carry the circulars out.

13,248. You were not put on to carry the circulars out till rather late in the election ?—It would be about four weeks before.

13,249. Did you do much work ?—Oh, yes ; I was frequently going out with the circulars.

13,250. Do I understand you to say at that time you had no work of your own ?—I had no work of my own.

13,251. You had no work in hand to do for other people ?—No, I was only a jobbing gardener ; I was not a fixed gardener for any gentleman.

13,252. When you did garden did you do it by the job or the day ?—By the day.

13,253. About what did you get a day ?—Just 3*s.* 6*d.* and 4*s.* a day, according to general custom ; we have a good deal for mowing lawns.

13,254. You were paid, were you not, for the services you did ?—Yes, I was.

13,255. Was anything said about your vote ?—Nothing, no more than Mr. Gower himself and Mr. Smith came to ask me for my vote, which I promised them there and then.

13,256. But afterwards, did any of the agents tell you when you were put on to the work how much you would receive for the work ?—I do not remember anything of the sort being mentioned.

13,257. When the work was off, did you go and ask to be paid for your services ?—No.

13,258. Did they send for you ?—At the end of the first fortnight I asked Apted if he would be kind enough to allow me some money, for I had been out of work some time, and I was very poorly, and was in great need of it.

13,259. Did he give you some ?—Yes.

13,260. What did he give you, 1*l.* ?—2*l.* after being working a fortnight.

13,261. Did you understand that to be at the rate of 1*l.* a week, or a lump ?—I had no understanding about it at that time.

13,262. Afterwards you were paid more ?—Yes.

13,263. Before the election ?—No, after the election; some weeks after.

13,264. What did you get after the election ?—I made up my account according to the time I had been engaged, and I sent it up to Mr. Smith ; and, in fact, I went the first time, but the clerk said he was not at home, and I had better make out my account.

13,265. You made it out on paper ?—Yes.

13,266. How much was your account ?—I charged them from the time after I received the 2*l.* I had been engaged 20 days, and I charged them 3*l.*, besides the 2*l.*

13,267. Did he pay you the 3*l.* after ?—He sent me a cheque after three or four days.

13,268. So you were paid 5*l.* ?—Yes.

13,269. He sent you a cheque ?—Yes ; and I went to the bank and received the money for it.

13,270. What bank did you go to ?—This bank in Reigate, in West-street.

13,271. The London and County Bank. What bank was the cheque drawn upon ?—I cannot say.

13,272. You are a scholar, of course ?—Yes.

13,273. Did you write your name on the back of the cheque ?—I believe I did.

13,274. You did ?—I believe I did.

13,275. Had you been working at all for Mr. Conway, of Wray-park ?—No.

13,276. You know him ?—Yes.

13,277. Do you recollect having some talk with him about the work you had done ?—Never a word.

13,278. Never a word with him ?—Never a word with him.

13,279. No talk with him about the election ?—Not at all.

13,280. You did not say to him that you had been taking out circulars, and you supposed you should be paid like other people ?—Never a word of anything of the kind ; if I had I should have told you at first. We never had any talk about it.

The witness withdrew.

T. Fuller.

THOMAS FULLER sworn and examined.

13,281. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What rent do you pay for your house ?—4*s.* a week.

13,282. What are you ?—A quarryman.

13,283. Whom did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

13,284. You were first of all asked to vote for Mr. Monson, were you not ?—No.

13,285. You had promised to vote for Mr. Monson, had you not ?—No.

13,286. Did you do any work for Mr. Monson ?—No.

13,287. Or for his party ?—No.

13,288. Are you quite certain about that ?—Yes, quite ; I never did anything.

13,289. Did you take out circulars for any of Mr. Monson's committee ?—No.

13,290. Were you asked to take out circulars ?—No.

13,291. Did you ever go to any of the houses where Mr. Monson's friends met ?—I might have been in some houses ; I might have called in.

13,292. You very probably did call in ?—Well, at times.

13,293. Give me the names of any of the houses you called in at ?—I had no particular time for going. I called in at a good many houses at that time.

13,294. And you called in, I suppose, at Mr. Monson's houses and at Mr. Gower's houses ?—Yes.

13,295. You were not particular which you went into ?—Not at all, certainly not ; what I had I paid for.

13,296. When you went into any of Mr. Monson's houses you were known to be a voter ?—Yes.

13,297. You were well known to people, were you not ?—I suppose so.

13,298. Do you mean to say that the people in Mr. Monson's houses did not ask you which way you were going to vote ? Can you give me the names of any of these houses ?—No.

13,299. Were you ever at the "Grapes" ?—Yes ; several times.

13,300. During the time pending the election?—No.

13,301. Do you know Rodney ?—Yes.

13,302. That is Mr. Holdsworth's house ?—Yes.

13,303. He is a very good sort of a fellow, is he not ?—I do not know that he is. I never had anything in his house, only what I paid for.

13,304. Has anybody told you to come here to say you never had anything but what you paid for ?—No.

13,305. Then why do you always tell me you always paid for what you had ? Do you think it very material that you should always say you paid for everything that you had ?—I do not know that it is.

13,306. Because I have not said yet that you did not pay. Why should you always tell me at every answer you give to me that you paid for what you had ? Somebody has told you, has he not ?—I have not seen any one ; I came straight from home.

13,307. I do not mean to-day, but within the last few days, some one has seen you about this story ?—No.

13,308. Do you mean to say that you have not talked with anybody about giving your evidence ?—Yes ; we have talked as we have been at work.

13,309. Have they not said, "Well, when you go "there you had better say you paid for what you "had" ?— No ; never.

13,310. You are quite certain of that ?—Yes, if I never speak another word.

13,311. Did Mr. Holdsworth ever ask you to vote for Mr. Monson ?—No.

13,312. Were you in Mr. Holdsworth's society or company recently before the election ?—Yes, once.

13,313. Where ?—At his house.

13,314. The "Red Cross" ?—Yes.

13,315. Was it in the daytime or evening ?—The daytime.

13,316. In what part of the house did you see him ?—In his back parlour.

13,317. That is a little private room of his own ?—It is not a very small room.

13,318. It was in his private room, was it not ?—Yes.

13,319. You and Holdsworth were alone ?—Yes.

13,320. Had you ever been in that room before ?—No, I think not.

13,321. How long before the election were you in that room ?—I do not know how long it was, three or four weeks it might be, I am sure I cannot say.

13,322. You did not go into that room of your own accord, did you ?—I went in for a glass of something.

13,323. It is not usual for you to go in that room and take your glass of something to drink ?—I have gone in many times before.

13,324. The same room ?—Yes.

13,325. Alone ?—No, when I have got any one particular.

13,326. It was only on particular occasions you did go in that room ?—No, it is a house I very seldom call at.

13,327. How came you to go in that room with Mr. Holdsworth on that night; what was the occasion of your going in ?—I did not know.

13,328. If you did not know, did Mr. Holdsworth tell you why you should go ?—No.

13,329. Did he ask you in ?—I believe he did.

13,330. When he had asked you in, did he tell you why he had asked you in ?—He asked me which side I should vote; I did not give him any certain answer.

13,331. But did Holdsworth say to you, "Come, "Fuller, come in and have a glass of something with "me" ?—No, he did not.

13,332. How did he invite you in ?—I went in at the door and asked him for something to drink, and he invited me in there.

13,333. To go and take it there ?—Yes.

13,334. When you were in the room together, you did get talking about the election, did you not ?—Yes.

13,335. Who opened the ball, Holdsworth ?—Well, he commenced it, I think, but I will not be certain.

13,336. Tell me what Holdsworth said; did he ask you whether you were going to vote for Mr. Monson, or if you would vote for Mr. Monson ?—He asked me whether I would, and I told him I was not quite certain whether I should or not.

13,337. You had not made up your mind on which side of politics you would go ?—No.

13,338. When Holdsworth found that you were a little doubtful, did he try to persuade you to come on his side ?—Yes.

13,339. What arguments did he use to persuade you to go to Mr. Monson ?—He gave me half a sovereign.

13,340. Was that the only argument which he used, or did he say anything more ?—I did not remain in the house.

13,341. How long were you there ?—Half an hour.

13,342. A deal of business may be done in half an hour; in the first place, you got half a sovereign ?—Yes.

13,343. Did he say, "Now, Fuller, here is half a "sovereign, now will you vote for Mr. Monson" ?—No, he did not say anything of the kind.

13,344. For what did you get the half-sovereign ?—I suppose he thought he was going to have me.

13,345. But he had spoken to you about the election and voting for Mr. Monson before he gave you the half-sovereign ?—Yes.

13,346. And you told him that you were doubtful; how long after you told him you were doubtful did he give you the half-sovereign ?—Very soon after, I was not in more than half an hour.

13,347. Was it a few minutes after that ?—Yes.

12,348. Immediately after ?—Certainly, almost.

13,349. Directly you told him that you were doubtful. The half-sovereign did not clear up your doubts ?—No.

13,350. What did you do with the half-sovereign, put it in your pocket ?—I put it in my pocket.

13,351. Did you promise at all that you would vote for Mr. Monson ?—No.

13,352. If you did not promise to vote for Mr. Monson, did Mr. Holdsworth ask you for the half-sovereign back again ?—No.

13,353. Did you not think it rather strange that he should make you a present of half a sovereign ?—No.

13,354. Had anybody else given you half a sovereign at the time of the election ?—That would seem strange.

13,355. Did you pay for what you had ?—Yes.

13,356. What did you pay for it ?—Sixpence, for a glass of gin and water.

13,357. Did you have a sixpence in your pocket ?—Yes.

13,358. You did not give the half-sovereign, like another voter did, to get it changed ?—No.

13,359. Was Mr. Holdsworth talking about the election of Mr. Monson during the whole half-hour ?—No.

13,360. Did he allow you to go out of the house leaving him quite in doubt ?—Yes.

13,361. Mr. Holdsworth would not be quite satisfied with your first expression of doubt after giving you half a sovereign; he made use of some other arguments besides the half-sovereign ?—About the election?

13,362. Did he not promise you that if you voted for Mr. Monson you would get something more ?—No.

13,363. Do you mean to say that he never told you you would get something more ?—No, he did not.

13,364. Did you tell him that you were going to vote for Mr. Gower ?—I told him I had not made up my mind.

13,365. You left that in doubt too ?—Yes.

13,366. Did you see Mr. Holdsworth again before the election ?—Perhaps I might.

13,367. Did you ?—I am not certain whether I did or not.

13,368. Mr. Holdsworth would not let the half-sovereign remain in your pocket without having a little better understanding than that. He saw you again ?—I do not know.

13,369. It was before the election he saw you again; when did you see him; you spoke to him after he gave you the half-sovereign ?—I do not recollect that I did.

13,370. Did anybody else belonging to the Monson party see you ?—I saw nothing of them.

13,371. Did anyone besides Holdsworth give you half a sovereign ?—No.

13,372. Did you tell anybody he had made you a present of one ?—No.

13,373. Were you ever at Mr. Holdsworth's stable ?—No.

13,374. Never ?—No.

13,375. Did Mr. Nichols ever ask you for your vote ?—No.

13,376. Where you ever at the "Grapes"?—Yes.

13,377. Were you at the "Grapes"? Did you ever get into the back parlour ?—Oh, yes; I have been there several times.

13,378. But during the election ?—Not election time.

13,379. Now, I will just call your attention to a visit that was before the election ?—Yes.

EIGHTH DAY.

T. Fuller.

30 Aug. 1866.

13,380. Were you in the "Grapes" after you had received the half-sovereign from Mr. Holdsworth ?—Yes.

13,381. And before the election ?—Yes.

13,382. Now just draw on your recollection; I am sure you will tell me if you can; tell me whether, after you had received that half-sovereign from Mr. Holdsworth, did Mr. Nichols ever speak to you at the "Grapes" about voting for money ?—Not that I know of.

13,383. And refer to this half-sovereign that Mr. Holdsworth had given you ?—No.

13,384. Did you ever tell anybody ?—No.

13,385. Never ?—No.

13,386. On the day of election did Mr. Holdsworth come to you ?—No.

13,387. Did anybody come from Mr. Monson to take you to the poll ?—Yes.

13,388. Who came to you on the part of Mr. Monson to take you to the poll?—A man of the name of Fuller.

13,389. A relation of yours ?—No.

13,390. What is his Christian name ?—Frederick.

13,391. Frederick Fuller came to take you to the poll ?—Yes.

13,392. What time in the day did Frederick Fuller come ?—Somewhere in the morning part; I do not know what time it was. I was then employed at 7 o'clock in the morning.

13,393. Did you go with him ?—No.

13,394. Why not ?—I had not made up my mind. I had made up my mind for Mr. Gower all the while.

13,395. Had you ever told anybody so ?—Yes.

13,396. Who ?—James Ede.

13,397. When did you tell James Ede?—Why, some weeks before the election it might be.

13,398. Was that before you received the half-sovereign from Mr. Holdsworth ?—After.

13,399. You had not made up your mind when you received the half-sovereign, you told Holdsworth ?—Not to vote for Mr. Monson. I had not made up my mind to vote for Mr. Monson.

13,400. But you had made up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

13,401. They were the only two candidates ?—Yes, I know they were.

13,402. Having made up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower, I just want to test your notions of honesty. Did you consider it honest to take the half-sovereign from Holdsworth, leaving him to suppose that you would vote for Mr. Monson ? Do you consider that was common honesty ?—No, I do not know that it was.

13,403. Why did not you, as an honest man, tell Mr. Holdsworth when he gave you that half-sovereign, which you knew was for the purpose of influencing you to vote for Mr. Monson, that you had made up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower ?—It was in the fore part of the election when I saw Mr. Holdsworth.

13,404. You told me you had made up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower all through ?—Yes.

13,405. And Mr. Gower was in the field before you got the half-sovereign ?—Yes.

13,406. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was the third week in June when you talked to Holdsworth ?—Yes.

13,407. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When did you tell this to Ede, after that ?—Yes.

13,408. When was it then that you told Ede you should vote for Gower ?—It might be a week or ten days.

13,409. Did Ede ask you to go to Mr. Gower, or did you go to Mr. Gower ?—He asked me.

13,410. Did you expect to receive anything from Ede for voting for Mr. Gower ?—No.

13,411. Just let me ask you this; what did he say ?—He asked me if I had made up my mind to vote for Mr. Gower, and I said, "Yes."

13,412. You said you had made up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

13,413. Did he ask you to go on the committee ?—No.

13,414. Or to work for them ?—No.

13,415. Did he tell you that you were to be paid like the other people ?—No.

13,416. You expected to be paid ?—No, I did not.

13,417. Did anybody hold out any inducement to you that you should be paid ?—No.

13,418. Not at all ?—No.

13,419. You were still a little doubtful whether you should vote for Mr. Gower, though you had told James Ede you should vote for him ?—No, not at all.

13,420. What time in the day did you vote ?—Between 9 and 10 I believe it was.

13,421. Do you know Alexander Rose ?—I have seen him.

13,422. More than once ?—Oh, yes, several times.

13,423. Do you know a man of the name of James Bartlett ?—No.

13,424. You never saw him ?—Not that I know of.

13,425. You do not think you ever saw him ?—Not that I know of.

13,426. You know the "Yew Tree," do you not ?—Yes, I do.

13,427. Where is it ?—Up the hill, about a mile from here.

13,428. Do you live in the neighbourhood ?—Yes, close by.

13,429. There is a very good skittle ground ?—I do not know.

13,430. Do you ever play at skittles ?—No, I never did practise.

13,431. You never go into the skittle ground ?—No, not once in a twelvemonth.

13,432. If you ever went into the skittle ground, you would go to look at the play ?—Yes.

13,433. Now, just tell me, I put it to you on your solemn oath, were you not at the "Yew Tree" on the morning of the day of polling in the skittle ground ?—No, I was not.

13,434. Were you at the "Yew Tree" ?—I was.

13,435. On the day of polling ?—Yes; I went in there and had half a pint of beer.

13,436. Did you see Alexander Rose there ?—No.

13,437. Did you see Alexander Rose the morning of the day of polling ?—He came to me at my house.

13,438. Did you see him to speak to ?—Yes.

13,439. Did he speak to you ?—Yes.

13,440. Was anybody with him ?—No.

13,441. Was not James Bartlett with him ?—No.

13,442. Were you two alone ?—Yes.

13,443. Was that before you voted ?—Yes.

13,444. Did Mr. Rose ask you whether you had voted ?—He knew I had not.

13,445. How did he know you had not voted ?—I do not know.

13,446. Did he tell you that he knew you had not voted ?—Yes.

13,447. And he spoke to you about voting ?—Yes.

13,448. You were a little coy, you wanted a little pressing to go up to vote ?—Not at all, as soon as he came I went.

13,449. But something else took place before you went ?—No.

13,450. If you choose to tell me all the truth, more did take place ?—To tell you the truth, there was not the least thing.

13,451. Did Rose tell you if you voted there would be something come to you after the election ?—No.

13,452. Will you swear that ?—Yes.

13,453. Did not Alexander Rose upon that occasion offer you money to vote ?—No.

13,454. I do not say that he paid it ?—No, he did not.

13,455. He offered you money ?—No, he did not.

13,456. He gave you money before you voted, did he not ?—No, he did not; I never saw a halfpenny that day.

13,457. I did not say you saw a halfpenny ?—No, nor no money at all.

13,458. Did you see a sovereign ?—No.

13,459. Or half a sovereign ?—No.

13,460. You were perfectly free to receive half a sovereign, you told us, from Holdsworth ?—Yes.

13,461. Under false pretences. How far had you to walk with Alexander Rose down to the poll ? He came with you all the way. How far had you to walk ?—There was a fly 20 yards below the gate.

13,462. There was a fly ; then he got you in the fly, and drove away to the polling ?—Yes.

13,463. Did Rose tell you he was very anxious you should vote ?—Yes.

13,464. If you were such a staunch friend to the party, why did you require looking up so by Mr. Alexander Rose ?—As soon as he came I went.

13,465. Why did you not go before ?—I might have gone before if I meant to walk down.

13,466. Then you wanted to go like a gentleman in a carriage ?—Certainly I might ride in a carriage as well as a gentleman.

13,467. Was that your only reason for not being earlier, because you wanted to go down to the poll and ride like a gentleman ?—No.

13,468. Were you at work that day ?—No.

13,469. Did you attend the nomination ?—Yes.

13,470. Now after the nomination were you with Mr. Holdsworth or any of Mr. Monson's party ?—No, I went home directly after it was over.

13,471. Has Mr. Rose paid you any money since the election ?—No.

13,472. Has anybody paid you ?—James Ede paid me 30*s.*

13,473. What was that for ?—Polling day and nomination day.

13,474. You had done no work for Ede ?—No, I never did any work at all.

13,475. Was James Ede the person who canvassed you ?—Yes.

13,476. Now James Ede having canvassed you and paid you 30*s.*, tell me did not James Ede make a promise to you before the election ?—No.

13,477. That he would pay you something ?—No, no person at all.

13,478. Did Rose tell you when you were going down to the poll that Ede owed you 1*l.* ?—No.

13,479. Or that he owed you 1*l.* ?—No.

13,480. No reference to Ede at all ?—No.

13,481. Or Apted ?—No.

13,482. Did Ede bring you the money or did you go to him ?—He brought it.

13,483. Did you think it very strange that he should give you the money ?—When he was lamp lighting he called to me.

13,484. He was lamp lighting ?—Yes.

13,485. What is he ?—A lamp lighter in the winter time.

13,486. What is he besides being a lamp lighter ?—A gardener.

13,487. Did he tell you where he got the money from ?—No I never asked a word.

13,488. Were you not rather surprised that this lamp lighter should give you 30*s.* ?—I was surprised.

13,489. Did you go to Ede ?—No.

13,490. Were you on the committee ?—No.

13,491. Have you seen Alexander Rose since this Inquiry ?—No.

13,492. Not at all ?—No, I do not come down to the town once a week.

13,493. Did you see James Ede on the day of polling ?—Yes.

13,494. Where ?—I saw him at the station when I came on at the evening.

13,495. Did he say anything to you about it ?—No, not a word.

13,496. Did you see Ede at the nomination ?—Yes.

13,497. Did you talk to him ?—No, I saw Ede down in the town.

13,498. Did he speak to you about the election ?—No.

13,499. You did not work excepting attending the nomination and polling ?—No, none at all.

12,500. For which you got 30*s.* ?—Yes.

13,501. That was very good pay, was it not ?—Yes.

13,502. Just tell me, what do you usually get as day labourer ?—3*s.* 6*d.* a day.

13,503. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You know the "Railway" inn ?—Yes.

13,504. I dare say you recollect being at the "Railway" inn one evening when Job Apted was there ?—No.

13,505. Oh, yes ! try ?—No.

13,506. Do you recollect being at the "Railway" the evening when Batchelor was there ?—No.

13,507. I think you do ?—I do not ; I never was there when they were there.

13,508. You know Job Apted ?—I do, well.

13,509. Were you here when Batchelor gave his evidence ?—No.

13,510. Did you not have some talk with Job Apted about your voting ?—No.

13,511. Never ?—Never.

13,512. Are you quite sure about it ?—Yes, I am.

13,513. We will try a bit further; did you not make some arrangement with Job Apted about what you were to receive if you did your work and voted ?—No.

13,514. You are sure about it ?—Yes.

13,515. Do you know whether there is a Richard Fuller ? Is he a brother of yours ?—No, there is a Fuller; he lives at Redhill, Warwick-town.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

NINTH DAY.

Thursday, 31st August 1866.

WILLIAM VOSPER sworn and examined.

13,516. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You know a man of the name of David Boscawen ?—Yes.

13,517. You also know a man of the name of Andrews ?—Yes.

13,518. Do you know they are both voters ?—Yes.

13,519. Do you know that David Boscawen voted at the last election ?—Yes.

13,520. How do you know that he voted at the last election ?—Because I saw him poll, and polled with him.

13,521. Did you know him well ?—I brought him up on the polling day. I was at the town hall polling place, and Andrews came to me and asked if he could have a fly, as he had got David Boscawen at his, Andrews's, house.

13,522. Did you succeed in getting the fly ?—Yes ;

NINTH DAY.

W. Vosper.

31 Aug. 1866.

I said, "There are some flys here below, you can have "one of them."

13,523. I ought to have asked you what you are?—I am a tailor.

13,524. You do not belong to the house where the flys were?—No, the flys were not at the house, but in the street; Boscawen was at Andrews's.

13,525. Boscawen was at Andrews's house?—I went up in the fly to Andrews's house; he asked me to go with him, and I did.

13,526. What time in the day was this?—Between 9 and 10 o'clock; some time in the fore part of the day.

13,527. Did you go in the first place to Boscawen's house?—No.

13,528. To which house did you go?—I stayed at the fly while Andrews went into his own house for Boscawen.

13,529. And then Andrews went into his own house; I suppose he was not there long?—Only a few minutes.

13,530. Did he bring out Boscawen?—Yes.

13,531. Did you and he take Boscawen into the fly?—He went in of course, and I accompanied him.

13,532. Was Boscawen at all loth to go in?—Not at all.

13,533. You had known Boscawen before this?—I had a very slight knowledge of him; I merely knew him.

13,534. But being the election time, you had made inquiries about him?—No, I had never made any inquiries about him; I did not know him.

13,535. About his vote I mean?—No.

13,536. Did you hear how he was to vote before this?—No, I did not; I supposed he was going with some of the others he was in league with.

13,537. Who told you to expect that?—Only the rumour that was about.

13,538. So you and Andrews went to get him?—It appeared to me that Andrews had got him, and got his party.

13,539. Then you had not seen Boscawen that morning?—No.

13,540. I mean before?—No, not before Andrews brought him from his house.

13,541. When you saw Andrews in the morning, do you recollect what he told you about Boscawen?—No; all he said was he had got David Boscawen at his house, and he wanted a fly to bring him to the poll.

13,542. Do you know where Boscawen lives?—Only just by.

13,543. Close by?—It is on the opposite side.

13,544. Close by, as you turn to the right?—Yes.

13,545. You did not get from Andrews what time in the morning he had first seen Boscawen?—No.

13,546. Did you hear Andrews say he had seen Boscawen in bed that morning?—Not a word about it.

13,547. You said you are a voter?—Yes.

13,548. Who did you vote for?—For Mr. Gower.

13,549. What is your qualification?—A house and garden.

13,550. What do you pay for it?—20*l.* a year.

13,551. You voted for Gower yourself?—Yes.

13,552. Were you not aware the Monson party were doing what they could to get hold of the Gower people?—Yes.

13,553. Boscawen was one, was he not?—I do not know, except I heard he was in league with some of the party at Langridge's.

13,554. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You heard so?—I heard so.

13,555. And I dare say you heard about money passing to him?—I understood he received some, the same as some of the others of the Monson party.

13,556. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you hear also what money he received from Mr. Gower's party?—No, I never heard he received any.

13,557. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes, sir.

13,558. Did you do what you could for him?—Yes.

13,559. How long before the election were you on his committee?—Five weeks.

13,560. Can you tell me who put you on the committee?—I really do not know who put me on; but I suppose it was by Mr. Smith's authority.

13,561. What did he say to you?—He employed me in assisting in canvassing for Mr. Gower.

13,562. Where was it he canvassed you?—He canvassed me at a shop.

13,563. At your shop?—At the shop where I am employed.

13,564. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you work for yourself?—No.

13,565. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And what did he say?—He asked me if I would assist in Mr. Gower's return.

13,566. And you said yes, you would be very willing; and did he ask if you would do some work for them?—He asked if I would assist in Mr. Gower's return as a pure canvasser, and I said I had no objection to assist any honest committee, and if I lost any time I should expect to be remunerated for it.

13,567. What did they say to that?—He said, "Certainly," and that every one who assisted in the canvass, and did work for their money, would be paid for their lost time.

13,568. Did you go to work?—From that time.

13,569. What did you do?—I assisted in the committee rooms and canvass.

13,570. Was any sum mentioned you were to receive?—Yes.

13,571. What was it?—I inquired of Mr. Smith what I was to receive, and he said, "Well, I suppose "two guineas a week."

13,572. Did he pay anything in advance?—No, sir.

13,573. Did you see Mr. Smith again after you had been some time at work; did you get any money?—Not till after the election.

13,574. I will come to that?—Before the election I saw him at the committee rooms.

13,575. You did not go to be paid on Saturdays?—No, I never saw any money, or asked for any; I took his word as a gentleman.

13,576. That was four or five weeks before the election?—Five; it began about the 5th or 6th of June.

13,577. According to the original agreement this would make 10 guineas?—That was it.

13,578. Did you canvass?—Yes, as much as I could in a legitimate way.

13,579. Do you mean by that you did not give any money to anybody?—No.

13,580. Did you offer any money?—No.

13,581. Were you successful in your canvass?—I was in some cases.

13,582. Who did you get?—I got a man of the name of Stevens.

13,583. In bringing him to vote?—Yes.

13,584. Is he a tailor?—No; he lives in Ladbrooke-cottages.

13,585. Is that near you?—Not very near.

13,586. Who else did you secure?—I cannot say I secured any other.

13,587. Did you try?—Yes; but I found it was not of much use.

13,588. Why?—Because there was too much money flowing about the Monson party.

13,589. Were you told the Monson party had promised any of those to whom you applied?—No.

13,590. Or was it from these rumours?—From these rumours.

13,591. Do you think you could recollect any one particular person who had been promised money by the Monson party; treating and bribery?—It seemed to me to be so general that I did not take so much notice of it as I otherwise might have done; it seemed to me to be such a general thing.

13,592. Perhaps you might be able to hit upon one in particular?—I really could not name any individual.

13,593. You went and did what you could in the way of canvassing?—Yes.

13,594. I suppose you attended committee meetings?—Yes.

13,595. And always Mr. Gower's committee meetings; or did you sometimes go and see what was doing at the Monson parties?—No, I never went into one of their meetings; I never went into one of their public houses.

13,596. Were refreshments to be had?—I attended the wrong meetings for that. I only attended at the Redhill, the town hall, underneath here, and the meeting at the British school.

13,597. You did not attend any meetings at public houses?—Not one.

13,598. Then you cannot give me much information about refreshments?—None at all.

13,599. About treating?—None at all.

13,600. I have no doubt you would if you could?—I never attend public houses.

13,601. When Mr. Smith made an arrangement with you was anything said about your vote?—Not a word was said about my vote, only that he required me as canvasser.

13,602. Did he expect you to attend the nomination day as well as polling day?—I expected that was part of my work. We had notice when the nomination day would be, and of course we told.

13,603. Was any amount of pay particularly referred to for the nomination day?—No.

13,604. After the election did you send in an account to Mr. Smith yourself on paper?—Yes.

13,605. In writing?—Yes.

13,606. Then I dare say you can tell us what it was? It would be to — Smith, Esq., for what?—For canvassing.

13,607. Did you put it down in one sum, five weeks for canvassing?—I think it was the 5th of June, and I charged him 10*s.* for the nomination day, and 10*s.* for the polling day.

13,608. In addition?—Yes, but I could not get that.

13,609. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Your charge was the ten guineas and two ten shillings?—Yes.

13,610. You were paid the ten guineas?—Yes.

13,611. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Oh, you were paid the ten guineas?—Yes.

13,612. By Mr. Smith?—Yes.

13,613. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How soon after the election?—Early in August.

13,614. In one sum?—In two sums; he gave me a cheque for five guineas, and the remainder he paid in about a fortnight afterwards.

13,615. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I see your name is returned under the head of election expenses?—Yes.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien inquired for how much.

Mr. Commissioner Smith stated there was one gross sum for payments made by and to canvassers for work done by members of the committee, for 49 roughs, also for bringing voters up to the poll on polling day, &c., &c., amounting to a total of 208*l.* 7*s.*

13,616. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had an arrangement with Mr. Smith, who paid you 10*s.* for the nomination day and 10*s.* for the polling day?—I think there was a day or two over the time; I think it was a little over the five weeks.

13,617. You did not tell us the exact time when it began?—I think it was the 5th of June.

13,618. Do you mean to say that was your reason for putting in the two 10*s.*?—I put them in for devoting all my time. I thought two guineas would not pay me.

13,619. The time you took up was after you were done your work as a tailor?—It was betweenwhiles. I do not mean that I gave up my time exclusively to canvassing, but I gave up more than my ordinary overtime to canvassing.

13,620. You were at work the whole of the time?—In patches.

13,621. Most people do work in patches?—I am not a journeyman tailor.

13,622. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a master?—No; I manage a business.

13,623. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And you took what time you could from your ordinary business?—No; I lost a good deal of ordinary business.

13,624. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Of your master's?—It was not his trade.

13,625. When the manager is away the journeyman will play?—It does not matter to him, it is piece work.

13,626. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are paid so much a year?—I am paid a certain sum as manager, and I fill up my time by sewing. I may give two hours to my employer, and I may choose to work eight or ten hours, and I should get paid for it.

13,627. You would then be working like an ordinary workman?—Yes.

13,628. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What were you paid for the ordinary work?—1*l.* a week.

13,629. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That went on?—Yes.

13,630. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are your average earnings a week?—From 30*s.* to 50*s.*

13,631. Had a canvassing book been given you?—No.

13,632. Did you not forward Mr. Smith, or had you no means of furnishing him with any sort of guide of what you had done?—No.

13,633. It was rather a loose way for him to do business; my friend here or myself might have sent him in a bill for 10 guineas in that way?—I had none, sir.

13,634. Then you did not furnish him with any, if you had none?—No, sir.

13,635. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you a list of the voters?—Yes; I had a list in the committee.

13,636. Who supplied you with it?—I think I had it in the committee room.

13,637. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you canvass among your own circle of friends?—Yes, among people I was well acquainted with.

13,638. You did not canvass beyond that?—No.

13,639. You did not go from house to house as a regular canvasser?—No.

13,640. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did any of your friends canvass you, for they seemed to have canvassed one another?—No.

13,641. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you no remember being canvassed by James Stevens?—No.

13,642. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you canvassed by Andrews?—No.

13,643. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Perhaps you were canvassed by Boscawen?—No.

13,644. I should like to know this. Were you not canvassed?—I was not canvassed, only by Mr. Smith.

13,645. Were you not canvassed by people in the same station of life as yourself?—No, I was not canvassed.

13,646. Was this your first election?—Yes.

13,647. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you canvassed by Holdsworth?—I was not canvassed by him. I do not know him.

13,648. Were you not canvassed by Mr. Monson?—I know him, but I never was canvassed by any one of that party.

13,649. You say you never were canvassed by any one of that party?—No, I was not.

The witness then withdrew.

NINTH DAY.

31 Aug. 1866.

THOMAS GILLHAM sworn and examined.

T. Gillham.

13,650. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you a milkman?—No.

13,651. What are you?—A baker, an honest baker; that is what you do not hear of often.

13,652. What house do you rent? What is the value of your house?—I pay 24*l.* a year.

13,653. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

13,654. Have you voted more than once?—Yes.

13,655. Now we will inquire about the last election, 1865?—I did not vote for any one at all.

13,656. Were you canvassed?—Mr. Gower called upon me.

13,657. Did you promise him?—No.

13,658. Did anybody call besides Mr. Gower?—No.

13,659. Are you Thomas Gillham senior, or junior?—I think I am senior.

13,660. You do not know then? Have you a son, and did your son vote?—I do not know.

13,661. You must know?—No, I do not.

13,662. Does he live with you?—No, a mile and a half off.

13,663. Have you seen him since the election?—Oh, several times.

13,664. Do you mean to say your son has not told you for whom he voted?—No.

13,665. Where does your son live?—South Park, I think it is now called; at any rate it is over the park; it is on the freehold side, about a mile, I suppose, from this place.

13,666. Did you take any part whatever in this election of 1865?—Not a bit.

13,667. Why did you not?—Because I had other business to attend to which I considered was more important.

13,668. And would pay better?—If it did not pay me better than the former election, it would not pay me anything at all.

13,669. Then you did not get paid at the former election?—No.

13,670. Was that the reason why you did not vote at this?—No.

13,671. What was your reason for not voting?—I had a large rent to pay and a large family, and I considered my business of more importance than gadding about at the election.

13,672. How far was your house from the polling place?—A quarter of a mile from it, from that to half a mile.

13,673. Of course there was no occasion for you to go gadding about after voters, but you might have walked a quarter of a mile and polled?—I am not so fond of walking.

13,674. How far is your dwelling away from the polling place?—A quarter of a mile.

13,675. You go to church?—Yes, but I do not bake on Sundays.

13,676. Do you walk to church?—Yes.

13,677. It would not have been too far if you had come to vote to walk a quarter of a mile. Were you asked to vote?—Yes.

12,678. Who by?—Mr. Gower.

13,679. And by anybody else; by Mr. Durrant?—No.

13,680. And Apted?—No.

13,681. Did not any of his party come to you?—Not that I can remember; in fact, I am sure they did not.

13,682. You are quite certain they did not come and ask you to vote on the election of 1865?—I cannot remember that they did; not any one whatever.

13,683. Then they overlooked you. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

13,684. Who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

13,685. Then, although they did pay you badly, what did you get for it?—Nothing at all.

13,686. Were you offered anything?—Not a 6*d.* or 1*s.*

13,687. Were you on the committee?—No.

13,688. How came you to vote then?—Mr. Wilkinson's brother came and asked me to vote.

13,689. Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—Yes; and I had heard that he was a good sort of gentleman, and therefore I voted for Mr. Wilkinson. I know something of the other Mr. Wilkinson.

13,690. You only know Norman?—Yes.

13,691. From living in the neighbourhood?—The other Mr. Wilkinson was not living in the neighbourhood, whom I was to vote for.

13,692. Mr. Norman Wilkinson was living in the neighbourhood?—Yes.

13,693. And he asked you to vote and do your best for his brother?—Yes.

13,694. Did you vote at the previous election?—I think I voted for Mr. Wilkinson twice; if he put up twice I voted for him twice.

13,695. Did you take any interest in the election or merely promise Mr. Norman?—I promised Mr. Norman and his brother both.

13,696. You took no further interest in it?—Not any.

13,697. I rather think the Thomas Gillham we want is your son?—Very likely.

13,698. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is your son here?—I have not seen him.

The Commissioner remarked he was sorry the mistake had been made.

(*The Witness.*) I want to ask you one question.

13,699. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you got any further information to give us?—No; I only want to ask you a question.

The Commissioner remarked that he did not sit there to answer questions.

The Witness said that he was called in the box to answer questions, and it would only be considered fair play amongst mates to answer each other.

The witness withdrew.

J. Cheald.

JOHN CHEALD affirmed and examined.

13,700. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive a summons to serve on Benjamin Brown?—Yes.

13,701. Of where?—Earlswood-common.

13,702. Is there any other direction than that?—No; Benjamin Brown, Earlswood-common.

13,703. No number or anything?—No.

13,704. Did you serve it?—I served it on his wife.

13,705. Where did you find his wife?—At his own house.

13,706. Did you leave it with his wife at his house?—I gave it her in her hand.

13,707. Did you tell her what it was?—Yes.

13,708. Can you tell me when that was, is it as much as two or three days ago?—Yes.

13,709. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What time?—In the evening.

13,710. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There is a Benjamin Brown on the register of Earlswood-common, and there is a Benjamin Brown of Warwick-road?—The one I served was of Earlswood-common.

13,711. This was not the Warwick-road one?—No, it was Earlswood-common; my son went with me when I served it.

The Chief Commissioner ordered Benjamin Brown of Earlswood-common to be called.

(*He did not appear.*)

HENRY WILLIAM GOSS recalled and examined.

13,712. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were examined on Saturday?—Yes.

13,713. You were then sworn, and that is continuous till now. I believe you have some information about a person called Fullbrook; be kind enough to give it us. I am very much obliged to you, Mr. Goss, and if all the other gentlemen in the town would only be so kind, we should get through our work very much quicker, and very much more agreeably; now, if you please, tell us what you have to say?—I canvassed him a fortnight after Mr. Gower put up.

13,714. What is his Christian name?—Frederick Fullbrook is his name.

13,715. When you canvassed him what took place?—He promised Mr. Gower his vote; we then made a bargain. I was to fetch him on the polling day, as he was going to remove from that place where he was to another at Brighton. I went and fetched him according to promise, and took another man with me. He said the reason why he did not come was that he had received 5*l.* from the other party.

13,716. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He did not come?—No.

13,717. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On the polling morning you went to him?—Yes; a man of the name of Risbridger came with me; he can, perhaps, give you more information than I can.

13,718. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He went with you, but Fullbrook did not come?—He did not come.

13,719. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He had received 5*l.* you say?—He was to receive 5*l.* There were six of them at the bottom of Earlswood-common; there were five or six who were to receive that sum.

13,720. Did he give you the name of the others or any of them?—No, he did not. There was Nash, Benjamin Brown, and Steers; Steers who is since dead.

13,721. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is Nash's Christian name?—I do not know; and there was Steers.

13,722. Yes, he is dead; but we may as well have his name. Go on?—And Brown.

13,723. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that Benjamin Brown of Earlswood-common?—Yes.

13,724. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he say what they were to receive?—The same.

13,725. For whom did those men vote?—For Mr. Monson.

13,726. Did Fullbrook vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

13,727. All of them voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

13,728. Is there any other information which you have to give the Commissioners?—No, nothing but that.

13,729. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me this, if you please. Did you tell Fullbrook when you canvassed him you had put his name down on the committee?—Apted told Mr. Gower it was, and so I heard, and Mr. Gower went and saw him, and he promised Mr. Gower likewise.

13,730. Can you tell me whether his name was put down on the committee?—It was.

13,731. Did you make any agreement with Fullbrook?—No.

13,732. Did you tell him that besides giving his vote he would be wanted to do some work?—Not to work.

13,733. Did any one in your hearing tell him?—No, they did not then.

13,734. Do you know whether they did afterwards?—I do not.

13,735. Do you know whether he was employed at all?—I cannot say.

13,736. For Mr. Gower's party, I mean?—I do not know.

13,737. Did you see him taking bills about, or doing anything at all?—No.

13,738. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he tell you by whom this 5*l.* was to be paid to him?—No, he said he was to receive it that morning; I think he told Risbridger so after I got into the park.

13,739. That morning before polling?—Before polling I think.

The Witness observed that Risbridger's horse and cart had been hired.

13,740. Who hired it?—Mr. Penfold.

13,741. Is Risbridger a voter?—Yes.

13,742. He had Fullbrook's horse and cart?—No, it was Risbridger's.

13,743. Were you there when he hired it?—Yes, I went and told him that Penfold wanted it.

13,744. Did he tell you what he paid for it?—I think 30*s.* a day to fetch other voters.

13,745. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) By Mr. Penfold's orders?—Yes.

13,746. One horse, of course?—One horse.

13,747. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 30*s.* a day?—Yes; there were two or three gates we had to go through.

13,748. You did not pay every time?—We did not pay for going for once and coming back.

The Witness having stated that nothing else had occurred, withdrew after having been thanked by the Commissioners.

JOHN HARSENT sworn and examined.

J. Harsent.

13,749. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You reside at Meade-vale and are a voter of the borough?—I did.

13,750. At the time of the election?—Yes.

13,751. What are you?—A tailor.

13,752. What rent do you pay for the house which you voted for?—12*l.* a year.

13,753. Do you occupy it now?—No.

13,754. You have lost your qualification?—I have removed.

13,755. What rented house do you live in now?—I am not an occupier now.

13,756. You are a lodger now?—Yes.

13,757. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee at the last election?—I believe so.

13,758. You know you were if you were?—Yes I was.

13,759. Who asked you to go on the committee?—Mr. Mazden, I believe.

13,760. How long before the election was it that you were put on the committee?—Almost the first of it.

13,761. About six weeks before the election?—Five or six weeks.

13,762. Did you work for him as a committee man?—Yes.

13,763. You canvassed?—Some I did.

13,764. Did you carry out any circulars?—No.

13,765. You merely canvassed?—Yes.

13,766. Did you attend the meetings at Mazden's house?—Only once or twice.

13,767. Did you attend other meetings at other public houses?—No.

13,768. Mr. Mazden's is a public house, is it not?—Yes.

13,769. Did you not attend committee meetings at other public houses?—No.

13,770. They were held in other public houses, were they not?—Yes, some of them.

13,771. You had been five or six weeks engaged in that way; what remuneration were you to receive?—7*l.*

13,772. That would be about 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

13,773. Was it calculated by the week or by a lump sum?—I was paid 5*l.* before I commenced.

13,774. By whom?—Mr. Mazden.

13,775. What were you to have altogether?—7*l.*

13,776. Was that sum mentioned?—Yes.

13,777. And I suppose you were to vote for Mr. Gower?—There was nothing said about my voting for Mr. Gower.

13,778. It would not be said, but it was understood between you that you were to vote for Mr. Gower?—I suppose that was what it was for, of course.

13,779. You knew it and he knew it?—I had promised Mr. Gower previously to that.

NINTH DAY.
J. Harsent.
31 Aug. 1866.

13,780. Mazden knew it and you knew what it was for. When did you get the other 2*l.*?—Not at all.

13,781. Was the 2*l.* to be for the nomination day and the polling day?—There was nothing mentioned about that. I asked for the 7*l.* at first, and he said he had not money enough to pay me the whole, but he paid me 5*l.*, and I have never received the other 2*l.*

13,782. Did you apply to him after the election?—Yes, I did.

13,783. What did you say to him?—I asked him when I was to get the balance of the 7*l.* I said, "You "ought to pay me the 2*l.*," or something to that effect. I told him I expected the money, and I applied to him two or three times.

13,784. What did he say?—He said he would pay me as soon as things were settled up.

13,785. That was the petition?—Yes.

13,786. When he spoke to you about remuneration I believe you asked for more; you asked for 10*l.* at first, did you not?—Yes.

13,787. And he said "No, I will give you 5*l.*?"—No.

13,788. What did he say?—7*l.*

13,789. And you closed the bargain then and there?—Yes.

13,790. I need not ask you, for you give your evidence very fairly, but in fact you did nothing?—Yes.

13,791. What did you do?—I sat up several nights watching.

13,792. The nights were short then, you did not lose any of your working time, you were still working as a tailor?—Yes; I did not work in the night.

13,793. Now about the watching; what were you watching?—I cannot tell you scarcely.

13,794. In fact, we know enough of watching. It was a good excuse; the nights were fine; did you work at it more than one night?—Yes, three.

13,795. Near Mazden's?—Yes, about the vicinity of Mazden's.

13,796. Mazden's house was open?—Not all the time, not after 12.

13,797. It was open up till 12, and of course you had refreshments there?—No, I had not any.

13,798. Were there many of you out watching?—Several; four or five.

13,799. Watching each other?—No, only to see if the opposite party came to different houses where we had got promises of votes.

13,800. You know they were rather interested, I suppose?—Some of them were.

13,801. Were you canvassed yourself by any of your friends besides Mazden?—No.

13,802. You were not?—No.

13,803. Was that the first time you voted?—No.

13,804. You voted in 1863?—Yes.

13,805. For whom?—Mr. Wilkinson.

13,806. Out of the same qualification, I presume?—No.

13,807. Was employment as good in 1863 as in 1865?—Yes.

13,808. What did you receive then; I will take it shortly?—I received 30*s.* a week.

13,809. You are giving candid answers, and I will take you plainly; for how many weeks was it?—Five weeks.

13,810. You received 7*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

13,811. You were paid all then?—Yes.

13,812. In a lump sum?—No, by the week; Mr. James paid me.

13,813. The work was the same?—No, I went canvassing to London.

13,814. You were paid the expenses?—No, I was not; I put in the expenses, but I never was paid.

13,815. How was it you were not paid your expenses; I should have thought that was a thing a man could demand beyond all other things?—I thought it was, but Mr. James, when I saw him, said he would send it down; he never did, and I went to him again and received no positive reply about it.

13,816. About what were your expenses?—7*l.*

13,817. Do you mean to say—when I say that of course I know that you are telling me the truth, but you say you did a little more work in 1863 than in 1865?—Yes, I did.

13,818. Was that the first time you voted?—Yes.

13,819. Now you will tell me, because you really are giving your evidence fairly: what were you and the four or five others watching the men for; were they on Mr. Gower's committee the men that you were watching with?—I suppose they were.

13,820. Whether they were or not they had promised to vote?—Yes.

13,821. You know they were open to bribery?—No, I did not.

13,822. I mean suspected; that kind of thing comes into our minds at times?—Yes.

13,823. Did you detect the enemy approaching during the night at all?—We saw some lurking round about the house; some trying to get in.

13,824. Some lurking about?—Yes.

13,825. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Going back to the election of 1863, were you on that election canvassed by Mr. Gower?—Yes.

13,826. You promised for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

13,827. What did you say to Mr. Gower?—I told him I had promised my vote to Mr. Wilkinson.

13,828. Were you not canvassed by anybody else than Mr. Gower at the election?—I do not know that I was.

13,829. Did you receive any money?—No, not any not on Mr. Gower's side, not at that time.

13,830. Were you on the committee?—No.

13,831. Was any offer made you that if you would go on Mr. Gower's side you would be paid for the work you did?—No.

13,832. I will just ask you this one question. You attended in this hall and heard the speeches before the election in 1865?—Sometimes I did.

13,833. Were you present either here or below, I do not know which hall it was, when Mr. Gower made his speech about the coming election and the expenses?—Not in this room, I went up to one in the new town hall.

13,834. Did you hear Mr. Gower make a speech in the other town hall?—Yes, I think it was nomination day though.

13,835. No, before that, three weeks before?—No.

13,836. Did you hear Mr. Gower make a speech?—Not here, I did at Redhill.

13,837. Do you remember his making a speech at Redhill?—Yes.

13,838. Before the election?—Yes.

13,839. Do you remember his saying something about those persons who worked for him?—No.

13,840. You do not remember whether he said anything about those persons should be paid afterwards who worked for him?—No.

13,841. One other question; at this last election of 1865 were any promises made to you by Mr. Monson's party?—Yes.

13,842. That is what I wanted; who is it who made the promise?—Mr. Ireland; he has since died.

13,843. Who was with him?—Nobody was with him, not in my house; there was somebody with him I believe when he came round.

13,844. Who was that?—Langridge I believe.

13,845. Then one day Mr. Ireland and Mr. Langridge called on you?—No.

13,846. Well, Langridge remained outside. Was Ireland an active man for Mr. Monson?—I believe so.

13,847. How long was this before the election?—About a week or ten days.

13,848. Did they come in the first instance and ask you for your vote?—They asked me if I had decided which way I was going to vote, I told them "Yes, for "Mr. Gower"; he said, "You had better come over "to Mr. Monson's side, we can do better than you can "get on the side that you are on."

13,849. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You could get what?—More money he meant I suppose.

13,850. Did he say you could keep what you got on the other side as well?—No.

13,851. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He had no means of knowing what was done for you?—No.

NINTH DAY.

J. Harsent.

31 Aug. 1866.

13,852. Did he make terms to you, did he name any sum ?—Yes, he said he could do me as much as 15*l.*

13,853. Was any money shown ?—No.

13,854. Did he tell you how the 15*l.* would be paid ?—No, he said if I made up my mind I was to go down to Mr. Nichols.

13,855. James Nichols ?—Yes.

13,856. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that Nichols at the end of Bell-street ?—"The Grapes."

13,857. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you say ?—I told him I had promised my vote.

13,858. He knew that already ?—I told him I would not go.

13,859. You stood staunch ?—Yes.

13,860. Did he leave you then ? Was he satisfied, and did he go away ?—He never called on me again, I never saw any of them after.

13,861. Was that all that passed ?—Yes.

13,862. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I only want you to tell me on what terms you served Mr. Gower, were you made canvasser, or messenger, or what ?—I canvassed, and Mazden said that there would be different jobs he would want me to do, and I was to do what they wanted. If there were any colours to make it was agreed my wife should make them.

13,863. You made colours ?—Yes, for the election.

13,864. Colours to give to the voters ?—Yes.

13,865. Did you make up a large quantity ?—Yes.

13,866. Were they given away ?—Yes.

13,867. What did your wife get for that ?—We never received anything.

13,868. That was very hard ?—Yes.

13,869. Did she buy the ribbon, I mean you ?—Yes.

13,870. Did you pay for the ribbon ?—Yes.

13,871. How much ?—2*l.* 9*s.*

13,872. Did you get much for that ?—No.

13,873. Who told you to get the ribbon ?—Mazden and Penfold.

13,874. Where did you get the ribbon ?—At a shop in Mead-vale, I forget the man's name.

13,875. It was not Apted or any of those people ?—No. There was some I got at Mr. Westwood's house, and 9*s.* worth at Mr. Austen's, but I forget the man's name at Mead-vale.

13,876. Did you pay the 8*s.* for the ribbons that Job Apted had ?—No.

13,877. He paid for that and gave you the ribbon ?—Yes.

13,878. Did you get other ribbon supplied to you besides the 8*s.* worth ?—No, none whatever.

13,879. There was a very large quantity, was there not ?—Yes, a great deal.

13,880. Made up into a great many bows ?—Yes.

13,881. How many bows ?—Several dozens, but I cannot tell you how many, we were up all night ; they were given away on the following day as fast as we could give them.

13,882. Where did you take the bows to to give them away ?—They came to my house, and some were sent to Mazden's, and some to Mr. Penfold's.

13,883. You say you were a canvasser ?—Yes.

13,884. I ask you for this purpose, I do not see your name returned in the election expenses as a canvasser ?—No, I had not sent my bill in ; Mrs. Harsent had not sent in the bill for the colours at that time.

13,885. You were paid 5*l.* by Mr. Mazden ?—Yes.

13,886. Your name is not returned in the election expenses, but that of course is not your fault ?—No.

13,887. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you not make them pay ?—We have not been certain for some time till now whether we should receive it or not ; Mr. Mazden applied to Mr. Gower for it.

13,888. But if I or Mr. Smith were to ask you to get cloth for us you would make us pay for it, why did you not make Mazden pay for the ribbons ?—We have not done so, we have thought of doing so.

13,889. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you canvass amongst your own friends ?—Yes; at least I have not many friends, the only people I did were strangers with the exception of living in the neighbourhood.

13,890. How many do you think that you canvassed ?—Several.

13,891. You spoke to them as you met them in the street ?—Yes, at dinner time at any place where I met anybody I asked who they were going to vote for.

13,892. You never walked regularly round with a book to know who the persons you canvassed were ; you never called at the houses and put down their names in a book ?—No.

13,893. As you casually met some person in the street whom you knew you asked him whom he was going to vote for ?—Yes.

13,894. That was the way you canvassed ?—Yes.

13,895. Did you ask those persons whom you canvassed if they would come on the committee ?—Yes.

13,896. Did you tell them that if they came on the committee they would be paid ? — I told them that I supposed they would be paid the same as the rest were if they came on the committee.

13,897. Did you tell any of them what they would be likely to receive ?—No, I did not know ; I had never heard any stated sum.

13,898. Excepting that you had received 5*l.* ?—Yes, I had received 5*l.*

13,899. But what the others would get you really did not know ?—No.

13,900. You knew there was a general opinion that all those who came on the committee were to be paid ?—Yes.

13,901. It was a general impression, was it not, that they were to receive money who were on the committee ?—I believe it was a general impression.

13,902. You think it was ?—Yes.

SAMUEL HARRIDEN called, sworn, and examined.

S. Harriden

13,903. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where do you live ?—At South Park.

13,904. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

13,905. For a house ?—Yes.

13,906. What rent did you pay ?—13*l.* a year.

13,907. What are you ?—A labouring man.

13,908. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

13,909. Who asked you to vote for him ?—Mr. Durrant.

13,910. Did you promise him at the time ?—Yes.

13,911. When he first came ?—Yes.

13,912. They had not any occasion to canvass you afterwards ?—No, sir; I told them they need not trouble about me, I should stick to my word.

13,913. Did Durrant tell you he would put you on the committee ?—No, sir.

13,914. Did you ask him to do so ?—I asked Mr. Buckland to put me on the committee, and he said he would.

13,915. That was afterwards ? — A day or two afterwards.

13,916. Had you and Mr. Durrant first of all any agreement about what you were to do in the first instance ?—No.

13,917. Did not Durrant tell you he wanted you to look out about the electors ?—Not then he did not.

13,918. At that time nothing was said ?—No.

13,919. Then you asked Buckland afterwards to put you on the committee, and did he put you on the committee ?—I believe so. My name was on; I never asked any more about it.

13,920. Did Buckland make any arrangement with you what you were to go on the committee for ?—I told him I would go to work if he wanted me, and he said I might.

13,921. Did you go to work ?—No, sir, not much.

13,922. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He is accustomed to hard work ?—Yes, sir, you are right.

NINTH DAY.

S. Harriden.

31 Aug. 1866.

13,923. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And you were to be paid for the work you did ?—He never promised me anything.

13,924. Did not he make some arrangement with you ?—No.

13,925. Then it was after that that you saw Durrant; was it a second time ?—I see him every day; I live close where he does.

13,926. After you had this talk with Buckland about putting you on the committee, did you have some talk with Durrant ?—We talked about the election.

13,927. And about what you were to do ?—There was nothing to do much.

13,928. That is the very reason you would talk about it, because when you do much you don't talk; but did he talk about what you were to do ?—I do not recollect that he did.

13,929. Do not you recollect his telling you what you would get if you did work for them; you could not give up your time for nothing ?—He never told me what I should get.

13,930. What did he tell you about it ?—I do not know that he told me anything.

13,931. So far as you know, be so good as to tell me what arrangement did Durrant make with you ?—Durrant never made any arrangement with me particular; he said I should be paid if I worked.

13,932. Did he go on and say, "the same as the others," according to the usual rate, or something like that ?—Well, I think he did say something like that.

13,933. Tell me what else was said. Did you have the same sort of conversation with any body else ?—No.

13,934. Was anything more said about Durrant ?—No.

13,935. Do you recollect him telling you that while you were about your work he wished somebody to look after the other people ?—Well, that was at election time; we looked after them a little.

13,936. I do not know whether or not it was that Durrant said, "And, while you are at work, by the "way, I wish you would work those people on the "other side ?—I do not recollect that he said so.

13,937. After this arrangement you did not find the money come very easy, did you ?—I never asked for any.

13,938. But did it come without asking ?—Come ? yes, at last it did.

13,939. Did it come easy at first, before the election ?—No, sir.

13,940. Well, now, am I not right in this; that finding that the money did not come very easy, you determined to take some of it out in refreshment ?—No, sir.

13,941. Why you know you always require refreshment, only common times you have to pay for it ?—I never took none out.

13,942. Do you know the "Barley Mow" ?—Yes, I know it.

13,943. And did not you go there ?—Once or twice.

13,944. I believe you had refreshment there ?—I paid for what I had.

13,945. Did not you sometimes go and have it without paying for it ?—No.

13,946. There is a man named William Groom; were you at William Groom's house ?—I went in there the election night.

13,947. Before the election night ?—No, sir, I never went in, only once.

13,948. Did you have refreshments in there once at Groom's ?—There was some in there.

13,949. Did you partake ?—Yes, I had some then.

13,950. What day was that ?—That was the night before the election.

13,951. You did not pay for that, I think ?—No, I did not; some of them did, but I do not know who.

13,952. You told me you were at the "Barley Mow," but I think that you said that was on the poll day; did you ?—No, sir.

13,953. When was it you were there ?—One or two nights I went down there.

13,954. But you paid there ?—Yes.

12,955. Who keeps the "Barley Mow" ?—Nicholls, the name is.

13,956. That is not James Nichols, the man we have been talking about ?—No, sir.

13,957. You did not get any money before the election ?—No.

13,958. How much did you get afterwards ?—2*l.*

13,959. Who paid it you ?—Durrant.

13,960. Where did you see him ?—He paid me one night at home at my house.

13,961. Did you intimate to him that that was not quite what you were expecting ?—No, sir; I did not say a word about it; I took what he gave me.

13,962. Now tell me this; is this your first election ?—Yes.

13,963. You know nothing about 1863 ?—No.

13,964. You cannot give me any information about any other election besides this ?—No.

A. Heather.

AMBROSE HEATHER sworn and examined.

13,965. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—Carpenter and joiner.

13,966. You voted at the last election ?—Yes, for Mr. Gower.

13,967. What is your qualification ?—A house and garden, 4*s.* per week.

13,968. I suppose you occupy the same house still ?—Yes.

13,969. Was this the first time you voted ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863.

13,970. Had you a vote before 1863 ?—No.

13,971. I suppose you were on Mr. Gower's committee ?—Yes.

13,972. Who put you on ?—Well, some six weeks before the election Mr. Gower canvassed me himself, and I promised him my vote the first time he canvassed me. Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower canvassed me. I do not know for certain whether it was the next day or a day after I met Mr. William Joyes, he asked me if I would like to go on the committee; I said I would. Then he asked me if I would like to work for them in his way; I said I would; I must have something to do if I went on to work. He asked me what I would like to have; I was not at all particular about that, I would leave that with him. He offered me 1*l.* a week for a month. This was something like six weeks before the election.

13,973. You were saying you were not particular ?—I was not particular to what sum of money they were going to give me. I said 1*l.* a week would satisfy me very well. I was to do anything I could to promote Mr. Gower's election, with the understanding that when the election day came there should be something to do.

13,974. You were left to your own option what you were to do up to the day of the election ?—Yes; I may say so.

13,975. I understood you to mean that, but that they would expect you on the day of the election to do all you could.—I was to be engaged the whole day bringing voters to the poll.

13,976. To vote yourself, of course ?—That was the understanding; I had promised Mr. Gower.

13,977. I suppose you were to be paid 1*l.* for that day ?—No, 1*l.* a week he offered me for four weeks; there was to be no extra money.

13,978. I thought most of them (I do not think it it was unreasonable) were to be paid differently on the election day, because they were really employed on that day ?—There was no understanding about that; money was not my object.

13,979. How much did you receive ?—He said 1*l.* a week for four weeks.

13,980. Did he hand you the 4*l.* ?—Mr. Joyes never paid me at all. I had my money from Smith. After the election I sent my bill in to Mr. Smith, and he sent me a cheque.

13,981. You sent in to Mr. Smith a written statement?—"To services rendered during the election." I think those were the words; I am not quite certain.

13,982. 4*l.* ?—4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, because I had one night's work besides.

13,983. Out watching ?—Yes, nomination night.

13,984. You were paid 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes; in August Mr. Smith sent me a cheque for 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

13,985. I suppose really you were engaged on the polling day ?—I was, bringing voters to the poll. I had notice that I should be wanted for that purpose a day before the election.

13,986. And you were ?—The whole day.

13,987. Up to that you did nothing ?—Merely attending committee meetings.

13,988. Did you attend any meetings that were held at public houses ?—I did not attend any public-house meetings at all. The committee meetings I attended were at the British school, Mead-vale, and in this room here.

13,989. You did not attend any that were held elsewhere, but you knew they were held there ?—Well, I never visited any myself.

13,990. You knew they were open. Now, were you at all canvassed by the other side ?—Mr. Norman Wilkinson canvassed me.

13,991. I mean by the Monson party ?—No,

13,992. They did not come to you at all ?—They knew I was going to Mr. Gower, and I suppose they thought it was not worth while coming.

13,993. No one applied to you ?—No one.

13,994. Were you employed on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson at the last election ?—I promised Mr. Norman Wilkinson weeks before the election.

13,995. Were you employed ?—On the nomination night I had a job. I was in the committee room at the "Swan," and several voters were there. Mr. James engaged me then to be in the public hall the whole of the next day, to be behind the poll-clerks to identify the voters. I knew most of the voters that would poll there.

13,996. What were you to receive ?—Nothing was said as to any sum of money.

13,997. What did you receive?—Two days afterwards I received 2*l.* There was nothing stated about any money or anything of the kind; I was merely to be at the hall the next morning from 8 till 4.

13,998. Who paid you ?—Mr. Frederick Joyes paid me two days after that election.

13,999. You did not send in a bill for that ?—No, I was merely engaged in the committee room. I sent in no bill on that occasion.

14,000. You did not attend any meetings before the nomination day ?—Not except public meetings.

14,001. Had you been canvassed by the Gower party on that occasion ?—Not once, as far as I am aware of. I promised Mr. Norman Wilkinson when he asked me to vote for his brother. I gave him my promise there and then.

14,002. They knew you were a staunch man ?—I believe so; they never canvassed me.

WILLIAM HUMPHREY sworn and examined.

W. Humphrey.

14,003. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A gardener.

14,004. Where do you live ?—Behind the park, Park-lane.

14,005. What rent do you pay ?—10*l.* 10*s.*

14,006. Did you vote for Mr. Gower at the last election ?—Yes.

14,007. Did you vote in 1863 ?—Yes.

14,008. Who for ?—Mr. Gower.

14,009. Did you vote in the previous election of 1859 ?—No.

14,010. That was your first vote, 1863 ?—Yes.

14,011. Who canvassed you in 1865 for Mr. Gower ?—Mr. Gower himself.

14,012. Did you promise him when he came to you ?—No, sir, I did not promise him when he came to me. I saw him at the "White Hart." I promised him the second time.

14,013. He asked you the first time and you did not promise; had you made up your mind then ?—No, not exactly so.

14,014. How soon did you make it up ?—A week, perhaps, or a fortnight.

14,015. Be so good as to tell me, what were you hesitating about ?—Well, sir, being the first time, of course I did not know much about voting.

14,016. Are you speaking of the election of 1863 or the last election, in 1865 ?—The last election.

14,017. You did not know much about the election, and you were waiting to see how matters turned out ?—I wanted to see how the other people were going on.

14,018. Had you any doubt about politics ?—No.

14,019. How was that ? don't you care about politics ?—No, sir, I do not know much about politics.

14,020. Then at that time you were not doubting on account of politics at all ?—No.

14,021. Now, will you be so good as to tell me what made you decide for Mr. Gower ?—He asked me a second time.

14,022. You waited a week, and during that week you made up your mind; what decided you ?—He asked me.

14,023. But you did not promise him; you had not made up your mind, and were waiting to see how the other people went. What decided you at last ?—I do not know.

14,024. But you went to Mr. Gower at the "White Hart" ?—I called on business, and saw Mr. Gower.

14,025. Had you made up your mind then ?—No.

14,026. Did you promise him when you first saw him then at the "White Hart" ?—He asked me whether I had made up my mind, and I told him I had not thought much about it. He said, "You may "as well make up your mind," and then I said, well, I would vote for him.

14,027. What did he say to you ?—He thanked me, that was all.

14,028. Did he ask you to be on his committee ?—I do not know that he did.

14,029. Did anybody ask you to be on his committee ?—I do not think any one did.

14,030. Did you go on the committee ?—Not as I am aware of.

14,031. Who did you have any conversation with besides Mr. Gower about voting for him ?—I do not recollect, sir; first one and then the other.

14,032. But somebody in particular, you know. You had a conversation with somebody about money. Who talked to you about your vote ? Just tell me who that was before I tell you. Who was it ?—I do not know about money.

14,033. Nor do I know much about it; but something was said about it ?—I asked how the money stood.

14,034. Who did you ask ?—Job Apted.

14,035. What did he tell you ?—He said, if I liked to go on the committee, I should have the same as the rest.

14,036. Did he say what the rest were having ?—No.

14,037. No sum of money was mentioned. Was any particular sum glanced at in any way ?—No.

14,038. Did you say to that, "Very well, I will go "to work" ?—No.

14,039. Did you have any conversation with anybody else ?—Well, I do not recollect any one in particular.

14,040. But somebody not particular, that you do recollect ?—No.

NINTH DAY.

W. Humphrey.

31 Aug. 1866.

14,041. Don't you recollect having some conversation with somebody else about money ?—No.

14,042. Do you know a man named Durrant ?—Yes.

14,043. You know him pretty well, as well as Job Apted ?—I have seen him as often.

14,044. Did you have any conversation with him about doing work for Mr. Gower ?—No, sir, none at all.

14,045. Did he tell you to the same effect that Job Apted did ?—He never said anything about it.

14,046. Now how long before the election was it, about, only about, that you had this talk with Apted ?—I cannot recollect.

14,047. But give us a notion. Was it three weeks ?—It might be more than that, it might be less than that; I cannot say.

14,048. I will take it it was perhaps about three weeks; I do not want it nearer than that. Did you as the election came nearer apply to Apted for money ?—No.

14,049. Who did you apply to for money ?—No one.

14,050. But you received some ?—No.

14,051. After the election was over did you apply to Apted then ?—No, sir.

14,052. Did you apply to Durrant ?—No.

14,053. Who did you apply to ?—No one.

14,054. What, it came of itself ?—What came, sir ?

14,055. The money ?—No.

14,056. Have not you received anything since ?—No.

14,057. Are you quite sure ?—Yes.

14,058. Perhaps I am wrong, I do not think I am somehow; tell me, has nothing been said about money since the election ?—No, sir.

14,059. Was nothing said about money before the election ?—Yes.

14,060. What was said about money ?—He said if I liked to act on the committee I could have the same as the rest, that was all.

14,061. But after that it was rather hard, was not it, that you did not have the same as the rest ?—No, sir.

14,062. What, then the rest got nothing ?—I do not know.

14,063. Do you mean to say you do not know that ?—No more than what I have heard here.

14,064. You never heard at the election that the others got anything ?—No.

14,065. Nor after the election ?—I had nothing to do with it, no more than voting.

14,066. But you were here before the election were not you ?—Yes, I was in and out of the town.

14,067. Apted told you that you were to receive the same as the rest ?—Yes, if I liked to go on the committee.

14,068. And you did like to go on the committee ?—No.

14,069. Did you tell him not to put you on the committee ?—Yes.

14,070. You said, "No, I won't go on the com- "mittee"?—I said I would rather not be on the committee.

14,071. Did you attend of an evening at the different places ?—No, sir; only once.

14,072. Where was that at ?—In the chapel on the freehold.

14,073. It was nothing particular going on there, perhaps ?—I never saw any one drinking anything.

14,074. Will you tell me this honestly: do you mean to say that after that conversation with Apted you did not receive from any person money or money's worth ?—No, sir.

14,075. Did Mr. Monson's party come to you before the election, and ask you to go with them ?—Before the election came off.

14,076. Who was it came to you ?—I think a man of the name of Grutchfield.

14,077. What did he come about ?—He asked me if I would come over their way.

14,078. What did you say ?—I says, "No, I would "rather not."

14,079. What inducement did Grutchfield hold out to you to come ?—There was a little inducement.

14,080. Tell me what it was ?—He said that I should be done by rather better, perhaps, than I should be on the other side.

14,081. Did he tell you what was going on the other side ?—No, sir.

14,082. Did you understand ?—No. sir.

14,083. No sum was mentioned ?—No.

14,084. What did you say to that ?—"I would rather not."

14,085. You declined altogether ?—Yes.

14,086. So then he went away ?—Yes.

14,087. Did they give you any more trouble from Mr. Monson's side ?—No.

14,088. You seem to me to speak very honestly at last, but very doubtfully at the beginning always; and that was the reason I was watching you close; you mean they did not give you any more trouble on Mr. Monson's side ?—No.

14,089. I must ask you one other question about that election. When you gave your vote for Mr. Gower, according to your promise, did you, or did you not, expect something for what you had done at and before the election ?—No.

14,090. I do not mean a definite particular sum of money, but did you expect to be remembered to any extent ?—No, sir.

14,091. You voted for Mr. Gower in 1863 ?—Yes.

14,092. You had been canvassed on that occasion for Mr. Wilkinson, had not you ?—I was certainly canvassed by Mr. Norman Wilkinson.

14,093. In the first instance you promised Mr. Wilkinson your vote, did not you ?—No.

14,094. Did not you give him to understand you would go with Mr. Wilkinson ?—No.

14,095. Who did you promise your vote to ?—Mr. Gower.

14,096. Did you promise him your vote before you saw Mr. Norman Wilkinson ?—No, sir; after.

14,097. Did you refuse Mr. Norman Wilkinson your vote, and say, "No, you shall not have it; Mr. "Gower is to have it"?—I did not satisfy him that I should not vote for him.

14,098. This last election you hesitated a bit at first ?—Yes.

14,099. How long did it take you that time, a week, as it did this time, to make up your mind ?—I cannot say.

14,100. Some days ?—It might be a week or two.

14,101. Did you go to Mr. Gower, or did Mr. Gower come to you, when you promised him your vote in 1863 ?—I went on business, and met Mr. Gower on the way.

14,102. And he canvassed you ?—Yes.

14,103. What did you say to him ?—I promised him.

14,104. Why did you promise him ?—I do not know.

14,105. You know you had not made up your mind when Mr. Wilkinson asked you first; it was rather strange, was not it ?—I do not know.

14,106. Had you made up your mind before you met Mr. Gower, or was it Mr. Gower's persuasions that talked you over ?—It was him that talked to me and asked me to support him.

14,107. You liked his manner ?—Yes.

14,108. Were there any politics in that election ?—I do not know that there was.

14,109. Did you see any one from Mr. Wilkinson except Mr. Norman Wilkinson, his brother ?—Mr. Frederick Joyes.

14,110. That was afterwards ?—No, sir, at the time.

14,111. What, he was with him ?—Yes.

14,112. Did not you see Frederick Joyes afterwards, again ?—Not on the electioneering system.

14,113. I mean about the election ?—No.

14,114. You saw him on some other business ; did not he talk to you about the election ?—No.

14,115. Did you go on Mr. Wilkinson's committee in 1863 ?—No.

14,116. Did you take any part for him ?—No.

14,117. You are sure you did not make up your mind for Mr. Gower till you met him about a week or fortnight afterwards ?—No.

14,118. Were you quite ready then to vote for Mr. Gower after you had passed your word ?—Yes.

14,119. What time in the day did you vote ?—Some time after the middle day.

14,120. About 3 o'clock ?—2 or 3 o'clock.

14,121. A little later than 2 I mean, about 3 ?—Yes.

14,122. That was only an hour before the poll closed ?—Somewhere about there.

14,123. How was that ?—I do not know ; I was at my employment up till mid-day.

14,124. That is a very good reason ; then you do know. At work you mean ?—Yes.

14,125. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For whom did you work ?—For Mrs. Batley.

14,126. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now tell me, as an honest man, had you any arrangement at this election of 1863 with any of Mr. Gower's people ?—No, sir.

14,127. You know what I mean ?—Yes.

14,128. Perhaps "arrangement" is not the right word for me to use, but it is not fair if you do not give me a candid answer, as I trust you. Had you any understanding in 1863 with any of Mr. Gower's people before you gave your vote ?—No.

14,129. You know what I mean ?—Yes.

14,130. None at all ?—None at all.

14,131. Had you any expectations ?—No.

14,132. Was anything said about "the same as "other people" ?—Yes ; I think Mr. Durrant spoke to me.

14,133. Did David Durrant say something about "the same as other people," or anything of that kind ?—He called me, and asked me which way I was going to vote. I told him I did not know. He says, "You may as well go along with us," and I said I did not know, I had not made up my mind.

14,134. What did he say upon that ?—Well, he says "It will be all right." I says, "What all right ?" He says, "You will get paid for your time and that." I says, "What time ?" He says, "What work you "like to do." So I says, "No, I would rather not "have any hand in it." I says, "I suppose you want "that few shillings that I owe you." "Oh no," he said, "I don't."

14,135. How much did you owe him ?—9*s*., two half-casks of beer. He says, "I will come and strike "that off." I says, "No, pay," I says, "and be paid." So that passed.

14,136. Did you make any arrangement according to Durrant's proposal ?—No.

14,137. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you mean by that phrase, "Pay and be paid" ?—That is if I went to work for Durrant or Mr. Gower I should expect to be paid, and what I owed Durrant I should expect to pay him.

14,138. I suppose you thought 9*s*. would not be enough to vote ?—I did not want his money.

14,139. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was any money passed between you and Durrant before the election ?—No.

14,140. Was this conversation with Durrant after you had seen Mr. Norman Wilkinson, and before you promised your vote to Mr. Gower, do you recollect ?—No, sir.

14,141. After the election was any money handed to you ?—No.

14,142. Not from any one ?—No.

14,143. Did you send in any notice that you expected something ?—No.

14,144. That election of 1863 was your first election ?—Yes.

14,145. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What puzzles me is this ; you voted for Mr. Gower in 1863, now when he came to you in 1865 why did not you promise him the first time ?—Because it was a long time before its coming off.

14,146. But if you had not voted for him before I could understand it. You had voted for him in 1863, so that you knew him ?—Well, 1865 was so long before the time it was coming off ; I told him I should see him again.

14,147. But you know you said you had not made up your mind, because you were waiting to see how the things went with other people ; that is, you were waiting to see what money was going ?—No.

14,148. I understood you to mean that ?—No, sir ; I meant to see how the majority of the people were going for the candidates.

14,149. That is what you meant, I am glad I gave you the opportunity of explaining it ; you knew money was going ?—No.

14,150. You must have known that money was going, because everybody knew money was going ?—I did not.

14,151. You knew from what Durrant said, you knew from what Apted said, money was going ?—That did not trouble me.

14,152. But did not you know money was being had by persons in your class of life for voting ?—I might hear of these rumours.

14,153. There is no "might" in it whatever, you did hear the rumours ?—Well, perhaps I did.

14,154. You know you heard the rumour that money was going ?—Yes.

14,155. Durrant offered to strike off some money you owed ?—Yes.

14,156. What took you to Mr. Gower the second time in the "White Hart ?"—My missis's business.

14,157. Now I do not like to inquire into the business of ladies, but what business did you go on ?—I believe it was to order a fly for my missis.

14,158. But you went to Mr. Gower ?—Yes, I met him in the "White Hart" as I was going there to order the fly for my missis.

14,159. What, the lady you are working for ?—Yes.

14,160. Was she a great friend of Mr. Gower ?—Not that I know of.

14,161. And then you spoke to him ?—No, sir ; he spoke to me.

14,162. And then you say you promised him to vote ?—Yes.

14,163. Apted, you say, did not give you any money or money's worth ; were you indebted at all to Apted ?—No.

14,164. You did not owe anybody any money ?—No, not at that time.

14,165. I mean in reference to the election ?—No.

14,166. Now we understood you to say that you had no consideration whatever of any kind, in any shape or form, either to forgive you a debt you owed, or give you money or goods or anything of that kind for that vote ?—No.

14,167. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did your mistress take any interest in the election ?—Not as I know of.

14,168. Never asked you which way you were going to vote ?—She asked me who I was going to vote for.

14,169. Who did you tell her you were going to vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

14,170. Had you promised before she spoke to you ?—Yes.

14,171. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you refuse to be on the committee ?—Because I did not wish to have anything to do with it.

14,172. You did not wish really to soil your fingers with what was going ; is that what I understand you to mean ?—I had no time.

14,173. What I mean is, did you wish to give an honest independent vote, and not to burthen your conscience by taking any money ? is that what you mean ?—Yes.

NINTH DAY.

J. Tullett.

31 Aug. 1866.

JAMES TULLETT sworn and examined.

14,174. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You reside in Wray Park-road ?—I did.

14,175. And are a gardener ?—Yes.

14,176. What rented house did you occupy when you were on the register for the election ?—4*s.* a week.

14,177. What do you occupy now ?—I do not pay any rent.

14,178. You did not vote at this election ?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Gower.

14,179. To whom did you promise ?—I promised Mr. Smith and Mr. Henry Austen.

14,180. What is he ?—A linendraper and hatter.

14,181. And furnishes people with various articles of attire, gentlemen's attire as well as ladies' ?—Anything, whatever you like.

14,182. Were you on the committee ?—No, sir.

14,183. Did you work ?—Not at all.

14,184. If you did not work were you to be paid at all ?—Not at all.

14,185. No arrangement made ?—No, I did not require it.

14,186. I believe your hat was a very shaky bad one ?—So I hear.

14,187. Who told you your hat was a bad one ?—William Best named it to me the other night.

14,188. Just before the election ?—I did not have no hat.

14,189. Did not you go to Austen's and get a new hat before the election ?—No, I did not, it is false.

14,190. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Austen denied it ?—I want to know who named about the hat.

14,191. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I am sure I cannot tell you ?—I was stopped on the highway last Tuesday night to know how my hat wore, because I had not heard anything about it; I believe I had a parcel in my hand; I was walking through the town, and Mr. Austen says to me; I met him here on Saturday and he says, "Tullett, what's the matter with "you? How bad you are looking!"

14,192. When did that conversation take place? do you mean the other night ?—No, sir.

14,193. I want you to correct it ?—I am speaking the other night of William Best of Warwick-town stopping me on the highway, saying, "How does your "hat wear, Tullett?"

14,194. I don't want to know anything at all about Tuesday night; it is only a singular fact. Did you get another hat on Tuesday ?—No, sir.

14,195. They were jesting with you ?—Yes. I want to know who spoke of it, because I should like to face any one who ever spoke about the hat. I do not think Mr. Austen ought to be disgraced with it any more than I ought.

14,196. Had you been canvassed by the Monson party at all in 1865 ?—Yes, I was. If you will allow me I will explain it for you. I should think about three weeks before the election, which was on a Friday, George Grutchfield, from the freehold, came to me in the garden at Thomson's, asking me if I would give my vote for Monson. I says, "No, I do not "think I shall give it to any one;" as I had not been very well for three weeks I did not feel any ways inclined for electioneering. Therefore that passed, and he could not get me to promise my vote. On the Sunday following the second gardener, what I have under me, wished me if I was out for a walk to call on him to look at his garden.

14,197. Who was that ?—Warren, of the freehold. I did so, and I believe where I passed to go on to his house is from 50 to 100 yards, and George Grutchfield calls to me, and he says, "Tullett!" I says, "Yes." "I want to speak to you." So I went. He says, "Have you made up your mind to vote for Mr. "Monson?"

14,198. Is that Warren you speak of William Robert Warren, of the freehold, Reigate-park ?—No, sir; Henry Warren. I believe he has no vote; his father-in-law has a vote, but not him.

14,199. What is his father-in-law's name ?—Smith, I think, sir.

14,200. For whom did he vote ?—I am not certain, but I think for Gower. He asked me if I had made up my mind to vote for Monson, and I says, "No, I "have not." "Oh," he says, "come on with us; "here is a couple of sovereigns for you." I, stupid-like, like many others, took this money, and after I had got away I was sorry for what I had done. When I got home I says, "On Monday I will return the "money back again," and instead of my doing so I was taken ill, and confined to my bed, and there I was ten days to a fortnight.

14,201. Are you married ?—Yes. During that time of course I had no opportunity of returning it. Then I should think four or five days or so before I was able to get out Mr. Gower called on me and Mr. Smith. He asked me if I had promised my vote. I says, "My vote is not free, sir, at present." "Well," he says, "will you give it to me?" I says, "I "shan't promise you, sir," and I says, "What are your principles, sir?" "Well," he says, "I do not "intend to encourage any public houses nor bribery." I says, "Thank you, sir."

14,202. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is that what you call principle ?—Possibly I might not give it the right word; that is my only meaning, and by that I said if I did vote I would not vote against him. He thanked me, says "Good morning," and walks away. I never saw Mr. Gower from that time till about a fortnight or so after the polling, when I met him, and he thanked me for my vote. That is all I ever received for it. Then I returned this money to Grutchfield just by Burgon's-corner, the first time I was able to get out, and he wanted to know what I meant by that.

14,203. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Before the election ?—Yes, I should think about seven or eight days. I says, "I don't intend to have anything to do "with bribery the least whatever," and he says, "Who are you going to vote for?" I says, "If I "vote I shall vote for Gower," and I come here and promised Mr. Smith, underneath here, that I would vote for Mr. Gower. I went in with Austen to Mr. Smith, and he thanked me for my vote, and that is all I ever received. That is all the canvassing ever I had. If you have any question to put to me I shall be most happy to answer it.

14,204. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then, with reference to that hat, it is all an idle fiction ?—I believe so.

14,205. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive any money afterwards from Mr. Smith ?—Not one halfpenny from any one.

14,206. Were you offered anything ?—Not at all; neither did I expect it.

14,207. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you return the same 2*l.* that you received ?—The same two sovereigns that I had given to me; I carried them in my waistcoat pocket till I could give it to him, as I did not wish to send it by any one, as it might cause unpleasantness.

14,208. You received them yourself, and you did not wish to send them by any one ?—I wished to return it on the quiet myself, and do what is honest and right, and I done so. We are all liable to be taken in just at the moment.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If everybody had acted like you this Commission would not have been sitting.

JOHN JUPP called, sworn, and examined. *J. Jupp.*

14,209. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A gardener.

14,210. A master gardener?—No; I work for a gentleman of the name of Duncan now; at the election it was for Mrs. Reed.

14,211. What rent do you pay for your house?—I have a little place of my own. I am rated at 30*l.* a year.

14,212. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Gower the last time.

14,213. Had you voted before?—Yes, for Mr. Wilkinson.

14,214. And before that again?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson before.

14,215. In 1859?—Yes.

14,216. Did you vote in 1858?—Yes, I voted for Lord Monson at that time.

14,217. Did you vote twice in 1858? There were two elections in that year?—I do not know.

14,218. Of course you were on Mr. Gower's committee?—No, I was not on a committee all my life.

14,219. Who canvassed you the last time?—Mr. Gower himself.

14,220. Did any other person canvass you on behalf of Mr. Gower?—Not after he canvassed.

14,221. Before?—Mr. Monson did.

14,222. I mean on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No.

14,223. Did you promise Mr. Monson?—No.

14,224. Did anybody call upon you except Mr. Gower on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No, not afterwards. I said I had given my word, and that I should stick to it.

14,225. You were not on his committee?—No.

14,226. And you did no work?—No.

14,227. And were promised nothing?—No, and I never had a halfpenny for either of the elections I voted for.

14,228. I have no reason to think otherwise?—I assure you it is correct.

14,229. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know George Jupp?—Yes.

14,230. He is a different man?—Not me; he is a great deal younger than I am.

14,231. You have been present at all the elections that have taken place here?—I have voted at four different elections, but I never took any interest in any of them, not to go about to any of the committees.

14,232. You voted in 1865, in 1863, and in 1859 for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

14,233. Then in the second election of 1858 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson against Mr. Monson?—Yes.

14,234. Was that the first election?—The first election I voted for Mr. Monson.

14,235. Was that Mr. Doulton's election?—No, I had no vote then.

14,236. The first time you voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

14,237. And the second time for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

14,238. The third time for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

14,239. And the last time for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

14,240. Did you notice the elections? Were you about?—I was not. I never attended any of the committees.

14,241. You took no part?—No.

14,242. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you notice, in walking about the town, how the election seemed to be carried on?—Not on the election day.

14,243. During the time of the election and the canvassing?—No. I was very seldom down in the town.

STEPHEN JORDAN sworn and examined. *S. Jordan*

14,244. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You reside at Mead-vale?—Yes.

14,245. And you are a voter?—Yes.

14,246. What rent do you pay?—It is freehold property.

14,247. What is the value of your freehold, yearly?—30*l.* a year.

14,248. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Gower.

14,249. Who canvassed you? Did Mr. Smith?—Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower together.

14,250. Had you promised them when they first canvassed you?—I had not.

14,251. Who canvassed you afterwards?—No one; not on Mr. Gower's part.

14,252. Who canvassed you on Mr. Monson's part?—Mr. Monson himself.

14,253. And who else?—I believe Mr. Nichols; I am not certain; I met him in the street.

14,254. You had not made up your mind when Mr. Gower canvassed you?—No, I had not.

14,255. When Mr. Nichols saw you, did he wish you to go on Mr. Monson's committee?—No; he never asked me the question.

14,256. He merely asked you to vote for Mr. Monson; did you refuse him, or tell him that you had not made up your mind?—I did not promise him at all; I told him I would consider of it.

14,257. How long was that before the election?—This was not more than a week.

14,258. A week before the polling day?—Yes.

14,259. You had not made up your mind at that time?—I had not made up my mind.

14,260. Who afterwards called upon you on behalf of Mr. Gower?—I saw Mr. Gower himself about three days before the election, and I promised him my vote at that time.

14,261. Did you see Mr. Smith then?—He was alone at that time.

14,262. Mr. Gower was alone?—Yes. I think Mr. Joyes was with him, but he never spoke to me.

14,263. Did you afterwards see Mr. Smith, the election agent?—Yes; I do not know that he spoke to me anything respecting the election. I saw him often.

14,264. Between the time you have mentioned and the polling day you saw Mr. Smith?—Yes.

14,265. He was speaking to you about the election?—I told him I had promised Mr. Gower.

14,266. What was said about money?—At that time there was nothing said about money, except that I should be paid for my services; not about any quantity.

14,267. That you were to be paid for your services?—Yes.

14,268. You had not promised Mr. Gower till about three days before the election?—That is right.

14,269. What were you to be paid?—Nothing was mentioned about the amount at that time.

14,270. Some sum was afterwards mentioned; something about 12*l.*?—I was paid after the election.

14,271. Before you were paid something was mentioned about 12*l.*?—I think I received from 12*l.* to 15*l.* altogether, from first to last. I am not quite certain. I had it in different sums.

14,272. I believe something was mentioned about 12*l.* by Mr. Smith, or was it by you?—I do not recollect the sum that was mentioned.

14,273. 12*l.* was mentioned, was it not?—Perhaps it might, I know that was the amount.

14,274. When you saw Mr. Gower and promised him, did he not tell you to go to Mr. Smith?—He did.

14,275. Was it not at an interview with Mr. Smith that the 12*l.* or 13*l.* was talked about?—I believe it was.

14,276. Did you receive any of the money at that time?—I received 1*l.* before the election. I beg your pardon; are you speaking of 1863?

14,277. No, I am speaking of 1865 ?—Then I am making a wrong statement altogether.

14,278. Was this in 1863 ?—This was in 1863.

14,279. The whole of this matter about the 12*l.* or 13*l.* applies to 1863 ?—Yes.

14,280. You received between 12*l.* and 15*l.* for your vote in 1863 ?—Yes ; at that time.

14,281. And you received 1*l.* of it on the day when you had the interview with Mr. Smith ?—No, that was the last.

14,282. Keep to the 1863 election. Were you paid anything in 1863 before the election ?—It might be 3*l.* or 4*l.* perhaps.

14,283. By Mr. Smith ?—Yes ; I was canvassed.

14,284. Did Mr. Smith pay you all ?—Yes, I believe he did ; I believe he paid all I received.

14,285. You cannot say whether it was 12*l.* or 15*l.* ?—No ; I had it at different times ; I cannot be certain.

14,286. When he came to canvass you in 1865 of course you refused him ?—Yes.

14,287. When first he came to you nothing was said about money ?—Not at all.

14,288. Not when he first came ?—Not when he first came ; not at all.

14,289. You saw him afterwards ?—Yes ; he told me if I liked to go to work, and do what I could, I should be satisfied for my trouble.

14,290. That was in 1865 ?—Yes.

14,291. That is, you would get as much as you did in 1863 ?—No, he never mentioned that.

14,292. You understood that, did you not ?—No, I never understood that, that I should have the same as in 1863.

14,293. About the same ?—No, I never thought of such a thing.

14,294. Why ?—I did not do so much work.

14,295. Never mind the work. You were the same man ; you had the same vote and influence, and everything of that kind ?—I can tell you what I did.

14,296. He told you that you should be paid ?—That I should be satisfied for what I had done. He paid me 1*l.* before the election and 3*l.* afterwards, and that was every farthing.

14,297. How long before the election was that, two or three days ?—About three days.

14,298. Had you seen Mr. Gower before you saw Mr. Smith at this election ?—I think they were together.

14,299. I suppose they were not together when Mr. Smith paid you the 1*l.* ?—No.

14,300. How soon after that did he pay you the 1*l.* ?—I do not know.

14,301. The same day ?—No ; a few weeks after, I suppose ; it was after the election was over.

14,302. The 1*l.* ?—That was about three days before the election.

14,303. Was that the time when you saw Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower ?—No. I saw Mr. Smith at the "White Hart." He asked me if I was going to work, and I told him I had commenced that day. I had this 1*l.* to help to bear my expenses for my work.

14,304. What time of the day was it ?—About 11 or 12 o'clock.

14,305. Was it not later in the day ?—It was in the morning.

14,306. He gave you 1*l.* for the expenses you would be at that day ?—He did not say that day. That was to serve me up to the election.

14,307. You received 3*l.* afterwards ?—Yes.

14,308. How long after the election ?—I do not know ; two or three weeks afterwards, I think.

14,309. Did you apply to Mr. Smith for it ?—Yes.

14,310. You went up to him ?—I asked him for it.

14,311. How much ?—He did not offer me any amount.

14,312. You said, "Well, now, I voted for Mr. "Gower, and I think I am entitled to something" ?—Yes ; he promised me some remuneration, and I made a claim of 3*l.* ; that is how it was.

14,313. You received 4*l.* in 1865 ?—Yes.

14,314. What did you do ?—I was canvassing as well as I could, and assisting.

14,315. Canvassing ; no, no ?—Yes.

14,316. I am speaking of 1865 ?—And I am speaking of 1865.

14,317. Canvassing was all over at that time ?—I did not do much, certainly ; I was only three days about it.

14,318. And one of the three days was Sunday. Was it on Saturday that he spoke to you ?—I do not know what day it was ; it was not Sunday.

14,319. It must have been Saturday ?—It was two or three days before the election.

14,320. Was it Saturday or Monday ?—I think it was Saturday.

14,321. You got 1*l.* for that. You did not canvass anybody, did you ?—I spoke to several about it.

14,322. You did not take a book out and go round from house to house ?—I never did that, nor kept any memorandum whatever.

14,323. They did not send you out with circulars ?—No.

14,324. You did not attend any committee meetings ?—No, not this last time ; I did not attend any.

14,325. The election of 1863 seems to have been more profitable ; you were well paid then ?—I did a great deal of work then. I did not earn my money quite so easily.

14,326. You cannot tell whether it was 12*l.* or 15*l.* that you had ?—No.

14,327. That was at the rate of about 3*l.* a day, taking it at 15*l.* ?—That election was longer about ; it was several weeks.

14,328. Five weeks ?—It was more than that.

14,329. You did not carry out circulars ?—No.

14,330. And you had no canvassing book ?—No canvassing book. I used what little influence I could to induce persons to vote for Mr. Gower.

14,331. That is, you spoke to people and people spoke to you ?—Yes.

14,332. And you were not up at night watching ?—No, I like my bed too well for that.

14,333. I think you voted in 1859 ?—In 1863.

14,334. Did you vote in 1859 ?—Who was that for ?

14,335. Mr. Wilkinson or Mr. Monson ?—I voted for Mr. Monson.

14,336. I suppose you worked hard for him ?—I did for weeks.

14,337. How did the money go then ? Was the rate of pay pretty good ?—Very low at that time.

14,338. What was the rate of pay then ?—I do not know whether it was 2*l.*, or 2*l.* 10*s.* That is all I had for that job.

14,339. You took care not to vote for Monson again ?—Not at that price, you may depend upon it, for him or for any one else ; I will never vote for that ; I will have more, or else none at all.

14,340. Had you voted before that ?—I think I voted for Mr. Hackblock the first time.

14,341. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote at Mr. Doulton's election ?—I think that was at that time.

14,342. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was the time of Sir Henry Rawlinson ?—I did not vote for him.

14,343. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you vote for Mr. Doulton ?—No, I voted for Mr. Hackblock and twice for Mr. Gower.

14,344. I suppose you were not employed by Mr. Hackblock ?—No.

14,345. The first time you received money was on the part of Lord Monson ?—That is the first time.

14,346. That was about 50*s.* or 2*l.* ?—Yes.

14,347. That was in 1859 ?—Yes.

14,348. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you that money for Lord Monson ?—I believe Mr. Hart, the agent. There was an advertisement in the papers that any one who had demands for work done for the election was to call upon Mr. Hart. I applied to him, and he paid me.

14,349. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had not worked very hard for that ?—No.

14,350. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was the usual advertisement as to election expenses and bills? —Yes.

14,351. Mr. Hart was the expense agent ?—Yes.

14,352. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then it jumped up to 12*l.* or 15*l.* ; that was a great jump ?—Yes, it was a better market.

14,353. Then it fell down again to 4*l.* ?—It dropped down again to 2*l.* or 3*l.* ; a fluctuating business certainly.

14,354. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not understand what part you took in Mr. Doulton's election, when he came down, and Sir Henry Rawlinson was returned ?—I was no party in Mr. Doulton's affair at all.

14,355. The first election in 1858 ; did you not vote then ?—I voted for Mr. Monson.

14,356. What did you do for him ? Was it upon the same sort of terms ?—Yes, they called it canvassing.

14,357. What did you receive that time ?—I received 50*s.* or 2*l.* ; I do not know which. That was for Mr. Monson.

14,358. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is your son a voter ?—Yes.

14,359. Is he here ?—I do not know.

14,360. What is his name ?—Thomas Jordan.

14,361. What does he vote for ?—Freehold property ; or rather I believe it is leasehold.

14,362. He voted for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

14,363. Do you know what he received?—That I do not.

14,364. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He never told you ?—I have no idea.

14,365. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You voted in 1858, I understand, for Mr. Monson, when you got 2*l.* or 2*l.* 10*s.* Do you know whether that was the election when Mr. Doulton came down ?—I think it must be.

14,366. In the same year, at the end of 1858, there was another election between the same Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

14,367. Did you vote that time ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

14,368. On that occasion were you on his committee ?—No.

11,369. Did you not canvass for him ?—No, I did nothing at all more than give my vote.

14,370. Were not your services acknowledged at all ?—No.

14,371. Did you not receive anything ? — Not a farthing ; not from Mr. Wilkinson.

14,372. Not from any one ?—Not at that election.

14,373. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When Mr. Hackblock was a candidate, was that a very quiet election ?—Yes, very, I should call it; I never saw as much as a glass of beer myself during the time.

14,374. Did you know of all the windows of the Swan being broken ?—That was not Mr. Hackblock's; that was Sir Henry Rawlinson's.

14,375. Was that in 1858, when Mr. Doulton came down ?—No.

14,376. The "Swan" was Sir Henry Rawlinson's house, was it not ?—Yes.

14,377. The "Swan" windows were broken in 1858 ?—Yes.

14,378. What day was that, the day of the poll ?—Yes, the polling day I believe.

14,379. Were you present when that was done ?—I was standing in the street, and stood the other side of the way.

14,380. What sort of people were they who were breaking these windows ?—People standing in the street ; I do not know what they were ; working men generally, I suppose.

14,381. You suppose ? — I should consider they were.

14,382. Which party ?—I do not know, they were mixed up together in the square ; the place was almost full of people.

14,383. Were they Doulton's men that were breaking the windows ?—I should suppose not; I do not know.

14,384. They were not Rawlinson's ?—I know nothing at all about that. It did not concern me in any way. I cannot give any information about it.

14,385. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have a son called Thomas Jordan ?—Yes.

14,386. I think you said he was a freeholder ?—A leaseholder.

14,387. In the last election of 186[illegible] your son was rather active for Mr. Monson, was he not ?—Yes.

14,388. Does he live with you ?—No.

14,389. Before the election he came to you, did he not, and talked to you about it?—I believe he said something about would I go that way, or something of the sort ; but I had promised, or rather made up my mind previous to that. I did not give him any answer respecting that.

14,390. He came to you ?—He merely asked me.

14,391. He asked, would you go for Monson?—And I refused.

14,392. You had not made up your mind ?—I had not given my word, still I had made up my mind ; I meant to go for Gower.

14,393. Did you give your son to understand which way you were going when he talked to you about it? —Yes, I said I had made up my mind, that I had not promised, but still I should vote for Gower.

14,394. Did he say, "As you have not promised it "is all fair to talk to you about it"? Do you not recollect his saying something to you?—I do not remember what he did say.

14,395. Try and recollect. Did he not say, "As "you have not promised Gower it is all fair to can- "vass you," or something like that?—Yes, he might have said something like it.

14,396. Did he not say, "We want you to come over, "on our side"?—No, he did not.

14,397. He gave you some reason for coming over did he not?—None that I know of.

14,398. I thought he did?—No, no reason that I know of.

14,399. Did he know on what terms you were with the Gower people?—No.

14,400. Did he not say, "You will be on better "terms with us"? Do you not recollect that ?—I do not know.

14,401. Did he not say something like it, "You "will be on better terms with us"?—I do not recollect that he said anything about terms.

14,402. I do not mean that he said what the terms were, but did he not say, "You had better be with us, because they will do better for you than Gower"?— He might say something to that effect, but I gave no answer to it in any way.

14,403. I want to know what he said to you. Did he mention any person to whom he could go and ask more about it?—Not that I know of.

14,404. Was he on Monson's committee ?—Yes.

14,405. Do you not recollect that he said a little more than that ? Do you recollect about his saying that other people were doing very well, and you might do just as well as they ?—I do not recollect anything of the fact myself.

14,406. You only recollect what you told me before ? —Yes, what I told you is correct I believe.

14,407. Did you not say to him, "Well, I do not "know about that, I am thinking about going to Mr, "Gower"?—I dare say I told him that. My mind was there, and no doubt I said so.

14,408. You had not promised ?—No.

14,409. You had not told your son that you had promised?—No; I had not promised till about three days before the election.

14,410. You did not tell your son that you had promised?—No.

14,411. You appeared to your son to be still in doubt?—No ; I was not in doubt at that time.

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14,412. You gave your son to believe that you were still uncertain?—Yes.

14,413. Did you not say to your son something like this: "Well, you know, I have not quite made up "my mind; how are they doing with you?"—No.

14,414. Did you not inquire how people were getting on with Monson?—I do not know that I said any such words.

14,415. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) To use your own phrase, you were inquiring the state of the market, were you not?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you not inquire the state of the market of your son?—Not of him; I knew nothing of his affairs.

14,416. Understand me. Did you not inquire the state of the Monson market of your son?—I might say something to that effect, but as to any intention ——

14,417. Never mind your intention. You think you did inquire the state of the Monson market of your son?—I might do so.

14,418. Did he tell you how the market was?—No, not to any amount.

14,419. Perhaps you will tell me what he did tell you?—He told me he thought there might be more money had that way; he did not say he was going to give it to me, or any one else.

14,420. He did not give you any?—No.

14,421. Did you give him to understand, when the conversation ended, that you were still uncertain; that there was a chance of your voting for Monson?—I told him I had so far made up my mind that I should go for Mr. Gower, therefore I should decline anything of the sort.

14,422. Then did he give you up as hopeless?—I suppose so, I believe so.

14,423. And no sum was mentioned?—No sum was mentioned by him.

14,424. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you engaged as a canvasser in 1865?—I made myself useful the last three days.

14,425. In canvassing?—Yes, for Mr. Gower.

14,426. Were you paid for canvassing?—Yes.

14,427. I do not see your name returned by the election expenses agent as a canvasser?—I was not on the committee; at least I do not know that I was.

J. Smith.

JAMES SMITH called, sworn, and examined.

14,428. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What rent do you pay for your house?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

14,429. Where do you live?—5, Rees-cottages, Warwick-town.

14,430. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

14,431. At how many elections before that had you voted?—Not any.

14,432. Had you not been on the register?—No; not till that time.

14,433. What are you?—A baker.

14,434. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower himself.

14,435. Did you promise him when he first canvassed you?—Yes.

14,436. Straight off?—Yes.

14,437. And kept to it?—Yes.

14,438. Were you canvassed by Mr. Monson's party?—Not at all; I never saw one of them.

14,439. Did Mr. Gower put you on his committee?—I was put on his committee, but I do not know who did it; I never authorized them to do it.

14,440. When you saw your name down were you glad to see it, and did you adopt it?—I was not pleased; I saw it on, and let it remain; I did not object.

14,441. Did you work?—I assisted in going about.

14,442. Did you canvass?—No, I had very little to do with that.

14,443. What did you do?—I attended the committee, and such like.

14,444. Did you attend a committee here?—No.

14,445. Did you attend no meeting here where Mr. Gower attended?—No.

14,446. What duty did they give you to perform? What fell to your share?—I merely went along with the rest to forward the interests of Mr. Gower as far as possible.

14,447. If anybody was going about you assisted him?—Yes.

14,448. You were told to do this work by somebody, were you not?—Yes.

14,449. Who was it?—Mr. Rees told me to do what I could.

14,450. Is he your landlord?—Yes.

14,451. He was a Gower man, of course?—Yes.

14,452. You came to some understanding with somebody, did you not?—Not anybody else but Mr. Rees.

14,453. Did you not come to some understanding (perhaps it was with Mr. Rees) that what the others got for doing work you should have?—That is it.

14,454. Do you recollect whether it was as near as may be in those terms?—The agreement was that we were to have 30*s.* a week for three weeks.

14,455. That would only make up 4*l.* 10*s.* Did he not say, "Then there will be the polling day"?—Not a word.

14,456. Or the nomination day?—No, nothing of the kind.

14,457. Did he not mention that there would be something to make it up 5*l.*?—Not a word was said about 5*l.*; 30*s.* was what I was to receive.

14,458. That was three weeks before the election?—Yes.

14,459. Were you here at the nomination day?—Yes.

14,460. Were you paid anything before the election? Not anything.

14,461. Who did you send in your account to?—I never sent in an account.

14,462. Who did you go to about the arrangement after the election?—I never sent any account,

14,463. Who did you go to for your money?—I never went to anybody; I had 2*l.* brought to me from Mr. Mulley, milkman, High-street, Redhill.

14,464. It was brought to you from him?—He brought it to me himself.

14,465. Was he an agent?—I understood he was an agent.

14,466. You thought that the money came for the present at any rate out of his pocket?—Yes.

14,467. He did not tell you, "I have brought this "from some other person"?—No.

14,468. How soon was this brought to you?—About eight weeks after the election.

14,469. Where was the rest?—I had no more.

14,470. How was that?—I do not know.

14,471. You had got a bargain?—I did not receive any more.

14,472. I want you to tell me how that was; what did you understand was the reason. Did he not apologize?—He said, provided there was any more money coming forward I should have the remainder; that was all the agreement there was about it.

14,473. Were you canvassed by the Monson party?—Not at all.

14,474. Did you see nothing of the Monson party?—Nothing.

14,475. Were you in their houses of an evening?—No, I had nothing to do with them, nor they with me.

14,476. Whatever this work was, you were walking about and assisting people who were going about. I suppose in going about you went into the public houses occasionally?—No, I never went into any public house; I merely attended the committee at the town hall of an evening.

14,477. At this place?—At Warwick-town.

14,478. Tell me candidly whether you saw any refreshments going?—I never saw any.

THOMAS VIGAR called, sworn, and examined.

14,479. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

14,480. What house do you occupy?—Mr. Green's.

14,481. Mr. Henry Green's?—Yes.

14,482. What rent do you pay?—6*s.* a week.

14,483. What are you?—A milkman.

14,484. Did Mr. Green canvass you and ask you to vote for Gower?—He came to me and asked who I was going to vote for, and I said I should vote for Mr. Gower.

14,485. You told him at once?—Yes.

14,486. Did anybody from Monson's party come to you?—No.

14,487. Not at all?—I told him to put my name on the list, so that no one should bother me about it.

14,488. You did not want to be bothered about it?—No, I had business to do, and I wanted to attend to it.

14,489. Did Mr. Green tell you that if you had your name put down on the committee you should be paid for the attendances?—No.

14,490. Were you to have anything for attending the committee?—Nothing at all.

14,491. Were you to canvass?—No.

14,492. Or to work?—No.

14,493. You were to do no work?—No work.

14,494. Did you attend the committee?—I went down to the town hall twice.

14,495. This place?—No, at Redhill.

14,496. Did you hear that the others were going to receive something for attending committees?—No, I hardly ever said a word all the time I was there, and I did not know anything about how the business was going on.

14,497. Most people who get paid do not know?—I was not paid; I never agreed to have anything.

14,498. Nobody "agreed" to have anything; you expected something?—No, I did not expect anything.

14,499. Did you attend the nomination?—No.

14,500. Did you attend the poll?—Yes.

14,501. What time of the day did you vote?—I voted, I think, past 12 o'clock.

14,502. Did you go alone?—Yes, quite alone; I would not have anybody with me.

14,503. You would not have anybody with you?—If I could not go myself, I would not go at all.

14,504. How came you to say that?—I did not want to have anything said.

14,505. To whom did you say that you would go alone?—Mr. Simmonds. He wanted to go with me, and I said, "If you don't go back I won't go at all."

14,506. Was Mr. Simmonds a suspicious character?—I do not know anything about that.

14,507. Was he making himself very active for Mr. Gower?—I cannot tell you.

14,508. He came to you and wanted to take you to the poll?—I was going along by his house.

14,509. And he popped out upon you?—At the door.

14,510. Directly you passed the door he was down upon you, I suppose?—He wanted to go along with me, but I would not suffer any one to go with me.

14,511. Did he tell you whether he had been?—No.

14,512. Had he voted then?—I do not know.

14,513. You would go alone?—I would go alone.

14,514. Did you ever receive anything afterwards for your services?—No.

14,515. Has any money been offered to you for your services?—No.

14,516. You might have been honest and refused it?—No money was offered.

14,517. Nor anything else?—Nor anything else.

14,518. Were you at any of the refreshment houses of an evening?—No.

14,519. Not at all?—No.

14,520. Do you know a man of the name of Jager?—No.

14,521. Was that a nickname of somebody?—I am sure I don't know.

14,522. You were on the committee?—I do not know whether they put me on; I told them to put me on the books, so that no one should bother me about it.

DAVID GILLETT called, sworn, and examined.

D. Gillett.

14,523. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a voter?—Yes.

14,524. What rent do you pay?—7*s.* 6*d.* a week when I was living here.

14,525. You were here at the last election?—Yes.

14,526. You have lost your qualification now?—Yes.

14,527. How long had you been a voter of the borough?—I voted at the time Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower put up.

14,528. What are you?—A gardener.

14,529. When did you leave your house?—Twelve months ago.

14,530. Immediately after the election?—Yes.

14,531. How long had you been a voter?—I do not know how long.

14,532. About how many years?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower; that was the first time.

14,533. In 1863?—Yes.

14,534. I suppose you were on Mr. Gower's committee in 1865?—Yes.

14,535. Who paid you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Mr. Kempsell, James Ede, and Alexander Rose.

14,536. They came to you?—Yes.

14,537. Rose was the paymaster, I believe?—I do not know.

14,538. What were you to do on the committee? you were put to work, I suppose; you had to work on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No, I had nothing to do with working.

14,539. How long before the polling day were you put on the committee?—About three weeks I should think.

14,540. Were you not to canvass for Mr. Gower, and to attend meetings on his behalf?—I did attend the meetings.

14,541. You were to do it; it was understood?—Yes.

14,542. And to attend on the polling day and the nomination day?—Yes.

14,543. And to make yourself busy and active about the election?—Yes.

14,544. What were you to receive?—I was not promised anything.

14,545. I did not say "promised"; what were you to receive?—I was not to receive anything except for what I did; if I did anything I should receive something; that is what I mean.

14,546. Who paid you afterwards?—No one.

14,547. But you did something. You told me you attended meetings, and were active?—Yes.

14,548. To whom did you apply?—I did not apply at all for no money.

14,549. Did you apply to anybody for your loss of time?—I had no loss of time.

14,550. You attended on the nomination day?—Yes.

14,551. Do you not call that loss of time? Others do?—Yes, it was loss of time of course.

14,552. Did you apply to be paid for that?—Yes.

14,553. To whom?—To Mr. Smith.

14,554. What did you ask Mr. Smith for?—I did not ask him for anything.

NINTH DAY.

D. Gillett.

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14,555. You asked him for some money?—Yes.

14,556. What sum?—I mentioned no sum.

14,557. How long after the election was this?—Directly after the election.

14,558. A week or two?—Yes.

14,559. Did you say, "I have been very busy; I "voted for Mr. Gower; I attended at the nomina- "tion, and did all I could; we have returned him," and so on. "What can you give me"? I suppose that is what you said?—Yes.

14,560. What did he give you?—Not anything.

14,561. What did he say?—He said he did not wish to give me anything.

14,562. Why?—On account of Mr. Simpson.

14,563. Who is Mr. Simpson?—The gentleman that I work for.

14,564. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which way did Mr. Simpson vote?—For Mr. Monson. I lost my situation through not voting for Mr. Monson.

14,565. Did your master tell you so?—Yes.

14,566. Who is Mr. Simpson?—He lives in Wray-park.

14,567. What is Mr. Simpson;—A gentleman.

14,568. What sort of a gentleman? I dare say, you consider him a gentleman for turning you off. Is he a gentleman in business?—Not now; he is retired; he was a dyer; he discovered the magenta dye.

14,569. What is his Christian name?—George.

14,570. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am sure you will be particular, because this is a serious imputation upon your former master, and we must give him an opportunity of answering it. Tell me, what did he say when he canvassed you?—He did not canvass me himself.

14,571. Who did he get to canvass you?—He got Mr. Batchelor to canvass me.

14,572. For Mr. Monson?—Yes.

14,573. Was that after you were canvassed for Mr. Gower?—I was canvassed for Mr. Gower at the first onset.

14,574. It was after you had promised Mr. Gower your vote?—Yes, I had promised, and said, I would not vote for any one else but him. If I say the word I stick to it; I always did. I voted according to principle.

14,575. Mr. Batchelor called upon you, and asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes; he said it would very much please Mr. Simpson if I was to go over for Mr. Monson.

14,576. How long before the election was that?—About a week, and before that we were allowed to go which way we liked.

14,577. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How do you mean?—Mr. Simpson said he would allow his men under him to go which way they pleased.

14,578. Perhaps he thought then that he was riding the winning horse?—He found that he was losing, and he wished us to go on his side.

14,579. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Batchelor told you that Mr. Simpson would be anxious that you should vote for Monson?—Yes.

14,580. You told him you had promised?—I told him I had promised, and should not turn for no one.

14,581. How long had you been in Mr. Simpson's employ at that time?—Two and a half years.

14,582. How long did you remain in his employ after you voted?—I left him before I voted.

14,583. How long before you voted?—About three or four days.

14,584. How came you to leave?—He said if either of his men on his premises voted for Mr. Gower they should leave his service.

14,585. Did you hear him say that?—He did say so.

14,586. Did you hear him?—I heard him say it.

14,587. To whom did he say it besides you?—Mr. Prout was there.

14,588. Another man employed by him?—There was no one else there.

14,589. He said if any man in his service voted for Mr. Gower, he should leave his service?—Yes.

14,590. You had been two years and a half in his employ at that time?—Yes.

14,591. Did you leave on the Saturday before the polling day?—No, on the Monday.

14,592. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) On what day was it said, the Saturday or the Monday?—Mr. Batchelor came to me on the Saturday.

14,593. I mean what Mr. Simpson said; was that on the Saturday?—On Saturday he spoke to Mr. Batchelor, and Mr. Batchelor spoke to me. On Monday he said so to me.

14,594. Before that, on the Saturday, Batchelor had spoken to you?—Yes.

14,595. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I want you to be particular. Did you hear Mr. Simpson himself say that?—Yes.

14,596. Then you were turned away?—Yes.

14,597. From the employment you had been in two and a half years?—Yes.

14,598. How had you been hired, by the week?—Yes.

14,599. Had any fault been found with the way in which you had been doing your work up to that time?—Not any.

14,600. During the two and a half years?—Not any. He came out on Tuesday morning, and found I was gone, and he said he intended to tell me to vote which way I liked; that was the Tuesday after I left on the Monday night.

14,601. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it on the Monday that he said, "If any man in my service "votes for Mr. Gower, he shall not remain"?—Yes, on Monday.

14,602. When did you leave?—I left on Monday night.

14,603. When did you see him again, on the Tuesday?—Yes.

14,604. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When were your week's wages due?—On the Saturday.

14,605. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it on Tuesday that Mr. Simpson said, "I came, and I in- "tended to say to my men, that they might vote as "they pleased"?—That was when the candidates first came out together.

14,606. Attend. First of all, Batchelor canvassed you on Saturday?—Yes.

14,607. As for Mr. Monson, and as for Mr. Simpson?—Yes.

14,608. On Monday Mr. Simpson told you to vote for Monson, or you would go?—Yes.

14,609. Then on Monday evening you left?—Yes.

14,610. Did Mr. Simpson see you and speak to you afterwards?—Yes, I went up to him on Tuesday morning. He did not say this to me, but he came out on Tuesday morning before I went to see him, and—

14,611. What did he say to you on Tuesday morning?—I do not know what it was he said now.

14,612. Was it in reference to your voting?—Yes.

14,613. Did he complain of your leaving?—No.

14,614. Did you tell him you were going to vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

14,615. On the Tuesday?—Yes.

14,616. Did he ask you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No, not on Tuesday morning.

14,617. Did he ask you to come back to his service?—No.

14,618. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you do any work on the Monday?—Yes, I worked all day.

14,619. And you were paid on the Saturday?—Yes.

14,620. Were you paid for the Monday's work?—No, I never was.

14,621. It is clear that Mr. Simpson will say you left him. If you were turned away you would be entitled to a week's wages. Why did you not summon him for a week's wages? What did you get a week?—A guinea a week.

14,622. Why did you not make him pay a guinea? You know you were entitled to it if you were turned away?—Yes.

14,623. Why did you not make him pay the guinea?—I do not know.

14,624. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take that as a dismissal, because you were going to vote for Gower?—Yes.

14,625. Mr. Simpson saying if anybody voted for Gower he should leave?—Yes.

14,626. You took it as a dismissal?—Yes, and I said I should do so.

14,627. At that time?—Yes, I said I should do so; and he said if any one voted for Gower they should leave.

14,628. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) To whom did you tell that on the Monday? You say you left, or were dismissed by Mr. Simpson; to whom did you go and tell that?—I do not know that I told anybody.

14,629. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did any of the other men vote for Gower?—No.

14,630. Who did they vote for?—Mr. Monson.

14,631. Were there many?—Only one. There were two of us who had a vote.

14,632. What is his name?—William Denyer.

14,633. Is he still in Mr. Simpson's service?—Yes.

14,634. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did speak to somebody, did you not, that night about the hardship of being turned away for your vote? To whom did you mention it?—I do not know any one in particular.

14,635. It is impossible to suppose that a man who was suffering for a conscientious vote would not mention that to somebody, and somebody that would sympathize?—It is a long time ago, and I have not troubled myself about it since.

14,636. Did you not go to some committee room that night and tell it?—I believe I was in this room then.

14,637. No doubt you told it here?—I did so. I did not tell it to one person in particular, but I spoke of it in this room.

14,638. Did you make a speech?—No.

14,639. You spoke of it in this room as being a victim; and then of course you worked harder for Mr. Gower on that account the next day?—I do not know that I did.

14,640. You did, I have no doubt?—I dare say I worked a little harder, because I was not doing anything anywhere else.

14,641. And you polled early?—Between 11 and 12 o'clock.

14,642. After you had been so treated by the Monson party, when you went to Mr. Smith and said that you had been engaged and had been promised to be paid, what did Mr. Smith say as to why he should not pay you?—I really do not know what it was.

14,643. It is impossible to suppose that he would not say something. You were a man who suffered, who had lost employment, and I suppose you were obliged to give up your house on that account?—Yes.

14,644. You were obliged to leave the place, I suppose?—Yes.

14,645. Now what did he say?—I did not go to Mr. Smith myself.

14,646. To whom did you go?—I did not go to Mr. Smith.

14,647, To whom did you go?—I applied to Mr. Job Apted.

14,648. Mr. Job Apted is a kindly, good-natured man, spending money of his own and other persons; you do not mean to say that Mr. Apted put you off without giving you anything?—I will tell you what they did do.

14,649. That is just what I want?—They gathered a little money amongst the voters themselves to give me.

14,650. How much did you get?—I do not know what it was.

14,651. About?—I think it was 3*l.*

14,652. It came through Mr. Apted's hands?—Yes, it was not out of the election.

14,653. We are not inquiring as to the source from which it came. When did you get the 3*l.*?—A few days before I went away from the neighbourhood to Clapham.

14,654. How soon after the election?—About a month. I cannot keep all these things in my head.

14,655. About a month or five weeks after the election you got 3*l.*; did you get more than 3*l.*?—No.

14,656. Did you get more than 3*l.*, or did you get words?—I did not get more than 3*l.*

14,657. Was it not 5*l.*?—No, I know it was not 5*l.*

14,658. You can tell me whether it was three or four?—No, I cannot.

14,659. Did you call at Apted's house for it?—Yes.

14,660. Did you get it the first time you called?—No, not the first time.

14,661. He told you when to call?—Yes.

14,662. Had you called more than once?—Yes.

14,663. Did you call a second time?—Yes, I got it the second time, and I left Reigate the next day.

14,664. He knew you were going?—Yes.

14,665. What did you mean by saying Smith said he could not give you any money because you were with Mr. Simpson; that was the first time Mr. Simpson's name was mentioned?—Yes.

14,666. When was it if you were not with Mr. Simpson then? was it before you left Mr. S. he said that?—No.

14,667. "I cannot give you any more money "because you were with Mr. Simpson"?—No, I was not with him then.

14,668. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Smith know you had left him?—Yes.

14,669. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was it not before you left Mr. Smith said that?—No.

14,670. It would be natural for him to say, "You "are in Mr. Simpson's employ, and the fact of your "wanting money will ooze out." Did you go to Mr. Smith himself?—No, Mr. Apted told me.

14,670*. What did he tell you?—He told me he could not give me anything on account of Mr. Simpson.

14,671. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Apted tell you?—Yes.

14,672. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then he told you, I dare say, that some money would be made up for you at the same time?—He said they considered there ought to be a little gathering made for me as I was leaving the neighbourhood.

14,673. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was after the vote?—Yes.

14,674. (*Mr. Commisioner O'Brien.*) You thought you would get 5*l.*?—No.

14,675. You had heard others had received that sum?—No.

14,676. You knew Mr. Apted was the man giving the money away?—I knew he was Mr. Gower's agent.

14,677. You knew more than that; you knew there were a great many agents of Mr. Gower. Had you seen Mr. Apted at all to speak to him before you voted?—Yes.

14,678. For the purposes of the election, that is what we mean by speaking?—Yes.

14,679. And canvassed you?—I told you what took place about canvassing.

14,680. And told you what was doing, and what was going on?—Yes.

14,681. And that the people who worked for Mr. Gower would sure to be paid?—I do not know that he did.

14,682. That was what they were all told, you know that?—That we should be paid for all services rendered.

NINTH DAY.

D. Gillett.

31 Aug. 1866.

14,683. Did you not ask for 5*l.*, or say the loss of your situation was 5*l.* ?—No, I did not.

14,684. You did not mention any sum ?—No.

14,685. You considered 4*l.* was rather low ?—No, I did not care whether I had it or not.

14,686. You were not in such a desperate state of mind as to be concerned for it ?—No.

14,687. When did you give up your house ?—About six weeks before.

14,688. That was a weekly holding ?—Yes.

14,689. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The man Denyer; before you left Mr. Simpson's service did you know which side he was going to vote ?—Yes; he was going to vote for Mr. Gower before.

14,690. Are you sure of that ?—Yes; I know his mind was for Mr. Gower; but he was afraid he should lose his service if he did not go the other way.

14,691. Do you know he promised Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

14,692. And through the influence of Mr. Simpson he promised Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

The witness then withdrew.

J. Risbridger.

JOSEPH RISBRIDGER sworn and examined.

14,693. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A labourer.

14,694. Are you qualified by a house ?—Yes.

14,695. You vote for a house ?—I do not understand what you mean.

14,696. Whom did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

14,697. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do your understand house qualification ? What is your qualification ?—A house.

14,698. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What do you pay ?—7*s.* a week.

14,699. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower ?—Mr. Mazden.

14,700. Are you married ?—Yes.

14,701. How many children have you ?—A very small family of 14.

14,702. Do you occupy the house ?—Yes.

14,703. Do you let out any part of it ?—No.

14,704. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You pretty well fill it, I suppose ?—I think I ought with all that family.

14,705. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You took an active part in the last election for Mr. Gower ?—I do not know that it was, particularly.

14,705*. When the polling day commenced you assisted in bringing persons up to the poll ?—I never brought any one.

14,706. Did you state you ever brought any one ?—I never said that I brought any one to the poll.

14,707. Have you been here to day ?—No, I have been hard at work all day.

14,708. Do you know Goss ?—Yes, perfectly well.

14,709. Did you not see him go to the poll ?—No.

14,710. I thought you went to the poll with him ?—No.

14,711. Do you know a man of the name of Fullbrook ?—I should know him by sight.

14,712. You saw him on the election day; did not you and Goss go with Fullbrook to the poll ?—No.

14,713. Then it is a mistake if that has been said ?—It is a mistake.

14,714. How did you go to the poll, with a trap ?—No, I walked up boldly.

14,715. How did Fullbrook go to the poll ?—I do not know.

14,716. Can you tell me how Goss went to the poll ?—No; I do not know that.

14,717. Do you recollect Goss going to look out for Fullbrook to bring him to the poll ?—Yes; I went with him.

14,718. Did you find Fullbrook ?—Yes.

14,719. When you found him, did you and Goss persuade him to go into a trap ?—I never spoke to him.

14,720. Did Goss in your presence promise him ?—I went out for my pony and cart.

14,721. You got ?—I never got anything.

14,722. And you were hired ?—I never was hired.

14,723. You went down to Fullbrook's ?—Yes.

14,724. Did you find Fullbrook ?—Not up.

14,725. Well, when he was up, did you and Goss get Fullbrook into your cart ?—He got in.

14,726. And then you drove him somewhere ?—We drove him to the sign of the "Prince."

14,727. (*Mr. Commisioner Smith.*) At Earlswood-common ?—Yes.

14,728. The "Prince of Wales ?"—I suppose that is the sign; but they always call it the "Prince." I left them there, and took my pony and cart and went home.

14,729. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you talk to Fullbrook as you were going along ?—We never talked, not at all.

14,730. You were rather in doubt about Fullbrook, as to who he would vote for ?—I did not know anything about him, he was a strange man to me.

14,731. Did not Goss say he was rather shaky ?—I did not hear that.

14,732. Or doubtful ?—I did not hear anything of the sort.

14,733. As you were going along in the cart do you recollect Fullbrook saying something about Mr. Monson's party ?—No, sir.

14,734. Did you not say he had been ready to come because he and some others had been promised 5*l.* each by the Monson party ?—I never said so.

14,735. Did you not hear it said ?—I never heard such a word mentioned.

14,736. Not by Fullbrook ?—No.

14,737. Did you not hear something like it ?—No, not a word.

14,738. What were you three talking about as you came along the road ? Were you all three silent ?—I had enough to do to pay attention to my pony and chaise.

14,739. Coachmen as they drive generally manage to talk pretty well; did you not say to Fullbrook he was difficult about coming up, because he and four others were to receive 4*l.* each from the other side ?—I never heard that mentioned.

14,740. Were not Nash and Benjamin Brown mentioned ?—I never heard the names mentioned.

14,741. Do you remember Steers being mentioned ?—No.

14,742. Who was your cart and horse hired by ?—By nobody.

14,743. Did you lend it, or what ?—I am here on my oath, and I take an oath of it.

14,744. Did you lend it ?—I went with it myself.

14,745. The pony, a trap, and yourself were hired on this polling day ?—We were not hired at all that day.

14,746. Do you know Penfold ?—Yes.

14,747. Did you receive any orders from him.—No.

14,748. Did you receive any orders from any one ?—Yes; Henry Goss came and asked me if I would drive him to Hawley.

14,749. Was that by Penfold's order ?—He never mentioned that; he asked me overnight if I would drive him to Hawley. I was out during the night, he said it would be 6 in the morning. I was there at the time. Goss came to me overnight, and asked me to drive him to Hawley.

14,750. Did he not mention Penfold's name ?—He said Penfold came to him and asked whether he thought I would do so.

14,751. Did you do it because Goss mentioned Penfold's name ?—Who, Goss ?

14,752. Come, you knew him ?—Yes.

14,753. And Penfold too ?—Yes.

14,754. Did Goss tell you that you were to have

so-and-so, as my friend says, for your time ?—No, and I can face him on it.

14,755. Did you hear anything mentioned about 30*s.* Come, try and remember whether you did not hear anything said by Fullbrook about the Monson party having been to him ?—No.

14,756. I should think he was talking about the election all the way of the drive ?—I do not recollect that he was.

14,757. You voted later in the day ?—I voted between 12 and 1.

14,758. You had been on the committee ?—Yes, I had been on the committee.

14,759. Had you been doing work for them ?—Yes.

14,760. Carrying out bills ?—I had been on the election during the time. I had about a fortnight's work.

14,761. What did you value your services at for the fortnight ?—I do not know ; but I have 17*s.* a week ; that is my wages.

14,762. Who put you on the committee ?—They were choosing the committee the night I was at the British school room.

14,763. And you said you were ready ?—I never told anybody I was ready.

14,764. Who put your name down on the committee ?—I believe it was put down, but who by I cannot say. I do not know who was in the committee room.

14,765. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Very likely I can tell you ; Mazden ?—No, I think not.

14,766. Just consider, was not Mazden there ?—No, it is of no use my trying. I was in the room, and they asked me if I would come on the committee.

14,767. Was Mazden in the room ?—I do not think he was.

14,768. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you say you could not do it for nothing ?—I never spoke the word.

14,769. Did you say you could not give up your time without being paid for it; tell us what was said ?—Nothing was said in the committee room about it.

14,770. Did you have any conversation about it ?—Yes.

14,771. Who was that with ?—Mr. Joyes and Mr. Penfold.

14,772. Well, you see I was pretty nearly right ?—That was not in the British school room.

14,773. Tell me in your own way what passed between you and Joyes ?—I was to have 5*l.* for my expenses.

14,774. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You mentioned another name ?—Yes, Penfold.

14,775. Was Penfold there at the time ?—Well, I do not think he was.

14,776. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was the 5*l.* for whatever work you did ?—It was for the work I was to do by the assistance of my pony and cart.

14,777. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I thought you said the pony and cart were not hired ?—So it was not ; you asked me if my pony and cart were hired on that day.

14,778. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are so very correct ; but you are quite right, only I wish you would postpone it for a bit. When did you ask for your money ?—I do not know. I had it at different times.

14,779. How much did you get ?—I am sure I cannot tell you, I had it in little instalments.

14,780. Cannot you tell me when you got it ?—I cannot tell you exactly, for sometimes I would have a sovereign and sometimes 30*s.*

14,781. So you had it in little instalments until you got 5*l.* ?—Yes.

14,782. Were you offered it before or after the election ?—Not till after the election.

14,783. Who did you receive the money from ?—I received some from Mr. Penfold and some from Mr. Mazden.

14,784. I wanted to know whether the Monson party had anything to say to you before the election ?—No.

14,785. How long had you promised your vote to Mr. Gower before the election ?—It was some time before the election came off.

14,786. Mr. Gower, perhaps, called on you himself ? I think he did.

14,787. Did you promise him straight off ?—I do not think I did, it was a few days after.

14,788. You have had some talk with the Monson party ?—No.

14,789. Do you know Mr. Nichols ?—Yes, I know him.

14,790. Did you have any talk with him ?—No.

14,791. I mean about the election ?—No, I had no talk with him about it.

14,792. Do you know Holdsworth ?—Yes, I know him too.

14,793. Did you have any talk with him before the election ?—No.

14,794. Nor any of them ?—No.

14,795. You voted in 1863 ?—Who was that for ?

14,796. It was the election when Mr. Gower, the same gentleman, opposed Mr. Wilkinson ; don't you recollect ?—Yes; I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

14,797. Did you make the same sort of arrangement with Mr. Wilkinson's party as you did this time ?—No, I never had no arrangement at all.

14,798. Did you work on his committee ?—I was put down on his committee.

14,799. Did you do a little work for them ?—I might do a little perhaps.

14,800. Did you get anything for what you did ?—I do not remember that I did.

14,801. I wish you to attend to this; do you not remember sending in a claim after the election by somebody ?—No.

14,802. Do you not recollect getting something after the election ?—No, I never got anything out of that election.

14,803. Do you not recollect getting something *before* the election ?—No, I have no recollection of it.

14,804. You say distinctly you did not get anything *after* the election ?—No.

14,805. And you do not recollect whether you got anything at all at any time ; so if you did get anything it must have been *before* the election ?—Do you mean Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower ?

14,806. Yes.—I worked a fortnight for them, and had 3*l.*

14,807. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The pony and cart ?—No ; I had ne'er a pony and cart then.

14,808. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not get 5*l.* then ?—No.

14,809. And you worked a fortnight ?—Yes.

14,810. Were you canvassed by Mr. Gower's committee ?—I cannot recollect; I must try and recollect. No, I do not think I was canvassed by Mr. Gower at all.

14,811. Were you canvassed by anybody for him ?—I am sure I was not.

14,812. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you the 3*l.* in '63 ?—I think Mr. Rose.

14,813. Alexander Rose ?—I think it was Ephraim Rose, he was chairman on the committee.

14,814. What work did you do that fortnight in 1863 ?—I carried bills about.

14,815. Were you out of work in other respects ?—I was not very well.

14,816. Then a man could not carry many bills about ?—Oh, yes, I could walk and carry bills about, but I could not do any hard work.

14,817. Did you carry many ?—Yes, to different places. I was engaged every day in sending circulars and bills.

14,818. What was your work in '65 ?—Carrying bills around and going to different places they might wish me to.

14,819. They were rather busy in sending circulars and bills ?—Yes, they were.

NINTH DAY.

J. Risbridger.

31 Aug. 1866.

14,820. You did not go to many places?—Yes.

14,821. In the evening?—And morning too.

14,822. Morning?—Well, in the day.

14,823. Not much in the day?—Sometimes.

14,824. Did you work by the job in your work, or were you in any one's particular employ at the election?—Do you mean for the election or for myself? I am employed by the parish.

14,825. In what way?—In what way? Why I look after the highway roads.

14,826. And mending them?—Yes; and I have been employed so for several years.

14,827. Do they not expect you to do that every day?—Yes; but I have proved to you at that time I was not able, so I gave it up.

14,828. Do you work at it now?—Yes, I am at it now.

14,829. What wages do you get for mending the roads?—I get 17*s.* a week.

The witness then withdrew.

W. Kempsell.

WILLIAM KEMPSELL sworn and examined.

14,830. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you live in Nutley-lane?—Yes.

14,831. You are a gardener, I believe?—Yes.

14,832. What rent do you pay?—I live in my own house.

14,833. What is it rated at?—8*l.*

14,834. What is its value?—I suppose I should get 16*l.* a year.

14,835. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

14,836. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

14,837. Was it a committee at this hall or at Nutley-lane?—No, here.

14,838. Who canvassed you for your vote?—Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland tried for me.

14,839. Had the Monson party canvassed you before?—No, not then.

14,840. They did afterwards?—Yes.

14,841. Did you promise Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland?—No, I told them I would not vote for Mr. Monson, and I did not know that I should for Mr. Gower; but I had not made up my mind to vote for either of them, because they would not vote for the ballot, and I like a gentleman to vote for the ballot.

14,842. I am very glad to see some gentleman in the witness box who understands something of political principles. I suppose you thought the ballot would be very likely to put down the corruption?—I should like to see the ballot, and no house to house canvassing. I think that would be a great thing, and that is what I should like to see.

14,843. Now, conscientiously you had not made up your mind for whom you should vote?—No, I did not think I should vote at all. Apted said, "If you "make up your mind for whom you are going to vote "let me know." About a week after I came down the street here, and saw Mr. Apted. I called him to me and asked him to put my name down on the committee.

14,844. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I thought Apted was a ballot man?—He used to be, but he is not so much now.

14,845. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Perhaps Mr. Apted thought it would spoil a little of the pleasures of the election?—I do not know what he thought.

14,846. When was it that you went upon the committee and gave your promise to vote for Mr. Gower?—Eight or nine weeks before the election.

14,847. Was that to Mr. Apted?—I told Apted to put my name on the committee.

14,848. When you told Apted you would go on the committee did Apted say anything about your working for him?—No, not a word.

14,849. Or you were to have, like the other men, something for working?—No, there was nothing mentioned about it in any way.

14,850. Did you ever see Frederick Joyes?—No, I never spoke to Frederick Joyes scarcely all the election.

14,851. Or Buckland?—No, he never said anything about my being remunerated. When he found that I was on the committee he said, "Now you have "made up your mind perhaps you will do all you can "in canvassing for us." I said, "I will; I will do "what I can."

14,852. Did he hold out any expectations?—No, none whatever.

14,853. I suppose you had heard in the neighbourhood that men who were on the committee would expect something?—I heard Mr. Gower say in the committee room here that every one who worked for him should be paid, and paid well. I heard him say so himself down below.

14,854. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long before the election was that said, about three weeks?—Several weeks; I do not know how long.

14,855. Three or four weeks?—Quite that.

14,856. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did that have any effect on your mind in raising your expectations?—No.

14,857. You had work?—Yes, I had worked, and I expected to be paid for it from what he said. I never expected to be paid before I heard that.

14,858. Then Mr. Gower did raise those expectations in your mind?—You might say he did, of course; but I did not expect anything of the sort.

14,859. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I have written it down. Is this it, "I expected to be "paid for the work I did, and that expectation arose "from what I heard Mr. Gower say at this hall"?—Yes.

14,860. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long before the election was that?—Several weeks.

14,861. Was there a large meeting when Mr. Gower said that?—Yes, the room was full below.

14,862. Of persons belonging to the committee?—Yes.

14,863. Those gentlemen whose names are advertised in the paper?—Yes.

14,864. After the election did you get anything?—Mr. Buckland paid me 2*l.*, in November, I think it was; he said he thought it would satisfy me for the time I had lost.

14,865. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When did he pay you?—I think it was about November. I never asked for anything, nor he never mentioned anything before at all.

14,866. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he tell you he had got the money first?—He asked me if that would satisfy me for the time I lost in canvassing. I had a little business of my own to attend to after I had done my ordinary work. I ordinarily expected to do a good deal in the evening.

14,867. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At your own business?—Yes.

14,868. What business?—Wood and coal. I attended to that after I came home. I have a regular place as gardener, and I leave my place at 6 o'clock and attend to that in the evening.

14,869. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have permanent employment, are the owner of a freehold house, and have a business besides?—Yes.

14,870. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In what way did you canvass, by meeting persons in the street?—No, I went in the evening to persons.

14,871. To people you knew?—I asked persons about Holmsdale at one time.

14,872. Were they persons you knew well?—Yes.

14,873. All gardeners?—Well, fellow gardeners; they generally hang pretty well together.

14,874. Till Parliament tells you you must not go from house to house you do not object?—No, but I wish they would not allow it.

14,875. How many of the gardeners did you canvass, twenty?—No.

14,876. Ten?—I cannot say, but I canvassed ever so many.

14,877. There are not so many gardeners about the neighbourhood?—Oh, yes, there are a great many.

14,878. Well, we have had pretty nearly all of them.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They were all canvassing.

14,879. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did a gardener ever canvass you at all?—No.

14,880. It was not like Taffy going to Taffy's house?—No.

14,881. Did you attend the meetings?—I attended meetings here.

14,882. Nowhere else?—No.

14,883. Did you attend any of the public house meetings?—After I have gone out of here sometimes I have had a glass of beer.

14,884. Sometimes at Bonny's?—No.

14,885. Up the town?—Yes.

14,886. This was the temperance hall down here; there were no refreshments here?—No; but after you have been shut up here an hour or two you get rather dry.

14,887. Mr. Bonny's, at the "Crown," was one of Mr. Gower's houses, was it not?—No, I never went in during the election.

14,888. You have seen some of your fellow committeemen go in there?—Yes, I have seen them, but I have not gone in myself.

14,889. After the committee was over?—Yes, after the committee.

14,890. Mr. Bonny's was very close by?—I never went in.

14,891. You know some of your fellow committeemen went in?—I have seen some drop in.

14,892. Just drop in when their committee was over?—Yes.

14,893. It would be very dry work remaining in the committee room?—Yes.

14,894. Excepting when Mr. Gower made a nice speech; did you ever go to any of the other houses? Is not there a little house in Nutley-lane, Muddle's?—No, I have never gone in there, excepting I just went in in the night to get beer for supper.

14,895. The supper beer you call it?—Yes.

14,896. You did not go to any of the other meetings?—No.

14,897. You have not been at their convivial meetings?—Yes.

14,898. Do you know a man of the name of Groom?—No.

14,899. Did you vote in 1863?—I voted in all the elections.

14,900. How far back?—As far back as Hackblock.

14,901. Then perhaps you will give me a short relation of them?—I will tell you all I know.

14,902. Now let us go back quietly; who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson; but I forget, there have been so many of them.

14,903. 1863 was Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson; who did you vote for then?—Mr. Wilkinson.

14,904. Was Mr. Wilkinson a ballot man?—Yes.

14,905. Then you had got your man?—He was just the man.

14,906. You had got the perfect candidate, but unfortunately did not succeed?—No he did not, but I tried hard for him.

14,907. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You worked for him?—Yes, for weeks. I did more for him than I did for any other.

14,908. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did a little more than going and seeing your fellow workmen then?—Yes.

14,909. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you get paid?—Yes.

14,910. What?—6*l.* 10*s.*

14,911. Who paid you?—Mr. James.

14,912. Mr. Wilkinson's agent?—Yes.

14,913. Was there any understanding before you voted that you were to be remunerated?—Yes.

14,914. How come you to be paid?—Mr. Langridge told me I should be paid after the election was over. I had to go to Mr. James pretty nearly every evening to report progress.

14,915. Did you have a book at that time?—Yes.

14,916. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you a real canvasser?—Yes.

14,917. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is the first book we have got hold of?—You have not got hold of that, for I have not got it.

14,918. (*Mr Commissioner O'Brien.*) If you have not got it we have?—No, it has been torn several years.

14,919. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You went on canvassing?—Yes.

14,920. Langridge told you you would be paid?—Yes, he told us at the time.

14,921. Did he mention money?—No, not a word.

14,922. Were you paid before or after the election?—A few days after; Mr. Langridge sent up word to me to send up what was requisite; they had to bring in their accounts at the "Swan," and he would pay us.

14,923. How many? You say you were to send in your accounts, were there many in your neighbourhood?—Not in our neighbourhood; I know there were several, six or seven.

14,924. Neighbours of yours who lived about the town?—Yes.

14,925. When you went up to Mr. James was there a large gathering of gentlemen canvassers?—No, very few; there were five or six there below; we went up one at a time.

14,926. Only five or six paid at that time?—Yes.

14,927 Were they all gardeners?—No.

14,928. Did you know of money flying about pretty freely at the election?—I heard there was.

14,929. Whose side had the character of being most liberal; I do not mean in politics, but in pocket; we will drop politics for the time, and go to the pocket?—I thought there was not much difference in them.

14,930. Were a good many people employed in distributing circulars?—Yes there were, for both parties.

14,931. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What was the price of a vote at that election?—I do not know.

14,932. About what?—I never heard.

14,933. Not by reputation?—I never heard.

14,934. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The price in 1865 was something like 5*l.*; was it the same price in 1863? Was it higher, or lower, or much about the same?—I consider much about the same, but I never heard a word of it.

14,935. What was your impression? Was it that it was much about the same as the last time?—Yes.

14,936. And both sides alike?—Yes, just the same, I think.

14,937. There were a great many people employed, were there not, carrying circulars?—Yes.

14,938. Do you recollect the number of the constituents in the borough at that time?—No.

14,939. It was very small in 1863; it is larger now; it was something under 360; oh, no, I am mistaken, it was near 900?—800 or 900.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was 737.

14,940. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ever read one of those circulars that were sent round?—Only what was sent to me from the candidates.

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14,941. I mean from the committee, not from the condidates ; did you get circulars from the committee ?—Only circulars calling committee meetings.

14,942. Every day committee meetings were held, pretty nearly every day ?—There were some I know of that were more often. At the election of Mr. Wilkinson he had two or three committee meetings held in one evening at different places; there were bills stuck up to announce the meeting.

14,943. The bills were stuck up and circulars sent round ?—Yes.

14,944. That was a sort of public advertisement ?—Yes.

14,945. Did it strike you that the bills stuck up would have been sufficient without sending the circulars round ?—Everybody would not see them ; without their being sent round they would not see them in the neighbourhood.

14,946. Will you give me an answer to the question, because I see you are an intelligent fellow, did you not think that the great number of circulars that were sent out were not needed ; that they were worthless ?—I suppose they were worthless, for a great many would not look at them.

14,947. Was it not a sham ?—It was a convenient course, sending round these circulars.

14,948. I do not mean that it was a blank piece of paper put in an envelope, but was it not a real sham for the purpose of employing men more than was requisite ?—No, I think not.

14,949. Suppose there were 40 or 50 men employed for the purpose of sending circulars to these voters ?—I do not think there were so many as that.

14,950. How many should you think a requisite number to take out circulars ?—I do not know.

14,951. Three or four men could have done the whole of it ?—This is a large parish.

14,952. These men were paid as if they were going to give up their whole time ?—A great many did give up their whole time.

14,953. A great many did not ?—No, only in the evening.

14,954. And those who did it in the evening were paid just the same as those who did it the whole day?—I should think not, but I do not know.

14,955. But was it, now ?—I never heard of any one.

14,956. Now let us go back to 1859, the general election ; Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson were the candidates ; who did you vote for ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

14,957. Was anything going in the shape of money that time ?—I think not at that election.

14,958. Was not that the sham election, when Mr. Wilkinson only came up a few days before polling ?—Oh, I think he was put up against his wish and without his knowledge, in order just to oppose Mr. Monson. There was a gentleman of the name of McCullock came out at that election before Mr. Wilkinson.

14,959. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was to have come down ?—He came down and canvassed.

14,960. Then he found the borough was too hot for him. Mr. McCullock was a good man ; was he not a ballot man ?—No, I think not.

14,961. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You stuck bills for him ?—I stuck bills for him, but it was all done in a moment; he came down in the evening, and I was out the next day sticking bills ; I had not seen him or heard his principles.

14,962. He was an ephemeral man ; he came down in the day and went away in the evening. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

14,963. I suppose there was not very much money flying about on that occasion ?—No,

14,964. There was no contest. Just tell me, as a matter of curiosity, who was it proposed Mr. Wilkinson on that occasion ?—Job Apted.

14,965. And who seconded him ?—Frederick Joyes.

14,966. Oh, I see ; I suppose those two gentlemen rather like an opposition, do they not ?—I do not know.

14,967. If there is no opposition in the borough there is no money flying about ?—No.

14,968. It spoils the market not having an opposition, and Mr. Wilkinson was proposed against his wish ?—I believe he was.

14,969. Now, at the election before, in 1858, between Mr. Wilkinson and the Hon. Mr. Monson, did you get anything for your services for bill sticking ?—Yes, 5*s.* a day ; I was not paid at all by Mr. McCullock ; I lost my time.

14,970. You stuck bills for Mr. McCullock ; then you stuck bills for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

14,971. Who paid you for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Apted ; 10*s.* I think it was.

14,972. Do you know of any persons being paid by Mr. Apted at the election of 1859 for Mr. Wilkinson ?—No.

14,973. Did you ever ask Mr. Apted from where the 10*s.* came ?—No.

14,974. Where he got it ?—No.

14,975. Did Mr. Wilkinson make his appearance at the nomination ?—No.

14,976. He did not ?—No.

14,977. Then really he was put up as a sham candidate ?—Yes.

14,978. Well, 160 gentlemen would vote for him ?—Yes.

14,979. Now then, in October, 1858, that was an election in consequence of Sir Henry Rawlinson taking office, and Mr. Wilkinson and the Hon. Mr. Monson were candidates ?—Yes.

14,980. And of course you voted for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

14,981. Now did you get anything for your services on that election ?—I was out bill sticking then. I had no regular place, but I was jobbing about for three or four years, so I worked with anybody who liked to employ me. I was glad to get employment.

14,982. You stuck bills, did you ?—Yes.

14,983. What were you paid for it ?—5*s.* a day;

14,984, How much did you receive as wages when you were gardening ?—3*s.* 6*d.* a day.

14,985. Bill sticking was the best ?—Not much, for I had to find my own paste.

14,986. (*Mr Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many weeks were you out ?—Not many days.

14,987. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you at other work duringthe election? Were you canvassing on that occasion ?—I used to canvass sometimes, and take out circulars.

14,988. Mr. Wilkinson was returned ?—No, he has never been returned.

14,989. Oh, I beg your pardon, Mr. Wilkinson was never returned ?—No ; I think you mean the election when there were so many candidates.

14,990. Mr. Monson was returned in October ?—Yes.

14,991. What were you paid then in October 1858 ?—I think I had about 2*l.* altogether.

14,992. Had you worked sticking bills for that time ?—Yes, and in carrying out circulars.

14,993. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were a voter ?—Yes.

14,994. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that very hard work, carrying out circulars ?—Not very hard ; it was trying where you had to run out so far.

14,995. Were you engaged all day ?—Yes, when I was at work ; I was not paid for the days I did not work.

14,996. There were a great many circulars taken out ?—Sometimes a great many.

14,997. Were Apted and Joyes for Wilkinson on that occasion ?—Yes, I believe so ; Mr. Joyes was himself, and I believe Mr. Apted was.

14,998. Now let us come to the general election of

1858, the general election when Sir Henry Rawlinson was returned. Do you remember Mr. Doulton coming down ?—Yes, and Mr. Monson.

14,999. And your old friend Mr. Wilkinson ?—He was not my friend then, I had never voted for him.

15,000. That was the first time he came; you had the honour of being introduced to him on that occasion; I suppose you were a favourite on that occasion of Mr. Wilkinson's ?—No.

15,001. Then Sir Henry Rawlinson, he was a ballot gentleman ?—He had been a candidate before, in 1857, when he made a very favourable impression on the voters.

15,002. He came out against Mr. Hackblock in the place of Major Parrott ?—Yes.

15,003. Mr. Hackblock was returned ?—Yes.

15,004. And Sir Henry Rawlinson made a very favourable impression on the voters, did he not ?—Yes.

15,005. Then upon Mr. Hackblock's death he was returned; oh, that was not the general election of 1858; you voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson ?—Yes.

15,006. Give me first of all in your own way a little history of the election of 1858; it was a memorable election; you remember Mr. Doulton coming down ?—He offered me 10*s.* if I worked for him.

15,007. Himself ?—Yes, himself.

15,008. Mr. Doulton was the candidate ?—Yes.

15,009. He offered you himself 10*s.* to do work for him ?—Yes.

15,010. What work were you to do ?—To canvass for him.

15,011. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What I want to know is this, were you a voter then ?—Yes.

15,012. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you attend any meeting of Mr. Doulton's ?—No.

15,013. Did you hear of Mr. Doulton offering any money to any other electors ?—I heard talk that he did.

15,014. You heard general talk that Mr. Doulton was offering ?—Yes, and spending money about pretty freely.

15,015. Did you hear the name of Mr. Roupell spoken of ?—Yes, they said he supplied him with money.

15,016. Did he come down at all in the borough ?—Yes, he came and addressed the people in this hall.

15,017. Did you hear the speech ?—Yes.

15,018. Did he say anything about paying the people well if they worked well ?—I do not remember it.

15,019. He did not openly talk in that way. Do you know of his private doings ? Did you see him or did he canvass you ?—No, not Mr. Roupell; Mr. Doulton did. He asked me over the road there if I could work for him, he said he would give me 10*s.* a day; I told him no, I had promised Sir Henry Rawlinson, and I would stick to him.

15,020. Did he set you on his committee ?—No, I do not think he did.

15,021. Did Mr. Roupell go round and canvass with Mr. Doulton ? Did you see them go and canvass together ?—No, I never saw him about in the town.

15,022. Were you down here in the street when the "Swan" windows were broken ?—Yes.

15,023. Which party broke the windows ?—I should say Mr. Doulton's party.

15,024. Was Sir Henry Rawlinson here ?—Yes.

15,025. You voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson; did you work for him ?—Yes, at bill sticking for him.

15,026. What did you get ?—I do not know whether it was 2*l.* or 50*s.*; I was paid 5*s.* a day for the days I worked.

15,027. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much do you think you received ?—2*l.* or 50*s.*

15,028. Who paid you that ?—Apted.

15,029. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was he on Sir Henry Rawlinson's committee ?—Yes.

15,030. Were you put on Sir Henry Rawlinson's committee in the same way you were on this last election of 1865 by Mr. Apted, only by different men, to come on the committee and work ?—No, there was nothing said about working then; I was put on the committe, but I had nothing to do.

15,031. Did you expect to be paid for going on the committee ?—No.

15,032. You did not look at that as work ?—No, certainly not.

15,033. There is no certainty in this borough, because a great many thought going on the committee was work ?—I never was paid for going on the committee.

15,034. On that occasion do you consider that you worked fairly and honestly ?—I should.

15,035. For 5*s.* a day ?—Yes.

15,036. You supplied your own paste ?—Yes.

15,037. Now in 1857 Hackblock and Rawlinson were the candidates ?—I was unwell then, so that I did not take any part in it at all.

15,038. Was there much difference in the politics of Mr. Hackblock and Sir Henry Rawlinson ?—I think not.

15,039. Did you vote at the election ?—Yes, I voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

15,040. Did you attend on the declaration of the poll on that occasion ?—I do not know whether I did or not.

15,041. Were you paid for that election ?—No.

15,042. Did you do any work ?—No, I was unwell then; all my time was taken up.

15,043. I just want to ask you one question upon that, and only one; I want to know a particular fact about Sir Henry Rawlinson. Were you at the declaration of the poll ?—I forget whether I was or not.

15,044. When a vote of thanks was proposed to the mayor and so on ?—There was no mayor at that time.

15,045. To the returning officer ?—I do not know whether I was there or not.

15,046. I am simply told that Sir Henry Rawlinson made a very good speech at that time, I mean a proper speech, which had a very good effect on the minds of the voters, and that he came very favourably before them the next election ?—He came very favourably the next election.

15,047. I find Sir Henry stood in 1857 ?—Yes, I voted for him in opposition to Mr. Hackblock, because I thought he had behaved improperly to Major Parrott.

15,048. That is a personal matter ?—Yes, that was the reason I voted for Sir Henry at that election.

15,049. I am sure you are a very intelligent man; so far as I can see, though you lent yourself to this employment, you looked upon it with distrust and suspicion and discouragement, did you not ?—No; I had no work at that time.

15,050. I am not speaking of yourself at all. Did you not look at this system of electors being employed by the candidate with distrust and suspicion ?—No, I do not know that I did.

15,051. I thought I had heard you say that you did. Do you know any more ready road of corrupting a borough than by employing electors as messengers, and canvassers, and bill stickers ?—I do not know that I do.

15,052. Now I ask you as an honest intelligent man, did you not believe in your heart it was adopted for that purpose ?—I dare say that it was adopted for getting the votes.

15,053. For the purpose of influencing the electors, who got it by corrupt motives. Do you not think that it was so, as an honest man ?—I suppose it was.

15,054. If it were not there were a number of active men who might have been employed. We have seen the lame, and the almost blind, and the crippled employed who were voters; do you know of any man being employed who was not a voter ?—I have known it.

15,055. I should like you to name one. Take the

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last election; do you recollect one?—I do not know that I do.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Perhaps you mean the rooks and the rabbits?

15,056. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I do not mean the roughs. Who at this last election, either on Mr. Monson's side or on Mr. Gower's side, were employed as bill stickers, as canvassers, or as messengers that were not voters?—I cannot name any one.

15,057. Now, in justice to Mr. Gower I want to ask you a question. When he said that his committee should be paid, and paid well, did you understand him to mean for honestly working?—Yes.

15,058. Not a covert, not a sham, or anything of that kind?—No.

15,059. Up to that time you were in no expectation of getting any money; you said so?—I was not.

15,060. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You took a part in five different elections, dating back to Mr. Doulton's election?—Yes.

15,061. Tell me in an honest, sensible manner, do you think that the proceedings were conducted better or worse at any one of those elections than they were at the others?—I think they were worse at Mr. Doulton's than they were at any other.

15,062. Now we have got the worst. Now I want to know, do you think that they were better at any one election than at the others?—No; I should say much about the same.

15,063. I mean as regards money, treatment, and employment of voters for those purposes which my friend has referred to, and that kind of thing; you understand me?—I think they were all much about the same.

15,064. You had good opportunities of judging, had you not?—I was about a great deal.

15,065. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Will you tell me the cheapest market to go into for election business, to hire a man who had got a vote to deliver circulars, or to hire a man who had not got a vote? Which man would you get cheapest; the non-electors, would you not?—About the same.

15,066. You would get the non-elector cheaper?—Not at election time; I do not think you would; they expect to be paid just the same.

15,067. There is the vote?—Well, I suppose that they would sooner employ a voter than a non-voter.

15,068. If they had a non-voter they would make him work?—Yes.

15,069. If he was a voter they would not care whether he worked not, so long as he voted?—So as he voted right, I suppose they would not care much.

The witness withdrew.

G. Luck.

GEORGE LUCK sworn and examined.

15,070. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I believe you are a voter for this borough?—Yes.

15,071. And a master baker?—Yes.

15,072. What rent do you pay?—22*l.*

15,073. Do you occupy the house entirely yourself?—Yes.

15,074. How long have you been a voter of this borough?—About 14 years.

15,075. You voted at the last election for Mr. Gower?—For Mr. Gower.

15,076. For whom did you vote at the election of 1863?—For Mr. Wilkinson; I voted for him twice.

15,077. In '63 and '59?—Yes.

15,078. And then for whom?—Sir Henry Rawlinson, and before that for Mr. Hackblock.

15,079. You never voted for either of the Monsons, did you?—No.

15,080. Who canvassed you at the last election?—Mr. Rose.

15,081. Alexander Rose?—Yes.

15,082. For Mr. Gower?—Yes.

15,083. You were on his committee?—Yes.

15,084. And worked upon his committee?—Yes, as much as I could.

15,085. They did not send you out with circulars; you did not carry circulars or anything of the kind? What were you to have?—4*l.*

15,086. In justice to you I inquired whether they sent you out with circulars; you did not carry circulars out?—No, I did not carry circulars.

15,087. They would not send a man like you out with circulars, I am sure. Who paid you the 4*l.*?—I have been paid 3*l.*; Mr. Rose paid me.

15,088. You were to have 4*l.*?—Yes.

15,089. 5*l.*, was it not?—No, 4*l.*

15,090. When did you agree with Mr. Rose that you were to have 4*l.*?—Just before the election.

15,091. A week before the election or so?—I suppose it was.

15,092. Was it at the time that you were put on the committee?—Yes.

15,093. Do you say that it was so much as a week before the election?—Yes, quite that.

15,094. The Monson party had been to you, I suppose?—Yes, Mr. Monson came three times.

15,095. Three times?—Twice or three times.

15,096. And you did not make up your mind at that time?—No, I did not.

15,097. Did they offer to put you on Mr. Monson's committee?—No.

15,098. Did you see any one on behalf of Mr. Monson except himself?—Mr. Hart came with him once.

15,099. He is a solicitor?—Yes.

15,100. Did not Mr. Hart offer to put you on the committee?—No.

15,101. They offered you something else, did they not?—No, they never offered me anything.

15,102. You knew that money was going on the Monson side?—I understood it was.

15,103. Did you understand at all what the amount was for each man on the Monson side?—No; I did not understand anything about it then.

15,104. Did you understand they were giving 5*l.*?—Yes; I understood they were giving 5*l.*

15,105. Did you understand that at the time Mr. Joyes arranged with you about the 4*l.*, or did you hear it afterwards. You told me very properly that you understood they were giving 5*l.* a voter. Did you understand that when Mr. Joyes spoke to you about voting for Mr. Gower?—No, he never spoke to me about any money.

15,106. When he spoke to you about voting for Mr. Gower, did he speak to you about putting you on the committee. I am satisfied that he would know his business better than to speak to a man like you about money?—Mr. Joyes did not speak to me.

15,107. Who did?—Mr. Rose.

15,108. Well, did Mr. Rose speak to you about money?—Yes; I told you that he offered me money.

15,109. He offered you 4*l.*?—Yes.

15,110. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Not Mr. Apted? No; Mr. Rose.

15,111. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you name any sum yourself; 5*l.* or 10*l.*?—No, I never mentioned anything about it.

15,112. Was 4*l.* the first offer he made to you?—Yes.

15,113. You said that was small, I suppose?—I said that was not so much as they were getting.

15,114. Exactly, precisely; you said when he offered you 4*l.*, "That is not so much as they are

"getting on the other side," or the Gower side?—Yes.

15,115. At that time you had heard they were getting 5*l.* on the Gower side?—No; on the Monson side.

15,116. He would give no more?—No.

15,117. Then you closed with him?—Yes.

15,118. Did you attend any of the committee meetings at all before the election?—Now and then I attended one.

15,119. There were not many held during that week?—No.

15,120. How many could you say that you attended?—I suppose about two.

15,121. You had not far to come to hear the nomination, I believe?—I never went to the nomination. I was busy.

15,122. You received 3*l.*, how was it that you did not receive the 4*l.* you were to have?—I do not know.

15,123. What did he say?—He said he would give me the 3*l.*

15,124. About how long after the election; a week or two?—More than that.

15,125. How long?—Six months.

15,126. Did you go to him?—He came to me.

15,127. He said that you might have 3*l.* then, and when were you to have the other?—There was no promise.

15,128. When were you to have the other; you were to have had four?—He did not say when.

15,129. In '63 were you on the committee?—No; I only went to give my vote.

15,130. What had you for loss of time on that occasion?—Nothing; I only went to give my vote.

15,131. In '59, the time before, you voted for Mr. Wilkinson, did you not?—No.

15,132. Had you anything for that election?—No, nothing.

15,133. Do you say the same thing of all the previous times you voted; that you had nothing for your vote?—I did not have a sup of anything nor any money.

15,134. Except for the last?—Only for the last.

The witness withdrew.

CHARLES LUCOCK sworn and examined.

15,135. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A harness maker.

15,136. What rent do you pay?—6*l.* a year.

15,137. Is your house worth more than 6*l.* a year?—I suppose it is, it has been in the family so long; my wife's family.

15,138. Did you vote for Mr. Gower at this last election?—I did.

15,139. Who asked you to do so?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith.

15,140. Did you promise him, or did you say that you would think about it?—I said I would think about it, because I had not thought of it then. Mr. Gower called upon me when first he came round to canvass.

15,141. You said you would think about it?—Yes.

15,142. When did you make up your mind?—Frederick Joyes came to me afterwards.

15,143. And did he fix you?—Yes.

15,144. What arguments did he use which Mr. Gower had failed to use?—I was not a minute with Joyes.

15,145. But still something happened; Mr. Gower had not fixed you, but Mr. Joyes did?—He said, if I would vote he would pay me for working.

15,146. He said if you would "vote," or "work"?—If I would vote for him; and I was to attend committee meetings.

15,147. How much was he to pay you?—5*l.*

15,148. Do you know how long that was before the election?—I cannot say; it was three weeks or a month; it was somewhere there abouts.

15,149. After did he pay you the money?—I think it was in November he paid me 3*l.*

15,150. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you 3*l.*?—Frederick Joyes.

15,151. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you grumble about not having what he had promised?—It was no use grumbling.

15,152. Did you do it a little bit?—No; he said there would be some more money; but I never received any.

15,153. Did he pay in money?—One morning when I was going home to my meals he called me into the shop, and he paid me three sovereigns.

15,154. He did not give you a cheque?—No.

15,155. Not a cheque drawn by Mr. Smith?—He paid me three sovereigns.

15,156. You knew most of the Monson people?—Yes.

15,157. You knew one or two rather intimately?—I had a lot of friends; of acquaintances.

15,158. There were one or two that you were particularly friendly with?—There were several of the Monson party that I used to be very friendly with.

15,159. But there were one or two in particular; who were they?—Robert Houlton was one.

15,160. Go on; who was the other?—There were several, Mr. Holdsworth, and a lot of them I am acquainted with on the Monson side.

15,161. Well, I will take Mr. Holdsworth; you had some talk with him and spoke about the election?—Not with Mr. Holdsworth.

15,162. But with Houlton?—Yes.

15,163. Was he on Mr. Monson's committee?—Not that I am aware of.

15,164. Had you not some talk with some of Mr. Monson's backers?—Only Houlton.

15,165. Did Houlton tell you it would be quite as well if you voted for them?—Yes, Houlton did; he said if I voted for Mr. Monson it would be quite as good.

15,166. I dare say he went on to tell you how it would be quite as good?—Nothing particular.

15,167. But he gave you to understand it?—Yes; he said if I would vote for Mr. Monson he would give me 4*l.*

15,168. What did you say to that? Did you hesitate a bit?—I said I had partly promised the other side before.

15,169. I do not think that you had entirely?—Not entirely; that was all that passed.

15,170. Did you leave home then?—I left home then.

15,171. Did you tell Houlton at the time he told you this that you were partly engaged to Mr. Gower?—No, I did not.

15,172. Have you voted in any other election?—No.

15,173. Did you give Houlton to understand that he might succeed if he opened his mouth a little wider?—No, I did not say any such thing.

15,174. That was my phrase. Do not suppose that I put his words into your mouth. Did you give him to understand that he was not quite high enough?—No; they said they would give me a little more.

15,175. Did you give Houlton to understand that he was not quite up to your mark with the other side?—I do not recollect anything of that.

15,176. Do not suppose I want to tie you down to any particular words. Did you not give him to understand that if he opened his hand a little wider he would have more chance?—I do not think the word hand was mentioned.

NINTH DAY.
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15,177. You know what I mean. I do not care so much what you said when you said to Houlton something or other that gave him to understand he was not bidding quite high enough; I want to know if he said anything more?—I am not aware that he did.

15,178. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that the first time you voted?—The first time.

15,179. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did Houlton tell you where the money would come from?—No, he did not.

15,180. Did he not tell you what channel it would come through?—No; I do not remember his saying a word about it.

15,181. Did he not mention any other person from whom he could get the money? — No, I have no recollection whatever of it.

The witness withdrew.

The inquiry was then adjourned until 11 o'clock the following morning.

TENTH DAY.
B. Brown.
1 Sept. 1866.

TENTH DAY.

Saturday, 1st September 1866.

BENJAMIN BROWN sworn and examined.

15,182. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have been called several times, how is it you were not here?—I had my summons on Monday evening.

15,183. That is a long time ago. Why did you not come here?—I could not come before; I was ill.

15,184. Why did you not come when you were called upon on Monday evening and informed that you were to be here; we sent for you and you gave us a good deal of trouble, why was that?—I saw Mr. Elder yesterday evening.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) We heard that you had said that you would not come unless by compulsion, unless we sent two policemen after you, that is very wrong; but we did send off to get an order from one of the judges in London, which you have seen, and after which you may have been sent to prison if we had chosen. We do not intend to enforce all the powers at our disposal, as you have now come here as a witness.

15,185. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you were ill; were you confined at home?—Not exactly.

15,186. You were walking about in this town?—I was in this town on Tuesday.

15,187. In the daytime?—Early.

15,188. You were then summoned?—Yes.

15,189. And you were seen at Mr. Nichols'?—Yes.

15,190. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—I cannot say; I have a little place of my own.

15,191. You are a freeholder?—A copyholder.

15,192. What is the value of your copyhold by the year?—The rent of it?

15,193. Yes.—I have been offered 10*l.*

15,194. What are you, anything at all?—No, I am of no trade or particular business.

15,195. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you carry on any business?—No, not now.

15,196. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you mean you are independent?—Except labour; I do some labour.

15,197. That is what I want to know; are you a labourer?—Yes.

15,198. On the last election you voted for Mr. Gower, did you not?—Yes.

15,199. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower were together.

15,200. Did you promise them at that time?—I promised them this, I believe, that I would vote for the same man I did before.

15,201. What do you mean by that?—I promised for Mr. Gower before.

15,202. And you said you would vote in the same way as before?—Yes.

15,203. Do you mean by that that you promised Mr. Gower your vote, or did you say anything more?—No, told him I would come the same way.

15,204. What do you mean by that, that you would come the same way?—To give my vote.

15,205. Do you mean that you would come on the same terms?—Yes.

15,206. What had been the terms on which you voted before in 1863? Was that when Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson were candidates?—No, this last time was 1865.

15,207. But you said you would vote the same as before, did your refer to the election of 1863 between Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson as the time before?—I voted for Mr. Gower when Mr. Wilkinson opposed him.

15,208. What terms did you vote upon then?—To give my vote, that was all.

15,209. What did you get for it?—Nothing.

15,210. Who did you promise to vote in 1863?—I promised James Nichols.

15,211. For Mr. Wilkinson or Mr. Gower?—For Mr. Gower.

15,212. At the election of 1863 were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Not at all.

15,213. Were you on any committee?—No.

15,214. Did you not do any work at all?—No.

15,215. Did you make any arrangement with Mr. Nichols that you were to receive anything for your work?—No.

15,216. Or if you lost your time?—No.

15,217. Did you make any arrangement with Mr. Nichols at all?—Not any.

15,218. Did you apply to him for anything for your vote?—No.

15,219. Before you gave it?—No.

15,220. Or after?—No.

15,221. Did you receive any money from anybody?—No.

15,222. You are sure of that?—Quite sure.

15,223. How long have you been a voter?—As much as 16 years.

15,224. I suppose you voted then at all the elections?—I have for several years.

15,225. In 1859, it was the general election, when Mr. Wilkinson and the Hon. Mr. Monson contested it?—Yes.

15,226. Did you vote at that election?—Yes.

15,227. Who for?—Mr. Monson.

15,228. Are you able to recollect the election before that, which was in 1858, when there were two elections in the year. I want to know who you voted for on the last of these two elections. It was

in October, and the Hon. Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson opposed each other. Can you tell me who you voted for then, was it for Mr. Monson?—Was it not for Sir Henry Rawlinson?

15,229. No, it was after that, Sir Henry Rawlinson's was the first election in the year; there were two elections in the year, and I am speaking of the second. Sir Henry Rawlinson retired, after that he went out of the country, and Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson fought the borough?—I voted for Mr. Monson.

15,230. Now the same Mr. Monson for whom you voted in October 1858, he had stood at that election with Sir Henry Rawlinson and Mr. Doulton at the beginning of the same year; who did you vote for then?—Sir Henry Rawlinson.

15,231. Can you tell me whether you had ever voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson; there was an election in 1857 between Mr. Hackblock and Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Yes, I voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson. There were only those two I think.

15,232. This last election of all you voted for Mr. Gower. I want to remind you you had already voted twice for the Monson family, therefore I suppose you were inclined in the first instance towards the Monson family in this election of 1865, when Mr. Monson stood against Gower?—No.

15,233. You voted for the family twice before; I should have thought you would have gone for them again?—Yes, but I voted for Mr. Gower.

15,234. I want you to tell me why, if you please?—I had heard a very good character of Mr. Gower.

15,235. I hope you had not heard a bad one of Mr. Monson?—No.

15,236. Then the reason would still hold good. I should think people would rather look to you to go up to the poll for Mr. Monson, you were a regular Monsonite, you had voted twice for the family, and this present one was a relation, had you any reason?—No.

15,237. No reason whatever?—No.

15,238. It sounds a little capricious, does it not? Perhaps you can account for it?—No.

15,239. You had been canvassed, I believe, by the Monson party in 1865?—I never promised them.

15,240. But you had been canvassed by them; somebody had been to you to ask you for your vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes, I was asked by several people.

15,241. Who was it who did ask you this last election?—I was asked at the "Prince Albert" for my vote.

15,242. Who was it asked you?—Mr. Langridge asked me.

15,243. Was that before you had promised your vote to Mr. Gower, do you recollect?—After, I think.

15,244. Did you tell Mr. Langridge that you had promised Mr. Gower?—No.

15,245. Why did you not, perhaps you can give me a reason?—I did not tell anyone.

15,246. Why not, I am rather curious to know why you should not, please to help me?—I had no reason in particular I did not want to have people bothering me.

15,247. My friend reminds me that telling him point blank that you had promised your vote to Mr. Gower would have stopped your being bothered any more?—I kept away from it.

15,248. We will judge of your reason; tell me what Mr. Langridge said to you?—There was nothing said more than about having a little money if we worked for it.

15,249. What was said, I shall have to ask question after question, and it keeps us so long. Tell me if you please?—There was to be 5*l.* for those who took an active part, but I did not take anything of the kind.

15,250. Mr. Langridge said that?—Yes.

15,251. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many were there present when that was said; there were a good many there at the time, Mr. Nash and other people were there?—Yes, he and other people were there.

15,252. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have got a brother, Edward Brown have you not?—No.

15,253. Is he a brother-in-law?—No.

15,254. Is Stephen Brown your brother?—No.

15,255. Have you not got a brother?—No.

15,256. Nor half-brother or brother-in-law?—Yes, I have a half brother.

15,257. Is he Edward Brown?—No, William Brown.

15,528. Was he for the Monson party or for Gower?—I do not think he has got a vote.

15,259. But whose side does he back?—That I cannot tell.

15,260. I only want one word more about Mr. Langridge; my friend here asked you whether there were not a good many people, and you said there were some people there besides Nash. Was there one of the name of Steer, who is dead?—Yes, I believe he was there, and there might be another or two.

15,261. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Fullbrook was there, I think?—Yes, I think he was there.

15,262. And Risbridger, do you recollect him?—No.

15,263. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When Mr. Langridge said this to you perhaps you thought it was an opportunity of either doing something yourself for your own advantage, or at any rate of hoaxing him. Did not that occur to you?—I did not take any interest.

15,264. Did not he say something to you in answer?—I said I would not have anything to do with it.

15,265. What I want to know is, did not Mr. Langridge refer you to somebody else, and say So-and-so you will be able to get the money from?—He said the money would be there.

15,266. Where?—At the "Prince Albert."

15,267. Who keeps the "Prince Albert"?—Emery.

15,268. Did you understand Mr. Emery was to have it for you?—I understood so.

15,269. Did he tell you when?—Not till after the polling day.

15,270. Perhaps you cannot recollect how long before the election this talk with Mr. Langridge was?—I should say about three weeks.

15,271. Was any other thing mentioned, that if you attended the polling day and nomination day it was to be anything more?—No.

15,272. Was any other offer made you afterwards by the Monson party?—I was in at the "Nag's Head."

15,273. Was that afterwards?—Afterwards.

15,274. Tell me, if you please, in your own way what passed there?—There were two or three men in there, voters, and I was in there.

15,275. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Before you voted, of course?—Yes, the same day.

15,276. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who keeps the "Nag's Head"?—A man named Bran.

15,277. What Christian name?—William.

15,278. (*The Chief Comimssioner.*) Well go on. (*The witness.*) Apted came in there with a man, I cannot tell you his name.

15,279. Was that James or Job?—James.

15,280. Now be so good as to tell me what passed. James Apted came in?—He came in and hooked a man away, and he pulled out some notes in his hand; he said he could do 5*l.* for a man.

15,281. You were a man more independent than some of them. Did anybody seem to be little affected

TENTH DAY.

B. Brown.

1 Sept. 1866.

by the sight of the notes?—I cannot say what they might feel.

15,282. I ask you whether they seemed to be affected, that is what I mean?—He took one man away from the house in his cart.

15,283. Do you know the man?—I know the man, but I cannot give you his name.

15,284. Would he belong to Mr. Gower's party?—No, Mr. Monson's.

15,285. But before that?—I think he did.

15,286. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was a Gower's man before that time?—Yes.

15,287. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I should wish you to recollect his name; it is not very material, but I should like to know?—It is a man who used to take at the gate; you mentioned his name this morning.

15,288. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Fullbrook?—Yes, Fullbrook.

15,289. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What time of the polling day was this?—In the forenoon, about 11 o'clock.

15,290. Did he say anything to you in particular? did he address himself to you afterwards?—I did not see him the day after.

15,291. No; that day that he came in and said what you told us about notes, did he say anything to you in particular at all?—He told me he had *5l.*

15,292. To you?—Yes, he told me so.

15,293. Apted did?—No, not Apted.

15,294. Who?—Fullbrook.

15,295. Oh, I understand; Fulbrook told you that he had the *5l.*?—Yes.

15,296. I want to know whether Apted said anything to you in particular; did he hold anything out to you in particular, and say, "Is this in your line "at all"?—I said I would not be bought for *5l.*

15,297. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You wanted more, I suppose?—I did not want any for my vote.

15,298. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) This was about the middle of the day of the polling day; what time did you poll?—In the afternoon, I think nearly 3 o'clock.

15,299. Now about this house that you were in when James Apted came in, was it Mr. Monson's house or Mr. Gower's house?—I should think it was Mr. Gower's house.

15,300. It seems to make it all the bolder for Mr. Apted to come into the enemy's camp like that?—Yes.

15,301. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What time did he come in, was it the middle of the day, about 1 o'clock?—Before 1; I think it was the fore part of the day.

15,302. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How many voters do you think, at the time Apted came in, were together at the "Nag's Head;" you have mentioned three or four, tell me how many in your opinion were there?—I think there were five besides myself.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That would make the number six, which is precisely what has been stated by another witness.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not try to do anything particular for anybody, you did not try to work. You know the "Royal Oak," do you not?

15,303. At Warwick-town?—Yes.

15,304. That is Mazden's house?—No, that is in Mead-vale, the "Oak," I think.

15,305. I thought it was the "Royal Oak," but it is about Mazden's that I want to ask you. Is he a Gowerite or a Monsonite?—A Gowerite.

15,306. You used to attend Mr. Mazden's house; you were continually there?—I was there sometimes.

15,307. You were there to get refreshment, were you not?—Very little besides what I paid for.

15,308. I do not mean that you drank too much, but when you wanted refreshment about the election you used to go to Mazden's house principally?—I was not there only a very few times, but when I went in and called for anything I wanted I paid for it.

15,309. You have been there when you did not pay for it?—I have been with parties there, and paid for some, and drank with other parties.

15,310. Have you not gone in and had refreshment that you have not had to pay for?—I cannot remember any.

15,311. You know what I mean by election refreshment very well?—Yes.

15,312. During this election of 1865, in your opinion were refreshments very plentiful?—I think they were.

15,313. At most of the party houses?—Yes, at most places.

15,314. On both sides?—Yes, I believe they were.

15,315. Will you tell me at once what you received from the Gower party?—Nothing.

15,316. On what terms did you vote for Mr. Gower?—I never received a farthing from Mr. Gower.

15,317. But you were expecting it; tell me in your own way what you were expecting?—I voted for him because I thought he was a proper man.

15,318. You told me a conversation you had with Langridge, and you told me what Langridge said, that there was to be *5l.* for those who took an active part, that was the expression?—Yes.

15,319. Now you have told me that, I want to have it more definitely; what were you to have for your vote?—I never took any money.

15,320. Did you apply to Langridge after?

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien remarked that Mr. Langridge was Mr. Monson's man.

15,321. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the name of Mr. Langridge's house, the "Prince Albert?"—No, that is Emery's; I think it was the "South Eastern Hotel."

15,322. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told us what occurred between you and Langridge on behalf of Mr. Monson. Do tell me who you promised your vote to for Mr. Gower?—At the last election I promised my vote to Mr. Smith for Mr. Gower.

15,323. You were not quite certain about it in the first instance when you were first applied to, who did you see afterwards?—After?

15,324. Yes, after you saw Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower?—Mr. Church called at my house.

15,325. What did he say?—He wanted me to go on the list with him; he was for Mr. Gower.

15,326. What did you say to him?—I told I would not have anything to do, not to be on the list, nor to have any bother or trouble in canvassing.

15,327. Was that Mr. Church of Hollis-road?—Yes.

15,328. Mr. Church finding that you were not promised went on to canvass you?—He came to my place two or three times.

15,329. What did he say?—He said the best way was to vote for Mr. Gower; I had made up my mind and told him that I hoped he would not trouble me about it.

15,330. He did a little bit, he gave you some inducement?—He never gave me anything.

15,331. But I mean he held out inducements?—If I came and went with him on the list he said I should be paid for my work, but I did not do any.

15,332. What did he tell you you were likely to get for that?—Something like 10*s.* a day, I think that was about it, if I recollect rightly.

15,333. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many days before the election?—Nearly a fortnight.

15,334. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And was it then you told him that you would vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes, I told him that I would vote for the same man that I had before.

15,335. Did you before the election apply to Mr. Gower for money at all?—No.

15,336. Did Mr. Church refer you to anybody at the time he canvassed you, or tell you who it was that paid for Mr. Gower?—No.

15,337. He did not?—No.

15,338. Do you recollect whether he mentioned any name to you at all?—No.

15,339. To whom did you apply about being paid for your time or your services?—I did not apply to anyone.

15,340. Did anybody come to you about it?—Mr. Church came to my house and said I might go on the list, and if I did and took an active part I should be paid.

15,341. That was 10*s.* a day?—Yes.

15,342. When the polling day came, who went with you to the poll?—I walked.

15,343. I wonder at that; you might have ridden, might you not?—I preferred to walk; it was not far off.

15,344. From the "Nag's Head"?—Yes; I came from my home before I went to the "Nag's Head."

15,345. Who walked with you?—Joseph Knight.

15,346. Was he a voter?—Yes.

15,347. Was he a committee man?—No, I believe not.

15,348. What I want to know was which of Mr. Gower's committee men, which of his active men went with you to the poll?—Not either of them.

15,349. Was Knight an active man at the election?—No.

15,350. You walked arm-in-arm with Knight to the poll?—No.

15,351. Had not somebody got his arm in yours?—No.

15,352. Very near to the polling place I mean?—Not that I can recollect.

15,353. I wish you would try and recollect?—I cannot.

15,354. Did not a man take you by the arm, and you take his, and did not you go arm-in-arm together to the polling place?—No.

15,355. Do you wish me to understand from all your answers that you did not get money or money's worth, nor promise more than you have mentioned of money, from anybody on the part of or from Mr. Gower?—No, not anyone.

15,356. You recollect Church had told you about the 10*s.*?—Yes.

15,357. You recollect also you told the Monson people you were not going to be bought for 5*l.*?—Yes.

15,358. And that you were with the Monson party in the public house at that time?—Yes.

15,359. I wish you to tell me whether you have ever applied or been applied to by any of the Gower people, or by anybody, about money for your vote either before or after the election?—No; not to my knowledge.

15,360. That is not a thing a man would forget, happening only last year. Are you expecting now to get anything?—I am not expecting it.

15,361. Do you not think you ought to expect it?—Well, I am taken away from my business now.

15,362. Do you not think you deserve it as much as other people?—Yes, I do.

15,363. And do you not feel it as a bit of a grievance that you have got none of the money?—No.

15,364. Do you not feel any grievance?—I feel it a grievance in this, that the voters have been used as they have in the election system to be bought and sold.

15,365. You object to the system?—Yes, I do.

15,366. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were at the "Nag's Head" on the morning of the polling?—Yes, I was.

15,367. How long did you remain there?—I was there an hour, and then I went home; my home was close by.

15,368. You were there about an hour with the Gower party?—They were mostly the Monson party.

15,369. And then you went home?—I walked out on the common.

15,370. I suppose you did not intend to vote that day, as it was nearly 3 o'clock when you were out on the common?—Yes, I did.

15,371. This was near 3 o'clock?—Yes.

15,372. Well, but somebody came?—I went into the "Nag's Head" again.

15,373. Did you go with Mr. Knight?—Yes.

15,374. And then I suppose you had something to drink?—Yes; a glass of ale.

15,375. And then you and Knight came away?—Yes; he walked up the road with me afterwards.

15,376. You have no disclosures to make; nothing to tell and no disclosures to make that were disgraceful to yourself; you condemned the system of bribing you know?—Yes.

15,377. Then why did you not come here before?—I did not feel fit to come in the place.

15,378. Why?—I was not very well.

15,379. That was not the message you sent; you said you would not come. How is it you were so reluctant to come if you had nothing to disclose affecting yourself?—I did not say I would not come.

15,380. Yes, you did; there is no doubt about that; we have that on the best evidence.—I was not well, and I was not fit to be in the place the other day.

15,381. You voted in 1863 for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

15,382. Had you been on his committee at all that year?—No.

15,383. Had you been canvassed by Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—No,

15,384. By Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—No.

15,385. Did he not canvass you?—No.

15,386. Did you see Mr. Norman Wilkinson in 1863?—Yes.

15,387. Did he not canvass you?—No.

15,388. Did he not ask you to vote for his brother?—Yes.

15,389. Well, that is what I mean; did he ask you to vote?—Yes, he asked me to vote.

15,390. What do you mean by canvassing?—I thought you meant a promise to do something, or something of that kind.

15,391. Did he not ask you more than once to vote for his brother?—Yes.

15,392. And you promised him?—No, never.

15,393. Did you not say you would not vote against Mr. Wilkinson?—No, I did not.

15,394. Had you been on Mr. Gower's committee at that election?—No.

15,395. And you received nothing?—Nothing at all.

15,396. Nothing whatever?—No, nothing whatever.

15,397. I mean at the election of '63?—No, nothing.

15,398. Did you receive anything by the week?—No.

15,399. I mean any money at all?—Not any money at all.

15,400. Did you earn any money on the election of '63?—No.

15,401. Did you receive any?—No.

15,402. Not a farthing?—Not a farthing; I never received any money for any vote.

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15,403. Nor for any labour?—No, not even for that; I did not have money at all.

15,404 (*The Chief Commissioner.*) For work done at the last election and time lost?—No.

15,505. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Not for lost time?—No.

15,406. You said to the best of your knowledge you had received nothing; I do not understand that?—I am sure I did not receive anything; I should have remembered it if I had.

15,407. Did any one receive money on your behalf? You are a married man, I presume?—Yes.

15,408. Did any one receive anything on your behalf?—No, I believe not; I was never told anything of the kind.

15,409. You never heard from your wife to that effect?—No; and I never got anything,

15,410. Did you ever hear from your wife?—No; not anything, I believe.

15,411. You have your doubts upon that?—No, sir, I have not.

15,412. Did they call at your house more than once?—They called several different times.

15,413. I believe Mr. Church is a very influential man?—I do not know that.

15,414. It puzzles me why you did not come to tell us all you knew. Of all men in the borough of Reigate I should have thought you would have been the very first man to have come here. Suspicion rested upon you, and you should have said, "How "glad I am to be afforded an opportunity of doing "away with the calumny and righting myself"?—I had no occasion to be afraid of anything.

15,415. That is the very reason you should have come, that you were not afraid of anything. I suppose it was the paper you saw last night that brought you down?—No; I was here last evening.

Mr. Commissioner Smith observed it was not until after the witness had heard of the proceedings taken against him.

15,416. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You heard that gentleman (*pointing to Mr. De Rutzen, Secretary to the Commission*) had gone up to London?—I heard persons in Reigate say a gentleman was going up.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) He did go up, and has got the power.

15,417. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you knew of those proceedings you came?—Mr. Apted called at my house, and said my name had been called.

15,418. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I heard you say very distinctly you had never received any money from Mr. Gower, and that I believe, but I ask you again, did you ever receive any money on his account?—No, not any; I never did.

15,419. What do you mean by saying you would vote for him on the same terms as before?—I meant I should not leave the man, I voted for him before; that was my meaning.

15,420. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say you were not fit to come here either yesterday or the day before?—Yes.

15,421. How came you to go to Mr. Nichols of the "Grapes"?—That was on Tuesday.

15,422. You went in there?—Yes, for a drop of brandy.

15,423. You saw Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

15,424. And had some conversation with him?—It was very few words.

15,425. About this inquiry?—He said, "If you "have not been there to-day you had better come to-"morrow."

15,426. In the "Grapes"?—In the "Grapes."

15,427. You were to come to the "Grapes"?—No, he did not say to the "Grapes;" he said, "You had "better go up to the town hall to-morrow if you "can."

15,428. Did he talk to you about your vote?—No.

15,429. Aye?—No.

15,430. Did you not tell Mr. Nichols what took place at Langridge's public house?—No.

15,431. Do you mean to say Mr. Nichols said nothing about your evidence further than you had better go up to the town hall?—No.

15,432. Did you tell him you had been summoned?—Yes, and he said "You had better attend to it if "you can."

15,433. Why did you not take his advice?—I was not very well.

15,434. You were well enough to go to the "Grapes"?—Yes.

15,435. How far do you live off?—Nearly three miles, two and a half.

15,436. Do you mean to say you came all that way to get a drop of brandy at Mr. Nichols?—No; I had some business to transact.

15,437. You were required to be here on the Tuesday, your summons was for the Tuesday?—I made a mistake, I thought it meant for the Monday; it was dated so.

15,438. Was it not because you received the summons on Monday you came into the town two and and a half miles away on Tuesday?—No, I did not come for that.

15,439. What time were you here on the Tuesday?—I cannot say what time.

15,440. Was it in the morning?—No, it was in the afternoon.

15,441. You were met in the town, and you were told your name was on the list?—Yes.

15,442. And you said you would not come?—I said I could not well that day.

15,543. We have got it in evidence here you said you would not come. I am only asking you these questions to see how far we are to believe you when you say you received no money; I am only testing you to see how far we can believe you. When you came into the town on Tuesday who had you any conversation with that day?—Tuesday?

15,444. Yes, and that is a very short time ago?—I do not know that I had conversation with anybody; I saw several faces.

15,445. Who did you have any talk with; I do not mean how do you do, and so on, but who did you have any talk with?—I cannot recollect any one.

15,446. Do not say you cannot recollect for that will not do?—I did not sit down, I was at the bar of the house.

15,447. What house?—The "Grapes."

15,448. Who did you have talk with at the "Grapes"?—I spoke to Mr. Nichols and a few more.

15,449. Who were they?—I did not have time to talk to any one.

15,450. You may tell me that if you like if it is the truth, but do you mean to say you cannot recollect any one you talked to about the election?—There was a man who talked about it a little, I think a man from Warwick-town, Cohen I think, but he seemed quite wild that I could not understand him.

15,451. Who did you have any conversation with who you did very well understand, just tell me?—Not any one.

15,452. We were sitting here on the Tuesday and you had a notice to appear, but did not appear, though you came into the town. Now I want to know, and your answer will inform me a good deal about you, I tell you that, who did you have any talk with (you perfectly well understand,) about the election?—I cannot recollect any one I did talk with about the election; they were all talking about it, one and all.

15,453. Do you recollect ever having any talk with somebody you knew very well was with the Gower party at the last election? Who did you talk to on Tuesday that belonged to the Gower party at the last election; tell me that, if you please. Did you see Job Apted in the town on Tuesday?—I saw him last night.

15,454. Did you see him on Tuesday?—I think I did.

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15,455. Did you have any talk with him on Tuesday?—No further talk than he told me my name had been called.

15,456. And you said "Very well." Did he then say anything to you about the election or the questions you would be asked?—No, and no one else.

15,457. Did he not tell you what sort of an inquiry this was, and whether he thought the Commissioners very disagreeable?—No.

15,458. Something like that; do tell me what was said, I have told you that your answer will influence my opinion very much with regard to you; I thought you would have some regard to my opinion, and perhaps I may be right?—Job Apted did say you were very agreeable; I can do no more than speak the truth.

15,459. Who else did you talk with besides Job Apted? come, tell me at once, for I do not wish to keep this up?—I do not recollect any one.

15,460. You saw Job Apted last night?—Yes.

15,461. What conversation did you have with him?—He said the best thing I could do was to go up the next morning.

15,462. Did he say you had better tell the truth?—He said, "Whatever has been transacted, say the "truth, that is the best thing you can do;" that was all that was said; he did not put any questions to me.

15,463. Did he remind you of what you could recollect or be able to say?—No.

15,464. Did he say "Mind, I never paid you any "money"?—No.

15,465. Nothing like that?—No.

15,466. Did he not say something like that?—No.

15,467. Did you not say to him "Nothing was "transacted"?—Oh, yes, I did say to him "Well I "never took any money of anybody myself."

15,468. And he said, "To be sure you never got "any"?—Yes, I told other people the same.

15,469. Did Mr. Apted say that was something to tell them?—He said, "You must be cleared if "you never did anything of the kind," and I said, "I never did." That was all, there were no questions asked.

15,470. Was any advice given to you?—No, nothing further than this; he said "Let it be which "way it is, you had better speak the truth."

The witness then withdrew.

Mr. E. Prout.

Mr. Ebenezer Prout called and sworn.

15,471. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were here yesterday, I believe?—During the early part of the sitting.

15,472. Are you an elector?—I am.

15,473. May I inquire for whom you voted?—For Mr. Monson.

15,474. You were not here, I believe, when Gillett was examined?—I was not, unfortunately.

15,475. Gillett told us that he received no promise before he voted for Mr. Gower; do you know anything to the contrary of that from him?—Yes; perhaps I had better state the circumstances under which that information came to me.

15,476. Do not tell us unless you had it from him?—I had it from him.

15,477. Tell us what he said?—Gillett told me directly that he had received nothing, but had been promised 1*l.* a week until the election.

15,478. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) From whom?—From Mr. Gower's party; I do not know what agent.

15,479. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long before the election?—I think three or four weeks. I asked how much he expected to get altogether, and he said about 4*l.* or 5*l.*

15,480. He was then in Mr. Simpson's employ?—He was.

15,481. Gillett told us upon the Monday before the election Mr. Simpson told him that if he voted for Gower he would discharge him, and that he left Mr. Simpson's employment on that account?—I happened to be present, and was walking with Mr. Simpson in his grounds when that conversation took place to which he obviously refers. A person came into the grounds, a tradesman in the town, and called Mr. Simpson aside. When Mr. Simpson returned to me he said he had just received information that Gillett was going to vote for Mr. Gower in consequence of being bribed. He was highly excited, and very indignant indeed. He called Gillett up and charged him with having made this engagement. He fenced the question, and said, "I have received nothing, sir." Mr. Simpson at once said. "But you expect some-"thing;" and with some little difficulty he admitted that he did expect something. Mr. Simpson then said, I think I can almost repeat his words, they struck me at the time very strongly. "Now, Gillett, I would be "the last man in the world to interfere with your "right of voting for any person you might prefer; "but no man shall remain on my premises who will "take a bribe at an election, and you shall therefore "take your choice, either to quit my service or to "refuse this bribe."

15,482. What did Gillett say to that?—He made no reply, but as Mr. Simpson was rather excited, and as I had known Gillett a long time, I took him aside and talked quietly with him, remonstrating with him as to the folly and wickedness of taking a bribe and so sacrificing a place in which he had considerable advantages. He then after a little conversation told me that he would not receive it, but his great fear was that after Mr. Simpson had become acquainted with the fact that he intended to receive it he would not regard him in the same light in which he had done previously, with the same confidence. I said "If you will repudiate the whole thing I will make "it all straight." He left Mr. Simpson, as I understood afterwards, that night; Mr. Simpson was under the impression, because of course I told him what had passed between Gillett and myself, that he would continue in his work.

15,483. He did not come?—He did not come.

15,484. Gillett told us (and it corroborates what you state) that Mr. Simpson had previously said that the men might vote as they liked?—I did not hear Mr. Simpson say that.

15,485. Was there another man in Mr. Simpson's employ of the name of Denyer?—Yes, there was another man; but I know nothing of what passed between Mr. Simpson and Denyer.

15,486. You say that it was in consequence of Gillett's having engaged himself to vote for a bribe that Mr. Simpson said he should not remain?—Yes; and Mr. Simpson was willing to retain his services.

15,487. If he repudiated that?—Yes; Gillett left Mr. Simpson.

15488. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He never applied for the week's wages?—No.

T. Chitty.

Thomas Chitty called, sworn, and examined.

15,489. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where do you live now?—At Chertsey.

15,490. Where did you live at the time of the election in 1865?—In the freehold, Reigate.

15,491. What rental did you pay?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

15,492. Who was your landlord?—Henry Heather.

15,493. What were you?—A gardener.

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15,494. You occupied a greenhouse, did you not?—Yes.

15,495. Who was your landlord for that greenhouse?—George Nichols, landlord of the "Barleymow."

15,496. Who was it first canvassed you?—David Durrant.

15,497. Were you canvassed at all on the part of Mr. Monson?—No.

15,498. Not by anybody?—No.

15,499. Was your name advertised on the committee?—No.

15,500. Were you at any time canvassed by Wilkins and by Balchin?—No.

15,501. You say you hired a greenhouse of Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

15,502. What rent did you pay for that?—2*l.* a year.

15,503. You say that Durrant canvassed you, was that Durrant the brewer?—Yes.

15,504. When he canvassed you did he engage to give you a sum of money?—Yes.

15,505. How much? 5*l.* was it not?—Yes.

15,506. When was he to pay the 5*l.*?—It was not mentioned.

15,507. When did you expect to be paid?—I expected to be paid when I voted.

15,508. Then it was for your vote?—Well, it was for my trouble, walking with a few of my neighbours, and speaking to them about the election.

15,508*a*. A few of your neighbouring gardeners?—Yes.

15,509. Besides this promise of 5*l.* for this labour, you did in fact receive some money to distribute from Durrant, did you not?—Well, no; I do not know that I received any money to distribute.

15,510. Did you spend money?—Yes, I spent a few shillings.

15,511. Did you expend to the extent of 15*l.*?—No.

15,512. Were you not instructed by Durrant to offer money to the voters?—Yes.

15,513. Tell me what he said when you understood him to instruct you to give money to the voters?—Not to give money.

15,514. To offer money?—He wished me to see two parties particularly.

15,515. What are their names?—Balchin and Wilkins.

15,516. Alfred Balchin?—Yes.

15,517. And Thomas Wilkins?—Yes.

15,518. What were you to offer those men?—I was to offer Balchin; I was to do the best I could, and to get him to do what work I thought he was called upon, and 3*l.* from Durrant.

15,519. Did Durrant restrict you to 3*l.*?—Not exactly; I was to get Balchin to do the best he could for 3*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.*

15,520. As low as you could?—As low as I possibly could for his work, for he was termed as a labouring man; he could not afford to go more than a trifle a week because it was some time before the election came on.

15,521. What work was this man Balchin to do?—I cannot say exactly. I never made any arrangement what he was to do at all; he was to apply to Durrant what to do. I did not make any arrangement what he was to do.

15,522. Did Durrant tell you what work he was to go upon?—No.

15,523. Or what Wilkins was to go upon?—No.

15,524. Who were these two men, gardeners?—One was a plasterer's labourer, and the other an agricultural labourer.

15,525. Which is the plasterer?—Balchin; and Wilkins the agricultural labourer.

15,526. Working in the field?—Yes.

15,527. What was he to have?—4*l.* for his work. He was at work weekly. He worked weekly for Durrant, working about or taking out circulars.

15,528. In fact you arranged for him to have 4*l.*?—Yes.

15,529. Durrant gave you no instructions what sum you were to offer?—No; but of course Durrant knew that.

15,530. Durrant told you to secure the vote at all events?—Yes.

15,531. That is what you meant?—Yes.

15,532. Were those the only two voters that you canvassed?—I never interfered with anyone else. There was a party or two that spoke to me about it, but I merely said, "Have your name put down;" but I never interfered with anyone else.

15,533. That was not quite the part of the work which you undertook, you took another department?—No other department.

15,534. Did you not take this department, to take charge of the voters at the evening meetings?—Well, I do not know that exactly, that I took any charge of the voters at all.

15,535. Perhaps you do not exactly understand me. I am using your own language. You did attend the evening meetings?—At times, when I felt inclined.

15,536. What did you do at the evening meetings, stand at the door and see that nobody but voters came in?—No.

15,537. What did you do?—Sometimes I sat down, and sometimes amused myself with walking about.

15,538. What was your object in walking about; to see that only voters were there?—I cannot say.

15,539. To see that none of Monson's party came in?—Only to walk about and see my neighbours and have a chat with them, nothing else; to pass the evening away, perhaps.

15,540. Have you not said before that your duty was simply to take charge of the voters in the evening, and treat them to beer or what they wanted? Was not that your object in walking about the room, to see that the men had refreshments, that they were treated properly with beer and what they wanted?—There were several in that case.

15,541. Several doing that like yourself?—Yes.

15,542. Perhaps you will describe to me what you did do. When you walked about the room did you go to a friend and say, "Have you got just what you "want"?—At times I said so, and perhaps another man would come across to me and do the same thing.

15,543. You were all helping each other then?—Yes.

15,544. If you saw a friend in want of refreshment did you go and get it for him or order it for him?—Yes.

15,545. Then you were all waiters, and waiting for what you could get?—Not exactly, because I oftentimes paid for my own.

15,546. Not very often?—Nine times out of ten.

15,547. You said, "Not exactly"?—I know I was out of pocket over it.

15,548. We will come to that. You were "out of "pocket" something like 15*l.*, were you not?—No, I was not.

15,549. Have you not told some gentleman that you had spent nearly 15*l.*?—No.

15,550. I am using your own phrase. Did you not say that you had spent about 15*l.* to entice persons to vote for Mr. Gower?—Me?

15,551. Yes, you?—Oh, no.

15,552. Your name is Thomas Chitty?—Yes.

15,553. Then I mean you. Have you not told a gentleman before that you had spent 15*l.* to entice persons to vote for Mr. Gower?—That is wrong. I never had the money to do it.

15,554. Never mind whether you had the money. First, I ask you, have you not said so?—I never recollect such a thing.

15,555. Oh yes?—Certainly not.

15,556. Try and recollect. Did you not say so on the first of January last?—I do not know.

15,557. You may as well tell us?—I know there were a great many enticements.

15,558. To spend money?—I have certainly persuaded several gardeners, and that, to vote for Mr. Gower.

15,559. Let me go further. Perhaps this will remind you. Did you not say on the first of January 1866, "I was engaged by David Durrant, brewer, of "the freehold, Reigate, to spend money to entice "voters to poll for Gower; I spent about 15*l.* in this "way." Now, did you not receive money from David Durrant to spend, so as to entice voters to vote for Mr. Gower?—I humbly beg your pardon; there is a great mistake; my amount was 15*s.* Mr. Gilbert made a mistake; it was not pounds, it was shillings. That is the extent that I did go to.

15,560. It was not pounds?—It was not pounds.

15,561. Since the first of January have you had any conversation with Mr. Durrant about your evidence?—Not at all; I have not seen him, at least, I have seen him pass, but I have been away four or five months; I have not seen him these four or five months.

15,562. Then it was 15*s.*, not 15*l.*?—Yes.

15,563. Did you have the 15*s.* from Durrant?—No.

15,564. Where did you get it?—My own private earnings; it was a promise of being paid.

15,565. Then it is a mistake that you had received money from Durrant?—Some, but not that.

15,566. How much?—1*l.* in gold; 1*l.* 6*s.* I believe.

15,567. When?—I did not say when.

15,568. Before the polling?—Yes.

15,569. How long before?—Perhaps a week or ten days.

15,570. How came he to give you that sum, 1*l.* 6*s.*?—I was short of money, and wanted it.

15,571. Did you tell Durrant that you laid out the money from your own private pocket?—Yes.

15,572. For refreshments for the voters?—Yes.

15,573. When you were canvassing them?—Yes, I was ordered to do so.

15,574. Who told you to do so, Mr. Durrant?—I was ordered by several to do such things as that when I saw a brother gardener, or anything of that description. I was not to go to run all over the parish, because I kept my daily work. I used to come into the town at dinner time, and if I saw any one I was to have a pint of ale with them, and it was to be put down as canvassing labour.

15,575. The beer was?—Yes.

15,576. The beer was to be put down as canvassing labour?—Yes.

15,577. That was the working beer then?—Yes.

15,578. Of course all you men had supper beer; that was the working beer, the election beer?—I cannot say.

15,579. You would call that election beer, would you not?—We might term it so.

15,580. Did you go to Mr. Henry Thompson of Sidlow?—I did.

15,581. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you receive more than 1*l.* 6*s.*?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive any of the 5*l.*?—I think all the money I received was the 1*l.* 6*s.*

15,582. That was before voting?—Yes.

15,583. Did you not apply to Durrant afterwards for the 5*l.*?—Yes, several times.

15,584. What did Durrant say when you applied to him?—That he had not got any money.

15,585. Did you ever get the money from Durrant?—No.

15,586. Did you ever apply to anybody else for it?—Yes.

15,587. Who?—Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland.

15,588. How came you to apply to them?—Because Durrant told me to apply to them. He had not the power, but I was to ask them.

15,589. Did you get anything from them?—No.

15,590. From Apted?—No.

15,591. From Buckland?—No.

15,592. How much altogether did you get?—I think it was about 1*l.* 6*s.*

15,593. That was before the polling?—Yes.

15,594. Were you referred to Mr. Smith?—No, I was not. Buckland said to me, "You had better see "Mr. Smith," but I never saw him. I went to him one day, but he was not at home.

15,595. Did they make any promise of payment?—As soon as they had got the money they would pay.

15,596. When did you leave this place and go to your present abode?—I cannot say exactly; it was just before the trial in London, before the petition.

15,597. How soon after the first of January? How soon after seeing Mr. Gilbert did you leave?—I think about March. I was fetched from Chertsey to London at the time the petition was on, and I was there about three weeks.

15,598. When you applied to Durrant for the money he never denied the arrangement?—Oh, dear no.

15,599. Did Apted or Buckland ever say to you that you were not entitled to have the 5*l.*?—No, they did not.

15,600. But that you should have it when they got the money?—When things were settled I was to have the money.

15,601. The petition was then pending against the return of Mr. Gower?—It was not, of course, at that time, it was just after the election.

15,602. It was spoken of?—Yes.

15,603. I suppose it was spoken of at once after the election?—Yes, it was.

15,604. And a third candidate was put up?—Yes.

15,605. Did you go to Mr. Henry Thompson of Sidlow?—Yes.

15,606. By the direction of Durrant?—I did.

15,607. What directions did you receive from Mr. Durrant?—That he mistook him or overlooked him in the book altogether; that he was not aware that he had a vote until, I suppose, passing through the list he saw his name.

15,608. What is Mr. Henry Thompson?—I fancy he is a sort of groom and gardener, something of that description.

15,609. Tell me what Durrant told you?—He told me just to walk down and see him, and to tell him that he was very sorry that he had missed him in the list, that he had overlooked him, that he would be very pleased if he would favour Mr. Gower with his vote, and that he would call and see him in a day or two.

15,610. Was anything said about a cask of beer?—Yes.

15,611. What was that?—The man laughed at me.

15,612. What did Durrant say?—Durrant said something about a cask of beer. The simple thing was this, that Thompson wanted a cask of beer, and he turned round directly and ordered a cask of beer of me.

15,613. You asked him for his vote and he ordered a cask of beer?—Yes; he asked me to tell Durrant to send him in a cask of beer the next morning, which, I believe, Thompson had been in the habit before the election of having a little cask of beer into his own private house.

15,613*a*. Before the election?—Yes, and he asked me to ask Durrant to send him a cask of beer the next day.

15,614. Did he say "as before"?—And then he would most likely see Durrant himself.

15,615. He wanted to find out whether the beer was good before he promised Durrant?—There was an empty cask of Durrant's in the house when I went to apply to him. He had been in the habit of having his beer from Durrant before I went to him; the cask was empty, and he asked me to order one. Durrant was to bring it himself, and he would see him.

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15,616. Do you know whether Durrant went?—I cannot answer that question.

15,617. Do you know whether the beer went?—Yes.

15,618. Who took the beer, do you know?—I believe Wilkins took the beer; I do not know, I am not quite sure.

15,619. Wilkins, who was employed on the part of the election?—Yes.

15,620. And Warren?—I think he was with Wilkins at the same time.

15,621. Were Warren and Wilkins two of Durrant's men?—They were at work for him, carrying out little bills; he was busy then, I suppose.

15,622. Was that Thomas Wilkins?—Yes.

15,623. The agricultural labourer?—Yes.

15,624. Was he working on a farm of Mr. Durrant's?—Durrant has got a little meadow land.

15,625. How was this labourer in the employ of Durrant?—Running out with a little beer, trimming hedges, cleaning ditches, digging his garden, and so forth.

15,626. Was Wilkins in Durrant's employ when you were sent to him canvassing?—No.

15,627. Where was he?—I forget. I cannot say whether he was working at that time; he worked a week at one time, and perhaps a fortnight at another.

15,628. He was not at work for Durrant when you were sent?—He was not.

15,629. How soon after you were sent did you see him at work for Durrant?—Two or three weeks at may be. It is so long ago, I do not think of such things at present. It may be several weeks, a fortnight or three weeks before the polling perhaps.

15,630. Durrant wanted to get him on the right side of the hedge?—He was digging in the garden for Durrant.

15,631. Cutting hedges?—Yes, different things, working about there.

15,632. Do you know anything more about that beer, of your own knowledge?—No, no more than that the beer was ordered by me, and I believe it was sent; I never saw Thompson afterwards.

15,633. You know the "Barley Mow"?—Yes.

15,634. Did Durrant give you any directions about going to the "Barley Mow"?—Yes.

15,635. What did he tell you?—To walk down there in the evening, just merely to meet one with the other to have a civil conversation about the election. There were other small electors there, there were not many of us, and we met on that occasion those that chose to go; we were not compelled, we were merely asked to meet.

15,636. Then you were to have just what beer you wanted?—We certainly had a little occasionally.

15,637. Was that one of the houses that Durrant supplied with beer?—Yes, it was.

15,638. I suppose he told you that you might go down there and drink pretty freely?—He did not say anything about such a thing as that. We had a drop of beer, and sometimes we paid for it. I do not know whether it was paid for or not. It did not interfere with us.

15,639. The "Barley Mow" was open to give refreshment to Mr. Gower's party?—Yes.

15,640. Do you mean to say that you went down there and did not take advantage of that?—I cannot say what other people did. I can only answer for myself.

15,641. The more beer drunk there the better for Durrant?—I cannot answer for others.

15,642. Durrant would get paid by somebody?—Most likely. I oftentimes paid for my own beer.

15,643. Did you receive it from Durrant, or did you act upon your own authority? When a stranger came into the room I suppose he was asked to withdraw?—It was the case if any stranger came in; if there was a drop of beer on the counter, which it is a country rule in a little country place of that description.

15,644. He was asked to withdraw?—Just merely asked to take a glass of half-and-half or what not.

15,645. Was not Durrant frequently there himself?—Sometimes.

15,646. Frequently?—Yes, and he was there before the election; he has only that one little house there.

15,647. Durrant was a person who took a very active part, did he not, in the election of Mr. Gower?—Yes.

15,648. A very active committee man?—Yes.

15,649. Did you ever hear Mr. Durrant give directions to the landlord of the "Barley Mow" about the scores that would be run up, that he would see them paid?—No, I cannot say that.

15,650. You have heard him say this, have you not, "Let the men in the room have as much beer as they "like"?—In reason.

15,651. As much as they liked in reason?—Yes.

15,652. He did not object to treating, but he objected to their getting drunk?—Yes; he was not a man to see any drunkenness about the place.

15,653. He liked to see his friends enjoy themselves?—Yes.

15,654. So he told the landlord to give the men plenty of beer in reason?—I do not know that.

15,655. Did you hear him say, "Well, I will pay"?—Not exactly to pay.

15,656. Not in those words?—Not exactly those words; I cannot answer for exactly those words.

15,657. The landlord was not to ask the men to pay?—Well, no. The beer oftentimes was paid for as it came in; still, there were times, I own, when the beer was not paid for. I do not know who paid for it; I cannot answer for that.

15,658. Were you at the "Barley Mow" on the morning of the polling?—Yes.

15,659. What time were you there?—At 5 o'clock, I think.

15,660. As early as that?—That it was, because I was at work in Wray-park at a quarter past 6.

15,661. Was the breakfast put out as early as 5 o'clock?—Yes, we had breakfast there.

15,662. How many had breakfast at 5 o'clock?—I cannot answer. I had a crust of bread and butter, and I was off, because I had to be in Wray-park.

15,663. When you were there you saw some 20 persons?—Perhaps 12 or 15.

15,664. All voters?—Principally voters.

15,665. Were you there afterwards during the morning?—No.

15,666. Or the afternoon?—No, I did not go down till quite evening. I went in the evening.

15,667. That was a very jolly evening?—I do not know. I had a pint of ale and paid for it.

15,668. I suppose the others did not pay?—I cannot answer for others. There were several voters there, a great many voters there that evening, and as to what they did I do not know. I was rather quiet myself; I went and had a pint of ale, and I was off home.

15,669. Do you recollect being at the "Angel" and seeing David Durrant there?—Yes.

15,670. Do you recollect his giving some directions about going to the "Barley Mow"?—Yes; I think we were to have a meeting between ourselves there.

15,671. Was the "Angel" one of Mr. Durrant's houses?—Well, we met at the "Angel" once or twice.

15,672. Do you know whether the "Angel" was one of the houses that Durrant supplied with beer?—No, he did not supply the house with beer.

15,673. But you recollect seeing him there?—Yes.

15,674. Did you hear him give directions to several of the voters to go to the "Barley Mow"?—I did.

15,675. He told them they might go?—Yes.

15,676. And that what they wanted he would pay for?—Well, such was the case, but I cannot exactly say about paying for all; he often used to treat a man with three pennyworth or six pennyworth.

15,677. I am asking what Durrant said at the "Angel;" "what you want I will pay"?—Yes.

15,678. "You go up to the 'Barley Mow'"?—Yes.

15,679. Do you know William Groom ?—Of the freehold ?

15,680. I think it is ?—Yes.

15,681. Is that in Nutley-lane ?—No.

15,682. On the freehold ?—Yes.

15,683. These two men, Warren and Wilkins, were looked upon as rather shaky, were they not ?—They were rather.

15,684. Durrant wanted to get this man Wilkins on the right side of the hedge, and he got him into his garden ; but he was rather shaky, notwithstanding ?—I do not know.

15,685. You do not understand the term. Did you not think he was a rather doubtful voter ?—I think there was a little doubt about him.

15,686. And I suppose Warren was not much to be relied on ?—Well, perhaps not.

15,687. You recollect the circumstance of Warren and Wilkins, the night before the election, being at Groom's, do you not ?—Yes.

15,688. Were you there during that evening ?—Yes, I was there at times.

15,689. During the evening before the election ?—Yes.

15,690. Groom's was a private house ?—Yes.

15,691. But it was a house that was used for refreshment to a certain extent, was it not, for Mr. Gower ?—I do not know about "to a certain extent."

15,692. There was a little private treating go on ?—It was a private affair, it was not used as a public affair.

15,693. There were some little private parties there now and then ?—There were two or three of us met there on occasions.

15,694. On the night before the election there were several there ?—Yes, the neighbours.

15,695. Was Thomas Goddard there ?—I think I remember seeing him once, but he was not there long I think ; I cannot remember.

15,696. How long did you stop at Groom's ?—I was not there long. I was indoors only a very little while anywhere, like many more canvassers or electioneering people, who were indoors and out of doors all night.

15,697. Your principal duty on that night was to look after the "shaky" voters ?—Well, I was like a good many more, indoors and out of doors. We wanted to keep our own men together ; nothing else.

15,698. Did you invite any of your friends to come and visit at Groom's ?—I believe we were all invited together.

15,699. Did you take anybody there ? You did not go there and waste your time, I know ?—No, I believe Balchin went in with me, and I think he is the only person I ever troubled myself about.

15,700. Was Balchin a little shaky ?—No, I did not think so.

15,701. A little doubtful ?—I do not think he was in any way shaky.

15,702. Was that Alfred Balchin ?—No.

15,703. He had been got hold of by the other party ?—I know that.

15,704. You knew it ?—Yes.

15,705. Did you not think him a little shaky ?—Not at all, not shaky towards Mr. Gower, not then ; I did not think he was in any way shaky.

15,706. Did you think he had received something from the other side ?—Yes, I did.

15,707. That made you rather doubt his honesty ?—No, I did not doubt his honesty.

15,708. You doubted his vote, though ?—I rather did.

15,709. Was not that the reason why you took him to Groom's ?—No, I did not press the man to go.

15,710. Did you walk with him there ?—The man wished to be with me ; he was a next-door neighbour, and he said, "I wish to be with you." I said, "I "shall be indoors and out of doors, not an hour in "one place."

15,711. That is the reason why you took him to Groom's ?—I asked him to walk up to the corner with me ; I cannot say who asked him to go in ; some one asked him to go on. Whether he had a glass of beer or whether he had not I cannot say.

15,712. There were some of you out as scouts to bring in these doubtful voters to Groom's ?—Yes.

15,713. Was not Groom's the head-quarters for the doubtfuls ?—I do not understand "head-quarters."

15,714. A sort of little lock-up ?—We never had prison in that part.

15,715. You know what I mean, an electioneering lock-up ?—They never locked me up.

15,716. Of course you were staunch ; but Balchin, and Goddard, and Wilkins ?—I do not know, I did not see it ; I did hear that there was a little something.

15,717. You heard there was a little something what ?—That they wished to keep them together, because they got a little drop drunk in the fore part of the evening. They got a little irritable, rather irritated, and they wanted to keep them quiet and comfortable ; they wished them to lie down quiet for an hour, and then have a cup of tea. I believe the men had a cup of tea, and I think they went home, and had a cup of tea in the morning.

15,718. Did they have any tea at Groom's ?—I never saw any tea.

15,719. Or beer ?—I had a glass of beer.

15,720. Did that beer make you sleepy ?—Not at all ; I was not asleep all that night.

15,721. A man named Goddard told us the other day that he suddenly fell asleep on a stool ; can you account for that ?—It was in his own house.

15,722. No, he never went home all night ; his wife sat up all night for him ?—I cannot account for it. I believe the man laid down ; I think he had a glass in the town before he came in the freehold.

15,723. He was sober enough when he went into Groom's house ?—I cannot answer for anything of that. I had some of the same beer that they had ; I had a glass or two, and I was not stupefied.

15,724. What time in the evening did you take your beer there ?—I do not know ; I was not there at the time. It was 10 or 11 o'clock when I went there myself ; I did not stop there.

15,725. Who did you take in between 10 and 11 o'clock ?—I do not wish to enter into everything of that description.

15,726. But I do wish you to enter into things of that description. Who did you take in ?—Just a few of the neighbours, merely the voters.

15,727. I do not care about your taking in strangers. Who was the voter you took in between 10 and 11, or between 11 and 12 ? — There was Groom and Durrant, and me and two or three more, but who they were I cannot exactly answer for.

15,728. Groom, and Durrant, and you, and two or three more, were taking voters into Groom's ?—No, I cannot answer for who they were.

15,729. They were there and two or three more ?—I cannot answer. Sometimes there were not above three or four there, sometimes four or five.

15,730. But Goddard, Wilkins, and Warren, after they once got in there, did not come out again, did they ?—Well, they did not come out until the morning, I believe.

15,731. Do you know how many more did not come out until the morning ?—I do not think there were any more to speak of ; I think every one else was right ; I do not think any one else took quite as much drink as these three did.

15,732. These were well plied with beer, were they ?—No ; I believe these men had drunk before they came in the freehold.

15,733. They had a good deal in the freehold ?—I did not see all.

15,734. Now I will put a home question to you, which you will answer upon your oath. Was it not the fact, that something was put into Goddard's beer ?—It is past my art to answer that question.

15,735. Was not the beer drugged ?—I cannot answer the question.

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15,736. Yes you can?—How can I?

15,737. Yes you can?—Did I see the thing go?

15,738. You can answer by saying yes or no?—Then I should say "No;" as far as I know I cannot say yes.

15,739. Was it not talked of in the room?—Decidedly I did not hear it. I cannot answer such a question as that, because I do not know about drugging. That man was about all the day following, and he was as well as ever he was in his life. I think if the man had been drugged in any way he would have shown it the next day. The man certainly had been drinking freely; I believe he had had a drop of spirits, and being an agricultural man, not accustomed to taking spirits, it sent him off to sleep. I do not believe there was the least drugging.

15,740. Was Balchin drunk?—Yes; I believe a pint would make that man tipsy any day.

15,741. Was he drunk when he went in?—I believe he had got three parts towards it.

15,742. And he had more when he got there?—He did have a glass more.

15,743. Did you see him have it?—Yes.

15,744. If you knew that Balchin would be made drunk with half a pint of beer, and you saw that he was tipsy when he came in, why did you give him beer?—I did not give it him. How can I have a control over every man?

15,745. Did you advise him?—I did not say anything to him. I should have enough to do if I was to advise everybody when they got half tight. It is impossible to control such men.

15,746. You did not try to stop him?—It is no use. I had enough to look after my own business.

15,747. You wanted to see those men and secure them for the next morning?—I was very happy to see them there at the time, of course.

15,748. You were very glad to see that they were taken care of, and that they would not be able to go home?—Not a bit of it, because we were all in doubts whether they would rally soon enough in the morning, and we knew what a critical way they were in with the other party.

15,749. We know very well that at these elections, when the men are made drunk at night, there is the parish pump in the morning?—There was nothing of that kind done there.

15,750. They are soon quieted if they are taken to the parish pump?—There was nothing of that sort done. If the men were drunk, there was no such thing as that transacted. They had been about on the nomination day; they were labourers, working about during the week; they are men that cannot take it, and if they do take it for a day or two they get upset. They were spent out that night, and certainly they did fall asleep.

15,751. You were about that night looking after the doubtful voters, and you did bring some of them to Groom's?—They were merely asked to have a glass of ale, or a glass of beer; where it came from I do not know.

15,752. Did you ever speak to Mr. Durrant about these men being at Groom's?—No, not exactly, because it did not concern me.

15,753. Did you tell Durrant they had been there?—Where?

15,754. At Groom's?—Of course Durrant knew it.

15,755. You say of course Durrant knew it; without your telling him?—Yes.

15,756. Do you remember how he did know it?—I can not answer that; the man was personally there himself in the fore part of the evening.

15,757. Durrant was?—Yes.

15,758. Did you hear him giving any directions to the men?—No.

15,759. How can you say that he knew that Warren and Wilkins were there; they did not come and tell him?—They were there early in the morning themselves, but not in Groom's house, in Durrant's house. The parties would not allow him to lie down long; they went and worried him out of it. They said they were going to be up all night, and so should he. They worried him out of it.

15,760. Durrant got up, and came and helped you?—Yes.

15,761. All night?—No, we lost him; he was up to breakfast.

15,762. How late was Durrant at Groom's house?—The latest I saw I suppose must have been 20 minutes or half-past 10—the latest I saw him.

15,763. Not later than that?—No; I do not know that I saw him later than that.

15,764. Then he was aware of what was going on at Groom's?—I suppose he must have been.

15,765. Durrant and Mr. Gower were a good deal about together, were they not, canvassing?—I never saw them but once.

15,766. Now, then, I want to ask you about this greenhouse; George Nichols was the landlord?—He was.

15,767. Before the election were you in debt to Nichols for rent?—Well, I believe there was one quarter. I believe it was 30*s.*; I told you 2*l.* just now, but I believe it was 30*s.* a year rental.

15,768. But were you not indebted to him for two quarters' rent of greenhouse and ground, 1*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*?—Yes.

15,769. Perhaps you can explain to me how it was paid?—I do not know.

15,770. You do not know?—No.

15,771. Has Nichols ever asked you for it?—He sent me a receipted bill.

15,772. Nichols, of the "Barley Mow"?—Yes.

15,773. That is the bill, isn't it (*showing a paper to the witness*)?—Yes.

15,774. When did you get that, after voting?—Yes.

15,775. How long after?—I cannot say.

15,776. It was sent to you on the 15th of August, was it not?—Of course it was.

15,777. The day it bears date?—Yes.

15,778. There is a bill for "beer, 6*s.* 0½*d.*; beer, "9*s.* 2*d.*, 1864, December 25th to June 24th, 1865; "for two quarters' rent of greenhouse and ground, "1*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*" Did you ever pay any portion of that bill yourself?—No.

15,779. And Nichols sent you a receipt?—Yes.

15,780. On the 15th August?—Yes.

15,781. Nichols was a Gower man?—He had no vote.

15,782. But he was a tenant of——?—Of Durrant.

15,783. Had you been applied to by George Nichols for the rent before the election?—Only once.

15,784. How long before the election?—Let me see.

15,785. Not very long before the election, was it?—He merely spoke about it once.

15,786. Was it before you had promised your vote for Gower?—Oh, dear, I never promised it to any one else but Gower.

15,787. Answer the question. Did Nichols ask you for the rent of the greenhouse before you had promised your vote for Gower?—I think not. He merely civilly asked about the quarter being up. I said "Well, I will meet you to-morrow. "Oh," he said, "any when will do."

15,788. You told him it was not convenient for you to pay it?—I did.

15,789. Did you speak to Durrant about it?—I told him that he had asked me about it, and I had not the money to pay for it.

15,790. What did Durrant say?—He said he would see Nichols about it.

15,791. Didn't he also say, "Don't mind that; I will settle that"?—Yes.

15,792. And did he also say, "I will tell Nichols "that it is not for the election, but I owe you the "money"?—Yes.

15,793. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Durrant said that ?—Yes.

15,794. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you owe Durrant any money then ?—No.

15,795. Then did he go on farther and say this: "You and I, Jemmy, well know that it is as a set-off "for voting for Mr. Gower" ?—That was a private affair.

15,796. But he said it ?—Yes.

15,797. Of course he did. And you said, "Very "well;" and then a little time after that you received that receipt from Nichols ?—I did.

15,798. Now, that is about the history of that ?—It is.

15,799. Now, don't you believe that Mr. Durrant paid this little bill for you ?—I am quite sure of that.

15,800. I think you told me before that you received the money from Durrant to pay Balchin ?—Yes.

15,801. And you paid him the money ?—I did.

15,802. Balchin and Wilkins ?—I never paid Wilkins.

15,803. You got the money from Durrant ?—Yes.

15,804. On purpose to pay him ?—Yes.

15,805. Were you in the previous election ?—The election before you mean ?

15,806. Yes. Had you a vote then ?—No. I was here. I have been here for five or six years; but my name was not on the books.

15,807. Had you taken any part in any previous elections ?—No.

15,808. Had you acted in the previous election of 1863; did you take any part in that ?—That was when Leveson Gower put up against Mr. Wilkinson ?

15,809. Yes.—Well, I did take a little trouble towards Mr. Arthur Wilkinson, but a mere trifle.

15,810. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were not a voter ?—I was not a voter, and I never took any trouble.

15,811. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you canvass at all ?—No, I never took any trouble about it.

15,812. You led me to suppose that you did take a little ?—I never interfered with anybody's business at that time.

15,813. Didn't you ask anybody to vote ?—No; I did not take any interference towards it at all; not in Mr. Wilkinson's and Mr. Gower's election.

15,814. Did you know Durrant then ?—I did.

15,815. Did Durrant employ you at all in the election of 1863 ?—I was on the opposition. I was for Wilkinson, and he was for Gower. That was a direct opposition.

15,816. How came you then to take so much interest in the election if you were not a voter ?—Which ?

15,817. In 1863 ?—I had been here seven years, and I had not been put on the books, by neglect.

15,818. Did not some of the Wilkinson party ask you to go and get votes for them ?—Well, they did so.

15,819. Did any of those persons who asked you to get votes give you any authority to make offers to the people ?—No, of course I was not a voter, and they never gave me any authority of that description. They simply said, "Just speak to a few." Nothing else.

15,820. Was there much treating going on during that election of 1863—Wilkinson's and Gower's ?—But very little.

15,821. There was some ?—A trifle on both sides.

15,822. Much the same as in 1865 ?—Plenty towards Mr. Gower's, I think; more than there was on Mr. Wilkinson's, of the two.

15,823. Gower had the preference ?—Yes, and of course the man won.

15,824. Of course he won ?—Yes.

15,825. Do you attribute his winning to the liberality of his refreshments ?—Not at all.

15,826. Why do you say, "Of course he won" ?—That is the generality of Reigate, to a great extent.

15,827. The man who pays best, and treats best, rides the winning horse ?—Yes.

15,828. You were speaking of the general tone and feeling of the borough ?—Yes, it is.

15,829. Do you come to that conclusion from your general conversation amongst your neighbours ?—What ?

15,830. That the man that pays best wins at Reigate ?—No.

15,831. Or is it from your own personal observation ?—It is from my own personal observation. Of course I spoke words which I ought not to have exactly spoke, but at the same time there are many classes of the labouring people here that can be led away so simple. That is where I take it from. Like myself, I was led simple.

15,832. Do you mean to say that the labouring classes are so simple, or that it is a very simple way of leading them ?—It is a little of both. The labouring class are simple, and likewise the people that lead them are simple.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I have seen none here. I have seen very shrewd, intelligent, keen-minded people.

15,833. You were promised 5*l.*, we understand ?—Yes.

15,834. And you received 1*l.* 6*s.* ?—As near as I can guess.

15,835. And then you received 1*l.* 13*s.* 5½*d.* That made 2*l.* 19*s.* 5½*d.* Did you apply for the remainder ?—I have.

15,836. That would be about 2*l.* more ?—Yes.

15,837. To whom did you apply ?—For the balance? David Durrant.

15,838. And he did not give you any ?—No.

15,839. I suppose you are ashamed of yourself now for being taken in ?—I consider it as such.

15,840. I want to know whether you are ashamed of yourself for being taken in in that way, because I tell you that the people took in others, and when they promised them they did not fulfil their promises. They laughed at them ?—That has been the case.

15,841. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is your signature, is it not (*showing witness a document*) ?—Yes.

15,842. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you had been here seven years, but from neglect you had not got your name down on the list ?—Yes.

15,843. Then you had seen all the elections that had taken place back as far as Mr. Hackblock's ?—No, I came first after Mr. Hackblock's.

15,844. You have seen all the elections since Hackblock's ?—Yes.

14,845. Rawlinson's ?—Yes, that was the first since I came to the borough.

15,846. Although you did not canvass people, did you watch what went on ?—Well, I never took particular notice of what went on, because I never thought it would come to this.

15,847. We have your opinion of the late elections. I want to know from what you noticed previously, whether more or less, was there any difference in any of the elections one from the other, as far as you can tell; or do you think you had not means of judging ? If you think you did not take part enough to be a judge, say so ?—I think not. I did not take part enough to be a judge, as much as I did at the last one; I cannot answer for the other elections, because I did not have an interest in them.

15,848. You know you were a Gowerite, and they knew you were pretty active. In 1865 the Monson party got hold of you once, didn't they ?—No.

15,849. I thought they did ?—No, simply chaffing me.

15,850. I do not mean they got your vote, but they got you into a house ?—Got me into a house ?

15,851. Yes. The house I mean is the "Grapes" ?

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—There was no intention to do anything to me. They only got chaffing me.

15,852. But did they get you in there?—I frequently used to walk in as I went home from my work and get a glass of ale, at six in the evening.

15,853. Do you recollect any particular occasion when they got you into the "Bunch of Grapes"?—I remember being in there once or twice.

15,854. You did not get out on very easy terms? You had some drink?—Yes; I know what you are on.

15,855. You know what I am on; very well. In short they made you?—There was no intimidation, barring chaff.

15,856. When was that? How long before the election?—Why, I used to have a chaff with them very frequently.

15,857. This time that I am talking about you went in there and there was rather a hard bout of it?—I should think that was nearly a month before the election.

15,858. Well, they did not win you over, but did they make an attempt at your virtue?—No.

15,859. Didn't they propose some terms to you?—No, not at all. They had nothing to do with me.

15,860. I do not mean to say they won you over, but didn't they offer you some terms, some inducement?—No. They asked me if I would join their committee. They merely asked me, "Now let me "put your name down on our committee;" but as for any offer, I had not any.

15,861. Who asked you to be put down on the committee?—I fancy it was Francis.

15,862. What did you say to that?—I say, "No, I "have made up my mind. I have done with it."

15,863. You had done with making up your mind; but you know then you set to work and you passed a pleasant evening there. Now I want to know what the terms were that they said. If you were to join their committee, why were you to do it?—They never made me any offer why I should do so. The fact was Mr. Nichols has told me since, "We knew it was no "use to put any intimidation before you, because we "knew you were such a determined mind."

15,864. Not intimidation. There is something else besides intimidation. Why should Nichols say that? Intimidation is frightening, but just the other thing I mean—just the opposite?—I had nothing to do with bribery at all.

15,865. Not bribery, that is a very awkward thing, but terms. I abstain from going into bribery. Didn't they say, "If you are going on the committee "we are very good with our people"?—They said, "You might as well have your name down on our "committee." There were no other terms made to me.

15,866. Did they make any promise?—They said, "We are going on very nicely."

15,867. And, "You may as well have our pay as "Gower's pay"?—I do not recollect anything of that.

Mr. E. Prout.

MR. EBENEZER PROUT recalled.

15,868. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you observe the state of the public houses during the canvass?—Well, I can scarcely say that I did.

15,869. Did you notice anything?—Just passing through the streets, it was very evident that many of the houses were open.

15,870. Open for treating?—Yes.

15,871. Do you know anything at all that you think would be worthy to bring under the notice of the Commissioners?—I should be very happy if I knew anything; I am not aware of anything. I was on Mr. Monson's committee, and the strong impression which I and many other members of the committee had was that Mr. Monson's party, at any rate, was conducting the election in the purest way, and I should have repudiated anything otherwise.

15,872. There are others concerned, there are lower agents?—Yes.

15,873. You do not know anything yourself?—I do not.

15,874. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You being on the committee, Mr. Prout, and believing as a member of the committee, that Mr. Monson's election was being carried on on the purest principles, the evidence which you have heard on this Inquiry must have rather startled you?—Yes, and disgusted me too.

Short adjournment.

J. Mewett.

JAMES MEWETT called, sworn, and examined.

15,875. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where do you reside?—At Cranley.

15,876. What are you?—I am a wheelwright.

15,877. Did you live at Cranley during the last election?—I did.

15,878. What rent did you pay?—My rent was 4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

15,879. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

15,880. For whom?—For Mr. Gower.

15,881. Did any one ask you to vote?—Charles Farley asked me to vote.

15,882. What is he?—He is a carpenter.

15,883. When did he ask you?—It was on the Monday before the election.

15,884. What did he say?—He said he came from Mr. Penfold.

15,885. Had any one else been to you?—Ephraim Rose came to me on the Saturday before. He was on the other side.

15,886. How long have you been at Cranley?—I left Redhill two years ago last July.

15,887. What did Ephraim Rose say to you?—He asked me to vote for Gower, but I did not promise him.

15,888. Did he give you anything?—He gave me two sovereigns.

15,889. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He asked you to vote, but you did not promise him, but he gave you two sovereigns?—No, certainly I did not promise him; he said I was to come up on the polling day.

15,890. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He paid you then?—He paid me two sovereigns then.

15,891. When was he to pay any more?—Polling day.

15,892. How many more was he to give you?—Three.

15,893. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose he was to pay you 3*l.* when you polled?—Yes.

15,894. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did he then go away?—Yes; he came home then. At least, we had an hour together.

15,895. Were you to do anything at all. Were you to do anything besides go to the poll on the polling day?—No, nothing more.

15,896. Now, had you come home before the election on purpose for it, or did you always come home on a Saturday to be there on Sunday?—Oh, I was living here. I had a wife and family. We lived here altogether.

15,897. On the Monday Farley came to you for Mr. Gower?—Yes; at least for Mr. Richardson and his party.

15,898. What took place?—He asked me if I would vote for Mr. Gower. I said I did not know anything at all about voting, because I never had any hand in electioneering at all before.

15,899. Farley came to you. You will tell us I dare say exactly what passed. Farley came on the Monday before the election from Mr. Gower's party ?—Yes. He asked me whether I had a mind to vote for Mr. Gower ; I said I did not understand at all about voting, I never had any interest at all in it. He said, "There is 3*l.* for you to pay expenses if you "like to go and vote."

15,900. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He handed you the 3*l.* ?—No.

15,901. He said, "Here is 3*l.*" ?—Yes ; he offered it to me, but I would not have it.

15,902. Did you take the 3*l.* ?—No.

15,903. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just tell us quite honestly what took place ?—I came up the night before.

15,904. Is that all that took place with Farley ?—Yes.

15,905. Did you tell him why you would not take it ?—I said I did not know who I should vote for.

15,906. Well, there would have been 3*l.* in case you did go and vote for Gower, but you did not take it ?—No ; I came up the night before. I went to Mead-vale, and slept there that night.

15,907. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said that was not enough, or something of that kind ?—Not as I am aware of.

15,908. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Didn't you say, "I hear things are going better than that" ?—No ; how could I hear when I had not been in the election ?

15,909. I mean something like that. Didn't you say, "I shall wait and see if money is going better "than that" ?—I did not.

15,910. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had 2*l.*, and you were promised 3*l.* ?—Yes, 3*l.* more.

15,911. Well that is better. Didn't you say, "That won't do ?—From Mr. Monson's.

15,912. You did not say when Farley came, "That "is not exactly the thing, that won't do ?—I said, Rose gave me 3*l.* and promised two more. I said Farley offered me 3*l.*

15,913. Didn't you say to Farley, "Oh, no, that "won't do" ?—Not as I am aware of, I did not, not to my recollection.

15,914. Didn't you say so to yourself ?—No, I thought that was a nice little bit of money for a day's work.

15,915. Which was ; the 3*l.* that Farley held out ?—Yes.

15,916. Well, it was not so much as the 5*l.* ?—No, I know that.

15,917. Then you came to Mead-vale on the —— ?—Night before the polling.

15,918. The night before the nomination. Monday night ?—I do not know whether it was Monday night or Tuesday night. I got up in the morning and came over here a quarter or twenty minutes past 8. I went in and voted for Mr. Gower.

15,919. Yes, something else took place besides that ?—No, there was not.

15,920. Did you see a man of the name of Henry Palmer ?—Never saw him at all.

15,921. You know him ?—Is he a cripple man ?

15,922. No, that is not the man I mean ?—No.

15,923. What happened on Tuesday before you went to vote for Mr. Gower ?—That was all that took place.

15,924. No ; now do tell me. You know you came up from Mead-vale, you got up at a quarter past 8 in the morning ; and how did you find things were going on ?—I lodged at a private house.

15,925. How did you find things were going when you came up and made inquiry ?—I never made any inquiry at all.

15,926. In whose house did you lodge ?—Mr. Penfold's.

15,927. What did it cost you to come here that day ?—I had seven miles' walk.

15,928. Well, and by railway ?—I forget what the fare was.

15,929. Was it 2*s.* ?—I forget.

15,930. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you get a return ticket ?—No. It was not over 2*s.*

15,931. You lodged at Penfold's, and walked seven miles. Won't you tell us any more ?—I do not know any more.

15,932. What determined you to vote for Gower at last ?—Why, the persuasion of Charles Farley. He persuaded me to do so.

15,933. But in the first instance you did not take his money, and so he did not overcome you. He did not persuade you then, or else you would have taken his money. Did he tell you you were to have the money then or afterwards ?—Afterwards.

15,934. I thought he held it out to you and you refused it ?—At Cranley he did.

15,935. Then he came and offered you the money ?—He never offered me it till after I had been to the poll.

15,936. Oh, you came to Mead-vale. Did you see Farley again ?—Yes, he met me at the station the night before that.

15,937. Then did he promise it ?—Promise the money ?

15,938. Yes ; you cannot get out of that, because you have told me if you came up to the poll you should have 3*l.* ?—Yes.

15,939. Did he say that at the station ?—No.

15,940. Where ?—At Cranley.

15,941. It has nothing to do with Cranley. He met you at the station ?—Yes.

15,942. What passed between you and Farley at the station ?—Nothing particular ; we went home together.

15,943. What happened afterwards ?—Nothing at all. After I got to Thomas Penfold's I never saw him again.

15,944. Did he offer it to you then ?—No.

15,945. When were you to have the 3*l.* ?—After I polled.

15,946. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He told you that at Cranley ?—I could have had it at Cranley.

15,947. But did he tell you at Cranley you could have it after the poll ?—No, I could have had it then at Cranley.

15,948. Did you make an appointment with him when he met you at the station ?—I told him I would go in the evening if I could, and if I did I should be up to the station.

15,949. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is another thing you did not tell me ?—I could not promise him. I told him I would come.

15,950. How much more were you to have ?—Than the 3*l.* ?

15,951. Yes ?—No more.

15,952. Was that to cover expenses and travelling too ?—Yes. He never offered me no more, not a farthing.

15,953. Did he promise you any more ?—He promised me another pound if he could get it.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had got 3*l.* from the Monson party, you know.

15,954. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That would only have made 4*l.* ?—That is all. That is every farthing I had.

15,955. Did you tell Penfold at any time that you had got 2*l.* from the other side ?—I told Farley of it.

15,956. Well, then did he say that that 2*l.* added to his 3*l.* would make it all right, 5*l.* ?—No, I do not believe he ever said such a thing.

15,957. Well, now then, I want to know how much you did in fact get from Farley and Penfold altogether ?—4*l.*

15,958. Who paid it to you ?—Farley.

15,959. That was after the election ?—Yes.

12,960. Did you get any more money from the Monson party before you polled ?—No.

15,961. You did not get any more from them, only the 2*l.* ?—No.

15,962. Is this the first election you voted at ?—Yes.

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15,963. You do not know anything about 1863 ?—No.

15,964. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When had you left Redhill ?—Two years ago last July.

15,965. And given up your house and all ?—Yes.

15,966. Then you got 6*l.* for a vote that was worthless, because you did not occupy ?

15,967. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did they ever object to your vote ?—No.

15,968. But you were on the register ?—Yes.

A. Latham.

ALFRED LATHAM called, sworn, and examined.

15,969. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A bricklayer.

15,970. Living in the borough ?—Yes.

15,971. What rent do you pay ?—12*l.*

15,972. That gives you the qualification ?—Yes.

15,973. How long have you been on the list of voters ?—From 1862.

15,974. You voted for Mr. Gower at the last election I believe ?—I did.

15,975. Did you vote for him in 1863 ?—I did not. I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

15,976. You know Mr. Mitchell ?—I do.

15,977. I believe Mr. Apted canvassed you ?—No, he did not.

15,978. Did he not ?—No.

15,979. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower ?—Mr. Gower himself.

15,980. But Mr. Apted spoke to you about putting you upon the committee ?—I went to him and promised to vote.

15,981. You did not promise Mr. Apted to vote, you promised Mr. Gower to vote ?—I did not.

15,982. You told him you would consider of it ?—I did, and that most likely I should vote for him ; I was not quite sure.

15,983. Did the Monson party come to you at all ?—Mr. Monson and Mr. Richardson came.

15,984. But did any one else come ?—No.

15,985. Then, no others coming, you went to Mr. Apted ?—I went to Mr. Apted first, before they canvassed me at all.

15,986. And he said he would put you on the committee, didn't he ?—I asked him if he could give me employment.

15,987. Mitchell went with you, I believe ?—No, he did not.

15,988. You and Mitchell had agreed to go the same way ?—In the early part of the canvass, before I had seen or spoken to any one.

15,989. That is exactly what I want to know. You and Mitchell met together, and you said, "Now, "as you vote I will vote" ?—Certainly, something that way.

15,990. And of course agreed that you were to have something ?—No, we did not.

15,991. Attend ?—I tell you we did not.

15,992. When two men meet together in that way, they do not come to terms in that way, "As you vote "I will vote," unless there is some reason for it ; why should Mr. Mitchell vote as you voted ?—Mr. Mitchell and I voted for Wilkinson on the former occasion, and we said if either one of us voted for Gower, the other would vote for Gower.

15,993. And if one voted for Monson the other would vote for Monson ?—Yes.

15,994. Then you went to Mr. Apted ?—Yes.

15,995. Ank you asked Mr. Apted for employment ?—I gave him my promise. I said I would vote for Gower.

15,996. And you asked for employment ?—Yes.

15,997. In fact, he was to give you employment, was he not, and to pay you 5*l.* for your work ?—No.

15,998. What was he to pay you ?—I was to be paid. I was to be satisfied for what I had done.

15,999. You were to be satisfied for what you did, and that was to be 5*l.* ?—There was no 5*l.*, nor any sum mentioned.

16,000. Was Mitchell also to be satisfied ?—Mitchell and him made some arrangements by themselves in this room ; I was not there with them.

16,001. Mitchell made an arrangement ?—Yes.

16,002. Did Mitchell tell you he was to have 5*l.* ?—He did not.

16,003. What did he say to you ?—He was to be paid in the same way as I was for what we had done.

16,004. How could he say that, because you were not to be paid in any way. If I understand you, there were no terms ?—No, but I was to be paid for what I had done.

16,005. How many weeks before the election was it ?—I think it was six or seven weeks.

16,006. You were to work then ?—I was.

16,007. Then you went to work I suppose ?—The first thing I did was to go and get him to come down here.

16,008. You brought him to Apted ?—Yes.

16,009. But you had seen Apted ?—Yes.

16,010. Was Mitchell found employment ?—Mitchell was not, he was at work at the time at one place.

16,011. Then you brought Mitchell to Apted, and then Mitchell told you he had arranged with Apted as you had ?—Yes.

16,012. And then you were to vote together ?—Yes.

16,013. How much did you get ?—After it was over I got 3*l.*

16,014. Did Mr Gower himself give you any money ?—Yes, afterwards.

16,015. You got the 3*l.* from Mr. Apted ?—From Mr. Smith.

16,016. And then you went to Mr. Gower ?—I did.

16,017. How many days after the election, after the polling, was it that Mr. Smith brought you the 3*l.* ?—Oh, some weeks.

16,018. How long after that did you go to Mr. Gower ?—I should think about a month afterwards.

16,019. How much did he give you ?—He gave me a sovereign.

16,020. Well, but didn't he give you a letter also to go to Mr. Smith ?—No, he did not.

16,021. I thought he gave you a letter to Smith ?—You thought wrong then, he didn't.

16,022. You had received the 3*l.* from Mr. Smith before ?—I had.

16,023. I suppose you applied to Mr. Apted for money ?—I saw Mr. Apted as I was going into Reigate; he told me to take my bill to Mr. Smith.

16,024. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When was it Mr. Gower gave you the sovereign ?—I think it was about seven weeks afterwards, but allow me to explain why he gave me the sovereign.

16,025. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You told him you had been at work for him, I suppose ?—Yes.

16,026. And I believe he told you a great many had come to him for money, or he would give you more, didn't he ?—No, he did not, he said there had been several to him for money.

16,027. That is what I mean ; otherwise he would have been able to give more liberally towards you ?—No, he did not say so.

16,028. I may be mistaken, I understood that at that time he also gave you a letter to Mr. Smith ?—Then you understood wrong, for he didn't.

16,029. He said several had been to him for money ; was not that in answer to your application for more ?—No.

16,030. Why should he tell you that if you had not been woking for him ?—He told me that he had nothing to do with work that was done for him ; it was left to Mr. Smith, but he would give me a sovereign out of charity.

16,031. He told you several people had been to him for money ?—Yes.

16,032. But did he not say that when you required something more ?—No, he told me that before he gave

me it. He said that he had nothing whatever to do with paying.

16,033. Didn't you tell him that you were not paid sufficient by Mr. Smith ?—I did.

16,034. You didn't go to him for charity ?—Certainly not.

16,035. You expected 5*l.* ?—That was the amount of my bill when I took it in.

16,036. 5*l.* was not mentioned ; you told me, I believe very properly, that it was not mentioned, but you had expected 5*l.* ?—I had no reason to expect that any more than any other sum.

16,037. But your bill was 5*l.* ?—My bill was 5*l.*

16,038. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you send a bill in ?—I took it in myself.

16,039. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What was in the bill ?—I think I have got a copy.

16,040. No, I do not want a copy, I want your recollection ?—Well, "Leveson Gower to A. Latham. " For services during the election, employed by Job " Heath Apted, 5*l.*"

16,041. That is comprehensive ; did you show that to Mr. Apted ? Mr. Apted was your immediate employer, did you show that bill to Mr. Apted before you sent it in to Mr. Smith ?—No.

16,042. You didn't get him to sign it ?—No, I did not.

16,043. Mitchell sent in a similar bill ?—Afterwards he did,

16,044. In the same words ?—I did not see it.

16,045. You are a scholar, are you not ?—I can read and write.

16,046. Did not you make Mitchell's bill for him ?—No, I did not.

16,047. After that you went to Mr. Smith ?—Yes.

16,048. Did Mr. Smith say that he would not give you 5*l.* ?—He said he had not seen Apted then, but he would let me have 3*l.* on account.

16,049. Why didn't you say, "Well, I will see Mr. " Apted, and I will get his signature to it." ?—I offered to go and fetch Mr. Apted then if he liked. I saw him at his door when I passed.

16,050. What did Smith say to you ?—" No necessity " for that, you will have the remainder at another " time."

16,051. That was adopting the 5*l.* ?—Yes.

16,052. When did you go to him again ?—I think about a month afterwards.

16,053. What did he say then ?—Well, he said, " You have had ever so much, you will get no more."

10,054. Then you see the services had been rendered, the time was past then ?—Yes.

16,055. Eaten bread is soon forgotten ; what then ?—"Come and see Apted and Buckland," he says.

16,056. And did you ?—No, I did not.

16,057. Didn't you ?—I did afterwards; but in addition I said, "I shall not go to them, I shall go to " Mr. Gower."

16,058. You decided to go to the head man at once ?—Exactly so.

16,059. Then you went to Mr. Gower ?—Yes, just so ; then I went to Mr. Gower the same day.

16,060. Then you told Mr. Gower, I suppose, "I " have sent in a bill to Mr. Smith for 5*l.* that I was " to have been paid for employment according to " arrangement made by Mr. Apted, and I have got " only 3*l.* ; will you be kind enough to settle it." ?—No, I did not say so. I went to Mr. Smith, and he told me to go to the devil.

16,061. I thought you went to Job Apted ?—At least, he didn't say exactly the devil, but he told me to go to the old one.

16,062. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He said, "Go " to the devil," but you thought "Job Apted" would do as well ?—No, he said the old one.

16,063. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were sent to the old one, but you have declined to go there yet ?—Yes.

16,064. Mr. Gower told you a great many more had been for money ?—He said there had been several there for money.

16,065. And then he gave you a pound ?—Not till after that.

16,066. Oh, did he not give the pound then ?—Not at that same time, he said that he had nothing whatever to do with paying any of the election expenses, that was entirely in the hands of Mr. Smith. He said, "I " told him that I would have nothing whatever to do " with paying any one, and so I have told others " that have come here." I told him then that I should not have applied to him, but Mr. Smith gave me an abrupt answer, and I had a son in the Brighton hospital, and I did not know but what he was dead, and I wanted to go down to Brighton to see him, and then he gave me that sovereign, but he told me distinctly that I was not to consider that sovereign as part of the bill I took in to Mr. Smith.

16,067. But you told him you had come for money ?—Yes.

16,068. Generally if people are owed money they apply for it again and again ; did you apply again for the 2*l.* ?—No, I have not applied since.

16,069. How much did Mitchell get, do you know ?—I do not know that he got anything.

16,070. Worse off than you ?—Rather.

16,071. How were you paid ?—Paid by that amount.

16,072. Was it a check ?—Yes.

16,073. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The 3*l.* was ?—Yes.

16,074. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who canvassed you on the part of the Monson party ?—Monson and Richardson.

16,075. Nobody else ?—No others.

16,076. Of course they did not offer you anything ?—No.

16,077. I do not insinuate they did. You voted in 1863 ?—Yes.

16,078. Whom for ?—Wilkinson.

16,079. Were you on the committee ?—We had a nice little committee among ourselves in Hollies-row.

16,080. Did Mitchell vote for Monson ?—Yes.

16,081. You agreed with the others to vote one way ?—He and I did.

16,082. How many of you were on the little committee ?—That was what I call a nice little committee. I think 13 out of the 15 voters were on the committee, and promised their votes.

16,083. You canvassed each other, and met in that way and agreed to vote ?—Yes.

16,084. And you all voted for Wilkinson ?—Yes, we did.

16,085. Now, what did you get for your labour on the committee ?—For Wilkinson ?

16,086. Yes.—On the Thursday before the election——

16,087. What did you get ?—All I had was 30*s.* ; nothing for being on the committee.

16,088. The others of the 13 had 30*s.*, or something ?—I do not know, except Churchill.

16,089. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was he at the head of the committee ?—Yes.

16,090. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was the chairman ; he used to address you and tell you how good it was to vote on principle ?—Yes.

16,091. Was Mitchell paid ?—I do not know; he was not on the committee at all.

16,092. I know he was not in the secret; but you and Mitchell had agreed to vote the same way ?—Yes.

16,093. When people go into partnerships that way it ought to be fair ?—I don't know whether he received a shilling or not.

16,094. Did you not tell him what you had got ?—No.

16,095. That is hardly candid to a partner ?—I did not.

16,096. Did Mitchell ever tell you what he had ?—He did not.

16,097. Do tell me why you and Mitchell should

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agree together to vote the same way; how is it?—Well, I can tell you.

16,098. Was it after Wilkinson's election he was paid?—Mr. Norman Wilkinson came down to thank me for voting for his brother. He said, "Latham, "they have beaten us this time, but we will have "another fire at them, and if my brother does not come "forward again, I will." "Oh! very well," I said "I will vote for you;" and Mitchell, who was there, said, "And I will vote too." When Mr. Gower came round I did not know but what Mr. Norman Wilkinson was coming forward, but I found out that he would not. I came the next day and found that he was not coming forward, and I promised to vote for Gower.

16,099. Why did you and Mitchell vote together?—We had no other reason than what I have said.

16,100. Why did you agree to vote together for Gower?—We agreed to vote for Wilkinson.

16,101. Was it not well understood between you that what one got the other got?—No, it was not.

16,102. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or what you both got you were to share?—Never; we never mentioned a word about money nor money's worth, nor any consideration whatever.

16,103. We know money never is mentioned; but the moment you were employed by Apted you brought Mitchell; why did you do that if you did not wish to place him in the same position as you were?—I told Apted that Mitchell was going to vote the same way, and he said, "Bring him to me."

16,104. For what?—That was all that was said.

16,105. You thought he was to be employed?—No, I did not.

16,106. Mr. Apted agreed to employ you; don't you know Mitchell was to be employed also?—I do not.

16,107. Don't you know that he was employed?—No; he told me one little thing that he had done.

16,108. What is that?—This man, Mitchell, was at work at the grammar school, as gardener, and he told me that his master, that is the Rev. Gooch, had told him that he would vote for Mr. Gower if he dared; if he could do so without offending Mr. Harrison.

16,109. That who would vote?—Mr. Gooch.

16,110. Do not tell us that.—That is what he told me.

16,111. We do not receive imputations upon gentlemen.—That is what he told me that he had said.

16,112. Gooch would not tell Mitchell, the gardener what he would do. Is that all you have got to tell?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You might have kept it to yourself.

16,113. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I do not believe one word of it.—Well, it is true.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Well, let Mitchell come and say so.

C. Milner.

CHARLES MILNER called, sworn, and examined.

16,114. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A tailor.

16,115. What rent did you pay at the last election?—10*l.* a year.

16,116. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

16,117. Who canvassed you?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith; and Mr. Dunn, I believe, came to my house.

16,118. You did not promise them?—I did not.

16,119. In consequence of your not promising them somebody else called upon you for them, or some of their agents?—No, I do not think they did.

16,120. Did not Buckland call on you?—No.

16,121. Frederick Joyes?—No.

16,122. Did William Joyes call on you?—William Joyes calls at my house every day almost.

16,123. Did he call about getting your vote at the election?—No, he did not.

16,124. Be so good as to tell me to whom you promised your vote for Gower?—I did not promise it to any one.

16,125. Not before the election?—No.

16,126. Before the election did you refuse to promise it?—I did not refuse. I told Mr. Gower when he came that I had not made up my mind whether I should vote or not.

16,127. When did you make up your mind?—Not till the morning of the election.

16,128. Before that morning do you remember William Joyes coming to you and talking about the election?—Yes; we had some conversation about it.

16,129. How long before the election was that?—Perhaps a month.

16,130. Did he see you at home on this occasion?—Yes.

16,131. I believe you have got a garden, havn't you?—Yes.

16,132. Do you recollect at that time there were some cabbages growing in it?—Yes, there were.

16,133. *Mr* (*Commissioner O'Brien.*) Joyes saw those cabbages, didn't he?—Well, I dare say he did.

16,134. Well, a little more than that, you know he did. Do you recollect Joyes talking to you about the cabbages?—Well, I do not think he did. He did not talk about the cabbages.

16,135. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Perhaps he spoke in the singular number, about the cabbage?—No, he did not.

16,136. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you be so good as to tell me the story?—Well, there is no story to tell about it.

16,137. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Well, tell the truth?—Yes.

16,138. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Go on?—Well, there was an understanding with me that I was to have 5*l.* There was nothing said about cabbages at all. That is false.

16,139. I suppose then he went away; I do not want to go into more conversations?—Yes, he went away.

16,140. Do you remember after that being called on by some one from the Monson people?—Yes, Mr. Monson called on me himself.

16,141. Did he canvass you?—Yes.

16,142. What did you tell him? Did you promise him your vote?—I told him I had not made up my mind whether I should vote at all.

16,143. At that time had you promised Joyes?—No, I had not.

16,144. Only what you told us had taken place?—That is all.

16,145. Did anybody else call upon you, or was anybody with him at the time he spoke to you about your vote?—No; there was some gentleman with him, but I do not know who it was.

16,146. Was anything particular said at the time?—No, there was not.

16,147. Do you recollect a man calling upon you afterwards, Henry Francis, whom we know?—Yes.

16,148. Now, Francis came to you and something passed between you and him, I wish you would be kind enough to tell me in your own way?—He asked me whether I would go on to work for Monson's party, if I would I should be paid for it.

16,149. He mentioned a sum, didn't he?—He said, "If you like to go and work for me you shall have "two, or three, or five pounds, or whatever you "like."

16,150. Did he show you any money at that time?—No, he did not.

16,151. What did you say to him? Did you say, "Well, I will think about it"?—No, I did not.

16,152. What did you say?—I said I would not have anything to do with it; I did not intend to take any part in the election at all, or do any work.

16,153. He did not put down any money?—No, he did not.

16,154. You say you had not promised him. Do you recollect Corderoy calling on you?—No, Corderoy never came to me.

16,155. Didn't he?—He never came to me.

16,156. But you saw him in the "Grapes"?—No, I didn't. I met him in the street.

16,157. Will you be so good as to tell me what passed between you and Corderoy?—Well, he asked me how I was, and so on, and he asked me whether 10*l.* would be any use to me.

16,158. He was a Monson man?—Yes, he was a Monson man.

16,159. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long before the election?—Well, this was about a week, I think.

16,160. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you say?—I said, no, I did not think it would.

16,161. Go on, if you please. What did he say more?—Well, I do not know that he said any more.

16,162. Well, perhaps not, but that was rather an abrupt conclusion. Did he not say, "Because if 10*l.* "would fix you you can have it," or something like that?—He might say that.

16,163. Did you say anything?—No, we had not any more conversation.

16,164. Was there any other sum mentioned? Didn't he get up to 10*l.* from some other sum?—No.

16,165. Was not 7*l.* mentioned?—No, not by Corderoy.

16,166. Who was 7*l.* mentioned by? I think, if you will try and recollect, that when they were talking with you 7*l.* was the sum mentioned?—No, it was not. Whose party are you speaking of now?

16,167. That is exactly what I want you to tell me?—I will give it to you as near as I can, and as truthfully as I can.

16,168. Wasn't there a sum of 7*l.* mentioned?—Yes, there was. That was mentioned between me and William Joyes.

16,169. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When he offered you 5*l.* you said you would want 7*l.*?—Yes.

16,170. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was Joyes elastic enough to stretch up to that?—Well, he said he did not know.

16,171. That was rather out of the common, more than 5*l.* Go on?—That is all I have to say about it.

16,172. Then there was no talk with you and any one in the "Grapes Inn," was there, particular?—No, there was not.

16,173. You know what I mean?—Yes.

16,174. Have you told me all that was important about this election of 1865?—I think I have.

16,175. I have neglected to find out how much money you really did get. They were bidding pretty high?—I did not get anything at all.

16,176. You were above the mark, which you see is always dangerous. Whom did you apply to?—I did not apply to any one.

16,177. You know you had got promises from two people. Didn't you remonstrate with Corderoy or with Francis?—No, I did not speak to Corderoy at all about it.

16,178. Didn't you apply, I want to know?—No, I did not.

16,179. But you know that when a man is promised as much money as that, or is led to expect that he shall have it, he generally makes some little effort. Didn't you say to somebody or another, "I have been "promised for my vote, but I have not been paid?—Well, I might have said something to Mr. William Joyes.

16,180. You won't allow me to put down "I "applied to Mr. William Joyes"?—No, I did not apply to him. I spoke to him at my own house. He calls in there nearly every day.

16,181. What did William Joyes say to you?—He said if he could get it he would.

16,182. Then did he come and tell you whether he had got it?—Yes, he told me that he had not got it.

16,183. What did you say to that?—Not anything.

16,184. Whom else did you speak to about it?—Not to any one.

16,185. What made you think that William Joyes did not get it for you?—I do not know.

16,186. Well, but are you sure he did not?—Did not what?

16,187. Did not get the money for you?—I cannot tell anything about that.

16,188. Well, what is your opinion about it?—I have not formed any opinion about that.

16,189. You have not?—No.

16,190. Did he tell you whom he would get it from?—Well, he would get it from Mr. Smith if he did get it.

16,191. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He said so?—Yes.

16,192. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did not you go to Mr. Smith afterwards and ask him, "Why "havn't you paid William Joyes something for me. "I voted for you"?—No, I did not.

16,193. Didn't you go to Mr. Smith about it?—No.

16,194. Did you send somebody to Mr. Smith?—No, I did not.

16,195. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or write?—No, nor write. I took no further notice of it.

16,196. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You found you were done?—Well, I found that I did not get any money.

16,197. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You know you told us you recollect a conversation between you and Corderoy in the street?—Yes.

16,198. When you spoke about 10*l.* Now, tell me, did not Corderoy offer you in the "Grapes" 7*l.* in in the first instance?—No, he did not. I never spoke to Corderoy at all in the "Grapes."

16,199. Didn't he offer you 7*l.* in the "Grapes," and didn't you want 10?—No, he never offered me anything in the "Grapes."

16,200. Did he offer you anything at any other time besides the time you have spoken of?—No, he did not, for I never spoke to him during the election except at that time.

16,201. You voted in 1863 for whom?—I did not vote in 1863.

16,202. Had you no vote in 1863?—No.

16,203. Was this your first election?—Yes.

THOMAS LAMPORT called, sworn, and examined.

16,204. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are a journeyman smith, are you not?—Yes.

16,205. Did you at the election reside in the park?—Yes.

16,206. What did you pay for your house?—5*s.* a week.

16,207. I believe you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

16,208. Who canvassed you for your vote?—I can can hardly say that any one did.

16,209. You were a member of the committee?—Yes, I was on the committee.

16,210. How came you on the committee?—A person of the name of Chitty, that was examined this morning, put me on.

16,211. What did he say to you?—We were in

TENTH DAY.

T. Lamport.

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the "Barley Mow" one evening, several of us together, at the time the election was on; and he had a bit of paper putting down names, and he asked me if I had any objection to being put down, and at first I objected. After a little while I consented. At the same time I thought it was only a little bit of a committee to be formed amongst ourselves. That is what I thought. I did not think it was going to be put on the big papers; but still I had no objection to that.

16,212. Did Chitty tell you that if you came on the committee you would be paid for your work?—No.

16,213. Did you expect to be paid?—I did not.

16,214. Not to receive anything?—No.

16,215. Not then?—Not then; not at all.

16,216. You did afterwards?—I never did expect to receive anything.

16,217. You never have received anything?—Yes, I have.

16,218. Is there a person of the name of Boyes?—Not that I am aware of.

16,219. Or Joyes?—Not in the field.

16,220. Have you been canvassed by Frederick Joyes?—No.

16,221. Or Job Apted?—No.

16,222. You have spoken to him about the election?—Job Apted? We may have talked together.

16,223. Or Buckland?—Not at all.

16,224. Do you ever see David Durrant?—Every day nearly.

16,225. Have you worked at all as journeyman smith at his brewery?—No.

16,226. Never worked for him?—No.

16,227. Has Durrant canvassed you?—No. He spoke to me, but he did not canvass me; I volunteered. I certainly told him that I should vote for Mr. Gower.

16,228. Has Durrant told you that you would be paid for your labour?—No.

16,229. What were you paid?—*1l.*

16,230. Who paid you that?—Durrant.

16,231. What for?—For loss of time, I suppose. When he brought it to me he said, "I have got some "money for you." I said, "What is that for?" He said "About the election." I said, "Is it for my vote, "or loss of time"? "Loss of time," he said. "Because," I said, "if it is for my vote I object to it." I told him I had given my vote freely; if it was for my vote I would not take it.

16,232. Did he press it on you for your loss of time?—Yes.

16,233. And it was on account of the election?—Yes.

16,234. What time did you lose?—Two days; the omination day and the polling day.

16,235. You got 10*s.* a day for two days?—Yes.

16,236. Were you at the nomination?—I was.

16,237. (*Mr. Commissioner OBrien.*) How long did that last? It did not last long?—No; but I did not go to work.

16,238. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where did you go to after the nomination?—Home.

16,239. Did you go into any beer house?—Yes, one, to the "Barley Mow."

16,240. On the same day?—Yes.

16,241. It was a very jolly day there?—Not particular.

16,242. You were at the "Barley Mow" several times?—Yes; I am very often there. I live close by.

16,243. But I mean before the election?—Yes.

16,244. You attended the committee meetings?—Yes. At least I don't call them commttee meetings, because there was nothing done, but an evening's diversion.

16,245. Nothing done except enjoying yourselves?—No.

16,246. Did you pay for what you had?—Sometimes.

16,247. Not always?—No.

16,248. Do you know who paid for the beer that you had when you did not pay?—No.

16,249. You never inquired?—No.

16,250. Was Chitty there a good deal?—Yes, he was.

16,251. Mr. Durrant was there sometimes?—I never remember seeing him there.

16,252. Did Chitty take an active part in the management of the house?—Yes.

16,253. And the supply of the beer?—He had nothing to do with that, I think.

16,254. Did you see him bustling about?—Yes.

16,255. What was he bustling about?—Well, he was making himself very busy.

16,256. Seeing that all his friends, all the gentlemen there, had got their proper supply?—Yes.

16,257. He was very attentive in that?—He was.

16,258. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not expect to be paid?—I never expected anything.

16,259. You did not expect to be paid for your labour?—No.

16,260. Then you did not give yourself a holiday on the nomination day, expecting to be paid for it?—No.

16,261. Nor on the polling day?—No.

16,262. Then the pound was a complete surprise to you?—It was.

16,263. But in order to satisfy your conscience you said, "Well, let it not be for my vote, but let it be for "labour"?—Just so.

16,264. It was really for your vote?—Yes, of course it was. At least, I found out that afterwards.

16,265. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You knew that Durrant meant it so?—Yes.

16,266. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You really do not know how much others got for their vote?—No.

16,267. You only got a pound yourself, but others may have got a great deal more?—Yes.

Adjourned to Monday, September 3rd, at 11 o'clock.

ELEVENTH DAY.

ELEVENTH DAY.

Monday, 3rd September 1866.

J. Stephens.

3 Sept. 1866.

JAMES STEPHENS sworn and examined.

16,268. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You live at Ladbrook-road, do you not?—Yes, at No. 9.

16,269. What are you?—A gardener.

16,270. What rent do you pay for your house?—*5s.* a week.

16,271. Tell me as to the election in 1865; did you vote for Mr. Gower?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

16,272. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Vosper.

16,273. That was a short time before the election, was it not ?—Yes, the following morning.

16,274. I believe the Monson party had been to you before that ?—I worked for Mr. Monson as a messenger.

16,275. For how long ?—About a month before the election, I believe.

16,276. And who engaged you to work for Mr. Monson ?—Mr. Nichols.

16,277. Did you go to him, or he to you ; can you recollect how that was ?—I recollect asking Mr. Nichols if my name was on the register for the last election.

16,278. Do you remember whether he came to you about it, or did you call on him ?—I did not call on him at all, I saw him in the street.

16,279. You asked him whether your name was on the register, and he told you it was ?—Yes ; that it was.

16,280. And he engaged you to work for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

16,281. And on what terms ?—As a messenger.

16,282. Yes ; but on what terms ?—Nothing at all.

16,283. Where did Mr. Nichols live ?—It was James Nichols, who keeps the "Grapes."

16,284. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We have got two Nichols's, was it of the "Barley Mow" ?—I am speaking of Mr. Nichols of the "Grapes."

16,285. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) On what terms did he engage you ?—He employed me as a messenger.

16,286. Did he say, "Will you be a messenger," and you said "Yes" ?—That is right.

16,287. There was something more passed than that ; there must have been ?—He never agreed upon anything ; there was no promise of money.

16,288. If a man asks you to go to work in his garden, you do not say "Yes" without agreeing on the terms ?—I very often go on a job without knowing what it is I have to receive.

16,289. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*). But you expect to be paid ?—Yes ; I expect to be paid according to what the wage is.

16,290. And you expected to be paid as messenger? —Yes.

16,291. What did you expect to be paid ?—30*s.* a week.

16,292. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Why do you not speak out at once. Did you say yes to that, that you would go and work at 30*s.* a week ?—Yes.

16,293. Did Mr. Nichols pay for every week ?—Mr. Nichols gave me 1*l.*

16,294. When ?—I cannot tell you exactly.

16,295. I do not know what you say ?—He gave me 1*l.* for the work I did with him.

16,296. I wish you would not try and fence so ; I see exactly what is passing through your mind ?—There is nothing passing through my mind at all.

16,297. If there was any joke in it that would be a different thing, but why do not you answer plainly ?—There is no joke in it.

16,298. Now my question is this—when did he pay you the 1*l.* ?—I do not know exactly.

16,299. I do not ask you exactly. He engaged you about four weeks before the election. When did he pay you the first pound ?—About a week after.

16,300. Now we have got it. It has taken five minutes to get such a rubbishing answer as that. Why do you laugh, it is not a laughing matter ?—I am not laughing.

16,301. You are smiling and thinking yourself sharp. You are sworn to speak the truth, and the whole truth ; why do you not answer at once and plainly ? You are going on that way, and thinking yourself very sharp, but you make a very great mistake? —I am not thinking myself sharp.

16,302. Don't answer in that way. I want to know, did he not pay you anything more ?—Not to my recollection.

16,303. Who did pay you ?—Joseph Kenward.

16,304. I have no doubt you mean to give a very honest statement, but you do not bring it out easy enough ; it takes so much time. How much did Mr. Kenward pay you ?—Nearly 2*l.* 10*s.*

16,305. May I take it as 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—It cannot be far off.

16,306. When did he pay you the 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—I went for Mr. Nichols, and he gave me 1*l.* ; that was a fortnight's pay, and I did not reckon much on that.

16,307. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he tell you it was a fortnight's pay ?—That was all I received from Mr. Nichols.

16,308. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When did Mr. Kenward pay you ?—I went to Mr. Kenward and asked him who was going to pay me for my labour, and he said he was not aware he had anything to do with me, but that if I liked he would pay me ; and I believe I received about 18*s.*

16,309. You got 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—I beg your pardon, I will tell you the rest. He paid me 18*s.*, that was about a fortnight before the election, the last day that I received anything from Mr. Kenward ; it was about 30*s.*

16,310. Altogether he paid you about 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—Thereabouts.

16,311. That will do. Did Mr. Kenward or Mr. Nichols pay you anything at all after that ?—Not at all.

16,312. Was the last pay you received on behalf of Mr. Monson, so far as you recollect, about a fortnight before the election ?—I never saw anything else.

16,313. I suppose you were not quite satisfied, considering the work you had done ?—I was not.

16,314. Did you tell them you were not satisfied ? —I did not.

16,315. I suppose before they gave you the money you gave them to understand you would vote for Mr. Monson ?—I told them they could put my name on the committee if they liked.

16,316. Then you say on the polling day that you made up your mind to vote for Gower ?—I did.

16,317. Who was it came to you and talked to you about it ?—Vosper.

16,318. Now just tell me what passed between you and Vosper ?—Nothing at all, any further than that he came and asked me for my vote, and I told him I was going to vote for Mr. Gower.

16,319. What did he say about it ?—He never said anything about any affairs whatever.

16,320. Do you know Mr. Lambert ? There are two Mr. Lamberts ; Mr. Lambert the elder, and Mr. Lambert the younger ?—I know them.

16,321. You know Mr. Lambert the younger ?—Yes.

16,322. Do you remember Mr. Lambert the younger and Frederick Joyes coming to call on you ?—No.

16,323. Do you remember seeing them ?—I never spoke to them at the time of the election.

16,324. Do you remember seeing them ?—No.

16,325. Did not Mr. Lambert come and see you ?—No.

16,326. What is Mr. Lambert ?—A baker.

16,327. At that time did you owe Mr. Lambert a bill ?—I might do so.

16,328. Never mind about you might do so. Did you owe him a bill, a baker's bill ?—I always pay my way.

16,329. Answer my question ?—Well, I did.

16,330. You owed Mr. Lambert a bill, was something said about the bill you owed him ?—Not that I am aware of.

16,331. How much did you owe him ?—I cannot say.

16,332. About ?—I cannot say.

16,333. Did you owe him 1*l.* ?—I cannot say.

16,334. Will you swear you cannot say whether you owed him 1*l.* ? Mind what you are about ?—I do not know what I owed him.

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J. Stephens.

3 Sept. 1866.

16,335. Will you swear that you cannot say whether you owed him 1*l.* ?—I cannot say.

16,336. Cannot say what ?—I cannot say what I owed him.

16,337. I do not ask you anything of the sort. I ask you whether you could not tell me if you owed him 1*l.* ?—I dare say I did.

16,338. Did you owe him 2*l.* ?—Perhaps I might owe him 2*l.*

16,339. Will you swear you did not owe him 3*l.* ?—I do not know.

16,340. Will you swear it ?—I do not think I did.

16,341. You say you do not think you owed him so much as 3*l.* ; well then, I suppose you owed him something between 2*l.* and 3*l.* Did Mr. Lambert agree that he would say nothing about the bill ?—I never spoke to him all the election.

16,342. Did Mr. Joyes tell you that ?—I never spoke to Mr. Joyes all through the election.

16,343. Did you have any conversation with anybody about your bill to Mr. Lambert ?—No, none at all.

16,344. Did not Lambert call on you ?—Not at all.

16,345. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or see you ?—No.

16,346. Or speak to you ?—He never spoke to me about it.

16,347. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you ever paid the bill ?—I have paid it. I owe him a little now, and I am not ashamed of it.

16,348. Do not tell me about your shame ; there is no shame in owing a bill, at least I hope not, I want to know, have you ever paid the bill ?—I have paid it, except a trifle, out of my own pocket, and no one else.

16,349. Have you paid the bill ? Cannot you answer the question like a man ?—What bill ?

16,350. It is a miserable sight. You are a voter ; you have got a franchise to exercise for your country, and this is the way you answer my questions. People will doubt your intelligence if you go on like that. Try and see whether you cannot give me a sensible answer, like what your friends would call a sensible answer ?—Whatever I have owed him I have paid him.

16,351. I am speaking about what you owed him in 1865 ?—I cannot say exactly what there might be owing.

16,352. Did you pay him ?—Yes, I pay him every week.

16,353. You owed him between 2*l.* and 3*l.* according to your own statements, did you pay that to him ?—Yes.

16,354. Where is your receipt ?—I have a book I put it down ; what I do not pay one week I pay another.

16,355. You cannot pay for a week a little more than 2*l.* or 3*l.* ?—I work it off gradually. I pay him if I am in work a little more than I owe him.

16,356. Please to produce your book ?—I do not believe I have it.

16,357. Really this is a miserable thing ; I do not believe you, but you may always prove me wrong by producing your book. I must have an answer to the question. Remember I shall call somebody else ; but have you paid for the bill that was due at the election of 1865 ?—By degrees.

16,358. You have ?—Yes.

16,359. That you swear ?—Yes. Not all at once, but by degrees I have paid it.

16,360. Do you know a man named William Wesley ?—Yes.

16,361. Had you any conversation before the election with him ?—No.

16,362. Not a word ?—Not a word before the election.

16,363. Did you have a conversation with him after the election ?—Yes.

16,364. Are you married ?—Yes, I am.

16,365. Did you tell Wesley that you were married and had a large family ?—No, he knew that, I suppose.

16,366. Did you tell him that you would like to vote for Mr. Monson, but you had a large family to look after ?—That did not make any difference to me. I did not tell him any such thing.

16,367. Did you tell him you had a small family to look after ?—I told Wesley I voted for Mr. Gower. I did not ask for anything, neither did I receive anything, nor did I want anything.

16,368. I want to know whether you told him this also, that you would like to vote for Mr. Monson, but that you were afraid, for you had a family to look after, or words to that effect ?—No such thing.

16,369. If I call Wesley, and he says that it is so, would it be false ?—It must be.

16,370. Never mind about must be ; a great many things must be, you know ; but I want to know the fact, is it false if Wesley says so ?—Yes.

16,371. Is it false that anything of the kind took place ?—Yes.

16,372. I am not going to delay the public time by asking you many more questions, but I must ask you this question, and bearing in mind, according to your own statements, you received as much as 3*l.* 10*s.* from the Monson party ; bearing that in mind, and that you were a Monsonite up to a fortnight of the election at all events, and very likely after, do you mean to tell me that you went over and voted for Mr. Gower without having any expectation of receiving anything for it ?—I did.

16,373. I will take your answer. It is a very lamentable sort of thing, and I am sorry to say it, but you are the worst witness that I have had.—He did not pay me for my wage.

16,374. What ?—What I received from Mr. Monson did not pay me.

16,375. Do you mean to say you voted out of spite ?—I wanted to be paid for my labour.

16,376. Do you mean to say you voted out of spite ?—I voted on my own system.

16,377. Did you vote on the previous election of 1863 ?—No ; this was the first time I had anything to do with the elections.

16,378. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Perhaps you will explain your system of voting ; you voted upon a system ?—Yes.

16,379. What was your system ?—I voted for Mr. Gower. I did not think that I was acted rightly by by the other side.

16,380. If Mr. Monson's party had paid you well, you would have voted for them ?—(*The witness hesitated.*)

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now answer my friend's question ; it is a very plain question.

16,381. *Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I want to get at your system of voting. Would you have voted for Mr. Monson if he had paid you for your labour ?—I dare say I should.

16,382. You would ?—I dare say I should have.

16,383. (*Mr. Commissoner O'Brien.*) I observed one answer to a question put to you, and it was this : you said you were asked whether you would promise to vote, and I took down your answer. You said, "I told him to put my name on the committee." Did you promise your vote ?—Yes.

16,384. And did you mean to keep your promise at that time ?—If they had behaved right to me.

16,385. If they had paid you 30*s.* for four weeks ; that is, if you had received 6*l.*, you would have voted for Mr. Monson ?—I was not all the while on my regular work, not on my regular time.

16,386. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You expect us to believe that ?—I was laid up at the time, and had a bad foot.

16,387. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How did Vosper canvass you? Was that the only time that you saw him?—I never spoke to him before.

16,388. He was a perfect stranger to you?—He is not a stranger to me.

16,389. You never spoke to him before?—He never asked me before.

16,390. Where did he meet you?—I was at home.

16,391. How did he know that you were not going to vote for Mr. Monson?—He came and asked me who I was going to vote for, and I told him I was going to vote for Mr. Gower.

16,392. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you see Vosper yesterday?—No.

16,393. Or any belonging to the Gower party?—No.

16,394. Will you swear that?—Yes, and that I saw no one belonging to any one.

16,395. Where were you yesterday?—At home.

16,396. And no one was with you?—No.

16,397. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did Vosper bring you to the poll?—Yes.

16,398. He did?—Yes.

16,399. Did you ride, or drive, or what?—I rode.

16,400. Then he brought a trap for you; a trap was ready for you?—Yes.

16,401. He brought a trap with him when he came for you?—Yes.

16,402. What time of the day was it?—Between 9 and 10.

16,403. Was any one with him?—I never saw anyone but Vosper.

16,404. Did he drive himself?—There was the coachman.

16,405. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you got your bad foot then?—Yes, I had it all through the election, and it is not well now.

16,406. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Vosper, by some lucky accident, came to you with the coachman and asked if you were ready to go. Then did you tell Vosper that you had a complaint against the Monson party, and what a shabby lot they were?—I told him they did not act exactly right.

16,407. You had told somebody before?—I do not know that I had.

16,408. Vosper could not have foreseen that you would become a victim to the stinginess of the Monson party if you had not told somebody. One question or two more. When was it that Mr. Kenward paid you the 2*l.* 10*s.*? You were paid by the other man a fortnight before the election, but when was it that Kenward paid you the 2*l.* 10*s.*; how long before the polling day, a few days?—It was a fortnight before the election that Kenward paid me anything.

16,409. You know Vosper was not a very influential man; we had him here before us, and you would not cross the door to oblige Vosper; he was no particular friend of yours, was he?—Not a bit of it.

16,410. Now, to whom did you tell that you were dissatisfied with the stingy treatment you had received on the part of Mr. Monson?—I told Vosper so.

16,411. Just remember what Vosper stated. Vosper stated that he had secured you. Did he secure you?—He came and polled me.

16,412. That is not securing you. He gave us to understand that he had secured you?—He never offered me any money.

16,413. Then what did he give you?—Nothing at all.

16,414. What did he promise?—Nothing at all.

16,415. What did he say to you about voting for Mr. Gower. You were a man ready to vote according to what you were paid. There is no doubt about it. You were open to a bribe. What did Vosper say to you? You did not care about Vosper, and it was an impudent thing to say to a respectable man like you, come and vote for Mr. Gower. Would you have gone to poll if Vosper had not called?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Gower.

16,416. Vosper gave us to understand that he canvassed and secured you. Did he secure you?—No, only by my going to the poll. I went to poll myself.

16,417. How did he secure you?—In no way at all, only by coming and asking me to vote, when I told him without any hesitation at all for whom I was going to vote.

16,418. Your spite was excited and your passion was up against the Monson party, and you were very indignant, were you not?—I did not consider that they had acted rightly.

16,419. Did you apply to them for more money?—No.

16,420. Why did you not apply?—I did not think it worth while.

16,421. Why did you not apply for more money? If you really were to have got 6*l.* why did you not make application for the balance of the money you were to get?—They did not act rightly to me.

16,422. Why did you not apply for it if they did not act rightly?—So I might, I expect.

16,423. So do I. When did you last apply for the money; you might as well tell us?—I received 30*s.* the last payment.

16,424. But when did you last apply; how soon before the polling day did you apply for the money to the Monson party?—I never applied for any.

16,425. You said you might have applied. Now, how soon before the polling day did you apply; the polling day was on a Wednesday. Wereyou at the nomination?—I was.

16,426. Did you see any of the Monson party that night?—No.

16,427. How soon before the nomination day did you apply for any money to the Monson party?—I did not apply at all for any money; they paid me what I suppose they thought was right. I never had any agreement for any money. They paid me just what they liked.

16,428. Did they discharge you from your employment?—I discharged them.

16,429. Did they discharge you?—No.

16,430. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are giving your evidence very much like a discharged servant?—I tell you so far as I know.

16,431. You say you were at the nomination?—I was.

16,432. Did you put up your hand?—I did no such thing.

16,433. Did you hold up your hand for either candidate?—No, I believed I was outside at the time.

16,434. What day did you receive the 2*l.* 10*s.*?—The last paid by Mr. Monson's party.

16,435. What was the last?—I cannot exactly tell you.

16,436. Was it on a Sunday?—I cannot tell you.

16,437. Was it a week before?—It was the last payment before the election that I received 1*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. James Kenward.

16,438. Then you received 18*s.* before?—18*s.* before, and I received 1*l.* from Mr. Nichols.

16,439. Making 2*l.* 8*s.*?—1*l.* and 10*s.*, and 18*s.*; I do not know whether that is 2*l.* 8*s.*

The Chief Commissioner remarked that now he said it was 2*l.* 8*s.*

16,440. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not know what day you were paid?—I was not paid any more.

16,441. You do not know the day you were paid the last?—It was the last pay time.

16,442. You did not tell me what day it was?—I cannot tell you whether it was a Friday or a Saturday, or what it was.

16,443. Was it on a Friday or a Saturday?—I cannot tell you.

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16,444. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) If you find your receipts, the baker's book, we shall be happy to see them, but do not bring them here unless you like?—I have got them all.

16,445. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Bring them if you like?—I will bring what I can find; I am not ashamed of bringing them.

16,446. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You can bring your books here if you like; it is at your own option to do exactly as you like?—I will do that and clear myself.

E. Potter.

EDWARD POTTER sworn and examined.

16,447. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were a voter at the last election of 1855?—Yes, at the last election.

16,448. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

16,449. What sum do you pay for your house?—5*s.* a week.

16,450. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A labouring man.

16,451. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you been a voter at the previous elections? Did you vote in 1863?—No, this was the first election that I voted at.

16,452. You say you are a labouring man; do you work for anybody in particular, or job about?—I have worked for Mr. George Pym for the last eight years.

16,453. Were you canvassed by any gentleman on the part of Mr. Monson, or by Mr. Monson?—Not at first starting.

16,454. What, did not Mr. Monson canvass you?—No, not at the first time.

16,455. Did he at any time?—Yes, he did; that is the truth.

16,456. Was anybody with Mr. Monson when he canvassed you?—Yes. I had been up to Mr. Gower's meeting at the market house at Warwick-town. When I was passing by Topliss's house, Mr. Miller called out, and Topliss came, and he said, "Potter, "you are wanted." I said, "Who wants me?" He said, "A man wants you upstairs," and I went upstairs to see what it was. When I got upstairs Mr. Richardson stood at the door, and he walked up and shook hands with me. He asked me what I would have to drink, whether I would have a drop of stout or a drop of ale. I said, "No, sir, my inside is rather "out of order, and I will have a glass of brandy and "water." He asked me to sit down, and he gave me a glass of brandy and water. I sat down, and drank two glasses of brandy and water.

16,457. And it did you good?—It did so.

16,458. It got you into a beautiful humour; it got you in a good humour just as you are now?—Yes.

16,459. Was anybody in the room with Mr. Richardson?—A great many.

16,460. Was Mr. Monson there?—Yes he was, he was sitting there singing at the time.

16,461. What time was it?—Nearly 10 o'clock.

16,462. Do you mean to say that Mr. Monson was himself singing?—He was.

16,463. What was he singing?—I cannot tell you.

16,464. What was the song?—I cannot tell you the song.

16,465. Well, you do not remember the song?—I do not.

16,466. Were you introduced to Mr. Monson when the song was over?—Yes.

16,467. Mr. Monson shook hands with you, did he?—Yes, he did. I asked him what he would give, when he said, "What do you want"? I had got my wife very badly at home. He said, "What is the "matter with your wife"? and I said, "I do not "know, but she has been bad a great while." He said, "Can she take anything to drink"? I said, "Yes, a little rum and water, but it does not lie in "my power to give her what she wants." He then took and ordered her half-a-pint of rum, and gave it to me for her.

16,468. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was for Mrs. Potter?—Yes.

16,469. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you say half-a-pint of rum?—I say half-a-pint.

16,470. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose Mrs. Potter was very much obliged to him?—She was.

16,471. And I hope it did her a great deal of good?—It did.

16,472. And I suppose you felt grateful for it?—I did.

16,473. And then I suppose he asked for your vote?—Mr. Monson said, "I hope you will stick "true."

16,474. Did you not say, when he was shaking you by the hand, "God bless you, and I will always stick "to you"?—No, I said, "I will stick true," as I did.

16,475. As you did?—Not to him.

16,476. Not to Mr. Monson?—No.

16,477. Did you not say you would stick true? Did you not say to him you would stick true?—I said, "Yes, I will stick true," and so I did; I stuck to Mr. Gower from the first to the last.

16,478. You got the brandy and water and the rum out of Mr. Monson, and voted for Mr. Gower?—I did.

16,479. You considered that was rather a clever ruse, did you not?—Well, if you were going to ask me to take any brandy and water I should do it.

Mr. Commissioner Smith observed he was not going to ask him.

The Witness. That is what I am afraid of.

16,480. If you were going to stick true I suppose you had been canvassed on the part of Mr. Gower?—No.

16,481. Had nobody canvassed you?—No.

16,482. Who did you promise you would vote for Mr. Gower?—Young Apted.

16,483. What is his Christian name?—I cannot say what his Christian name is.

16,484. Is he the son of Job Apted?—Yes.

16,485. I am told by a gentleman here it is Oliver Cromwell, the son of Job. Oliver Cromwell was a great name you know?—Yes.

16,486. Did Featherstone or Green canvass you?—No.

16,487. Were you in Green's company?—Not as I know of; I would not say whether I was, for I do not know.

16,488. When Oliver Cromwell canvassed you, how did he canvass you, was it as a true Briton?—First, I may say I was talking about the election, and I said. "I live in Warwick-town, I pay rates, and while "others can get to vote I cannot, and I wish to know "the reason of it." And I said, "If you will get me "my vote, whoever you wish me to vote for I will "vote for."

16,489. Then you voted for Oliver Cromwell's party because he got your name put on the register?—Yes, and I told him I would stick to him, and I did.

16,490. Did he come to you and ask you to fulfil your promise?—Yes, he did; he came and asked if I would stick to my promise, and I said I would.

16,491. Was that before you had had the interview with Mr. Monson?—Yes.

16,492. Before the brandy and water and the song?—Yes.

16,493. Did he ask you to do work for his party?

—No, all he asked was whether I knew where John Elliott was, and I told him he was somewhere in London. He asked me if I would find him ; I said I had got friends in London who would know where he lived. He asked me if I would try to find him, and I said I would ; and before the election day came off he came to me about it again, and said he would give me a sovereign if I would go and find him.

16,494. Did you go and find him ?—Yes, I did.

16,495. How long did it take you to do it ?—A night and a day.

16,496. You went up in the evening and brought him down next morning ?—Yes, I went up in the evening, and went down next morning.

16,497. You knew where to find him ?—I did not, any more than you do, till I got to my friends in London.

16,498. Well, they knew ?—Well, we had to look about.

16,499. Well, but you found him pretty sharply ?—In three hours ; I found him in the evening.

16,500. Did you stay with your friends that evening ?—Yes.

16,501. What train did you come down by ?—The first parliamentary train, at 6 o'clock.

16,502. What train did you go up with, the last parliamentary ?—I think it was about half-past 7.

16,503. Third class up ?—Yes.

16,504. And third class back ?—Yes.

16,505. Return ticket ?—No, they do not give return tickets third class, I think.

16,506. Well, you happened to hit upon him in the evening and brought him down in the morning ?—Yes.

16,507. Well, you were pretty well paid for that ?—I do not know.

16,508. And you saw your friends ?—I would rather have been at home.

16,509. Well, but you got the sovereign which you would not have earned ?—That was not much.

16,510. Did you not tell him some of your friends would find the voter ?—No, oh no, no, no.

16,511. You were not quite satisfied with the sovereign ?—Yes, I was.

16,512. Who paid it you ?—Mr. Green.

16,513. When Mr. Green paid you the sovereign, did you not ask him whether you could not have a little more ?—No.

16,514. Did he promise you a little more when circumstances were better ?—No, he did not ; and I never had a halfpenny promised.

16,515. Did you do anything more for the party than going to fetch Elliott ?—No.

16,516. You carried out circulars ?—No.

16,517. Did you not do that ?—No.

16,518. Or take a message or two ?—No, no, no, I did not.

16,519. Were you constantly on your own work ?—Yes, every day.

16,520. Did you attend any of the houses of refreshment in the evening ?—No.

16,521. Were you not poorly ?—No ; all I ever had was when we met at the town hall, Redhill, neighbours and friends, when we might have a glass or a pint of ale, and they paid and I paid out of my own pocket.

16,522. They paid and you paid ?—Yes.

16,523. Have you not applied to Featherstone for money ?—No.

16,524. You know him, I suppose ?—Yes.

16,525. Have you not applied to him ?—No.

16,526. Are you quite certain ?—Quite certain of it.

16,527. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You work for Mr. Pym ?—Yes.

16,528. He is the proprietor of the sand works near here ?—Yes.

16,529. And I rather think young Apted is the manager, or clerk of the works, there ?—Yes.

16,530. And so you are under him ?—Mr. Pym is my master.

16,531. Yes, but he is clerk of the works ?—Yes.

16,532. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where did you hear Mr. Monson singing ; was it at Topliss's ?—Yes, at Topliss's.

16,533. I believe you know Mr. Ireland ?—Yes, I know him.

16,534. And I believe Mr. Ireland took you to Mr. Nichols ?—He did so.

16,535. You drove with him in a cart ?—Quite right.

16,536. They all treated you very well, did they not ?—Very well.

16,537. They treated you as a gentleman ?—I thought it was so at the time.

16,538. And they were good enough to give you a sovereign ?—Yes, Mr. Nichols gave me a sovereign.

16,539. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Nichols of the "Grapes" ?—Yes.

16,540. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I thought they would not put you off with a song ; did he say for what ?—No, he did not ; he said "stick true."

16,541. When you had had your brandy and water you were asked to "stick true," and when Mrs. Potter had received her rum you were asked to "stick true," and when you had the sovereign you were asked to "stick true" ?—Yes.

16,542. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Over the left, I suppose, is what you meant ?—I don't know.

16,543. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I believe some stranger was good enough to deposit some money in your house ?—Yes.

16,544. But that only occurred during the election time ?—Yes.

16,545. How much was it was left at your house ?—A bright sovereign in a letter.

16,546. Was it directed to Mrs. Potter or to you ?—Mrs. Potter.

16,547. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Not Edward Potter, Esq. ?—No.

16,548. (*Mr. Commissioner OBrien.*) You did not know from whom that sovereign came ?—It said in the letter from Mr. Monson and Mr. Nichols.

16,549. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you kept that letter ?—No, I did not expect to hear of it any more.

16,550. You kept the sovereign ?—Yes, I kept the sovereign.

16,551. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you read ?—No, I wish I could.

16,552. It was your wife that read it ?—Yes.

16,553. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was there anything more in the letter ?—They wished me to attend at the meeting the same night.

16,554. Did you go ?—No, I did not go that night, I was tired.

16,555. About how long was it before the election ?—It was betwen 9 and 10 days before the election.

16,556. That was only two sovereigns ?—Yes.

16,557. Was there not anything else in it ? I dare say Mrs. Potter had the letter open ?—Oh, yes, before I got home.

16,558. She had it open ?—It was broken open before I got home.

16,559. Was there not something else in it ?—That was all she showed me.

16,560. Something about being well paid if you voted for Mr. Monson ?—No, no ; there was not.

16,561. Yes, there was, I am afraid ?—No.

16,562. Did not Mrs. Potter canvass you ?—If there was anything else, I did not hear of it.

16,563. There was a meeting, which you did not attend ?—I did not attend.

16,564. And then the supplies stopped, no more sovereigns came ?—No more soveigns came.

16,565. Had you spoken to any one (we are obliged to ask this) or had anybody spoken to you about the evidence you were to give before this Inquiry ; it was known you would give evidence ?—It was spoken of here last Monday.

16,566. You are obliged to answer, and I am sure

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you will; did you see any one in reference to the Inquiry?—No.

16,567. Did any one speak to you about the Inquiry?—Mr Nichols spoke to me last Monday.

16,568. Which Mr. Nichols?—Mr. Nichols at the "Grapes," he asked me to have a pint of beer; I said, "No, thank you;" however I bought a pint of beer. He said to me, "Ned, don't know nothing."

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Now, Potter, you seem to be a very respectable man, and you know the meaning of that was this, commit perjury; that was the meaning of it; because if you knew and refused to tell what you knew when examined on oath before us you would be guilty of perjury, and would be liable to be punished for perjury, and Mr. Nichols also would be liable to be punished as a suborner, that is, to burden your conscience with the sin of perjury and possibly subject you to three years penal servitude.

(*The Witness.*) I hope I shall not have that, sir.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I see what Mr. Nichols has said has had no effect upon you, Potter, but he is liable to some punishment, and he had better, therefore, be cautious, or any other person, what they do.

16,569. Did Mr. Nichols say anything more to you?—No, nothing more.

The witness withdrew.

T. Jordan.

THOMAS JORDAN called, sworn, and examined.

16,570. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A builder.

16,571. On your own account?—Yes.

16,572. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

16,573. Is Stephen Jordan your uncle?—He is my father.

16,574. He voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

16,575. And you voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

16,576. And were very active for Mr. Monson, I believe?—Yes, I did all I could.

16,577. You canvassed for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

16,578. Your father told us that you canvassed him for Mr. Monson, and wanted him to vote?—No, I never asked him to go for Mr. Monson; I knew he was the other way; his principles laid the other way.

16,579. You canvassed a good many for Mr. Monson, did you not?—Yes.

16,580. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

16,581. What rent do you pay for the house which qualifies you?—None, the house belongs to me.

16,582. What is the value of it yearly?—25*l.* a year.

16,583. How long had you been canvassing for Mr. Monson?—About two months.

16,584. What did they pay their canvassers, how much a week?—30*s.*

16,585. There were eight weeks; how much did you receive? that would be about 12*l.* I suppose?—No, I received 15*l.* for my employment during the election; the whole of it.

16,586. Entirely?—Yes.

16,587. How were you paid?—I was paid after the election, about six weeks, I suppose, the full amount. I took a bill to Mr. Hart for 20*l.* for expenses, and I accepted 15*l.*

16,588. Mr. Hart has the bill, I suppose?—I left the bill with him.

16,589. How was the bill made out; in what form? "To Thomas Jordan, for services rendered "for Mr. Monson, 20*l.*" was that it?—That was near about it.

16,590. You did not give so many days' work, or anything of that kind?—No.

16,591. 20*l.* was a round sum?—Yes.

16,592. I believe you attended a good many committee meetings at public houses?—Yes.

16,593. And paid a good many scores?—Four or five, I suppose.

16,594. I mean, you paid for all that was had in the evening?—All that I ordered, at all events.

16,595. You ordered for voters?—Yes, for voters alone.

16,596. Can you give me the amount that you paid for scores at one public house one evening? a couple of pounds?—I cannot exactly say; I should say 2*l.* or 3*l.*

16,597. Each evening?—It would average that.

16,598. I mean each evening you ordered; I do not mean every evening, because, of course, you would give them time to recover?—Yes.

16,599. It might be as much as 5*l.* some evenings?—Not my ordering.

16,600. Not as much?—No.

16,601. Over 3*l.*?—From two to three pounds, as near as I can recollect.

16,602. About how many scores of that kind did you pay? Some ten or twelve?—About five.

16,603. Five or six?—Five.

16,604. I suppose you sent a separate account of these scores to somebody?—No, I paid it out of my own pocket. I had money to pay the scores in my possession.

16,605. From whom did you get that money?—From Mr. James Nichols.

16,606. Mr. James Nichols of the "Grapes"?—Yes.

16,607. Did you ever order any at Wallis' house?—No.

16,608. You never presided at Wallis'?—I have been there; but Mr. Wallis and Mr. Nichols made their own arrangement.

16,609. Do you not know that as much as 200 gallons of beer was consumed one evening?—Not to my recollection.

16,610. You did not know about the arrangements?—No.

16,611. You got a supply of money from Nichols to pay the scores?—Yes.

16,612. You did not get it as you wanted it; you had a supply?—I had it as I wanted it. I had to pay the men weekly, or cause them to be paid. I got my monies by tens, or fifteens, or twenties, as I wanted it.

16,613. Have you rendered no account?—I made no account. I can tell you what I had.

16,614. You must have put down some memorandum?—No, I never kept any memorandum.

16,615. If I received money in that way, I should jot the amounts down?—I never booked any of the amounts; but I can give you a list of all the men that have been paid.

16,616. I want to know how much you received; how many twenties did you receive from Nichols?—I cannot tell you. I can give you the total amount.

16,617. Did you receive any larger sum than 20*l.* at one time?—25*l.*, not more.

16,618. How long before the election did you receive the first 25*l.*?—About a week, I suppose.

16,619. How long before the polling day did you receive any money?—One day.

16,620. You received money long before that?—I am speaking of the last.

16,621. But I am speaking of the first. When did you receive the first money?—Three weeks before the election; for payment.

16,622. Three weeks before the polling day?—Yes.

16,623. You began to receive money from Nichols?—Yes, to pay.

16,624. Had you received any money on your own account before that? I want to know when you received the first monies from Nichols?—About 10*l.* before that. That was the first.

16,625. How long before the polling day was that?—That was about five weeks, I suppose.

16,626. What was the next sum you received?—I

really cannot tell whether it was 20*l.* or 15*l.* I cannot give you the sums in rotation.

16,627. I would rather that you would. How much did you receive in tens?—I cannot possibly tell how much I received in tens, or fifteens, or twenties.

16,628. How much did you receive altogether?—115*l.* for paying away.

16,629. How much did you receive for yourself?—15*l.*

16,630. How much of it did you spend in the beer shops or public houses?—I paid 100*l.* for labour.

16,631. Never mind the labour. How much did you pay for beer or refreshments?—I only had 15*l.* to play with for beer the whole election.

16,632. What is that paper you have there?—It is a list of the names.

16,633. You have no list of the monies you received?—No; I never kept any account, any more than what I kept in my head.

16,634. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When was that paper written?—A week ago.

16,635. What did you make it from?—From what I could recollect; the men that I paid.

16,636. Were you alone when you did it?—Yes; at my own house.

16,637. Did you see Mr. Nichols about that list?—I had seen Mr. Nichols, and he told me that I had better take a straightforward course, and speak the truth.

16,638. He did not tell you not to know anything about it?—No, not the least whatever.

16,639. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I see the number of names is 20, and you expended 100*l.* for labour. That would be just 5*l.* a head?—It does not come just like that.

16,640. There are 20 names?—But the money was not paid just like that.

16,641. You paid some more, and some less?—Yes.

16,642. But 5*l.* was the average?—Yes, 5*l.*; except three.

16,643. Who were the three?—There were two men who were paid two half-weeks' wages, 30*s.* each, and one man I gave 10*l.* for his room.

16,644. On what occasion?—It was for a committee room.

16,645. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who was the committee room man?—Tyrrell, at Hollis-row.

16,646. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who were the three men who did not receive 5*l.*?—Whitmore received 15*s.* a week for two weeks, and voted the other side.

16,647. Who else?—Westbrook the same.

16,648. The same what?—15*s.* a week.

16,649. And he voted the other side?—Yes. They were to receive half the 30*s.* a week.

16,650. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose they were to receive the remainder after the election?—Yes.

16,651. You said you were a builder. Do you carry on any other business besides building?—Yes; I keep an ale house.

16,652. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You will not mind my keeping this list of names?—No; I did not pay all those men. I had a partner with me for the Mead-vale district.

16,653. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who was your partner?—Richard Pitt. He paid for the Mead-vale district, and I gave him 43*l.*

16,654. Of course you got no receipts from any of these men?—No.

16,655. You keep a beer house or a public house; what is it?—A beer house.

16,656. What is it called?—The "Garibaldi."

16,657. What was the highest sum you paid any of the men. I do not mean for the committee room, but for the labour?—5*l.* 15*s.* a week for three weeks, and 10*s.* for the nomination and polling day.

16,658. That would not make 5*l.* You must mean 30*s.* a week?—Yes, 30*s.* a week.

16,659. You said 15*s.*?—They were paid 15*s.*, and the remainder after the polling.

16,660. That was in order to secure their voting?—Yes, that made 30*s.*; the remainder was paid after the polling.

16,661. That was to secure their vote?—Yes.

16,662. There is no use denying it; it was so?—Yes.

16,663. Did you make a bargain singly with them, or did you meet them in bodies, or how?—They canvassed one another. They were all put on as working men.

16,664. They were all paid for it?—Yes; canvassing each other, attending meetings, and making themselves useful.

16,665. And they had beer besides?—We gave them a drop of beer.

16,666. Was yours an open house during the election time?—What for?

16,667. An open house on the part of Mr. Monson. Was it an open house where the voters used to come?—I had a committee room two or three nights.

16,668. What were you paid for that?—That was included in the 15*l.*

16,669. What was the beer score? 9*l.*, or 10*l.*?—No; about two or three pounds.

16,670. More than that?—That is as near as I can tell.

16,671. Did you send in a bill for it?—No; it was paid out of the 15*l.* I had to play with.

16,672. How much did "Garibaldi" get out of the 15*l.*?—About 3*l.* or 4*l.* altogether.

16,673. He did not fare the worst?—No, nor the best, I am sorry to say. About 3*l.* or 4*l.*, that is as near as I can tell you.

16,674. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Three or four pounds a night?—No; the whole of it.

16,675. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you see any two or three of the men together, and did any of them say, "If you will satisfy these men, I will vote "with them." Did you see two or three together?—I have seen two together.

16,676. Who were they?—John Vigar and William Bilcliffe.

16,677. You agreed with them together?—Yes; and I paid John Vigar for both. I paid him 15*l.* altogether; he received for three.

16,678. You say he received 15*l.*?—Yes.

16,679. For himself, Bilcliffe, and another?—Yes; Abraham White.

16,680. Have you any memorandum, not of what you paid away, but of how much you received?—Altogether?

16,681. You have no memorandum of it?—No; only as I can recollect.

16,682. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you a voter in 1863?—Yes, I believe so. I voted in the wrong name that year, James Jordan instead of Thomas. I do not know whether it stood or not.

16,683. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

16,684. How was it that you did not vote for the same person in 1865 as in 1863?—I had very little interest for Mr. Gower. He never came to me at all. I was only spoken to by Mr. Monson.

16,685. Were you on the committee in 1863?—Yes.

16,686. Did you do much for it?—No, very little.

16,687. Did you canvass?—No; I attended a few of the committee meetings.

16,688. What else?—That is pretty nigh all I believe.

16,689. You were on the committee?—Yes.

16,690. Were you paid for your work then?—Nothing was mentioned what I was to be paid.

16,691. Who did you agree with about it, or who did you talk to?—I never talked to anybody about payment I believe. I spoke to Mr. Nichols and a friend of mine (Spence); they were the only two.

16,692. James Nichols?—Yes.

16,693. Which side was he on then?—Mr. Gower's.

16,694. In what way were you paid?—According to the rest?—No, I received a sum after the election was over.

16,695. How much?—4*l.*

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16,696. Were you employed to pay people in that election ?—No.

16,697. Were you satisfied with that 4*l.* ?—Yes.

16,698. From whom did you receive it ?—The bill was sent in to Mr. Smith, and it was given to Mr. Spence to give to me.

16,699. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What bill did you send in ?—A bill for services rendered, 4*l.*

16,700. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How did you make the bill out ?—It was made out with Mr. Spence's, both in one bill. He made the bill out for the two.

16,701. What services had you rendered ?—Attending committee meetings, taking messages, and things of that sort.

16,702. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How many meetings had you attended ?—I cannot say ; about six or seven.

16,703. In the evening ?—Yes.

16,704. After work ?—Yes.

16,705. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know whether on that occasion Spence received the same as you ?—I do not know what he received, or what his agreements were.

16,706. Do you know whether you were paid in a cheque or money ?—I believe it was in gold.

16,707. Did Spence receive the money and hand it over to you, or did you receive it, and hand it over to him ?—He received the money, and left it at my house.

16,708. You do not know how much he received ?—No.

16,709. On that occasion were you canvassed by Mr. Wilkinson's party ?—Yes, Mr. Wilkinson came to my house.

16,710. Did anybody else come after you ?—No.

16,711. Did you request them to put your name down on their committee ?—No.

16,712. Were you put down on their committee ?—I cannot recollect. I did not promise Mr. Wilkinson my vote.

16,713. Did you ask to be put down on their committee ? Did you authorize them ?—No.

16,714. Cannot you tell whether you were put down on Mr. Wilkinson's committee or not ?—I believe not, as near as I can recollect ; I believe I was not.

16,715. Did they say that if you did what you could for them your services would be paid for ?—No.

16,716. Was nothing of the kind said ?—Nothing of the kind.

16,717. Did you apply to anybody on Mr. Wilkinson's side ?—No.

16,718. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I understood you to say to the Chief Commissioner that you had done no work for Mr. Gower in 1863 ?—No work but attending the committees.

16,719. Your answer was, "no work," and after you said you received 4*l.* you said that you had attended these committee meetings ?—I did not call that work.

16,720. What was the name of the person who made out the joint account ?—Mr. Spence.

16,721. What was Spence ?—A tailor.

16,722. What was he in the election ?—He was employed as a canvasser, I believe.

16,723. But you were not ?—No.

15,724. Was his claim the same as yours ?—I do not know.

16,725. I thought you sent in the account jointly ?—He put my claim in his bill. I do not know what his claims were.

16,726. Did Spence suggest to you that you were entitled to be paid ?—Yes, for attending the meetings.

16,727. Then, if it had not been for Spence, you would not have thought of sending in a bill ?—I expected to send a bill in the same as the others.

16,728. Did Spence tell you that all the others were going to send in bills ?—Not all of them. I did not call it doing anything when I attended the meetings.

16,729. And that is the reason why you charged 4*l.* ?—Yes.

16,730. Because you call it doing nothing ?—I did not call it doing nothing ; at least, I should not.

16,731. I suppose in the committee you were helping the others to do nothing, and you were all paid for doing nothing ?—No, I do not take it in that way.

16,732. Did you ever see Spence there ?—Yes.

16,733. Did Spence take an active part ?—He took a part in canvassing.

16,734. Was he a sub-agent ?—I believe he was.

16,735. Is he a voter now ?—No.

16,736. Where is he ?—In Brighton, I believe.

16,737. What is his name ?—William Spence.

16,738. What is his business ?—A journeyman tailor.

16,739. Do you know his address in Brighton ?—I do not know it at the present time.

16,740. You can find it I suppose ?—I dare say I can.

16,741. Have you had any letters from him lately ?—No.

16,742. Or heard of him ?—No.

16,743. Who was he working with the last time you heard ?—He was working at a wholesale shop in Brighton.

16,744. What name ?—I do not know.

16,745. Do you know the whereabouts of the wholesale shop ?—No, I know very little about Brighton myself.

16,746. You might have heard ?—I have not ; I do not know.

16,747. Do you know of any other committee men like yourself sending in accounts ?—No, I do not.

16,748. And receiving money ?—No.

16,749. When you sent in this account did Nichols at all object to the amount ?—It was not sent into Mr. Nichols ; it was sent to Mr. Smith.

16,750. In 1863 ?—Yes.

16,751. Did he object to the account ?—No, I did not hear anything further about it than that the money was left at my house.

16,752. Was there no general talk in the committee before the voting, that those who attended the committees were to be paid for their work ?—I did not hear it in the committee room.

16,753. Did you hear it out of the committee room before the voting ?—I understood that there would be a little trifle, of course.

16,754. And that trifle would be for supposed work ?—Yes, attending meetings.

16,755. In fact, although Spence spoke to you after the election, and made out the account, before you voted you did expect to be paid for your attending the meetings ?—Well, yes ; of course it was only a trifle, but not in the way of an active agent.

16,576. No sum was mentioned ?—No.

16,757. But you did expect to be paid ?—Yes, paid a trifle.

16,758. And 4*l.* you looked upon as a trifle ?—Yes.

16,759. Did you expect to be paid for attending the nomination ?—Yes, I was there three days ; I attended at the nomination, the polling, and the day after.

16,760. What was going on the day after ?—No, the day before I mean.

16,761. That is the nomination ?—Yes, two days.

16,762. Two days nomination ?—No, two days altogether.

16,763. Did you expect to be paid for the declaration of the poll the next day ?—No.

16,764. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Have you told us everything you know material to the Inquiry regarding the election of 1865 ?—Yes, everything I can recollect.

16,765. Just try and recollect if there is anything else ?—There is not any more that I can recollect.

16,766. Did you receive your instructions from Nichols in the first instance ?—Yes.

16,767. Did you see any one higher in the scale than Nichols ?—No, not that I know of.

16,768. Did you see Mr. Hart at all?—I saw Mr. Hart at the committee rooms.

16,769. To speak to him; did you receive any instructions from Mr. Hart?—No, not that I am aware of; I might have spoken, but I do not recollect.

16,770. Of course Mr. Nichols knew what you were doing?—Of course.

16,771. Who else of Mr. Monson's committee knew what you were doing?—Apted knew what I was doing.

16,772. James Apted?—Yes.

16,773. Who else of the committee?—Mr. Holdsworth.

16,774. Who else of the committee; I should like to go a step higher, if possible?—I cannot mention any others. Mr. Monson knew that I was working, of course.

16,775. They knew that you were paying these men?—Yes.

16,776. You do not mean to say that Mr. Monson knew that?—Not that I know of.

WILLIAM MEDHURST called, sworn, and examined. *W. Medhurst*

16,777. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I believe you voted at the last election?—Yes, for Mr. Gower.

16,778. What qualification had you?—I paid 6*s.* a week for my house.

16,779. What are you?—A seller of milk.

16,780. You go round with the milk yourself?—Yes.

16,781. Is it a wide district?—In the town.

16,782. Were you canvassed by both sides?—No.

16,783. Only one?—Only one.

16,784. Was that the side on which you voted?—The side on which I voted.

16,785. How long before the election were you canvassed?—Mr. Gower came to me himself. As I was going home to dinner I met him and Mr. Smith; it might be five or ten minutes past 1; I dare say he would have called if he had not met me in the street. I was at the top of Nutley-lane. Mr. Smith turned round and said, "Here's Medhurst." He says, "How "do you do?" and shook hands, and asked me for my vote. I said, "I will give it to you," and we passed on.

16,786. Did you promise your vote at once?—I promised it there and then.

16,787. To Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith?—To Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith.

16,788. That was some five weeks before the election?—Five or six weeks; a long time.

16,789. So long that they did not leave you quite alone?—I was never troubled any more by them nor yet by the other parties.

16,790. You are William Medhurst, milkman, of Nutley-lane?—Yes.

16,791. Did Frederick Joyes come to you afterwards?—Yes.

16,792. You had forgotten that?—No, I had not.

16,793. You said you were not troubled by them?—Not with the other party.

16,794. Frederick Joyes came?—Yes.

16,795. You did not call that trouble?—No.

16,796. What took place between you and Joyes?—He came to my place as I was going after my milk, and he said, "Will you promise me your vote?" I said, "I have promised Mr. Gower, and I shall not "vote against him." He says, "That's all right." That is the very words. He said, "I shall give you "4*l.* for your vote." "Very well," I says, "all "right." I never troubled him no more from that time to this.

16,797. Did you get your 4*l.*?—Yes.

16,798. When?—Not till very lately; very lately indeed. I should not have troubled about it if it had not come.

16,799. When did he give it to you?—He did not give it me at all.

16,800. Did he send it?—No, he did not send it.

16,801. Who gave it to you?—I was going down the street with my milk one afternoon, about 4 o'clock, when he says, "Medhurst, I have got a little money "now." I said, "I should like to have a little." He says, "If you will go into my place this afternoon you "can have a little." I did not go then; I was about my business, going round with my milk. During the evening I went, and the money was laid on the counter.

16,802. You took it up?—I took it up and put it in my pocket; four sovereigns.

16,803. Was Joyes there?—He was not there.

16,804. How did you know it was there?—Mrs. Joyes put it there, and said it was for me.

16,805. The mistress of the house?—The mistress of the house; she was in the shop.

16,806. Are you sure that the words Joyes said were, "I shall give you 4*l.* for your vote"?—Yes, quite sure; he was not in the house 10 minutes. It was about 2 o'clock; I was going after my milk.

16,807. Were you to do any work?—I attended no meetings; I was at the nomination.

16,808. Joyes was very anxious to secure your vote, of course?—He never troubled me after that; I did not see him anxious at all.

16,809. When he came in did he produce three "fivers"?—No, nor yet one fiver, nor half a fiver.

16,810. Did he not?—I will take my oath of that.

16,811. Did he not say, "Medhurst, I have three "fivers for you"?—No.

16,812. Whether he produced them or not?—No, I should be sorry to say an untruth about it; all I know I will tell you with the greatest pleasure and truth. I had no connexions with the election whatever during the election.

16,813. Except getting the 4*l.*?—I got the 4*l.*, but I should never have troubled about that.

16,814. I believe there are two Joyes?—Yes, two or three I think.

16,815. Did you see any of the other Joyes?—No, they never broached the subject of the election to me.

16,816. Did one of the Joyes say anything about three "fivers," and did you say, "Confound it! I am "always making a mistake about these elections; I "have just got 10*l.* from the other side"?—I never said such a thing; I would not stand here and tell such an untruth as that.

16,817. Were you rather hard up for for a horse and cart just then?—I wanted a horse and cart, and I saved the money out of my own hard earnings; I thought that would come out.

16,818. You knew something was going to be asked about that?—Yes, because I have been chaffed about it up and down the street. As soon as I had got the horse and cart they called out, "There goes "Gower!"

16,819. How long after the election?—It may be a month.

16,820. It did look suspicious having a new horse and cart just after the election?—It did look very suspicious.

16,821. Then you were rather hard up for a horse and cart?—I was not hard up for money if I was hard up for the horse and cart. I had money in my pocket to buy it then; I have not now.

16,822. Did you ever speak to any one about the horse and cart about the time of the election?—Yes, I said I must have one.

16,823. Who did you say that to?—Hundreds of people.

16,824. There is nothing like making it public at the time of the election?—I never had a farthing towards it out of the election.

16,825. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was the horse called Gower?—Yes, the first day it went down the street.

16,826. What did you pay for it?—7*l.* 10*s.* for the

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cart and 5*l.* for the pony, and I bought a nice harness for 16*s.* of Mr. Alexander behind the park; he favoured me very much, and I was much obliged to him for it.

16,827. Then you paid 12*l.* 10*s.* altogether?—Yes, and I saved that out of my own hard earnings.

16,828. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you not also say this just about the time of the election, which made it the more suspicious, that you not only wanted this horse and cart, but that whoever got you the horse and cart should have your vote?—No.

16,829. You swear that?—I will swear that through thick and thin, and no mistake, because I had the money in my pocket; it was what I had saved. I was a teetotaler, and I used to put 6*d.* and 1*s.* a week in the same purse that I have now, and my wife never knew a word about it.

16,830. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And you surprised her when the cart came in?—I pulled out the 7*l.* 10*s.* and gave it to her to pay for it, and had a pound or two left.

16,831. Are you a teetotaler still?—Yes, I haven't drunk these two years.

16,832. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then you never had a "tenner" on either side?—No, nor yet a fiver; I should not have troubled myself about the 4*l.* if I had not had it given me.

16,833. You see it makes it suspicious when a man wants a horse and cart just about the time of an election, and gets one immediately afterwards?—It is very hard if a man cannot have a horse and cart after an election.

16,834. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How did "Gower" turn out?—Oh, very well; like myself, rather slow.

16,835. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long before the election did you want the horse and cart?—Mr. Weller gave up his farm at midsummer, that was some time during the election, and I was obliged to get my milk at Bickley, a long way off.

16,836. Then you wanted the horse and cart?—Yes, I could not do without. Sooner than throw up my milk-walk I thought I would buy a horse and cart. That is the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

16,837. Was not the 4*l.* a sort of subscription towards this Gower horse?—No.

16,838. Only for the vote?—Only for the vote, that is true. I have been chaffed hundreds and thousands of times about that poor old pony and cart. It happened to be just at the time of the election.

16,839. I am not surprised at your being chaffed?—You may take it which way you like.

16,840. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you voted in 1863?—Yes.

16,841. For whom?—For Mr. Gower.

16,842. What did you get then?—Only 2*l.*

16,843. Who paid you the 2*l.* then?—Mr. Job Apted.

16,844. Did you vote in 1859?—Yes.

16,845. For whom?—I think for Mr. Wilkinson.

16,846. What did you get then?—I got 1*l.* I think.

16,847. Who from?—Mr. Job Apted.

16,848. Had you voted in 1858, when Sir Henry Rawlinson was a candidate?—I voted for him.

16,849. What did you get for that?—I got nothing for that.

16,850. Is that all the money you have received during the elections?—That is every farthing I received.

16,851. 1*l.*, 2*l.*, and 4*l.*?—Yes, 7*l.* altogether.

16,852. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who did you vote for in 1859, Mr. Monson or Mr. Wilkinson?—Mr. Wilkinson.

16,853. I believe it was known that you were wanting this horse and cart. Do you recollect Mr. Holdsworth?—Yes.

16,854. He came to you?—He never came to me at all. I was in his house serving him with milk on the polling morning.

16,855. He did not go to you?—No. He had his milk as usual; and he said to me, "Medhurst, would "15*l.* be of any use to get your pony and cart?" but I never saw any money.

16,856. Then I made a mistake; it was Holdsworth, not Joyes, who said that?—You made a mistake there.

16,857. You should have corrected me. Did you consider that he was serious or joking?—I never saw any money.

16,858. Did you know by his manner?—I do not believe he would have given the 15*l.*

16,859. Did he promise it?—No; he said, "Would "it be of any use?" I said, "I am going for Gower," and he said, "go." I voted for Mr. Gower early in the morning, about half-past 9 o'clock.

16,860. It was to try you?—No man on the face of the earth would make me break my promise.

16,861. It was to try your virtue?—It was to try my virtue, if I had got any.

16,862. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had sold yourself (to use plain language) for 4*l.*?—I had promised my vote.

16,863. You had sold yourself for 4*l.*?—I do not think there was much selling or buying.

16,864. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it to Holdsworth that you said, when he offered this 15*l.* "Why, hang it! I am always making a mistake in "these elections; Joyes has just offered me 10*l.*"?—No.

16,865. Not to anybody?—Not a word.

16,866. I do not mean Holdsworth or Joyes?—I never went to none of the meetings; I never went a stone's throw away from my home, I did not want no connexion with none of them.

16,867. That is not what I am asking. When you were offered 15*l.* by Holdsworth, was it fifteen sovereigns or three fivers?—He did not say three fivers, he said 15*l.*

16,868. Then did you not say, "I am always making "mistakes"?—No, I do not make mistakes like that. I ain't quite so silly as that.

16,869. Why did you not take the 15*l.*?—Because I did not want it, and I had promised one party.

16,870. You had sold yourself for 4*l.*?—Yes; if it had been a thousand pounds I would not have taken it.

16,871. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you any other information to give us about the last election or any previous election?—No. I would give it with the greatest pleasure if I had any; I would give it in a straightforward manner, but I have none whatever.

W. Miles.

William Miles called, sworn, and examined.

16,872. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a voter?—Yes.

16,873. What house do you rent?—A house of 20*l.* a year.

16,874. What are you?—A fishmonger and poulterer.

16,875. In Reigate?—Redhill.

16,876. You are not a freeholder? You rent your house?—Yes.

16,877. You voted for Mr. Gower at the last election I think?—Yes.

16,878. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

16,879. Who put you on his committee?—Mr. Green.

16,880. How long before the election?—About seven weeks.

16,881. What were you to have for working on the committee?—There was no agreement made.

16,882. No particular sum mentioned, but what was understood?—There never was any understanding.

16,883. 30*s.* a week, or how much?—There was nothing of the kind mentioned.

16,884. But you expected to be paid, I presume?—I expected to have a little something.

16,885. Did Mr. Green pay you anything?—Yes.

16,886. How much?—2*l.*

16,887. When?—After the election.

16,888. Was that all you received altogether?—That was all.

16,889. Did you apply to him?—No.

16,890. How came he to pay you if you did not apply to him?—I do not know I am sure.

16,891. Where did he see you? Did he come to your house?—Yes.

16,892. As he was going his round?—I suppose so.

16,893. You were in, and he handed you 2*l.*?—Yes.

16,894. You do not know, of course, how many houses he visited? How long was it after the election; A week or two?—A month, I think.

16,895. Were you at home when he came?—Yes.

16,896. And your wife was there, I suppose?—She was at home.

16,897. He asked for you and handed you the 2*l.*?—Yes.

16,898. What did he say?—He said there was 2*l.* for the voting.

16,899. Did you say, "This is rather small, Mr. "Green"?—No.

16,900. You looked at it, didn't you, and said, "This "is very few; I should like a little more"?—I did not say so.

16,901. You looked at it?—I looked at it.

16,902. You looked dissatisfied, did you not, and said, "I would rather have a little more"?—I did not say so.

16,903. Did you say, "When is the rest coming?"—I expected we should have a settlement some time after.

16,904. You said so to Mr. Green, "When is the "rest coming?" or something of that kind; "When is "the settlement day coming?"—Mr. Green did not know.

16,905. He said so?—He said it would be.

16,906. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You asked him, I suppose, when the settlement day was coming?—Of course I did.

16,907. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was your wife present?—No.

16,908. He said the day would come some time or another?—Some time or another.

16,909. It has not come, I am afraid?—No.

16,910. Was that all you received?—Yes.

16,911. Was this the first time you voted?—No.

16,912. When before that?—The election before.

16,913. In 1863?—Yes.

16,914. For whom did you vote then?—Mr. Gower.

16,915. Was the money better then; was there a little more going?—Yes, a little more.

16,916. How much did you have then?—About 7*l.* 10*s.* I believe it was.

16,917. Who paid you the 7*l.* 10*s.*?—Mr. Green.

16,918. When he paid you 2*l.*, in 1865, did you refer to 1863, and say, "There is a great difference"?—There was a great difference, but I did not make any remark.

16,919. You told him things were better in 1863, did you not?—No, I said nothing of the kind.

16,920. Did he pay you after the election in 1863?—Yes.

16,921. Were most of the men paid better, as far as you know, in 1863 than in 1865?—I do not know.

16,922. As far as you know?—As far as I know, they were.

16,923. You were canvassed on behalf of Monson, I suppose, at the last election?—No.

16,924. They did not come to you?—No.

16,925. They knew you were staunch?—They knew I was for Mr. Gower.

16,926. Had you promised Mr. Green?—Yes.

16,927. Were you not canvassed? Did not Mr. Hanbury canvass you on behalf of Mr. Monson?—No, Mr. Hanbury and Mr. Monson came about a week before Christmas.

16,928. That is a long time. I am speaking of 1865; that was a long time before the election?—I know it was.

16,929. Did they canvass you then? They told you, I suppose, that Government was shaky, and that there would be a new election, and that they wanted you to help them?—No, they walked in and said there would be another election in the spring.

16,930. And they wanted your vote?—They did not ask me for my vote.

16,931. For your assistance, or something of that kind?—They only just mentioned the question.

16,932. That is what any gentleman who goes to a voter does; that is his proper duty. "I hope you "will be with us," or something of that kind?—I do not know that anything of that kind was said.

16,933. What did they say?—I am sure I do not know what was said.

16,934. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) One word about the election of 1863. You told my friend that you voted for Mr. Gower. You had been canvassed in that election for Mr. Wilkinson, had you not?—Mr. Wilkinson's party came in the shop.

16,935. Who was that?—Mr. Wilkinson came in the shop. I do not know who was with him. I did not promise either.

16,936. Do you recollect who asked you first?—Yes.

16,937. Which?—Mr. Wilkinson.

16,938. After that you promised Mr. Gower your vote, did you not?—Yes.

16,939. Do you not recollect somebody coming in from Mr. Wilkinson and asking you why you had joined the Gower party? Do you recollect that? You know you had been on the committee in 1863?—Yes.

16,940. Do you not remember their coming and asking you why you had your name put down on Mr. Gower's committee? I think you recollect that?—I am sure I do not know who it was.

16,941. You remember somebody coming in?—I remember some one coming in.

16,942. Did you keep a cart and pony at that time?—Yes.

16,943. Do you now?—Yes.

16,944. Do you not recollect a conversation about a cart and pony? Do you recollect when somebody asked you why your name was put down on the Gower committee that you said Mr. Wilkinson's party had not made you any offer at all, or something to that effect?—I might have said something like that.

16,945. And didn't you say that Smith and Nichols had offered you 50*s.* a week for the horse and cart?—No.

16,946. 30*s.* a week, wasn't it?—No.

16,947. How much was it?—Nothing at all.

16,948. But didn't you tell them something like this: "Mr. Wilkinson's party have offered me nothing, "but Mr. Gower's party have offered me so much a "week for my horse and cart"?—No.

16,949. Pray try and recollect if that did not pass?—I did not say so.

16,950. Well, something of that nature?—Nothing.

16,951. Didn't you say that you had had an offer for the use of your horse and cart?—No.

16,952. Didn't you say that you had been offered something by Mr. Gower's party for your work?—I was offered by Mr. Gower's party to go on their committee.

16,953. And didn't you also say that you had been offered something for work?—No.

16,954. But if you went on their committee I suppose you were to do some service?—Yes, I was to attend their meetings.

ELEVENTH DAY.

W. Miles.

3 Sept. 1866.

16,955. What were you to get for it?—7*s.* 6*d.* a day.

16,956. Did you get any of these seven and sixpences,—7*s.* 6*d.* a day,—which was the sum you mentioned to Wilkinson's party as having been offered by Gower?—Not till after the election.

16,957. Those were the sums that went to make up the 7*l.* 10*s.*?—That was in the 7*l.* 10*s.*

16,958. Did they bid higher then? Did Wilkinson's party bid higher than that 7*s.* 6*d.*?—Not that I know of.

16,959. I mean, to you. Try and recollect, please?—They never offered me anything.

16,960. What did they say when you told them, "I "am paid 7*s.* 6*d.*," or, "I am to have 7*s.* 6*d.* a day "from the other side"? I suppose they did not walk out, did they?—No; they asked me what was the reason I voted for the other party.

16,961. And you said, "I have undertaken to be with them for 7*s.* 6*d.* a day," or something like that. What did they say to that?—I never told them what was the reason.

16,962. When Wilkinson's party came to you you told them, "I am to have 7*s.* 6*d.* a day from Mr. "Gower"?—No, I did not tell them so.

16,963. You have said so. I have taken your words down. Your words were, "I have told them I "was to be paid 7*s.* 6*d.* a day"?—I never told Wilkinson so.

16,964. I never said you did, but you told Wilkinson's party. Do not fence with me?—I might have told Wilkinson's party, but not that I know of.

16,965. Did Wilkinson's party bid higher?—No.

16,966. Didn't they make a rise upon that sum?—No.

16,967. Did they make you any offer?—No.

16,968. Did they say, "You had better be on our "side"?—Not as I know of.

16,969. Did they make you any offer at all, either in money or say, "We will arrange with you afterwards,"—Wilkinson's party?—I do not know as they did.

16,970. I think you would recollect it if they did?—Well, I think I should.

16,971. We have got them calling on you, and we have already proved that they found out what arrangement you made with Gower. Now, they would not ask these questions, they would not care to know, unless with a view to see whether they could not make another bargain themselves with you?—I do not know as they ever offered me anything.

16,972. You mean no sum of money?—No.

16,973. Did they say, "You shall be paid"?—No.

16,974. What did they say?—They asked me the reason I was voting the other side.

16,975. Yes, and you told them?—No, I did not tell them.

16,976. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Perhaps that was not your reason for voting on the other side, although you were going to receive 7*s.* 6*d.* a day?—I never promised my vote to Wilkinson on the first onset.

16,977. You promised to Gower?—Yes. Wilkinson's party came to me first in this election, before the last.

16,978. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Yes, the election of 1863. I wish you would give me a little assistance about this. We have got them in your house, and we have got them having a conversation with you?—Yes, they did, several times.

16,979. Well, how did it end?—I am sure I do not know, because Mr. Norman Wilkinson came about three times.

16,980. Before or not, did you at any time promise that you would vote for Wilkinson?—No.

16,981. Not promise any one?—No.

16,982. Do you know any gentleman named Frederick—something?—Not as I know of.

16,983. Now, look here, you know Mr. Frederick Campion?—Yes.

16,984. Do you remember in that election of 1863 seeing Mr. Frederick Campion? Do not say "No," if with a little reflection you can call it to mind.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He lives near Wiggey?—Yes, I know where it is very well.

16,985–6. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you remember seeing him? He was on Mr. Wilkinson's side?—Yes, I believe he was.

16,987. No doubt, in 1863; and do not you remember his calling on you?—Yes, he called in the shop.

16,988. What did he say? Was that the conversation when you told him about the 7*s.* 6*d.*?—No, I never named it to him.

16,989. Did he ask you why you voted for Mr. Gower? I shall only have to send for Mr. Campion, and perhaps I can get it from him, only I don't want to contradict you by another witness. I only want to get the plain statement from you, and it will sound much better if it comes from you than if it comes to me from some one else; beeause it will show, otherwise, that we could not get it from you, and you are sworn to tell the whole truth?—I have told it as far as I can.

16,990. What did he say when he came into your house?—I do not recollect.

16,991. Do you recollect what you said to him?—No.

16,992. He canvassed you for your vote?—No, he did not canvass me at all.

16,993. I beg your pardon. He asked you for your vote?—He might have asked me which way I was going to vote.

16,994. Didn't he say, "You have put your name "on Gower's committee"?—Yes, I believe he did.

16,995. And you said, what? Will you help me a bit more?—What did Campion say?

16,996. No. He asked you how it was that you had had your name put down on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes, he did.

16,997. Well, you made some answer to that?—Because, I said, I was better satisfied with Mr. Gower than I was with Mr. Wilkinson.

16,998. And did you tell him why; because of course he would want to know why?—Well, I do not know why.

16,999. I do not say that you do; but did you tell him why?—He might have asked me and said, "Well, "you are better paid, perhaps," or something of the kind.

17,000. What did you say to that?—I said, "Yes."

17,001. How did you know you were better paid?—Because I was on with Mr. Gower.

17,002. But how did you know you would be better paid by Gower than you would be by Wilkinson?—Well, I did not know; I did not know what he was going to give me.

17,003. But you said to Mr. Campion, "Because I "am better paid." You know "better" is the better of two things?—Yes, I know it is.

17,004. Well, what was Mr. Wilkinson's to be?—I do not know.

17,005. You must have known it, or otherwise you could not say you were better paid?—There was nothing offered to me.

17,006. Did they say, "You shall be paid for your "services," without stating any sum?—They said I should be paid for my services.

17,007. Who told you that?—I do not know who it was.

17,008. Did Mr. Campion pay you?—No.

17,009. Tell me who did tell you you should be paid?—I do not know who it was.

17,010. I am only going to ask you this once. Will you give me any more information about that election of 1863? I shall be obliged to ask some one else, and you won't like to hear yourself contradicted. You

won't like to hear anybody say, "I went to William "Miles in 1863, and I told him so-and-so and so-and-"so; and he told me he was getting 7*s.* 6*d.* a day; "and although I offered him so much he would not "take it."—I did not tell anybody.

17,011. Can you tell me any more?—No.

17,012. Have you been in any other election?—No.

17,013. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that arrangement for 7*s.* 6*d.* a day made with Mr. Green when he first canvassed you?—Mr. Green did not canvass me.

17,014. In 1863?—No.

17,015. Green paid you?—Yes, Green paid me.

17,016. Whom did you make the arrangement with that you were to have 7*s.* 6*d.* a day in 1863?—Mr. Parker and Mr. Featherstone.

17,017. What Parker?—He lived in the Station-road.

17,018. Do you know his Christian name?—No.

17,019–20. Parker of the Station-road canvassed you in 1863.

17,021. Did they both canvass you together?—No, Parker took me down to the meeting.

17,022. Yes; but I want to know was it with Parker or with Featherstone that you had the arrangement that you were to be paid 7*s.* 6*d.* a day?—With Parker.

17,023. Was that when he first canvassed you?—Yes. He told me that was what he was having of, and I should have the same as he.

17,024. Did you hear from Featherstone what he was having in 1863?—No.

17,025. Do you know whether or not he was to have the same?—No; I do not know.

17,026. What did you really do in 1863?—Attended meetings.

17,027. What meetings? Were they committee meetings or meetings at the beer houses?—Committee meetings.

17,028. All committee meetings?—Yes.

17,029. Those only occupied you a small portion of the evening, I suppose?—In the evening.

17,030. Overtime?—Yes.

17,031. Were you to have extra for the polling and nomination day?—Not that I know of.

17,032. But those days were to be counted in, I suppose?—Yes.

17,033–4. You know that the Chief Commissioner asked you whether you had got anything further to say. Now you have told me something further. Now let me give you another chance. Is there anything further you can give information upon in respect to 1863 or 1865?—I do not know of anything else; I have told you as far as I know.

17,035. Is there anything of 1865 you have got to tell us?—Nothing.

17,036. Do you know of any others besides yourself receiving monies in the same way, as for work?—No.

ELEVENTH DAY.

W. Miles.

3 Sept. 1866.

Short adjournment.

PHILIP MILES called, sworn, and examined.

P. Miles

17,307. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

17,038. What rent do you pay?—4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

17,039. That was what you paid at the last election?—Yes.

17,040. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—1865?

17,041. 1865?—Mr. Gower.

17,042. You voted for Mr. Gower. I believe you were on his committee, were you not?—Yes.

17,043. And who put you on his committee?—Alexander Rose.

17,044. Did you see Joyes, or Apted, or Buckland about it?—No.

17,045. Rose put you on the committee; and what were you to do?—Well, I was to attend the committee meetings, and deliver circulars if I were required.

17,046. And I believe, as it turned out, they had plenty of people, and they did not require you?—No.

17,047. So that you did nothing?—I attended the committee.

17,048. But I mean did nothing in the way of services?—Not delivering circulars.

17,049. You know committees were in the evening?—Yes.

17,050. What was the arrangement with you? what were you to have for doing it?—Well, I never made any arrangement at all.

17,051. Not a regular sum, perhaps; but just tell me on what terms it was to be, if you please?—Well, he told if I would go on Mr. Gower's committee he would pay me for my time.

17,052. Did he tell you what?—No, there was nothing mentioned, not a farthing.

17,053. When did you apply to him?—When did I apply?

17,054. Apply to him for something for time and services?—Oh! some considerable time after the election.

17,055. That is what I want to know, if you can tell me?—I think it must have been a month or five week after the election, as near as I can tell you.

17,056. Did you give him a bill?—No.

17,057. To whom did you apply,—to Rose?—Yes.

17,058. What did you apply to him for; be so good as to tell us straight off?—I asked him if there would be anything allowed for my services. He said yes, he thought there would by-and-by.

17,059. For how much did you apply to him? You know no sum was mentioned in the first instance, but you gave him your services, and then how much were you expecting for them afterwards?—Well, he told me that he would put me on the committee. He asked me if I would vote for Mr. Gower. I told him that was my intention, and he said, he would pay me for my time. It was after the election when I applied to him. He said, "Perhaps it "might be 2*l.* and perhaps more." I believe they are the words that passed between us.

17,060. That was after the election?—After the election.

17,061. "He told me it would be 2*l.* and perhaps more"?—Yes.

17,062. What I want to know is, did you in the first instance apply to him for a certain sum; did you apply to him for the 5*l.*?—No, there was never any 5*l.* mentioned.

17,063. Did you apply to him for a certain sum?—No.

17,064. You know how long you had been on the committee, and you were able to value your own services I suppose; did you apply to him for a certain sum?—No.

17,065. Did you name any sum to him?—No, not in the least.

17,066. What did you receive?—I received 2*l.* from Rose.

17,067. When did he pay you the 2*l.*?—At two different times. I think it was the third and fourth week in November, but I won't be certain.

17,068. What else?—And 5*s.* 6*d.* from Robert Legg for being out at night.

ELEVENTH DAY.

P. Miles.

3 Sept. 1866.

17,069. How came Legg, of all people, to pay you that?—Well, he had the list of names of those that were out at nights. Charles Briggs came to me, and he called several of us to be out, and he called me for one, and I did go out. I was out for two or three nights. Robert Legg paid me for it.

17,070. Was that for the election?—After the election. I never received a farthing before the election.

17,071. Were you canvassed by anybody on the Monson side?—Mr. Monson himself.

17,072. Anybody else?—John Corderoy with him.

16,073. Did you refuse him your vote?—I did. I refused him there and then.

17,074. At that time had you had a conversation with Rose?—Previous to that.

17,075. I say previous to Mr. Monson asking you had you had a conversation with Rose?—Oh, yes, several weeks.

17,076. Did you tell the Monson party, Mr. Monson or his friends, that you had had the conversation, and that you were engaged to Mr. Gower?—I told him I had promised my vote to Mr. Gower, and I would not break my word for any man.

17,077. Did you tell him you were engaged?—No.

17,078. Did anybody make any offer to you if you would come on Monson's side?—No.

17,079. Will you tell me whom you had voted for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

17,080. Mr. Gower stood then?—Yes, he did.

17,081. You say that then you voted for Wilkinson; did Mr. Gower canvass you?—No.

17,082. Not at all?—Not at all, and I will tell you the reason. I was at work from home carrying on a shop for my master. I only came home on the Saturday night, and away again on the Sunday night, and I did not see Gower's party at all.

17,083. But you saw Wilkinson's party I suppose?—Yes, I saw Frederick Joyes.

17,084. Whom was he for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

17,085. What did he say to you?—He asked me if I would vote for Mr. Wilkinson. I told him I would.

17,086. Was that all?—I told him I was away from home at work, and he said if I would come up and vote for him he would pay my expenses and time.

17,087. How far off were you at work?—Well, I should think about 14 or 15 miles.

17,088. You did come up to vote?—Yes.

17,089. How much was paid you?—2*l.*

17,090. How do you calculate that 2*l.*; for what?—I do not calculate anything. I never had any agreement with him.

17,091. Do you consider that 2*l.* was paid for your vote?—Yes.

17,092. You may have misunderstood my question. I will put it again. Did you consider the 2*l.* paid for your vote, or was the 2*l.* paid to cover your expenses?—Time and expenses.

17,093. Time and expenses are very much the same thing, but you could not charge as much as 2*l.* for one day?—That is quite right; but I never made any bargain whatever, and Joyes never paid me. I came up and gave my vote. When I came home the next Saturday evening the money was left at my house.

17,094. He paid you by leaving it at your house?—Yes.

17,095. Do you know anything about that election beyond what you have told me?—No, I do not.

17,096. Do you know anything about this election of 1865 beyond what you have told me?—No, I do not.

17,097. Did you see much treating going on?

17,098. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Drinking?—Well, I was at a public meeting or two.

17,099. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you consider refreshment was going on pretty freely. If you do not, say so; but I am asking you as an honest man, do you consider whether treating was pretty free on both sides?—I cannot say on both sides.

17,100. Oh! you did not go into the other side?—No.

17,101. As far as your side went, did you see plenty of refreshment going on?—Not out of the way; I had some I did not pay for, and some that I paid for myself.

17,102. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you see Job Apted in the election?—Well, I saw him several times.

17,103. Did he ever ask you about your vote?—No.

17,104. Never canvassed you?—No.

17,105. Never promised you anything?—No.

17,106. Or Thomas Buckland?—No; no conversation with Buckland whatever.

17,107. Did you spend any money out of your own pocket?—Yes, a little.

17,108. On account of the election?—No, I spnet what I usually spent a week.

17,109. But I mean on account of the election?—No.

17,110. You had no charge against Mr. Gower's party for monies that you had spent out of your own pocket?—No, not in the least.

17,111. You had 5*s.* for night work?—5*s.* 6*d.*

17,112. Did you only receive one 5*s.* 6*d.*?—One 5*s.* 6*d.*

17,113. What night was that?—The Saturday night after the election I believe.

17,114. After the election?—After the election.

17,115. What did you want to be paid after the election for?—I was out, I think it was the Tuesday night before the polling.

17,116. You received it after the election?—Yes.

17,117. But I ask you what night you were out?—On the Tuesday night before the election.

17,118. The election was on the Wednesday?—Yes.

17,119. Were you with a party of men?—Yes; at least I was with Charles Briggs.

17,120. What district were you in?—In the town a great part.

17,121. About Nutley-lane?—Yes.

17,122. Were you anywhere near Groom's; do you know Groom's house?—Groom's? no.

17,123. Not near there?—No.

17,124. Did you go into that district?—No, not at all.

17,125. Did you keep to one spot?—We kept the town; Nutley-lane and Wray-park.

17,126. Did you see anybody taking voters away?—No.

17,127. Or attempting?—No.

17,128. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) They saw you were there, I suppose?—Well, I cannot say about that.

17,129. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose you were better than the police; you were always on the spot when you ought to be?—Well, I cannot say anything about that.

17,130. It is difficult to find a policeman when there is a row. He is always away. You prevented any disturbance?—I never saw any disturbance.

17,131. If you want occupation in the police service I should think you would make a very good policeman?—I do not want it, thank you, sir.

GEORGE PULLEN called, sworn, and examined.

17,132. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

17,133. What rent do you pay for your house?—16*l.* 18*s.* a year.

17,134. How long have you been a voter?—Nearly six years.

17,135. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Gower.

17,136. I am afraid you were not treated well then?—Yes, I was.

17,137. You were well treated. Very well, I am very glad of that; what did you receive then?—Well, I received 2*l.* five months after the election.

17,138. You don't call that being well treated; you were promised a great deal more than that?—No, I was never promised anything.

17,139. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then you treated the 2*l.* as a god-send?—Well, I expected something.

17,140. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You expected something more than the 2*l.*?—Well, I did expect something.

17,141. You expected 9*l.* or 10*l.*?—No; I didn't expect so much as that.

17,142. How much did you expect?—4*l.* or 5*l.*

17,143. For yourself?—For my services.

17,144. But you were money out of pocket?—Yes, a little.

17,145. And didn't they pay you for that?—Yes.

17,146. Who paid you the money out of pocket? I believe Mr. Apted paid you 1*l.*?—Yes.

17,147. That is in addition to the 2*l.*?—Yes; I got 2*l.* before the election come off for my expenses.

17,148. From whom did you get the second pound?—I believe Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland were both together. I got 1*l.* on each of two occasions.

17,149. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you the 2*l.*?—I believe Mr. Buckland and Mr. Apted were both together at both times.

17,150. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you called into their office?—I was paid in the town hall here; there was only 2*l.* altogether.

17,151. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You received 4*l.* altogether?—I received 4*l.* altogether.

17,152. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you the first 2*l.*?—Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland were together.

17,153. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was before the election?—Before the election; for my expenses.

17,154. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did they tell you to pay money, and that they would pay it back again?—Yes; I was engaged as a canvasser.

17,155. Well, but canvassers do not pay money; canvassers go round with a book, and put on a smiling face, and speak to the ladies and kiss the babies, and so on. That is what canvassers do. You had not a book of that kind?—No.

17,156. You do not get money out of pocket by canvassing?—But you do by spending.

17,157. They told you if you got a voter not to be sparing with beer?—No.

17,158. Didn't they tell you to pay for it?—I was to pay for a glass of ale now and then.

17,159. But didn't they tell you to do it?—Well, yes, they did tell me.

17,160. Job Apted told you, "Well, you are a nice "kindly man, and if you meet with a voter just take "him in and talk over a pint of beer with him"?—No.

17,161. Did you spend the 2*l.* in treating men with beer?—Yes, and more to the end of it.

17,162. These were all voters; you didn't treat anybody but a voter?—No.

17,163. Didn't they treat you back?—No, not often.

17,164. But you took care not to tell them at that time, "this is election beer"; you didn't tell them that?—No, I didn't.

17,165. You expected more than 2*l.* for your services?—Well, I expected more than 2*l.*

17,166. Honestly you expected 5*l.* or 6*l.*?—No, I thought 4*l.* would pay me very well for my time and trouble.

17,167. What time did you spend beyond treating people to beer?—I cannot answer for that; I know I used to be about two or three hours in the evening, after my day's work.

17,168. That was treating people to beer?—No, not particularly.

17,169. What other time?—Well, I used to go about to my neighbours and see how many voters I could influence.

17,170. Didn't any of the neighbours come to you to ask you to vote?—No, I never was canvassed.

17,171. Not at all?—No, neither by Monson nor Gower.

17,172. Except by Apted?—I never was canvassed by anybody.

17,173. How did they know you were to vote for Gower?—Apted and Buckland came to my house.

17,174. How did Mr. Apted know?—I have known Apted ever since I have been in Reigate.

17,175. Then you are a sure card? Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

17,176. For Gower?—For Wilkinson.

17,177. Was Apted for Gower at that time or Wilkinson?—Gower, I think, I am not quite certain.

17,178. What did you receive?—I received 30*s.*

17,179. From whom?—Mr. James, I think.

17,180. What was that for?—For my loss of time, polling day and nomination day. I was check clerk.

17,181. Check clerk at what?—On the polling day.

17,182. What else did you do?—Well, I never did anything else.

17,183. Who appointed you check clerk?—One of the agents from London, I think; I do not know the man.

17,184. I don't think you were check clerk, because check clerk is an important office.

17,185. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Poll clerk?—Not poll clerk, check clerk I believe.

17,186. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You didn't keep any books?—I had to put down the names that voted for Wilkinson.

17,187. Were you engaged by day there?—I was.

17,188. You got a 1*l.* for that?—I got a 1*l.* for that, and 10*s.* for the other.

17,189. 10*s.* for the nomination day?—Yes.

17,190. Had you voted at all before?—No; no other election.

17,191. How many check clerks were there on each side?—One or two, I think; two I believe.

17,192. Not half a dozen?—No, there were not.

17,193. Who made you a check clerk; who applied for the office for you?—I believe Mr. Frederick Killick applied for it for me.

17,194. On the morning of the polling?—Yes.

17,195. You told him you would like——?—I wanted a little job.

17,196. But you were not out of work then?—No, I had got plenty to do.

17,197. When did you go to Apted for the 2*l.*?—I never went to him at all; he paid it to me when I was going along the street here.

17,198. He saw you?—Yes. He was in his shop.

17,199. He called you in?—Yes.

17,200. You asked him if there would be anything more to come?—He said, "Not till February."

17,201. You knew what that meant?—Yes.

17,202. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did February ever come?—No.

17,203. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You made no noise or stir about it?—No.

17,204. You knew it would not do to make any

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G. Pullen.

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noise or stir about it?—Well, if I did, I never should get it, I thought.

17,205. Don't you think you paid much more than the 2*l.* out of your own pocket?—Yes, all that I should think.

17,206. Did you pay away 4*l.*, do you think?—No, I did not.

17,207. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you at Groom's the night before the election?—No, I think not.

17,208. Might you have been?—No, I don't know that I was.

17,209. Do you know him?—I know the man.

17,210. He keeps a public house?—Yes, I believe so; I do not know whether it is a beer shop, or what it is; I don't know that ever I was in it.

D. Pitt.

DAVID PITT called, sworn, and examined.

17,211. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What rented house do you occupy?—12*l.* at the last election; rated at 12*l.*

17,212. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is it your own house?—Not now. It was at the last election, but I have sold it since then.

17,213. The rental would be about 15*l.* a year, I suppose?—About 7*s.* a week. The other one adjoining it I let at 5*s.* 6*d.* a week. That would not be so large a one.

17,214. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is it your own house?—It was at that time. I pay 9*s.* 6*d.* now.

17,215. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carman.

17,216. Whom did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

17,217. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith.

17,218. That was in the early part of the election?—I do not know the day of the month, but it was the day after the Derby day, twelve months ago.

17,219. That was quite in the early part of the canvass?—I believe it was.

17,220. Did you promise your vote then?—Yes; at least, I was lying on the sofa at home; I was asleep; my wife waked me up, and said there were two gentlemen wanted to see me at the door, and I went. Mr. Gower said, "Well, Pitt, how are you"? I said, "Not very topping: I had plenty to drink last "night."

17,221. You had had plenty to drink the night before?—Yes.

17,222. What time of the day was this?—As near as I can say, about 1 o'clock.

17,223. By 1 o'clock in the day you had not quite recovered from your last night's drink?—I do not know whether I was drunk, I drove a pair of horses home.

17,224. Or rather the horses brought you home. At 1 o'clock in the day you were rather poorly, and these two gentlemen called upon you?—Yes.

17,225. Were you sufficiently collected to recollect what took place?—Yes.

17,226. What took place?—Mr. Gower asked me if I would vote for them again, as I had voted for them before.

17,227. You had voted in 1863?—Yes. I said I had not thought anything about the election yet. Mr. Smith said, "We like to make what show we can on "the committee; shall I put your name down?" I said, "Yes."

17,228. Were you to have anything for being on the committee?—Not that I know of.

17,229. Did not he say, "If you come on the com-"mittee you will get something for loss of time"?—No.

17,230. Did you vote for Gower?—Yes.

17,231. You stuck to Gower from first to last?—Yes.

17,232. Did any of the others speak to you about it? Did Frederick Joyes?—Yes, Frederick Joyes spoke to me on one occasion.

17,233. Where was it?—At the "Black Horse," Reigate-heath.

17,234. What took place between you and Joyes?—Very little; I was carrier from Reigate to London at that time.

17,235. Does that throw any light on the subject, your being a carrier?—I will tell you what passed.

17,236. Do, if you please?—I used to come here about 9 o'clock, and my horses stood at the "Black Horse;" and when I came here, whether I went to the bar for a candle or a pint of beer I do not know.

17,237. Where was it you saw Frederick Joyes?—At the bar. He called in on Wednesday, and asked me which way I was going to vote. "My vote is all "right," I said. "Well," he said, "you might just "as well have 5*l.* as not."

17,238. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you told him which way you were going to vote, or that you were going to vote all right?—No; I never told any one; I told him my vote was all right.

17,239. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He had asked you first of all to vote for Gower?—He never said anything about Gower.

17,240. You knew Frederick Joyes was for Mr. Gower?—I did.

17,241. That took place at the "Black Horse"?—Yes.

17,242. Did you think you might as well have the 5*l.*?—No.

17,243. What did you say about having the 5*l.*?—I said I wanted to hear nothing at all about it.

17,244. Did he say anything about your doing any work for this 5*l.*?—No.

17,245. Simply for your voting?—He never mentioned my vote; he asked me which way I was going.

17,246. But you had not told him you were going for Gower?—No; I never told any one, except I might say about three weeks after Mr. Smith and Gower called on me. I was going by Mr. Apted's a day or two afterwards, and he said, "Well, Pitt, which "way are you going this time?"

17,247. Who said that?—Apted.

17,248. Was that after seeing Frederick Joyes?—No, that was before.

17,249. What did you say to Apted?—Apted said, "Which way are you going this time?" I said, "I "shall go the same way as last." He said, "That is "all right."

17,250. Did he say you might as well have something?—No; never mentioned it.

17,251. Did you make application for this money afterwards?—No.

17,252. Have you ever had it?—No. What money? I was never promised.

17,253. No, but Frederick Joyes said you might just as well have 5*l.* Did you ever have that?—No.

17,254. Not that 5*l.*?—No, nor never expected it.

17,255. Do you know Johnson?—Yes.

17,256. Have you said to Johnson that you have been promised this money, and you wished that they would tip up?—No.

17,257. Will you swear you did not?—Yes, I will.

17,258. You know the Johnson I mean, William Johnson?—Yes, I know him well. He is an upholsterer, I believe.

17,259. You say you did not expect to be paid anything?—No.

17,260. You voted in 1863?—Yes.

17,261. Were you paid anything in 1863?—Yes.

17,262. What did you get in 1863?—I believe, as near as I can say, about 4*l.*

17,263. When did you get the 4*l.*?—It was some time after the election.

17,264. Who paid you?—Job Apted.

17,265. What was that for?—For neglecting my time.

17,266. Neglecting your time?—And for my men; I had got 16 or 17 men with me.

17,267. Did you take any men with you?—I took all the men I had.

17,268. Were they all voters?—Not one of them that I know.

17,269. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many men had you got?—16 or 17.

17,270. In 1863?—In 1863; and I paid them 5*s.* a day.

17,271. They were called roughs?—Called roughs.

17,272. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are they with you now?—No.

17,273. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They were only for the occasion? They were day labourers, were they?—They were working for me by the day.

17,274. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you pay them their wages by the day?—Yes.

17,275. What were these roughs to do?—If there was any obstruction they were to put themselves in.

17,276. They were to go in and fight?—Yes, if they were wanted.

17,277. Were not you called the captain of the roughs?—I believe I was at that time.

17,278. Did you go with these roughs to Nutley Hall?—Yes.

17,279. Was that before or after they did their work?—That was before and after, I believe.

17,280. Two occasions?—Two or three.

17,281. Then you took them first, before they were going upon the work, and gave them a good treat at Nutley Hall; plenty of beer?—I think my orders were to give them a pint each time I took them there. Whether it was a pint or a pot I do not know.

17,282. Whom did you get the orders from?—Job Apted.

17,283. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many days were these men employed?—Two days.

17,284. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The nomination day and the polling day?—Yes.

17,285. You would call yourself in respectable language, I suppose, a peace officer?—Well, I am at a loss.

17,286. Superintendent of the peace officers?—No, I was to look after the roughs; see that they did not get tight.

17,287. How often did you take them to Nutley Hall then?—I cannot say.

17,288. Because they were to have a pint of beer every time they went?—Three or four times in the course of the day.

17,289. And they had their dinner?—Yes, at Nutley Hall.

17,290. You had somewhere about 18 gallons of beer?—I should think more.

17,291. How many gallons did you have?—I could not say.

17,292. A good six-and-thirty?—I should think we had altogether.

17,293. And probably more?—Yes.

17,294. Did you pay the bill?—No.

17,295. Who did?—I do not know.

17,296. They would not let you have the beer without putting it down to somebody?—I believe Bailey was the landlord at that time.

17,297. Don't you know Job Apted told Bailey to let you have what you wanted?—I believe he did.

17,298. Did you bring the roughs up this time?—No.

17,299. Didn't you have something to do with them?—Nothing at all.

17,300. But you worked well in 1863?—Yes, and I had nothing in 1865.

17,301. In 1863 did your roughs get into any row?—No, not that I am aware of. There was a lot of chaps got round the town hall door, and we shoved them away. There were no blows struck.

17,302. Was that on the day of the polling?—I do not know. I won't be sure whether it was on the day of the polling or nomination.

17,303. There would not be so much reason for pushing them away on the nomination day as on the polling?—I cannot swear to that.

17,304. What time of the day was it? It was not very far from 4 o'clock, was it?—I should not think it was.

17,305. Just as the voters were going up to the poll at the last moment?—I could not say; some time in the afternoon.

17,306. Were not your men at the door for the purpose of preventing voters going up to the poll?—No; my men pushed the others away.

17,307. For your own party?—For our own party to go in.

17,308. Were there not more of the other party who wanted to go in?—I think they prevented ours from going in.

17,309. Were there not roughs engaged on the Monson side?—Yes. In 1863 on the Wilkinson side.

17,310. Who were the roughs?—There were two or three came from Dorking.

17,311. Who came from Dorking, because brother officers always know one another. Who was the general in command on the other side?—I cannot say.

17,312. They did have roughs on the other side?—Yes.

17,313. Do you think your men were pushing away these roughs or the voters?—Well, the roughs, and probably there might be voters as well.

17,314. You voted for Gower on both occasions?—Yes.

17,315. Were you on Gower's committee in 1863?—I don't know. I was in 1865.

17,316. Now I dare say there is something else that you can tell us about these elections. You are an accurate man, let me hear your little history of this before I ask any other questions. I want to know your honest history of this election; what you saw about in the public houses?—Oh, I saw plenty of lush going on.

17,317. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was there plenty of treating?—Yes.

17,318. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that pretty well all over the town?—Yes, I think it was.

17,319. On which side was the treating going on?—Well, at Wilkinson's election I should not think there was much difference.

17,320. Were the houses pretty freely open?—Yes.

17,321. And at this election?—This election I do not know anything about hardly; my time was taken up; I never attended any meeting at this election.

17,322. There was not much difference between 1865 and 1863?—I do not think there was.

17,323. Had you ever attended any election before 1863?—No.

17,324. Do you know Frederick Joyes?—I know him pretty well.

17,325. When did you see him last?—This morning.

17,326. Did he call you into his shop?—No.

17,327. Did he speak to you?—I spoke to him; I said, "My turn is on to-day."

17,328. Did he remind you of two or three facts which you might disclose?—No.

17,329. Did you see him yesterday?—No.

17,330. Saturday?—Well, I could not say whether I did or not; most likely I did.

17,331. Have you not seen him pretty well every day during the last week?—No.

17,332. And talked pretty freely about this inquiry?—No.

17,333. Kept it a perfect secret?—I don't think we have passed 10 words about it; about this inquiry.

17,334. Well, I should like to know just those 10 words, because the whole secret may be said in 10 words.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He says not 10 words.

17,335. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then I should

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like to know the nine words?—I said, "I understand "that Joyes has been saying that you will say that "you had offered me 5*l.* at the 'Black Horse.'" Joyes said, "No, I did not." I said, "I can tell you "what you did say, and that was, you said I might "as well have 5*l.*" That was all that passed between us.

17,336. What did Joyes say to that; did he deny that he had offered you 5*l.*?—No, he did not deny it.

17,337. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You told him, "I can tell you what you did say"?—Yes, and he said that was it.

17,338. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Well, Johnson was pretty nearly right; he was not very far off?—No.

17,339. A pretty good shot?—But Joyes, I believe, went into the publican's and told it himself before the meeting.

17,340. There happened to be a meeting there?—A meeting of friends.

17,341. A meeting of Mr. Gower's friends.—Yes.

17,342. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He told them that he had offered 5*l.*?—At least, that was reported.

17,343. Is that all Joyes said to you?—Yes.

17,344. Well, now, have you not complained that Joyes has not come to any settlement with you about this 5*l.*?—No, not at all.

17,345. You feel a little aggrieved?—No, I do not; I never took any part in it.

17,346. You would take it if you could get it?—If a man was to come and say, "Here is 5*l.* for you," I should take it.

17,347. For voting?—No, I never did anything.

17,348. Well, suppose Frederick Joyes was to come to you and say, "I told you at the 'Black Horse' you "might as well have 5*l.*, and here it is"?—Well, then I should have taken it.

17,349. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I was particularly struck by an expression of yours which was very graphic. You said, "I don't want to hear any-"thing about it"?—So I did.

17,350. You would rather it was understood than talked about; that was what you meant?—Yes.

17,351. I believe Joyes is not your great friend; you have a greater friend connected with the election than Joyes?—I do not know that I have.

17,352. Yes, you do?—No, I do not.

17,353. Your friend Job Apted?—No.

17,354. Why, you were Job's right-hand man in 1863?—I was about with him a good deal.

17,355. Well, he employed you; you were master of the 17 men?—He employed me.

17,356. Did you receive any money at all from Mr. Apted in the last election?—This last election?

17,357. Yes?—No; and he never offered me any, and never promised me any.

17,358. I did not say "offered"?—I have not, and from no other man.

17,359. What do you mean by "no other man"?—I have not received from Apted or any man.

17,360. You understood that 5*l.* was going?—I had not been about.

17,361. You understood that that was the figure that was going?—I only understood what he said.

17,362. When he said, "You may as well have 5*l.* "as not," you knew what he meant?—I said, "My "vote is all right, and I want to hear nothing "about it."

17,363. What I want to know is, didn't you understand by that that 5*l.* was going among the voters?—No, I did not.

17,364. Did you think the 5*l.* was to be given specially to you?—I do not think I spoke to half a dozen voters before the election.

17,365. But I am asking you about that understanding that you might as well have 5*l.* as not; didn't you understand him to mean by that that 5*l.* was going?—No, I did not.

17,366. What did you understand?—I understood no farther than that. I wanted to hear nothing from him. I had promised my vote, and I did not want to be bothered.

17,367. What did you understand him to mean?—I did not understand that he had any meaning.

17,368. Why should you go to Joyes and tell him what he did say?—This, I dare say, was a week ago.

17,369. Don't you think he could recollect it as well as you?—I do not know.

17,370. I will tell you what I think when I hear of a witness going like that to another, and saying, "This is what I said, and I think that is what you "said." I look upon that as saying, "I will say that "you told me that, and you stick to it"?—There was nothing of that sort.

17,371. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did I understand you to say you never received any money after this election?—No, I have not.

17,372. You said that if Joyes had put the 5*l.* into your hand you think you should have taken it?—Yes.

17,373. Do you know at this time Joyes took you apart from the others, at the "Black Horse," round a corner, or something like that, and had this conversation with you?—Well, about as far from the door as it is from the corner of the room.

17,374. But he took you apart and had this conversation with you?—The conversation was very small, just what I have stated.

17,375. At that time Joyes knew you very well?—Yes.

17,376. And he knew you to be a man rather better off than your neighbours, a man rather well to do in the world?—No, I do not know that I am better off than any of my neighbours. There are many better off.

17,377. But better off than many we have had here. You paid a higher rent, and employed 17 men at the previous election. So I take it you were a man of better standing than most of your neighbours?—No, there are many living in their own houses there.

17,378. Joyes knew your standing?—Yes.

17,379. Well, if you would not make any agreement, wasn't it a very odd thing that Joyes should go back into the house and tell somebody that he met there directly afterwards, "Well, I was astonished "about David Pitt; I thought he would not be like "the others"?—What he said I do not know anything about.

17,380. Wouldn't you think it a very odd thing that he should go back into the house and say to a man he met there just afterwards, "Well, I have "spoken to David Pitt, and I must confess I was "astonished to find he was just like the others"?—I do not know what he thought. I did not give him to understand anything.

17,381. But, if he did say that, it sounds odd if you wanted to hear nothing about 5*l.*?—I had my houses to look to. I did not want to bother about him.

17,382. It was an odd thing he should go back after he had been round the corner with you, and say, "I have been talking to Pitt, and I was asto-"nished to find that he was just like the others;" and he had been offering you 5*l.*?—No.

17,383. I do not mean offering you 5*l.* down, but talking to you about 5*l.* Don't you think it was an odd thing he should remark that as soon as he went back?—Well, I cannot say anything about it; I never went into the house.

17,384. And he went on to say more: "I thought "Pitt was a man above that sort of thing." A man said to him, "How was that?" He said, "Well, I "thought Pitt was above that sort of thing." Now, it was a very odd thing he should say that. I have been told that he did say that as soon as he got into the house?—Well, I do not know what he said.

17,385. We have heard that he did say something. Now, bearing that in mind, and taking from me that that is what Joyes did say when he went back into the house about you, do you still maintain that you

would not have anything to say to him about the 5*l.*? —I do.

17,386. Who took you to the poll?—No one. I walked up.

17,387. Perhaps your roughs took you?—No.

17,388. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who went with you and saw that you did poll?—I cannot say. I walked into the hall myself.

17,389. But who said, "Now, then, come along "Pitt"?—No one.

17,390. Do not tie me to words, but something like that. Who went with you?—I cannot remember that any one said that or anything like it. I walked up from my own house to the poll, and walked in.

17,391. Did anybody remind you that it was time to go?—No.

17,392. What time of the day did you go?—I think, as near as I can say, between 9 and 10.

17,393. You did not want to hear about the 5*l.*, but if the 5*l.* had been offered to you you would not have turned a deaf ear to that?—Yes, I should undoubtedly.

HENRY PARSONS called, sworn, and examined.

H. Parsons.

17,394. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

17,395. And what rent do you pay for your house?—It was freehold.

17,396. Then it is your own?—Yes.

17,397. What is the value of it a year?—I am rated at 13*l.* a year.

17,398. It would be about 17*l.* a year?—Somewhere thereabouts.

17,399. I believe you voted for Mr. Gower at the last election?—I did.

17,400. And you were on his committee?—Yes.

17,401. A leading man on his committee. Did you vote for him in 1863?—No.

17,402. You voted for Wilkinson then?—Yes.

17,403. Who put you on his committee in 1865?—I believe Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland came down to my workshop and asked me to be on his committee.

17,404. And told you, of course, you would be paid for it?—He did no such thing.

17,405. I beg your pardon then, I am very sorry that I suggested anything of that kind to you; they did not tell you you would be paid for it, and I suppose you were not paid for it?—No.

17,406. Did you receive any money at all?—I received 30*s.* for work done for the election.

17,407. Do not be so indignant; I am sorry if I hurt your feelings. You received 30*s.*; from whom?—Mr. Penfold.

17,408. When?—I do not remember the time.

17,409. After the election?—After the election; it may have been three months, or it may have been more.

17,410. It was not for anything you did between the election and the time you were paid?—It was for work done before the election.

17,411. What was the work you did?—I made the committee boards. I made the boards to put the committee list upon.

17,412. Two boards?—They were nearly 12 feet long each; they were longer than those they used.

17,413. They didn't use your boards?—I am told one was outside the hall door.

17,414. They didn't use your boards?—They fetched them away; I believe they used one of them, if not the other.

17,415. Did they order many?—They ordered two.

17,416. To whom did you send your bill?—I didn't make out a bill.

17,417. If I were to come and I was to give you an order for any boards you would make out a bill for me?—Perhaps in time I should.

17,418. Why didn't you make out a bill for it?—I should have done if they had not paid me.

17,419. What else did you receive?—I did some more work. 30*s.* besides that.

17,420. What money?—30*s.*

17,421. Not more?—No; I received one 30*s.* after the election.

17,422. Yes, and what did you receive before?—Nothing whatever.

17,423. Nor during the election?—No.

17,424. Didn't you have any loss of time?—Yes.

17,425. And you were to be paid for the loss of time?—No, I was not paid, and I never expected to to be paid.

17,426. Did you not receive anything from Mr. Apted?—Nothing at all.

47,427. Only one 30*s.* for the boards?—Yes.

17,428. What other work did you do?—I found candles for all the meetings held at Mead-vale in the school-room there, and they had all the candles out of my shop.

17,429. You keep a shop?—Yes.

17,430. They purchased candles; you do not know what kind?—I do not attend to the shop myself; I do not know whether my wife kept account.

17,431. You have bulked it all in 30*s.*?—I never made any charge.

17,432. Who paid you?—Mr. Penfold.

17,433. What were you to do?—He came to where I was at work, and said, "I have got some money for "you; it is 30*s.*; are you satisfied"? I said, "I am "quite satisfied." Had he waited I should have made out a bill most certainly; had he not paid it I should have made out a bill and sent it to some one.

17,434. Now, in the election of 1863 you voted for Wilkinson?—Yes.

17,435. Were you on his committee?—I do not think I was.

17436. Did you supply anything for that election? Nothing whatever.

17,437. And you were paid nothing?—No, I was not.

17,438. Just recollect?—Oh, I am sure I was not.

17,439. Just recollect?—I am sure I was not paid.

17,440. I mean after the election, and for loss of time?—I lost time, but I never did expect anything for it; I expected nothing for it.

17,441. Most men do expect?—I did not.

17,442. Do you know Mr. Mazden?—I do.

17,443. Did he canvass you?—Yes.

17,444. You knew, I suppose, that most of the committee men were paid, or to be paid?—This last time?

17,445. Yes?—I only know very little about it.

17,446. Do you know most of them were to be paid?—No.

17,447. You know now they were to be paid?—I have heard it since I have been here, but I did not know anything about it before.

17,448. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) They did not let you into the secret, then?—No, I attended two or three meetings, but I never heard any secrets; they were public meetings where I was; anybody might go to them.

17,449. If you said you had no bill, and kept no account, and expected 30*s.*, and were satisfied with that, was it more or less than that you think you earned for making these boards and supplying these candles?—I think it would come to somewhere about this money; it was a room as large as this, and it was lighted.

17,450. Did they have several meetings?—I don't know how many meetings they had.

17,451. It is not the usual way of carrying on your business, is it, to supply a quantity of candles and things without making an account of them?—I do not interfere with the shop; my wife looks after that. I came home from work wet through, and I looked out and saw a meeting over the way.

17,452. Your wife attended to the shop? has not she told you the number of candles that were used?—No.

ELEVENTH DAY.

H. Parsons.

3 Sept. 1866.

17,453. Did you give the 30*s.* to her?—Yes, I gave some of it.

17,454. Didn't she say, "Well, now, this is not so "much as the quantity of candles they had"?—It was not for candles; I made boards besides.

17,455. Did she say it was not enough?—No, she said no such thing.

17,456. Was she satisfied?—Yes.

17,457. Did she ever tell you that she had not entered the supply of candles in a book?—I never asked particulars about it. The money came unexpected; I was not expecting it at the time.

17,458. You expected something, because if you had not got the 30*s.* you would have sent in an account some time or other?—I certainly should.

17,459. To whom?—I do not know whether to Mr. Smith or whom; I should have inquired about that.

17,460. Should you have sent your account in as a lump sum?—I didn't do it.

17,461. How should you have made out the particulars of the items, because they might have disputed your account?—I have not made out any election bills, or I know I should have put down the boards, and lighting the school-room with candles, and so on.

17,462. Perhaps you would have put down boards and candles 5*l.*?—I don't think I should have done anything of the sort.

17,463. Should you have hit upon 30*s.*?—Very likely I might.

17,464. You might have hit upon 5*l.*?—I am sure I should not have done so.

17,465. I suppose you would not have hit upon 5*l.*, because of what there was upon your books to have shown it was not 5*l.*?—I didn't do so.

17,466. But what was there on your book to show that it would come up to 30*s.*?—I made two boards very nearly 12 feet long each.

17,467. What was the value of the board?—I didn't make out a bill; I will do so now if you like, as you mention it.

17,468. What was the value of the bill you made out?—Very likely 15*s.*

14,469. Did they burn 15*s.* worth of candles?—They had several pounds of candles.

17,470. Were they kitchen dips?—No, mould.

17,471. 7*d.* a pound?—I do not know the price.

17,472. It was in July?—But the meetings did not commence till it was getting on for dark, and they had a fresh lot of candles at every meeting; they did not burn them twice.

17,473. Did you supply half a dozen meetings?—Not public.

17,474. Or private either?—They had meetings every night burning candles.

17,475. You didn't put candles all round the room?—No.

17,476. There were four candles I suppose on the table?—I was not there except opening and closing; they had new candles out of my shop.

17,477. You look upon the attendance at that meeting as part of the 30*s.*?—Yes; I should not have gone there if they had not wanted to open the school-room that night, but I got wet through.

17,478. You are inclined to put that down as part of the 30*s.*?—I opened the school-room, and lighted it and closed it; I consider I ought to be paid for that, but not for going to the meeting.

17,479. You consider that you ought to be paid for attendance at the meeting?—No, I do not consider I ought to have been paid for that at all, but they had candles and candlesticks from me; I consider the candlesticks and candles quite enough value for the money.

17,480. How did Penfold know that your account would come to 30*s.*?—He knew what was done.

17,481. Did he pay you or your wife?—He paid me myself.

J. Phillips.

JOHN PHILLIPS sworn and examined.

17,482. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You live in the Holmesdale-road?—Yes.

17,483. What are you, a coach-builder?—A coachman.

17,484. Do you pay rent for a house?—I do.

17,485. How much?—6*s.*

17,486. Were you a coachman at the election in 1865?—Yes.

17,487. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

17,488. What did you do besides vote for him, for you are a coachman?—I was on his committees.

17,489. What else did you do; just tell me what you did; I want it shortly?—I attended the meetings.

17,490. Speak out, if you please. All right, what else?—And anything they wanted me to do.

17,491. What did you do; I have no doubt you were ready to do anything you were wanted, but what did you do? Perhaps you do not remember anything else besides attending the meetings?—No.

17,492. They did not want your services as a coachman?—No.

17,493. Did they employ you as a coachman to bring up any of the voters on the polling day?—No, I went with them with the carriage.

14,494. You were not employed as a coachman?—No.

14,495. You did not keep horses of your own?—No.

17,496. Who employed you to work on the committee?—Mr. Rose.

17,497. Do you know his Christian name?—No, I do not.

17,498. Was it Alexander?—I believe it was.

14,499. What did he say to you; what were the terms on which he employed you; did he mention it to you or did he keep it quiet?—He said, "I hear you "are going to vote for Mr. Gower; you may as well "go on the committee;" that was all that passed.

17,500. Why did he say it was as well that you should go on the committee?—I do not know why he said it.

17,501. Why should it be better? Was it better for you or Mr. Gower?—I do not know.

17,502. What do you think; or perhaps it was better for both. Generally when a man talks to you you pretty well understand his meaning, or else you do not, and if you do not you ask him to explain?—I thought the meaning of it was, that he thought it would be safer if I went on the committee, and that I should not then go away from them.

17,503. What would make it safer?—I do not know, only being on the committee.

17,504. You were promised some money, I believe?—I was not promised any money. I heard Mr. Gower say in the hall that everything that was done for him should be paid for; he wished all to be satisfied.

17,505. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you on his committee then?—Yes.

17,506. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At that time?—Yes.

17,507. What did you think of that speech?—I do dot know.

17,508. What effect did it have upon you, did it raise any expectations at all?—I do not know that it did. I never was in any election before.

17,509. Hearing that speech, and knowing you were on Mr. Gower's committee, did not you say to yourself, then there will be something for me?—I thought so.

17,510. From hearing that?—Yes.

17,511. And what did you think would be coming to you?—I did not know.

17,512. No, nothing was mentioned; but how much did you expect would be coming to you?—I did not know that anything was to be coming to me; but I heard what he said.

17,513. But some other persons made you a kind of promise, did they not, and mentioned a sum ?—No.

17,514. Do you know Job Apted ?—Yes.

17,515. Did you have any conversation with him ?—I may have talked to him.

17,516. Tell us the substance of the conversation very shortly ; what did he say to you ?—I do not know. I often see him and talk to him.

17,517. Before the election do you remember his saying something about your services and loss of time ?—I asked him what Mr. Gower meant by what he said, and he said we should be satisfied for what we had done. That was all that passed.

17,518. Did you tell him at that time or any time what you considered you had done ?—No.

17,519. Did he tell you what he considered was the value of what you had done ?—No.

17,520. Do you know Batchelor ?—Yes.

17,521. He has been here before you ?—Yes.

17,522. Did you not tell Batchelor something very different to what you have told us ?—No.

17,523. Are you sure of that ?—Yes.

17,524. Was not a sum of 2*l.* mentioned ?—No.

17,525. Was not anything said about what you were to be paid for the polling day or nomination day ?—No.

17,526. Let me ask you this, had you been canvassed by Mr. Monson's party ?—No.

17,527. Not at all ?—No.

17,528. How was that ?—I do not know,

17,529. They must have known you ?—They knew me.

17,530. How do you know they knew you ?—They called at my house once or twice, but I was not at home, and they left word that they would call again.

17,531. Are you married ?—Yes.

17,532. Who did your wife tell you had called ?—She did not know ; she said two men had called, but she did not know their names.

17,533. Did you see any of Mr. Monson's party ?—Yes, I saw them.

17,534. I mean did you see them to speak to ?—I do not know that I saw them to speak to.

17,535. Did you see Ephraim Rose or Mr. Monson or any of those gentlemen who have been talked about so much lately ? Who did you see to have any conversation with about the election ?—I never saw any of them to have any conversation about the election.

17,536. It is very odd ; but was any talk about the election entered into, about what was going on on the Monson side ?—No.

17,537. When you say you are a coachman, you are a coachman for other people ; you have not got a horse or carriage of your own ?—No.

17,538. Did they tell you as to whether it was dry work driving, or anything like that ?—No.

17,539. Are you sure ?—Yes.

17,540. After the election what money did you really get ?—30*s.*

17,541. How was it that you did not get more ?—I do not know, I was very well satisfied with it.

17,542. Who did you get it from ?—Mr. Rose.

17,543. Did you go to Mr. Rose's house ?—Yes

17,544. Did you see a good many other people there at that time ?—I never saw any one only the one who was with me.

17,545. Who was the man who was with you ?—Mr. Ede.

17,546. What was his Christian name ?—James Ede.

17,547. Did he got 30*s.* at this time too ?—No.

17,548. What did he get ?—He never got anything.

17,549. How do you know that ?—He did not have it in my presence.

17,550. Did he do the same sort of work that you did ?—I believe so ; I saw him at the meetings every evening.

17,551. Do you mean to say that Mr. Rose did not tell you that your pay would probably amount to 5*l.* ?—No.

17,552. It seems very odd, but Ede says that he told him so ?—Ede might have been a canvasser ; I believe he was.

17,553. Were not you ?—No.

17,554. But you were on the committee you know ?—Yes.

17,555, Are you sure you got nothing but the 30*s.* ?—That was all.

17,556. Were you expecting any more ?—No.

17,557. Was this your first election ?—Yes.

17,558. Did you never see Mr. Buckland about it ?—No.

17,559. Nor he you ?—No.

WILLIAM POOLEY sworn and examined.

W. Pooley.

17,560. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a voter for this borough ?—Yes.

17,561. What are you ?—A gardener.

17,562. What rent do you pay ?—I paid 19*l.* 10*s.* a year at that time.

17,563. Have you parted with your house ?—Yes, and pay 16*l.* now.

17,564. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

17,565. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

17,566. How long before the election were you on his committee ?—The first week I went on his committee.

17,567. Then you were working a considerable time for him ?—All the time.

17,568. Did you work hard ?—Not particularly.

17,569. Pretty well ?—I worked with the committee from the first.

17,570. What were you to receive ; was anything said ?—They said I should have from 3*l.* to 5*l.* for the election.

17,571. Who said that ?—Peter Pelham.

17,572. Did he tell you that in company with others ; were others there when he told you that ?—No, we were quite alone.

17,573. That was before you went on the committee ?—Yes.

17,574. Then of course your name was put on the committee ?—No ; he said he would speak to Mr. Durrant ; and that he would put my name on the list.

17,575. It would require interest to put your name on the committee, and he would speak to Mr. Durrant and he would put your name on the committee ?—Yes.

17,576. And you voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

17,577. Was that the first time you had a vote ?—Yes, the first time I could use it.

17,578. You had not voted before ?—No.

17,579. You were promised from 3*l.* to 5*l.*, what did they give you ?—1*l.* 5*s.*

17,580. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Not more than that ?—Not more.

17,581. Before or after ?—Before or after.

17,582. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I hope they did not make two divisions of it ?—They did ; 5*s.* before, at least not before, but on the Saturday, I was paid 5*s.*

17,583. Before the polling day ?—No, after.

17,584. They paid you, a respectable man, 5*s.* after six weeks' labour ?—That was all.

17,585. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you the 5*s.* ?—Mr. Legg, for one night's watching.

17,586. Were you one of the night watchers ?—Yes, for one night.

17,587. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was for night work ?—Yes.

17,588. You did not agree as a member of the committee to do any night work ?—At one of the meetings I was chosen.

17,589. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You made a mistake, I think it was 5*s.* 6*d.* that you were paid ; we have heard of 5*s.* 6*d.* ?—No, I think it was 5*s.*

ELEVENTH DAY.

W. Pooley.

3 Sept. 1866.

17,590. (*Mr. Comissioner O'Brien.*) You were up all night for that ?—Not all night, but a part of the night.

17,591. When did they pay you the 1*l.* ?—The latter end of August or the beginning of September.

17,592. Who paid you ?—Mr. Buckland.

17,593. Did you apply for the money ?—I asked Mr. Durrant whether there was likely to be a settlement before long, and he said he thought there would be a settlement before long, but I had better come and see Mr. Buckland.

17,594. You thought at that time you would have the 5*l.* ?—I expected I should have it; but I did not know whether I should have it before or after the election.

17,595. But you expected to have 5*l.* ?—Yes, I did.

17,596. Did you not tell him "Why, Mr. Buckland "this will not do; I expect to have 5*l.*" ?—I did not say anything of the sort.

17,597. What did you say to him ?—I did not say anything. He said to me, that is all that I can do for you at present, but that there would be some more before long; he hoped there would be more money.

17,598. Have you applied since ?—No, not to any one.

17,599. How was that ?—I heard that others did not get any more, and I thought it would be no use for me to apply. I thought that if there was any money they would pay me the same as the rest when the paying day came.

17,600. Did you consider you were cheated out of the balance ?—I do not know about being cheated; I expected the money when the day came.

17,601. You were disappointed in your expectation ?—Yes, I was disappointed, I expected to have it.

17,602. Of course it was understood you were to vote for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

17,603. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Perhaps you expect to get something still ?—I do not know. Of course if a settling day comes, I shall share with the others.

17,604. Are you expecting that you stand a chance of it still ?—I cannot tell, of course, about that.

17,605. Tell me, if you please, whether you are expecting anything ?—I do not know what I expect; it is no use to expect.

17,606. Understand me, have you marked it off as a bad debt altogether ?—I do not expect any more.

17,607. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Not even after this inquiry ?—Not on this election.

17,608. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is there any information you can give us in your own way about the last election ?—No, nothing at all. I attended most of the meetings, in fact I believe all the meetings in this hall, but only these meetings.

17,609. There is nothing you can tell us ?—There was one meeting at the railway, one that I attended, that was all.

17,610. What about that; can you tell us anything about that ?—No; only that I was there, and a few more voters was there at the same time.

17,611. This last time was any offer made by Mr. Monson's party ?—Yes.

17,612. Who made the offer ?—I was offered money by two parties; but one party was quite a stranger to me, he came up in the garden.

17,613. You now know his name ?—No, I do not.

17,614. He walked into the garden to you; how long was that before the election ?—About eight or nine days as near as I can tell.

17,615. Go on ?—He said he wanted a little talk along with me, and I told him he was a stranger to me and I did not know him. He said he was employed by Mr. Monson, and he was going round canvassing for Mr. Monson. I said I had promised my vote for Mr. Gower, and I would not go from my word, for my word is my bond. He said, "Cannot we "go into the house and have a little talk." I said, "Yes," and I went into my tool shed with him out of the garden.

17,616. Into the tool shed ?—Yes. He had come round for Mr. Monson, and I had given my word for Mr. Gower. I said I would not forfeit my word; for my word was my bond. He took five sovereigns out of his pocket and laid them on the bench, and asked whether I would come up. I said, "No." He asked me whether it was not enough. I said I would not take anything. I told him no, that my word was my bond. He wanted me to go down to the "Grapes" that night. I said I would not come. He said if I altered my mind I could have 5*l.* at the "Grapes" at any time; and I told him I would not take it. He said I could go there any time and have the 5*l.* if I altered my mind.

17,617. You did not know the man ?—No, I did not. I saw him twice afterwards; I saw him on the nomination day in the hall, and I saw him at the railway station.

17,618. Have you seen him here since we have been here ?—No.

17,619. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where did you see him in the hall ?—In the middle of the hall. He had a crowd around. He happened to turn round, and I saw his face; I should know him again if I saw him.

17,620. What sort of a person was he ?—A fair complexion and of middle stature.

17,621. Was he on the hustings ?—No.

17,622. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who was the other person who offered you anything on behalf of the Monson party ?—Mr. Chiswick.

17,623. Where did he come to you ?—In my garden; he was a fellow-servant.

17,624. Where are you gardener ?—At Mr. Young's.

17,625. Chiswick, he ought to be a gardener. Tell us in your own way, and shortly, for I do not wish to ask you any more questions, what did the other party say ? Was this about the same time ?—In the early part of the election; quite early.

17,626. He came into the garden; go on ?—He said I could have 2*l.* if I would vote for Mr. Monson.

17,627. Is Chiswick a voter ?—Yes, I believe he is.

17,628. What passed ?—I did not make any answer to that. He said I had better come over and vote for Mr. Monson. Of course I did not make any answer to that at all.

17,629. Do you know whether he was a committee man ?—I do not know at all.

17,630. Did he say where the money would come from ?—No; and he said I could have 2*l.*

17,631. Did he put it down on the grass ?—No.

17,632. Nor on the bench ?—No.

17,633. He did not show the 2*l.* ?—No, he did not; he said I could have it, but he did not say where it would come from or anything of the kind.

17,634. Then you did not take any notice of that ?—I did not take any notice.

17,635. Was the 2*l.* very small, did you think; go on ?—I said I had given my word for Mr. Gower, and my word is my bond.

17,636. Was that your reason ?—If there had been 100*l.* put down I would not have taken it after I had once given my word.

17,637. You saw a stranger. I want to know whether you knew him in the "Grapes;" I want to know whether he was out of the enemy's camp really, or one of your own friends trying you ?—I did not see him in the "Grapes."

17,638. I want to know, after you saw him in the garden, where you saw him afterwards ?—I saw him in the middle of the hall and at the railway station.

17,639. What I want to know is, whether he really belonged to the Monson party or when he came to you he merely appeared to be on the Monson side ?—On nomination day he was on the Monson side.

17,640. Where did you see him on the nomination day ?—In the middle of the hall.

17,641. Who was he in company with ?—He was in the crowd.

ELEVENTH DAY.

W. Pooley.

3 Sept. 1866.

17,642. He was not on the hustings?—No, he happened to turn round, or else I should not have seen him. I was on one side and he was on the Monson side; the hall was parted.

17,643. Did you see him take a part in what was going on, or was he he merely looking on?—Merely looking on the same as the others.

17,644. Did you see him send anybody up to the poll?—No, I did not see him on the polling day.

17,645. From all you know of him is it your impression that he was a real Monsonite, or that he was sent round by some of the Gower party to see whether you were shaky or not?—No, there was no reason to think I was shaky.

17,646. Then you really believe he was on Mr. Monson's side?—I do.

17,647. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you a vote in 1863?—No, I was in the post office, the sub-post office.

WILLIAM PORT sworn and examined.

W. Port.

17,648. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A gardener.

17,649. Where do you live?—I live in Park-lane now, but I lived on the freehold then, the south part.

17,650. At the time of the election?—Yes.

17,651. What is the rent of your house?—11*l.* 14*s.* a year.

17,652. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

17,653. Who for?—Mr. Gower.

17,654. When did you first give your promise to vote for Mr. Gower?—I cannot say exactly when, but about a month before the time; just after the Epsom races.

17,655. You date it from the Epsom races?—It was just after.

17,656. You take an interest in the matter you date it from?—Yes.

17,657. Who canvassed you first?—No one ever canvassed me first. I saw Mr. Gower one day, and he said, "I suppose it is all right;" I said, "Yes, "I will come the same way as I did before."

17,658. Just after the Derby?—Just about a week.

17,659. Perhaps you can tell me when it was?—On a Wednesday, I believe.

17,660. That is the Derby day; but I suppose it was somewhere at the end of May, and the election was in July; it would be about six weeks before the election?—Yes.

17,661. Did you work on the committee?—Yes.

17,662. Did Mr. Gower ask you to be put on the committee?—He asked me whether I would have any objection to have my name put on the committee.

17,663. Some one else asked you to go on the committee?—Yes.

17,664. Who did?—Mr. Durrant.

17,665. I suppose you are going to tell me all about it, that is right, had you any conversation with him?—Very little. He said "I suppose you will go the "same side again." I said, "Yes." He said, "If "you do, and go on the committee, do what you can "and there will be a trifle for you."

17,666. What was that trifle?—He did not tell me then; but after the election I found it was 4*l.*; but I only got 2*l.*

17,667. In cash?—No, not in cash.

17,668. Did Mr. Durrant tell you it would be 4*l.* after the election?—Yes.

17,669. How did you have that 2*l.*?—I am living where I cannot get my supper beer, so I am in the habit of having a cask of beer at the time.

17,670. Who sends you the beer?—I ordered it from Mr. Durrant. I had been in the habit of dealing with him before, and I have always been in the habit of paying for it as I had it.

17,671. He supplied you with beer?—Yes. I suppose he forgot to make out my account till I asked him for it; then he put it down and told me how much it was, and that it was the offset, and that we were square.

17,672. You had the 2*l.* worth of beer?—Yes.

17,673. And Mr. Durrant said you were square?—Yes.

17,674. Was that for the election expenses?—Yes.

17,675. Did you attend the "Barley Mow"?—Once.

17,676. It was more than that?—I think not.

17,677. When was it you went there?—I cannot tell exactly.

17,678. Before the election?—Yes.

17,679. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are to tell us all about it?—Oh, yes; I will tell you the truth as far as I know.

17,680. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Give me a little description of what took place in the "Barley Mow"?—There was plenty of beer.

17,681. You had your share?—Yes, I had mine.

17,682. You paid for it, of course?—No, I did not; because I was not asked to pay for it.

17,683. Was that the evening Durrant was there?—I am not sure.

17,684. He was there?—I cannot say.

17,685. Did he ask you to go?—No, not me.

17,686. Who was there?—I cannot say; I never took any notice about the election more than having a bit of nonsense.

17,687. What you call nonsense is attending the meetings?—There was no harm in attending the meetings and having a bit of nonsense.

17,688. When you attended the meetings that was the nonsense part of the election?—Yes.

17,689. Some of you called it work, you called it nonsense?—It must be nonsense.

17,690. A great nonsense to call it work, I suppose?—I should think so.

17,691. You voted in 1863?—Yes.

17,692. And for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

17,693. Was Mr. Durrant on the committee?—Yes.

17,694. Were you on his committee on that occasion?—Yes.

17,695. And did you do a little of the nonsense part of the election?—Yes.

17,696. Were you paid for the nonsense?—Yes; I received 5*s.*

17,697. Not more?—That was all.

17,698. What did you do for the 5*s.*?—I was about all one night, on the nomination night.

17,699. Out watching?—Yes.

17,700. Who paid you that?—Mr. Durrant.

17,701. Did you get any casks of beer that time?—No; I was near a public house where I could get my supper beer.

17,702. Was that a free house?—No.

17,703. Did you attend any of these nonsense meetings in 1863?—Yes; more than I did this last time.

17,704. Were they pretty free with the beer in 1863?—Well, I do not know; perhaps middling, sometimes.

17,705. There was a good deal going on?—I cannot answer for much; I was not out late, only till between 9 and 10 o'clock. They were pretty fair with their supply, the only one I went to.

17,706. Which election would you say was the greatest one for drinking?—I do not know.

17,707. 1863 or 1865?—I cannot say; I cannot judge.

17,708. Were they much alike?—Well, I cannot say.

17,709. Was it only 5*s.* you got?—That was all.

17,710. For the one night?—That is all.

17,711. Were you canvassed by the Monson party in 1865?—Mr. Monson came and asked me if I had

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promised my vote, and I told him I had. "Very "well," he said, "That is all I wanted to know."

17,712. He did not call upon you any more ?—No.

17,713. Were you ever at the "Grapes" ?—Yes.

17,714. Just before the election ?—Yes, very likely I was.

17,715. Most likely ?—Yes.

17,716. Had you any talk in the back parlour at the "Grapes" ?—No.

17,717. With Mr. Nichols ?—No.

17,718. Do you know Rodney ?—Yes.

17,719. Were you in his parlour ?—I do not suppose I was at the election time.

17,720. Just before ?—No.

17,721. After Derby day ?—No.

17,722. Were you in the house ?—No.

17,723. Were you with Mr. Nichols in Derby week ?—No.

17,724. It is rather a sporting house ?—I am no sportsman myself.

17,725. Excepting for races ?—I have not been to see a race for a long time.

17,726. Now can you tell us about the election time at Rodney's house ?—I can tell you nothing at all.

17,727. It is a very lively house over elections ?—I do not know.

17,728. He never offered you anything ?—No, nothing at all.

17,729. Never tempted you ?—No, never.

17,730. Not by hints ?—No ; I was never tempted by any one.

17,731. Not in Mr. Holdsworth's back parlour ?—I have never been in Mr. Holdsworth's back parlour.

17,732. Did he ever give you any money without his saying what it was for ?—No.

17,733. We know he did put half a sovereign in a man's hand ?—He has not put half a sovereign in my hand ; if he had I should have stuck to it.

17,734. And still voted for Mr. Gower ?—Certainly; I would not turn my colors.

17,735. When you were out watching where were you watching ?—On the freehold.

17,736. Were you out watching there last election, 1865 ?—No.

17,737. Were you at Groom's ?—No.

17,738. Never there ?—I have been there, but not on election occasions.

17,739. Were you there the night before the election? —No.

17,740. In 1863 you were canvassed by the Wilkinson party ?—Frederick Joyes and Mr. Wilkinson I met in the town, and they asked me for my vote ; I said I had promised Mr. Gower.

17,741. Was any temptation held out ?—No.

17,742. Not during the election ?—No attempt whatever.

17,743. Not a single thing ?—Not a single thing.

17,744. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you received *5s.* ?—Yes.

17,745. You then kept a public house ?—No.

17,746. I thought you said you last kept a public house, and got your supper beer ?—No.

J. Puplett.

JAMES PUPLETT sworn and examined.

17,747. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you a voter ?—Yes.

17,748. What are you ?—A labourer.

17,749. Do you mean that you work in the fields ? —No, I am a bricklayer's labourer.

17,750. What rent do you pay for your house ?—13*l.* a year ; *5s.* a week, I suppose that is 13*l.* a year.

17,751. Yes, you are quite right ; do you pay by the week ? Is that usual ?—Yes.

17,752. It is not a yearly hiring ?—I pay by the week ; I might pay by the month, only I told them I would pay by the week.

17,753. For whom did you vote at the last election ? —Mr. Gower.

17,754. Was that the first time you voted ?—Yes.

17,755. You were on his committee ?—Yes.

17,756. Who put you on the committee ?—Mr. Gower asked me.

17,757. Who put you on ?—Mr. Chitty asked me if I was going to vote for the side of Mr. Gower.

17,758. You know the Chitty who put you on the committee ?—Yes.

17,759. What was his Christian name ?—Tom Chitty.

17,760. How long before the polling day was that? —Seven weeks or six weeks.

17,761. You were to be paid for it ?—He said I should be paid the same as the rest.

17,762. I suppose you asked him what you were to have ?—No.

17,763. Well, something of the kind ; how much did you expect you would have ?—I cannot say as to that.

17,764. He told you the same as the rest ; you asked him how much ?—He said I should be paid the same as the rest.

17,765. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who said that? —Thomas Chitty.

17,766. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You knew about how much ?—I never made any arrangement at all,

17,767. But you were to be paid like the others. When first did you receive any money ?—Two months after the election.

17,768. Did you not receive anything during the election ?—Not a farthing.

17,769. That was a bad thing, when you were so hard at work for them ?—I was on the committee, just the same as the rest.

17,770. How much did you receive after ?—2*l.*

17,771. From whom ?—I asked Chitty about two months after the election whether there was anything for me ; he said, "You had better ask Mr. Durrant "about that." I asked Mr. Durrant, and about seven or eight days after he brought me 2*l.*

17,772. Mr. Durrant the brewer ?—Yes.

17,773. You did not take it out in beer ?—No, I did not take it out in beer.

17,774. He brought you the 2*l.* ?—Yes.

17,775. To your own house ?—Yes.

17,776. What did you say to him ?—I went to him, and he brought me the 2*l.* ; he said, "There is 2*l.* for "you." That was all he said ; he never mentioned anything more.

17,777. You expected more after ?—I was to be paid like the rest of them ; a good many of them expected more than 2*l.*

17,778. You did ?—I did.

17,779. You expected 5*l.* ?—I did not know about 5*l.*

17,780. Yes, you did, indeed ?—I should have liked to have had it ; only I do not know about expecting it.

17,781. You would not think it is too high ?—I should not think it is.

17,782. You heard that 5*l.* were going ?—I did not know anything about it.

17,783. What I want to know is this, did it never occur to you that you might have been awarded 5*l.*, though you only got 2*l.* ? Did you find out how much Chitty had ?—No.

17,784. Did you not find out how much your neighbours had ?—No, I never did ; I never heard what they had.

17,785. It was kept rather secret ?—It seems like it.

17,786. You told me you were for Mr. Gower ;

did Mr. Monson's party at all come near you ?—They did.

17,787. I thought you were an independent voter ?—Yes, they did the Monday night before the election; I was very ill.

17,788. We are all sorry for that; you were ill, and they came to you ?—Yes, at a little past 12 o'clock.

17,789. And disturbed you in your rest ?—Yes, they did; I was obliged to come down; they kept rattling and knocking at the door, and my wife bothered me to come down.

17,790. Who knocked you up ?—Holdsworth.

17,791. Who ?—Mr. Holdsworth; Rodney.

17,792. What did he come to you for ?—Mr. Gray came in first. I was a long time, but at last I slipt on my trowsers and came downstairs. Mr. Gray came in; he said, "Puplett, you had better go our side." I thought it was Mr. Gower's he had been on, and I said, "Oh, I will not turn, I will stick to Mr. Gower, "as I told him I would." Then in came Mr. Holdsworth and sat down on my boy's bed. My boy slept in the bed-room. It made them stare to see me so bad, so he said, "On which side are you going on" ? I said, "Mr. Gower's; I promised it to him, and I will "stick to him." Well, he hummed and ha'ad there a little; finally, when he was going out of the door, he said, "Will you take 7*l.*?"

17,793. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who said that? —Mr. Holdsworth. I never saw the money in his hand.

17,794. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That might have been too much for you ?—I wish I had taken it.

17,795. You had not seen it ?—No, but those were the words he used to me, "Would I have 7*l.*"? I wish I had taken it, it would have done me a great deal of good. I said, "No, I will not; I will stick to Mr. "Gower, because I promised him I would." I was going to vote on the Wednesday, and this was the Monday. I had a stoppage when I was so bad; I began to get a little better on the Tuesday; the polling was on the Wednesday; I began to get better, and I voted for Mr. Gower on the Wednesday.

17,796. You regretted afterwards having voted for Mr. Gower ?—I promised him; I did not like to say I would not. I did not take the 7*l.*

17,797. You regretted not having taken the 7*l.*? How long did Mr. Holdsworth remain with you ?—It might have been ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, but I was glad when he was gone.

17,798. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was Mr. Gray there all the time ?—Yes.

17,799. It was between 12 and 1 o'clock ?—I should think so; I do not know exactly.

17,800. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not tell your wife ?—Yes; she slept there.

17,801. She heard it ?—Yes, and so did my son; he lied down in the same room; he heard it all.

17,802. Your wife heard it too ?—Yes.

17,803. Did she not advise you to take the 7*l.* or a larger sum ?—I did not take it.

17,804. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your wife's Christian name ?—Sarah.

17,805. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did she not tell you that you ought to take it ?—No.

17,806. You were then under the expectation of getting as much from the other side ?—I do not know; I had promised it.

17,807. You did not think that they would leave you in the lurch with 2*l.*?—I do not know about that; I did not think much about the money at that time, so bad as I was.

17,808. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) After that you got the 2*l.* from Mr. Durrant ?—Yes, about two months after the election.

17,809. After you had been offered the 7*l.* did not you go to some of Mr. Gower's people and tell them they were not bidding very high, as here you had been offered 7*l.* ?—No; I told the chaps next day.

17,810. Who did you tell ?—I think I told Mr. Durrant of it.

17,811. That is what I meant; you think you told Mr, Durrant next morning ?—Yes, I told him; there were several of them I told.

17,812. When you told Mr. Durrant what did he say ?—He did not say anything that I know of. I believe they called up two or three of them about the freehold that night.

17,813. Where were the watchers ?—That was Monday night; I do not think they were there till Tuesday.

17,814. They were not out till Tuesday night ?—No.

17,815. I think they were, because we have heard of two nights' watching already; perhaps it is right, they were paid two nights for only one night's watching. What did you say ?—I said I wished they had gone somewhere else instead of annoying me.

17,816. Did you not rather expect that Mr. Durrant would come up when he found that they were holding out 7*l.* ?—2*l.* was all I got.

17,817. Did you not expect he would ?—I expected more than the 2*l.*

17,818. Was not that one reason why you mentioned it to Mr. Durrant ?—Well, I thought that very likely it would be better for me.

17,819. When you told that to him, did not Mr. Durrant say, "Never mind, we will make it all right" ? —No, he said nothing to me about that.

17,820. But nothing like that ?—No.

17,821. But did he not say you would not have to regret it ?—No.

17,822. Something like that ?—No.

17,823. But you voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes, and I told him I would the first time that Mr. Gower came to me.

17,824. There was 7*l.* on one side, and Mr. Durrant not even making you a promise ?—Not half-a-sovereign nor a halfpenny more than the 2*l.*

17,825. Did not he intimate that you would not be a loser by sticking to your promise ?—No.

17,826. Did anybody ?—Not anybody, I was so bad.

17,827. Well, perhaps it did not strike you. Did you tell my friend that you voted in the election before ?—No, this was the first vote I ever did have.

17,828. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was the Mr. Gray you have spoken of a Mr. Henry Gray of Nutley-lane, or was it a Mr. William Gray of Holmesdale-road ?—No, he is on the freehold.

17,829. Is it the Mr. Henry Gray who was formerly of Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

17,830. Where is he now ?—On the freehold.

17,831. Do you know whereabouts ?—In Holmsdale. Everybody knows him.

17,832. Do you live near Nutley-lane ?—No, on the freehold.

17,833. Had you known Mr. Gray before ?—Oh, yes.

JOHN MARTIN sworn and examined.

J. Martin.

17,834. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ? —A gardener.

17,835. What rent do you pay ?—10*l.* a year.

17,836. Who did you vote for at the last election ? —Mr. Gower.

17,837. Who was it that asked you to vote for him ? —Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith.

17,838. Did you say at once that you would ?—Yes.

17,839. Did they ask you to go on the committee, or something like that ?—No, they did not.

17,840. Then they went away, you having promised your vote ?—Yes.

17,841. Who called upon you after ?—Mr. Durrant.

17,842. Did he come to you ?—Yes.

17,843. And he asked you to be on the committee ? —Yes, he asked me if I should like my name to be on the committee.

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17,844. Did he come round and visit you; or did you meet him accidentally, or call upon him?—I met him just outside my gate.

17,845. You said he might put your name on the committee?—Yes.

17,846. Why did you say so?—I did not know what it was for.

17,847. What did he tell you would be the consequence?—He never told me anything.

17,848. What did you suppose would be the consequence?—I did not know it would be anything more than my name going on.

17,849. I wish you would tell me?—There was no money mentioned, nor anything mentioned about it.

17,850. He came and called?—Yes.

17,851. You met him at the gate, and he said, "Now you have promised Mr. Gower, will you go on "the committee;" go on in your own way, and it will save me and you so much trouble. He said, "Will "you go on the committee"?—Yes.

17,852. You said, "Well, yes, I think I am "agreeable"?—No.

17,853. Well, help me a bit, there's a good fellow?—I do not know how to.

17,854. Tell me what passed between you and Mr. Durrant?—That was all that did pass.

17,855. When did you see him again?—I saw him many times after.

17,856. Tell me what passed when you had any conversation with him again?—I saw him once again, when he said, "Do you expect anything for the elec- "tion?" I said, "No, not that I know of." "Well," he said, "I will pay you for your day;" and that was all that was said.

17,857. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For what?—For the election day.

17,858. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did he mean by paying you for the day?—For coming to the poll on the election day.

17,859. I hope you did not agree to that; those were very bad terms. Do tell me what it was to be?—He never told me what, I never did know, and I never asked him any more about it.

17,860. You did vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

17,861. And how much did you receive?—Not a halfpenny, and I never asked any one for anything.

17,862. How much did you receive?—No money at all; not one halfpenny.

17,863. Neither before or after the election?—Neither before or after the election. I never received one farthing.

17,864. Have you a wife and family?—No family.

17,865. But a wife?—Yes.

17,866. You had a wife at that time. You have not been married since?—No, I have been married this 30 years.

17,867. I am very glad to see you smiling at the recollection. Tell me, did you have any talk with a man called Campion?—No, not a word did I say to Campion about the election.

17,868. I suppose you talked to other people about the election as everybody did?—Yes, but not much.

17,869. Did you not hear from other people what they were expecting to be paid?—I did not hear, and I never troubled myself much about it. I knew nothing.

17,870. Did you not come in the town one evening to the committee meetings?—No, I never attended any committee meetings; not in the town at all.

16,871. What committee did you attend?—I went twice or three times down to the "Barley Mow" when they had a meeting there.

17,872. There was a committee there; did you see Mr. Durrant there?—I think I did. I saw Job Apted there once.

17,873. Perhaps he will do. Was anything said by Job Apted to you?—No, not to me. I never made any stop.

17,874. Was nothing said at the "Barley Mow" by Mr. Durrant?—No, not to me.

17,875. Nor by Mr. Durrant?—Nor by Mr. Durrant.

17,876. Do you recollect owing a bill at that time to any one?—I never do owe a bill, not above a week.

17,877. That is very right?—I never did owe money.

17,878. If you did not receive money, was there not money's worth given to you?—No, not from any one.

17,879. Who is the landlord to whom you pay rent?—Richard Knight, at Sainton farm.

17,880. Which side was he on?—Mr. Gower's, I believe; but I did not know it till after the election.

17,881. How often did you pay your rent?—Once a quarter.

17,882. I dare say you were not behindhand in your rent?—No, I was not.

17,883. You were not at that time?—No.

17,884. Did you pay your rent every quarter just the same?—Every quarter just the same, winter and summer, when he came for it.

17,885. Now, do tell me, did you get any value at all for your vote?—I never got one halfpenny.

17,886. Why did you give it to Mr. Gower?—I gave it to him before, and I did not want them to trouble me. I never received anything.

17,887. Now in the election of 1863 you voted?—Yes; I voted for Mr. Gower, and I promised him then.

17,888. In the first instance?—Yes.

17,889. Were you on the committee then?—That I do not know.

17,890. You do not recollect?—I do not know whether I was or was not.

17,891. Did you receive anything at all in 1863 for your services?—Yes.

17,892. How much?—Mr. Durrant paid me a sovereign for nomination and polling days.

17,893. Was that a sovereign each day?—No, only one sovereign.

17,894. Were you offered anything by the other side if you would vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—No.

17,895. Were you offered anything this time by anybody at all if you would vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

17,896. Did not they tempt you in the least?—No, they never conversed with me at all.

17,897. I consider the work you did at the two elections about the same in amount either time?—No; I was fully employed in my own business.

17,898. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said that Mr. Durrant told you he would pay you for one day?—But he never did pay me, and I never asked him for it. I never asked him from that time to this.

17,899. Was that for nomination day or polling day?—Polling day, I presume; but I never asked him what it was.

17,900. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you think that he kept his word. What was your own opinion about it?—I never troubled myself about it.

17,901. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You expected to be paid the same way as in '63, 10*s.* for polling day?—If he paid me at all; but he never mentioned anything to me.

17,902. Mr. Durrant was the man who paid you in '63?—Yes.

17,903. For nomination day and polling day?—Yes.

17,904. If he paid you only for polling day you would expect 10*s.*, as in '63?—Yes, I did expect to be paid; but as he never paid me, I never asked him for it, and I never mentioned it to any one.

The witness then withdrew.

JAMES OXTOBY sworn and examined.

17,905. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you a voter for this borough at the election of '65 ?—Yes.

17,906. For what rented house ?—I cannot say ; my wages and rent all go together for my labour.

17,907. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is the value of it ?—I cannot tell.

17,908. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you on the register as William Oxtoby ?—Yes.

17,909. Then that is a mistake ?—They have got William instead of James.

17,910. And you are a gardner ?—Yes.

17,911. And occupy a cottage ?—Yes.

17,912. And your rent goes as part of your wages ?—Yes.

17,913. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What would it be rated at ?—I should think it was rated at about 10*l.* a year ; but I cannot say, for I do not pay the rent, my employer does.

17,914. What is his name ?—John Linnell.

17,915. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which way did your master vote ?—I cannot say ; I do not know which way he voted.

17,916. Did he ask you about your vote ?—No, sir.

17,917. He did not canvass you at all ?—No.

17,918. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

17,919. Were you on his committee ?—No.

17,920. Who was it asked you to vote for Mr. Gower ?—I was canvassed by Mr. Gower, I suppose. I was not at home at the time, and I saw a person afterwards.

17,921. Who was he ?—Henry Sendall.

17,922. And Henry Sendall asked for whom you voted ?—He asked me which way I was going, and I told him I should vote for Mr. Gower.

17,923. Did you ever see Murrell about your vote ?—No.

17,924. Did he ever speak to you ?—No.

17,925. Did Green ever speak to you about your vote ?—No ; nobody ever spoke to me about it but Sendall up to the time Mr. Gower had been asking, and then I saw Joyes.

17,926. First of all let us deal with Sendall ; did he ask you to come on the committee ?—No.

17,927. Did he ask you to work ?—He asked me if I wanted any work, and I said I did not mind.

17,928. Did he say you should be paid for your work ?—He said there would be something to come, and that I should be paid with the rest.

17,929. Did he mention what the others would be likely to have ?—No.

17,930. Did you agree to work ?—Yes ; I agreed to work, what I could do. I did not specify anything I would attend to, but I said I would do what I could, but would not bind myself any further than that I promised to vote for him.

17,931. Did he tell you what sort of work you were to do ?—No ; the work I understood I was to do was this, I was to try and get any one I could to go the same way as myself.

17,932. Among your fellow workmen ?—Amongst the people that I knew.

17,933. You were to do what you could in canvassing among your own friends ?—Not friends in particular.

17,934. Your fellow gardeners ?—Yes.

17,935. Did you canvass ?—Yes, I canvassed one man.

17,936. Who is he ?—John Bell.

17,937. That was pretty well all that you did canvass ?—Well, that was the only one I secured.

17,938. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you get his vote ? — He promised Mr. Gower, I suppose, through my speaking to him, and that is all I know about him.

17,939. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And after this you saw Mr. Joyes ?—Yes.

17,940. Frederick ?—Yes. I saw Mr. Joyes at the meeting where Mr. Gower was, at the town hall, Redhill ; the first meeting he had.

17,941. What took place between you and Frederick Joyes ?—He said, "I suppose you are going our way," and I said, "I suppose Sendall told you I have pro-" mised you." And after I had seen him he said, " You will be paid the same as the others for what " work you do."

17,942. Did he tell you at all what the others were going to be paid ?—No, there was no stated sum mentioned to me.

17,943. How long before the election was that ?—I could not say, but it was the first day Mr. Gower had attended the town hall.

17,944. Some time before the election, I suppose ?—Some four or five weeks, but I cannot say exactly when it was.

17,945. Did you attend any public meetings after that one ?—I think I attended one at the town hall here.

17,946. Was Mr. Gower at that meeting ?—I think he was.

17,947. That was a committee meeting ?—I cannot say.

17,948. Do you recollect whether Mr. Gower made a speech that night. Did you hear Mr. Gower say those who worked for him should be paid, and paid well ?—I heard that at Redhill.

17,949. What, at the meeting at the town hall ?—I may have confused myself between the two, but I have heard it either at one place or the other, but those who worked for him should be paid, and paid well. I saw Mr. Gower that very night ; I promised him at the town hall, Redhill.

17,950. Did he say to you anything about work ?—No.

17,951. You heard him say this either at the old town hall here or at Redhill, but you are not certain which ?—No, sir.

17,952. How long was this before the nomination and polling ?—I cannot call it to mind exactly now.

17,953. Did you vote in 1863 ?—Yes.

17,954. Who for ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

17,955. Were you paid anything for the election of '65 ?—I was paid 2*l.*

17,956. Who paid you ?—Frederick Joyes.

17,957. How long after the election was that ?—I could not say exactly, but some considerable time afterwards.

17,958. Some months after ?—Well, it might be a month.

17,959. Where were you paid ?—I was paid at his own house.

17,960. Who paid you ?—He paid me himself.

17,961. Did he say anything to you about the money when he paid you ?—I do not know whether he did or not now.

17,962. Did he tell you what it was for ?—He said it was for work done, and he put a written agreement before me. I looked it over to see what it contained, and it was "For work done for Mr. Gower at the last " election ;" and I put a penny stamp upon it.

17,963. You gave that paper to Mr. Joyes ?—Yes. I signed it, and he gave me 2*l.*

17,964. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was his writing ?—It was his writing, excepting the signature.

17,965. Did he tell you any more money might be coming ?—No ; he said nothing more to me, nor I to him, for I had no agreement for any particular sum ; I was to be paid for my work, and I suppose he considered that was as much as I was worth.

17,966. You did very little, you only got one vote ?—I told him I should not be able to do much.

17,967. You consider you were very well paid for getting this one vote ?—I was satisfied.

17,968. For securing Bell to vote ?—Yes.

ELEVENTH DAY.

J. Oxtoby.

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17,969. But that was all you did, securing him and voting yourself?—Yes, excepting one or two meetings, which I might not have gone to unless I had liked.

17,970. And you were not asked to go?—No, not once; I went of my own accord.

17,971. You told me that in 1863 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

17,972. How came you to vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—Because I liked the man's principles; I thought he was a very good man, and I thought I could not do better than vote for him; the other was an untried man.

17,973. Were you on Mr. Wilkinson's committee?—No.

17,974. Who asked you to vote for him?—No one asked me.

17,975. Where you paid anything?—No, not a halfpenny.

17,976. Did you ever receive anything for this election of 1863? Were you canvassed by any one of the Monson party in '65?—I was canvassed by Mr. Richardson.

17,977. What took place between you and Mr. Richardson?—Previous to his coming and before that Mr. Monson came to my house, but I never was at home in the daytime, and I supposed from that he had been there. Mr. Richardson came three or four times and found me out at last, and I very soon gave him a decided answer.

17,978. Was anything said to you on the part of Mr. Monson as to voting on that side?—I cannot say there was not, but I should be sorry anything I should say should bring anybody into trouble; but at the same time if I am compelled to speak the truth I must.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith to the witness.*) You certainly are on this inquiry.

(*The witness.*) I will do it, but it is with reluctance on my part, in case it should injure any one.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We will take that as an apology for him.

(*The witness.*) It was Joseph Singleton.

17,979. Tell us what took place between you and him as to your voting; that is in 1865?—Yes.

17,980. Well, tell us what passed?—We met down at Redhill. I suppose it is called the Brighton-road; it is in the village, the main street, or whatever you may please to call it, a good way from the market hall; he then asked me if I should like to vote for Mr. Monson.

17,981. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know when this was?—I could not say exactly.

17,982. Well, never mind, go on, will you?—He told me, "You may as well have a *fiver* as well as "anybody else." However, I did not have the *fiver*.

17,983. Why not?—Because I could not get it for one thing.

17,984. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How do you mean you could not get it?—Because I did not think he could get it for me; he promised more than he could perform or did perform.

17,985. Something else must have occurred between you and Singleton as to this matter?—Yes, he asked me if I would come to the garden to him, as he was busy. I went down to him, but he said he was afraid it was of no use.

17,986. Was he a master gardener or a working gardener?—A working gardener.

17,987. Do you know whether he was on Mr. Monson's committee?—I do not know; but I must tell you I never intended to go that way.

17,988. Did he ask you to come down to the "Grapes" and see Mr. Nicholls?—No, he never mentioned any person's name to me but himself.

17,989. Did he tell you where the *fiver* would come from?—No.

17,990. Did he tell you whether he was going to have a *fiver*?—No, he did not.

17,991. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Singleton, I suppose, was for the Monson party?—I did not know whether he was going that way.

17,992. Did you not ask him whether he was?—No.

17,993. He said, "You might as well have a *fiver* "as any one else"?—I did not give him an answer.

17,994. Did you vote at any previous election?—Only at '63 and '65.

17,995–6. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you heard Mr. Gower say, either here or at Redhill, those who worked for him should be well paid. Had that any influence on your mind?—No, I had made up my mind previously.

17,997. Had it any effect upon your mind whether you might expect to be paid?—No.

17,998. Did it not raise any expectation?—When I make a promise to vote for a man I do not repent it.

17,999. I think you stated that at a meeting you heard Mr. Gower say those who worked for him should be well paid; well, did that raise any expectation in your mind that you would get anything after the election was over?—It certainly sounded well, but I did not know what I was to have, and there was no agreement.

18,000. Did that speech cause any expectation in your mind that you might have something for yourself after the election was over?—Yes; it was all tending to the same thing; it was confirming what the others had said to me.

18,001. (*Mr. Commissioner OBrien.*) You expected 5*l.*, or about 5*l.*?—What for?

18,002. Well, I don't know what for, but from Mr. Joyes you expected it?—Well, I certainly cannot say as much.

18,003. About 5*l.*?—No, I did not expect it; I was satisfied with what I got.

18,004. But how much did you expect?—I think very likely I thought I ought to have had a little more, according as others were paid.

18,005. Singleton is the man they call "Bob Rodney"?—Joseph Singleton is his name.

18,006. Is he not called "Bob Rodney"?—He may be the same.

18,007. Well, he offered you 5*l.*; did you tell any of the Gower people you were offered 5*l.*?—No, I did not; I had no conversation with any of them.

18,008. To whom did you tell Singleton had offered you 5*l.*?—I do not know that I told it to anybody.

18,009. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you not tell it to your wife?—It is very probable that I did.

18,010. Who was the person by when you told her?—Nobody was by.

18,011. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You must have told somebody else?—I do not know that I did.

18,012. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not expect it not to be known if you told her?—Well, that is more than I can say.

18,013. If you told it to anybody you do not remember who it was?—No.

18,014. Did you tell it to any of Mr. Gower's agents?—No.

The witness then withdrew.

H. Palmer.

HENRY PALMER sworn and examined.

18,015. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A shoemaker.

18,016. What rent do you pay?—9*s.* a week now.

18,017. What did you pay at the time of the election?—4*s.* 6*d.* is what I paid.

18,018. You voted at the last election for Mr. Gower?—I did.

18,019. Was that the first time you ever voted?—Yes.

18,020. And you were one of his committee?—Yes.

18,021. Who put your name upon his committee?—Mr. Joyes.

18,022. Frederick Joyes?—Yes.

18,023. How long before the poll day were you on the committee?—Oh, from the first commencement.

18,024. Then you did a great deal of work?—I did.

18,025. And I suppose you were equally well paid?—I never complained.

18,026. Were you paid before the election?—Yes.

18,027. How much?—I had some money because I had been about.

18,028. I do not ask for the reason, but how much did you receive?—*3l.* before the election.

18,029. And how long before the election?—I cannot say, but I should think about a fortnight.

18,030. Did you receive it in one sum or separate?—I received that at once.

18,031. When polling day was coming did you receive a little more?—No, not till after.

18,032. How soon after the polling day?—It might be three weeks or a month.

18,033. And how much did you receive then?—10*s.*

18,034. Is that all you received?—That is all I received from Mr. Gower.

18,035. Have you received any other money?—From whom?

18,036. From somebody else?—Well, I am going to tell you what I have received. I received one *5s.*, *5s. 6d.* it might be, for a night's watch from Robert Legg.

18,037. Is that all?—That is all, I believe.

18,038. Just recollect, did you not receive a little more?—Not that I am aware of.

18,039. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Try?—I am not aware of any more.

18,040. You took an active part in the election?—I did.

18,041. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 10*s.* was very poor pay?—I believe you have got the extent of what I had.

18,042. *3l.* you had from Joyes, and there was the 10*s.*?—He said I deserved more.

18,043. But we do not all get our deserts?—I know that.

18,044. Did he not say you might get some more by-and-by?—He never said that; there never was no agreement.

18,045. Did he not say there would be more money coming?—I do not know what passed as to that.

18,046. But there was something?—I do not recollect; a man cannot say more when he does not recollect.

18,047. You did not go away with the 10*s.*?—Yes, I did.

18,048. Not without expecting more?—I went away very comfortable.

18,049. Did you think you were well paid?—I was money out of pocket by it, I dare say.

18,050. Did you spend any money in the election?—I spent it in going about to different places, and it was money out of my pocket in doing so.

18,051. Did you receive any money for your expenses while you were out on this tremendous work of the election?—I received *5s.*

18,052. In addition to the *5s. 6d.*?—Yes.

18,053. From whom did you receive the *5s.*? you see your memory is not so good?—From Mr. Joyes.

18,054. When?—Before the election.

18,055. You received more than one *5s.* for your expenses?—For railway expenses.

18,056. You received more than one *5s.*?—No, I think not.

18,057. Yes, just recollect?—I say I did not.

18,058. You told me before you received *5s.* for railway expenses?—I did not quite understand you.

18,059. What was the *5s.* for?—For election expenses.

18,060. Where did you go to then?—To Croydon.

18,061. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) For a voter there?—Yes, you are right.

18,062. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What was his name?—Shrubsall.

18,063. Did you see him?—I did.

18,064. Is that all the money you have received?—That is all the money I have received.

18,065. You had not mentioned that before?—The first time I forgot this *5s.* for the railway expenses.

18,066. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Well, Shrubsall, did you canvass him?—Yes, I canvassed him in the ordinary way for Mr. Gower.

18,067. Do you know what he got for his vote; did you hear?—Not to my knowledge.

18,068. I am not asking you what your knowledge is, I never used the word?—I did not hear that I am aware of; if I had heard, I would tell you; I have not heard to the best of my knowledge.

18,069. Do you mean to say you did not hear?—I answer you according to my knowledge.

18,070. Never mind your knowledge; did you not hear what Shrubsall got for his vote?—Not that I am aware of.

18,071. What became of Shrubsall after the election?—I do not know.

18,072. Where did he work?—The time of the election he was working at Croydon.

18,073. Where has he been at work since?—I do not know.

18,074. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was a friend of yours?—Yes, while he was working at Reigate.

18,075. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I suppose you do not easily lose sight of your friends?—I expect he is at Croydon.

18,076. Have you seen him?—No.

18,077. Is he a gardener?—No, he is a shoemaker.

18,078. A shoemaker?—A journeyman shoemaker, and worked here at Reigate at his trade at one time. I canvassed him at Croydon.

18,079. Do you think he is there now?—I do not know; I have never had a word from him since the election.

18,080. Or about him?—No, not as to his whereabouts.

18,081. If you wanted to find him where should you go?—I should naturally go to Croydon.

18,082. What is his Christian name?—Thomas.

18,083. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you canvassed him in the usual way?—Yes.

18,084. How did you canvass him?—I went to ask him to vote for Mr. Gower, for I considered him the best man for the town.

18,085. Was that the only way in which you canvassed him?—Yes.

18,086. Did you receive no instructions from Joyes?—No.

18,087. I suppose that is not the usual way of canvassing at Reigate?—I do not know; I had nothing to do with Reigate before.

18,088. Did Joyes ask you to give him something for his vote?—No.

18,089. When have you seen Joyes last?—I have seen him generally every day.

18,090. Have you seen him this morning?—No.

18,091. Have you seen him last week?—I saw him in here, I believe.

18,092. Did he beckon you out of the room?—No.

18,093. Or speak to you?—No, not in the room.

18,094. He has spoken to you last week?—He might.

18,095. Has he not spoken to you about the evidence you were to give?—No, I can give my evidence without him.

18,096. That is no reason why he should not speak to you, he might think you might not?—Possibly he might.

18,097. He might wish to inform you what to say beforehand, what to do?—He has not told me to do anything.

18,098. Has he not said anything to you about this man Shrubsall?—Not that I am aware of.

18,099. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did he not tell you to use your own discretion?—No.

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18,100. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he not tell you to use your own discretion when you went to canvass Shrubsall?—He asked me to go and canvass Shrubsall.

18,101. Did you receive the 3*l.* after or before you canvassed Shrubsall?—After.

18,102. Was it after you were put on the committee?—I think so.

18,103. You knew that committee men were going to be paid?—Yes; at least I believe so.

18,104. Did you ask Shrubsall whether he would have his name put on the committee?—No, I merely went to canvass him.

18,105. Did you ask him whether he would do any work, and assist Mr. Gower?—To assist Mr. Gower only with his vote.

18,106. Did you only canvass him?—No.

18,107. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you tell him he would be brought to the poll?—I told him to come to Reigate, and see for himself.

18,108. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Not what he could get; not to see what he could get?—No, not what he could get. When I went to Croydon to canvass him I found the opposite party had been there and forestalled me, and had made him an offer, but I did not know the amount; he said they had made him an offer.

18,109. Did he come very easy to your hand?—No.

18,110. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you remember telling him to come here and make his own market?—Yes.

18,111. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He did not exactly promise you?—He said he would not be against the way I was going myself.

18,112. Did you tell him you were going to have 3*l.*?—No.

18,113. Or to have anything?—Not that I am aware of.

18,114. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) To whom did you tell him to go when he came to Reigate?—I told him to see Mr. Frederick Joyes.

18,115. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you not tell him that Frederick Joyes had put your name on the committee to do some work?—No, I knew his principles; I knew he was a Liberal.

18,116. But both the candidates were Liberals?—One was tried, and the other not.

18,117. Did you not think at the time that your friend Mr. Shrubsall was rather difficult, and was not that the reason you sent him to Frederick Joyes?—He asked me how the thing was going, and expenses.

18,118. What did you tell him about expenses?—I told him he must come and see for himself about his expenses.

18,119. Did you tell him what he might expect if he came to Reigate to see for himself?—Not to my knowledge.

18,120. You were trying to persuade him to come here?—Yes.

18,121. Did you tell him he would be paid his expenses?—I could not tell him that, for I was not authorized.

18,122. Did you not tell him it was very likely he would be paid his expenses?—Yes.

18,123. Did you tell him Joyes might give him something?—Yes, for his expenses; I told him I believed he would pay his expenses.

18,124. And get something for voting?—I did not say any such thing.

18,125. Did you tell him at the same time that others were going to get something?—Not a word.

18,126. Did he come over?—He did.

18,127. Did you see him?—I did.

18,128. Did he go to Mr. Frederick Joyes?—I do not know; he came to my house, and we both went together.

18,129. On the day of polling?—Yes.

18,130. What time in the day did you poll?—Soon after 8.

18,131. Did you see Frederick Joyes that morning?—Not till after I had polled.

18,132. Did you see Frederick Joyes with Shrubsall?—I did not.

18,133. Do you know whether Shrubsall went to him that morning?—I do not know.

18,134. Did you ever see Shrubsall afterwards?—I saw him, but he was a little intoxicated, a little on.

18,135. What time of the day?—In the evening, I was all over the place till 5 o'clock.

18,136. Did Shrubsall tell you he had received anything?—No, he did not tell me anything of the sort.

18,137. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did Joyes give you 10*s.* when he sent you to Croydon; he knew they had been at Shrubsall?—No, he did not know that.

The witness then withdrew.

Adjourned till 11 o'clock the next morning.

TWELFTH DAY.

Mr. T. Hart.

4 Sept. 1866.

TWELFTH DAY.

Tuesday, 4th September 1866.

Mr. Thomas Hart sworn and examined.

18,138. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you engaged on Mr. Monson's behalf at the last election for 1865?—I was.

18,139. And you acted as such throughout the election?—Yes.

18,140. Head agent?—Head agent, agent for the election expenses.

18,141. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Under the Corruption Act?—Yes, the Corrupt Practices Act.

18,142. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you be kind enough to produce all documents you have relating to the election of every kind; you have received a notice to that effect?—Yes, I should state I have the bills here, I found it inconvenient to send the bills as they were to be paid. I found on looking at the Act of Parliament it only required a statement, which I sent, and these are the bills corresponding with that statement. There is every payment that I made and all the bills receipted.

18,143. Every document you made during the election?—Yes.

18,144. I understand you to say these are all the payments you made during the election?—They are. I have here a box with all the papers relating to the previous elections at your service.

18,145. Do none of the papers in that box relate to 1865?—Yes.

18,146. Are there any documents in that box except election papers?—No, I think not.

18,147. Perhaps you will have no objection to let me have them?—Here is my canvassing book.

18,148. I dare say you will have no objection to let me have that box in my room?—I should desire to do so.

18,149. If you will lock it up now you may be quite sure no improper use will be made of it?—I am sure of that; there are all the previous election papers.

18,150. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How far do they go back?—The election in which I was engaged in 1859; this was a general election.

18,151. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that your first election?—Yes, that was.

18,152. At which you ever acted as agent?—Oh, I acted for the Somers family on the election of Lord Eastnor; but this is since the Reform Bill.

18,153. Reigate was only a borough at the Reform Bill?—Reigate was a borough returning two members before the Reform Bill; but they put us in No. 9, and now we have only one. At the election I have referred to there was Mr. Hackblock, Major Parrott, now Colonel Parrott, and Sir Henry Rawlinson. I was agent for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

18,154. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Hackblock was returned?—Yes, Mr. Hackblock was returned.

18,155. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There was Hackblock, Major Parrott, and Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Colonel Parrott now.

18,156. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And Hackblock returned?—Yes.

18,157. Are the papers relating to that election in the box?—Yes, all the papers.

18,158. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For whom did you then act?—I acted then for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

18,159. The Corrupt Practices Bill was, I think, in 1854?—It was previous to 1857 I know.

18,160. That in fact was the first election after the Corrupt Practices Act when agents were appointed?—Yes.

18,161. And in 1858 Mr. Hackblock died?—There were two elections in 1858, Sir Henry Rawlinson, Mr. Monson, Mr. Doulton, Mr. Wilkins, and others, I then being agent for Mr. Monson; there were one or two others I think, but those you do not mind. I have a book which is called "Acland's Imperial Poll Book," which goes back to 1832. Sir Henry Rawlinson was then returned.

18,162. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were his agent?—No, he was not returned. When I was his agent in 1857 Hackblock was returned.

18,163. You were the agent for Mr. Monson?—I was agent for Mr. Monson in 1858, when Sir Henry Rawlinson was returned.

18,164. Who was Rawlinson's agent then?—George Carter Morrison.

18,165. Is he in Reigate?—Yes. Then in July 1858 Sir Henry Rawlinson resigned, and the candidates then were Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson.

18,166. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That election took place in October—I think it did, and Mr. Monson was then returned.

18,167. Who were you agent for then?—Mr. Monson. In 1859 came the general election when Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson were candidates; I was then engaged for Mr. Monson.

18,168. There were other candidates then?—Yes.

18,169. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were they mere shadowy candidates, they did not go to the poll?—It did not last long.

18,170. I believe Mr. Monson was returned?—Mr. Monson was returned.

18,171. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have acted since for Mr. Monson?—Yes; in 1862 Mr. Monson became a peer, and the candidates on that occasion were Mr. Stuart Wortley, Mr. Leveson Gower, and Mr. Wilkinson. I then acted for Mr. Wortley, but he did not go to the poll.

18,172. After that did you act for any of the candidates?—No; I was requested to act with Mr. Smith, who acted for the Gower party, but I declined.

18,173. Did Mr. Smith act for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

18,174. Perhaps you can tell me who acted for Mr. Wilkinson?—I think it was Mr. James.

18,175. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was in 1862?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 1863 we have called it all through.

18,176. In 1865 there was the general election, Mr. Gower and Mr. Monson being candidates?—I acted for Mr. Monson.

18,177. Then you were agent for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

18,178. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are these documents copies or originals?—Originals, and receipts to them all.

18,179. Are these all the papers you have received connected with this last election of 1865?—Decidedly. I do not know whether I might presume to have recorded one circumstance, as I am on oath; it is this,—that I knew nothing whatever of Mr. Richardson coming forward.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien observed they were going to call him again, and he would have every opportunity of making any statement he thought proper.

(*The Witness.*) It seemed so very extraordinary to my friends.

18,180. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have been summoned?—Yes.

18,181. It may be said you have discharged yourself by coming here. I do not apprehend that is so, but if that is your feeling it will be necessary to send you a fresh summons?—Certainly it will be unnecessary.

18,182. I am going certainly to call you again, so you will let the summons stand?—Certainly; I should not absent myself from Reigate without your permission.

18,183. We will assist you in that; you will consider the summons as standing?—Yes, I should not quit Reigate without informing you.

18,184. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) If you want to go away shooting, for instance?—A friend will go for me.

18,185. *The Chief Commissioner.*) I wished to have it from yourself that your summons was subsisting?—Decidedly.

The witness then withdrew.

Mr. Charles Joseph Smith sworn and examined. *Mr. C. J. Smith.*

18,186. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you act as election agent at the election which took place in 1865?—I did.

18,187. Did you act for Mr. Gower?—I acted for Mr. Gower.

18,188. Will you be good enough to produce the documents and vouchers you have in reference to the election of 1865; are they all contained in that bundle?—Yes, and in 1863. I made my return to the election auditor, when he returned the originals back with the receipts, and here they are.

18,189. The election auditor is the mere conduit-pipe of the accounts to the public?—Oh, yes, he returned them back to me.

18,190. The office of auditor is a mere fiction. Are these all the documents?—No; I have a bag of receipts for the election of 1863.

18,191. And, in the same manner as Mr. Hart did, you will probably leave them with us?—Yes.

18,192. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you be so good as to put them on that box (*pointing to a box near the bench*)?—Yes.

18,193. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you acted as agent for expenses on the previous election?—In 1863 I did, and in 1859 I acted with Mr. Hart. I did not do the expenses in 1858; I acted with Mr. Hart: and I had nothing to do with the expenses when it was Monson and Wilkinson. In 1858 I was

TWELFTH DAY.

Mr. C. J. Smith.

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the agent, with Mr. Morrison, for Sir Henry Rawlinson, and I filed the expenses in that case.

18,194. You have got the box?—I have the papers.

18,195. It may be necessary to inquire into that; and therefore you will be kind enough to let us have those papers during the course of to-day or to-morrow?—Yes. In 1857 I was agent for Mr. Hackblock.

18,196. The first election of Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Yes.

18,197. Had you voted in the previous election?—In 1857 I was election agent for Mr. Hackblock.

18,198. Have you the papers in reference to that election?—I think I have.

18,199. Did you have the canvassing books returned to you, or were there any canvassing books?—There would be a certain number of papers, but no canvassing books. The usual practice is to hand to them a list of the voters.

18,200. Whom they will have to canvass?—Yes.

18,201. Were there any such books on either of these elections?—No; we gave lists at last on bits or pieces of paper; they would be canvassing lists.

18,202. Are those papers in existence?—No.

18,203. They are not in existence?—No.

18,204. Perhaps you will be good enough to let us have those accounts of Mr. Hackblock's?—If I have got them.

18,205. At your earliest convenience, the earlier you can do it the better for us?—You shall have them to-day. In 1852——

Mr. Commissioner Smith (*to the witness.*) We do not want to go so far back as that. We have merely asked you here this morning on this formal matter.

18,206. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you acted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

18,207. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think, Mr. Smith, that is all we require of you this morning, but at a future stage of the proceedings we shall require your assistance again, to give us further information?—Yes.

The witness then withdrew.

E. Burlton.

EDWARD BURLTON sworn and examined.

18,208. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are an elector of the borough, I believe?—Yes.

18,209. What are you by calling?—A railway clerk.

18,210. And you live at the station I suppose?—No, a short distance from the station.

18,211. What rent do you pay?—18*l.* a year.

18,212. And for whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Monson.

18,213. Were you a voter at the election of 1863?—Yes.

18,214. For whom did you vote at that election?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

18,215. Was that the first time you voted, or had you previously voted for Mr. Wilkinson at the election before that?—In 1859.

18,216. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was the first?—Yes, that was the first.

18,217. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There were, I believe, a good many voters connected with the railway?—Yes, several of them had votes.

18,218. And I believe a good many of them voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes, the majority.

18,219. Was there any arrangement between them, as far as you know, before the election, as to whom they would vote for?—Not to my knowledge. I have only heard reports, but I cannot say of my own knowledge.

18,220. You have heard that there was an arrangement that several of them should vote together for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

18,221. And upon certain terms?—Yes.

18,222. That is the party which were to receive a certain amount of money between them?—A certain amount per week.

18,223. Do you know at all what was the arrangement made; was any writing drawn up in reference to it?—I know nothing of the arrangement beyond having heard it. I could not attend any of the meetings, as I was busily engaged at the station.

18,224. They were to vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

18,225. Do you know whether there was any offer made to any of those men on the part of Mr. Gower?—Not that I am aware of.

18,226. Do you know Hayward?—Yes.

18,227. Is he one of the railway voters?—Yes.

18,228. Do you not know that he attended a committee meeting of Mr. Gower's a little before the election?—No, I do not.

18,229. Did you know that he was attending?—No, I knew very little of persons attending the committee; I was so busily employed at the station. It was only now and then I could get away for ten minutes. I seldom heard anything about it.

18,230. Did not you hear that amongst these men a certain number of railway voters would vote for Mr. Gower if they were paid 4*l.* 10*s.* and 1*l.* 10*s.* after?—No, I never heard it from any one.

18,231. You never heard it from any one?—I never heard it from any one.

18,232. Did you hear they were in treaty with the Gower party?—No, I fully believed, according to the report I heard, that the majority of them would vote for Mr. Monson.

18,233. But I mean before, as the election was approaching?—No, I never heard anything on the subject, about any of them voting for Mr. Gower.

18,234. You did not hear of any agreement being drawn up in writing?—Nothing of the sort.

18,235. You were a clerk?—Yes.

18,236. They never came to you to draw up anything?—No.

18,237. You never drew up anything in writing?—No.

18,238. Of course you would recollect it?—I should.

18,239. Nothing was put down in writing?—No.

18,240. No figure of any kind?—No, I had nothing to do with any writing of any description.

18,241. What did you hear were the terms on which they were to vote for Mr. Monson?—I heard that those men who allowed themselves to go on the committee would receive 30*s.* a week up to the time of the election.

18,242. And what were they to be paid for the nomination day?—Nothing, not to my knowledge.

18,243. Or the polling day?—Nothing was stated to my knowledge; they were merely to receive 30*s.* a week up to the time of the election. It would be about four weeks, but it was expected it would go to six weeks.

18,244. They allowed their names to go on the committee?—Yes.

18,245. Was your name on the committee?—I was asked about three weeks before the election to allow my name to go on the committee.

18,246. Was it on?—Oh, I believe it was.

18,247. What did you receive?—The same as the others; 30*s.* a week.

18,248. How much did you receive altogether?—4*l.* 10*s.*

18,249. You told me that you were so busy that you took no part in the election. Did you not take

any part?—I merely had my name on the committee.

18,250. Did you attend any meeting?—Merely one meeting, just previous to the nomination, after the business of the railway was over, as I was going home one night I went into the committee room and stopped about one hour.

18,251. You were not at the nomination?—No.

18,252. Were you paid at all for the polling day?—Nothing.

18,253. You only received 4*l.* 10*s.*?—Only 4*l.* 10*s.*

18,254. About how many other men went to the poll for Mr. Monson; how many of the railway men?—I do not know who polled for him.

18,255. About how many?—I should think, so far as I can judge, about 8 or 10; but I really do not remember how many did.

18,256. Who were within the arrangement?—Yes.

18,257. It was known amongst the men?—There would be about 8 or 10 that I saw in the room.

18,258. Under the same arrangement; 30*s.* a week?—Yes, so I understood.

18,259. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Those were persons connected with the railway?—Yes.

18,260. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) With whom was the understanding or arrangement made on the part of Mr. Monson?—A person of the name of Shepherd.

18,261. Was he the paymaster?—I do not know whether he paid the others, but I received mine from him.

18,262. He it was who put you on the committee?—Yes, it was. He asked me whether I would have my name put on when he met me on the platform.

18,263. I suppose he told you at the time that the names of the others would be on?—He said the names of the others would most likely be on too, but he did not mention any terms or names.

18,264. Did not any of the Gower people come to you?—No, they never have. They never came to me, whatever they might mention it to others; but they never troubled me.

18,265. They never came to you?—No.

18,266. Nor the others?—Not to my knowledge.

18,267. Did you receive the 4*l.* 10*s.* before the election?—Yes, on the Saturday previous.

18,268. And you never had attended any committee meeting at that time. You only attended the committee the day before the election?—Not the day before, but a few days before, just for about an hour.

18,269. In 1863 you voted for whom?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

18,270. Were you on his committee?—I think my name was down, but I was never asked to be on the committee.

18,271. You were down?—I believe so.

18,272. Did many of the railway people support Mr. Wilkinson at that time?—Yes, I think they did.

18,273. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were a railway man then?—Yes, and have been for the last 12 years.

18,274. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was natural that they should go together?—It was only by report that I heard they were together.

18,275. What were the terms?—I know nothing of that.

18,276. The same as the last one?—I do not know; but I never received 1*s.* previous to this last election from any one.

18,277. About how many voters altogether are there belonging to the railway?—I really cannot say.

18,278. Twenty or thirty?—I should think it would be between that on all hands.

18,279. I suppose I may take it from you that they were all paid on the one side or the other?—I know nothing whatever about that.

18,280. But what is your opinion?—By reputation I should think they were paid the same as myself; that is my individual opinion; but I have no knowledge whatever of it.

18,281. That is from what you know?—Yes, from common report.

18,282. Such of you who went and voted for Mr. Monson, did you go in a body? But I suppose you had to separate yourselves during the day, for the railway people could not be there at the same time?—I do not know about the others. I went down by myself.

18,283. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What made you vote for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—I had done so previously at the first election, and I voted for Mr. Wilkinson at the other elections. Mr. Norman Wilkinson called for my vote on the first occasion. He was a gentleman from whom I had received great kindness, though I never received a single shilling from him or any of his family, and I gave him my vote.

18,284. Mr. Norman Wilkinson called?—Yes, and I gave my vote, because I considered Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson the most fit person to represent the borough; it was quite disinterested.

18,285. In 1863, when you voted for Mr. Wilkinson, did not the other railway people vote as you did?—I am sure I cannot say.

18,286. I do not mean all; but was it considered that the railway officials went together?—The railway people were thought to be sold in favour of Mr. Wilkinson.

18,287. I do not want to tie you to it; but in 1863, so far as you can recollect, did the railway people go for Mr. Wilkinson?—I think they did.

18,288. I rely on your telling me candidly. In 1863 was the report that they were acting under any arrangement?—I always heard at every election that the railway people were sold to Mr. Wilkinson; would go for Mr. Wilkinson.

18,289. Sold to Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes; that he would make sure of the railway people.

18,290. In your belief was that the case?—Certainly not from my own knowledge.

18,291. Now, I take your word for it that it was not so as regards yourself; but I want you to tell me, in your opinion was there in 1863 such an arrangement made?—I do not believe there was.

18,292. You believe they voted without any money consideration?—Yes, I did, so far as my own opinion goes.

18,293. The bulk of them?—Yes.

18,294. You really do believe in 1863 that the bulk of the railway men voted disinterestedly?—Yes, disinterestedly for Mr. Wilkinson.

18,295. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understand you to say that you yourself wrote nothing and saw nothing written?—On the part of Mr. Gower's party.

18,296. Did you on the part of Mr. Monson?—I wrote a few lines, I put down a dozen names.

18,297. I asked you that particularly?—I think you mentioned Mr. Gower's name instead of Mr. Monson's.

18,298. I asked you on both sides whether you did any writing at all of any names of persons?—I put down about a dozen names.

18,299. Of railway men?—Yes, of railway men.

18,300. To Mr. Shepherd?—No, Mr. Shepherd was there himself; I gave it him.

18,301. Any monies attached to the names?—Any amounts?

18,302. Yes?—Well, the men on that occasion were dissatisfied at knowing the election was coming off so soon. It was expected it would extend over two or three weeks more.

18,303. Then it would only come to about 4*l.* 10*s.*?—That was all; they were dissatisfied, they wanted more.

18,304. Did you put down more?—I put down the names of those present, and handed them to Mr. Shepherd for him to see whether more could be had.

18,305. Putting down 4*l.* 10*s.* to each name?—No; it was well known what they had, that they had 30*s.* a week. No amount was put to the names, and

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Mr. Shepherd afterwards reported that nothing more could be had, nothing but the 4*l.* 10*s.* would be allowed.

18,306. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I understand you to say that in 1865 you put down some names on the part of the railway men for Mr. Shepherd?—Yes, they were present at the meeting.

18,307. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was a meeting of the committee of the dissatisfied men, to see whether or not more could be got for them?—That was it.

18,308. Are you aware whether the paper was handed up to the head committee?—I do not know.

18,309. It was written to show them?—Yes, it was written for that purpose; I do not know whether it was seen.

18,310. It was to be sent higher than Mr. Shepherd?—Yes.

18,311. To know whether they could get more?—To know whether they could be allowed any more; the people were dissatisfied with the time.

18,312. Was more allowed?—It was not, and the men were disappointed.

18,313. Did you get back the paper?—No, I did not; I did not see it again.

18,314. You left it with Mr. Shepherd?—Yes.

18,315. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you recollect any names in the list?—I remember four or five.

G. Cheyney.

GEORGE CHEYNEY sworn and examined.

18,316. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were a voter at the last election, and voted for Mr. Monson, did you not?—Yes.

18,317. And what rent did you pay at that time to entitle you to your vote?—I believe I was entitled to a vote out of my own house.

18,318. A freehold?—Yes, a freehold.

18,319. What was the value of the freehold?—It is rated at 28*l.*

18,320. What are you?—A railway clerk.

18,321. And you were that at the election?—Yes.

18,322. Can you tell me what time of the polling day you voted?—I believe, as far as I can remember, it would be about 1 o'clock.

13,323. And you got a holiday for the day?—No, I was at work.

18,324. Did you go by yourself to the poll?—By myself.

18,325. Did any one come and give you notice that it was time, or something of that sort?—I was never spoken to, that I can remember, on that day about it.

18,326. When had you first made up your mind to vote for Mr. Monson?—I should think very soon after Mr. Monson came forward; he came to me and asked me for my vote, which I promised him.

18,327. Was any one with him when he came; did Mr. Shepherd introduce you to him?—No.

18,328. Did any one?—No, I believe not. He called at the station as I was in the office, and he saw me there, I believe by myself.

18,329. You know Mr. Shepherd?—Yes.

18,330. How is he connected with the railway?—He was at that time plumber, but he has left now some time.

18,331. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know where he is?—No, I do not; I have not seen him for this last three weeks.

18,332. Did you know that he took an active part in the election?—Yes.

18,333. Did he say anything about your vote?—Yes, he asked me for whom I was going to vote.

18,334. Was that at the beginning?—About three or four weeks before the election.

18,335. Yes, he called and asked you for whom you were going to vote. Did he urge you at all, or had you made up your mind?—I had made up my mind, and I told him Mr. Monson.

18,336. Then was he satisfied?—He said, "If you "give your vote for Mr. Monson, I suppose you have "no objection to your name being put down on the "committee, and you should be paid." He asked me first of all if I would take an active part in it. I said no, I would not, I had taken an active part in several of the elections before, and had never received anything; in fact, I was money out of pocket for all of them, and I would have nothing to do with it. He said I should be paid, and I said, "If I am paid it is a "different thing."

18,337. Do you mean that literally, that, having taken an active part in previous elections, you had not been paid a shilling?—I said that I had paid money out of my own pocket which I had never had returned to me.

18,338. No portion of it?—No portion of it.

18,339. Mr. Shepherd having mentioned that, you cried, "Done!"?—Yes.

18,340. And you went on the committee?—Yes.

18,341. Did you attend any committee meeting at all?—I do not remember that I did.

18,342. You had a good deal to do, you were pretty well employed at your own business?—Yes.

18,343. You allowed your name to be placed on the committee; what money did you receive before the election took place?—4*l.* 10*s.*

18,344. From whom?—Mr. Shepherd.

18,345. Can you tell me whether that was before the polling day?—Yes, before the polling day.

18,346. Where was Mr. Shepherd when he paid you the money; was he near the railway?—At the railway.

18,347. Did he tell you at that time, if he had not before that, that if you attended at the nomination and polling days there would be something for that?—I have no recollection of his telling me so.

18,348. I do not say what, but I will if you like?—I have no recollection of his telling me anything.

18,349. Do you not recollect that he said there would be 1*l.* more if you attended the nomination day and 1*l.* if you attended the polling day; 1*l.* for each day?—He never told me that.

18,350. He never told you that?—No.

18,351. Did he not lead you to expect you might get it?—I never heard such a thing either from him or any one else.

18,352. We will see. You know a good many of the railway men?—Yes.

18,353. We heard there were from 20 to 30; I dare say you can tell us how many of the railway voters there were?—I should think about 20.

18,354. About 20; do you not agree with Mr. Burlton?

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien remarked that he thought the witness had said 30.

(*The Witness* stated there were about 30.)

18,355. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you not know the number of them?—There were about 20 or 30.

18,356. Did you not know before the election came on that some of the men were not quite satisfied with the terms on which they had gone to work?—Yes, they were dissatisfied.

18,357. Did you not know that they wanted to have, in addition to the 4*l.* 10*s.*, to be allowed something for the nomination day and something for the polling day?—I do not remember.

18,358. Do you not remember when you heard that these men were dissatisfied, and perhaps they told you themselves, that they sent a kind of deputation to Mr. Shepherd?—It might have been so, but it has slipped my memory.

18,359. It is a thing you would remember?—No, I took no notice of it after, I thought the job was done with.

18,360. Do you remember seeing a paper with any names?—I do not recollect.

18,361. Did you hear of such a thing being done, and a list made out?—I heard just now, when you were inquiring of Mr. Burlton, that there was such a thing.

18,362. Was your name put down on any committee at all?—Not that I know of.

18,363. You heard of a class of men being dissatisfied with the terms, probably you will recollect whether you joined in the same feeling which they had?—I do not recollect that I did; I do not think my name was down.

18,364. You knew what was going on; did you not anticipate your name would be put down?—No, I cannot say that I did.

18,365. If you recollect, it was owing to the men finding out they had been called on the committee too soon, and the sum that was paid was not enough for the long time they had to work. That was the reason I think, and it seems plausible enough. Do you not recollect empowering somebody or other to put your name down on the list?—I really do not remember it, but I might have done.

18,366. You remember a list being talked about?—Yes.

18,367. We have heard that it was not successful, and that Shepherd said——?—That it was all that we should receive.

18,368. That very phrase of yours leads me to suppose that you were taking part in that dissatisfaction, and therefore perhaps you will answer now that probably your name did appear?—As I said before, it might.

18,369. I do not wish to press you at all too far, but will you not go a little further than you did before, and say that probably you did authorize your name to be put down?—I might have said so, but I have no recollection of it.

18,370. Mr. Shepherd was the man, I suppose, who afterwards paid you?—Yes.

18,371. When did he pay you?—I do not recollect the exact time.

18,372. It was before the election?—Yes.

18,373. In what way did he pay you, by money or cheque?—Money.

18,374. Not by cheque?—No.

18,375. At the railway?—Yes, about the station. I think it was just at the station yard.

18,376. Were the men brought together and then walked in one by one?—He paid me as he met me; there was no one present but ourselves.

18,377. If you were one of the dissatisfied, he must have known it; did he lead you to expect anything more?—We expected that we might perhaps get another 30*s.* for the week after the Saturday.

18,378. Did he lead you to think that there was was any future hope for you?—Not after the election.

18,379. He did at the time lead you to think on the Saturday that another 30*s.* might come?—Yes.

18,380. Did you see Mr. Shepherd the next Saturday about it?—No, I met him.

18,381. Did you ask him about the 30*s.*?—I think very probably I did, but I do not recollect the exact time.

18,382. You did not get it?—No, I did not.

18,383. Did you see any one in attendance with Mr. Shepherd?—No, I met him in the yard.

18,384. Was any one with Mr. Shepherd when he had the conversation with you and told you on what terms you should work?—No.

18,385. You voted before, in 1863?—Yes.

18,386. Had you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

18,387. What made you make up your mind to vote for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—I saw Mr. Norman Wilkinson and Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson; I believed Mr. Wilkinson to be the most fit representative for the borough. Mr. Norman Wilkinson came with his brother and asked me for my vote, and I promised it him.

18,388. Did you receive anything whatever for your vote?—No.

18,389. Either at that time, or after?—No.

18,390. Not any money?—No.

18,391. Nor money's worth?—No.

18,392. You mean that literally?—I mean literally I received nothing from him, I was money out of pocket, and I lost my time.

18,393. Do you recollect whether you were canvassed by Mr. Norman Wilkinson and Mr. Wilkinson some time before the election in '63?—Some little time before.

18,394. A fortnight or three weeks?—Longer than that.

18,395. Then your vote was promised to him a good time before the election?—Six weeks.

18,396. Was not any application made to you on behalf of Mr. Gower's party?—Mr. Gower never once called on me.

18,397. I do not say by Mr. Gower, but by some one on his behalf?—No, I believe it was generally understood with me that I was going to vote for Mr. Wilkinson. There were several spoke to me about it, and I said I had promised Mr. Wilkinson and I would vote for him.

18,398. Tell me how your brother railway officials voted in 1863?—Principally for Mr. Wilkinson.

18,399. Was there any rumour at that time that they had got anything for their votes—mind you are to tell me honestly?—I never heard of any money being received during the election from Mr. Wilkinson.

18,400. What do you mean by "any money;" be quite candid about it, if you please?—I never heard of any one receiving anything, either money or money's worth, from Mr. Wilkinson on behalf of his brother.

18,401. Or from his agents?—Or from his agents.

18,402. You mean they voted as purely as you did?—I believe they did.

18,403. Do you believe that that may be said of the voting of the railway officials?—I believe so.

18,404. In '63?—Yes, in '63.

18,405. Because I am going to take your word. You believe the body of the railway officials voted on the same terms as you did?—Yes.

18,406. And that is honestly?—Yes.

18,407. You have been in elections before that?—Yes.

18,408. You voted in the general election of 1859, when Mr. Wilkinson and the Hon. Mr. Monson were the candidates?—Yes.

18,409. Who did you vote for then?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

18,410. Tell me, did you receive anything at that election?—Nothing at all.

18,411. Did you vote under the expectation or with the promise of anything?—No.

18,412. It was an honest vote?—It was an honest vote.

18,413. On that occasion did the railway officials in a body vote for Mr. Wilkinson; that was in 1859?—Yes, I believe the generality of them voted for Mr. Wilkinson then.

18,414. I believe Mr. Wilkinson's brother had a good deal of influence, had he not?—Yes.

18,415. Among the voters?—I never heard much of him before the election came on; he was never introduced to me.

18,416. Had you voted at an earlier election than that, at the second election in 1858, when Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson had a contest?—Yes.

18,417. Who did you vote for then?—Mr. Wilkinson.

18,418. I am going to ask you the same question

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about that; did you get anything for your vote then?—No; none for the time that I was about.

18,419. I meant all your answers to include that, that you did not receive anything for loss of time or anything else?—I received nothing.

18,420. If there was any occasion on which you received anything for loss of time you must tell me?—I never received anything for loss of time from any one.

18,421. Did you vote upon the occasion of the first election in 1858; that was what we call the Doulton election?—Yes.

18,422. Who for?—For Colonel Rawlinson.

18,423. You see Mr. Wilkinson was up then; perhaps you will not mind answering, if I ask you why you voted for Mr. Rawlinson. There was Mr. Doulton, Mr. Rawlinson, and Mr. Monson stood besides. Mr. Rawlinson was returned?—I thought that Mr. Wilkinson had been badly used, and that if there was any chance it would be better to vote against Mr. Doulton; so I voted for Colonel Rawlinson against Mr. Doulton. I thought Mr. Wilkinson had no chance of getting in.

18,424. Was there any consideration that you received for doing that?—Nothing whatever.

18,425. I use the word consideration as the most fit word I can think of. You recollect what we call the Doulton election, I dare say?—I do not recollect much of it.

18,426. I suppose on the Doulton side they did not leave you quite quiet at the railway yard?—Mr. Doulton never canvassed me, not once.

18,427. Money was going very freely at that election, we hear?—It was.

18,428. Did you see much money going about?—No.

18,429. Were you offered any?—Not by any one.

18,430. Who came down and canvassed the railway men?—I do not know whether Mr. Doulton came, or whether he did not. I believe he did see some of them, but I have no recollection of seeing Mr. Doulton.

18,431. Did any of the railway men on that occasion vote for Mr. Doulton?—I do not recollect that they did.

18,432. Well, try and recollect?—I had only just come to the station, and I knew very little of them.

18,433. That was your first election?—Yes.

18,434. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you live in the town of Reigate before you went to work for the railway?—No, I came from Dover.

18,435. You must have been some time at the railway, because you had got your qualification?—I was in the company's service at Dover, and I came from Dover to work here at Redhill. I have been in the railway service 12 or 13 years.

18,436. If you did not attend any of the committee meetings, did you attend any of the refreshment houses in 1865?—I think I was twice at Mr. Langridge's.

18,437. I suppose you did not pay for what you had?—I do not recollect. Yes, I did in part, and I think there was part for which I did not pay.

The witness then withdrew.

G. Carter.

GEORGE CARTER called, sworn, and examined.

18,438. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A coke-man at the Redhill station; I give out the coke for the engine.

18,439. Are you a voter?—Yes.

18,440. For this borough?—Yes.

18,441. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

18,442. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Monson.

18,443. What rented house do you occupy?—*5s. 6d.* a week at that time; now it is *6s.*

18,444. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Shepherd.

18,445. When Shepherd asked you to vote, did he ask you to go on the committee?—Yes.

18,446. Were you to get anything for going on the committee?—Yes, we were to get paid for our services.

18,447. What were you to get?—*30s.* a week for three weeks was what we had.

18,448. When was that paid?—At three different times; once on Saturday night, once I had it on Sunday, and once on Monday.

18,449. Each time from Shepherd?—Yes.

18,450. Were you paid at the station?—No, whenever I met him.

18,451. Did you attend the committee?—Yes, sometimes.

18,452. How many committees did you attend?—Three or four perhaps. I work one week at nights and one week in the day at my calling; so I went when I could.

18,453. That is your work as coke-man?—Yes.

18,454. When you were off your work you went on your committee?—Yes.

18,455. You only went three or four times during the three weeks?—It might be four times.

18,456. Which committee did you attend?—Mr. Langridge's.

18,457. At the beer house?—Yes.

18,458. Was there refreshment there?—Yes.

18,459. I suppose you partook of it?—Yes; I paid for some sometimes.

18,460. And you did not pay for some sometimes?—No.

18,461. I suppose it was oftener that you did not pay?—I do not know; I did not take a great deal.

18,462. What was your work at the committee?—I stood ready for anything they wanted me to do.

18,463. Did they ask you to do anything?—They asked me if I knew any one that was likely to vote for Mr. Monson.

18,464. Did you know anybody likely?—Sometimes I used to tell them I thought I could get one, you know.

18,465. Did you ever go after one?—No, I have never been particularly after them; I only told them I thought that was the best side to come.

18,466. How many of these men did you go after and tell them that was the best side to come?—I do not know that I did any one in particular; I used to talk about it when I was with them.

18,467. If they fell in your way?—Yes.

18,468. That was the extent of your work I suppose?—Yes; I never done a great deal more than that.

18,469. Then you were pretty well paid?—Well, I was satisfied with what I got.

18,470. Did you ever put your name to a requisition for a little more pay?—I have no recollection of it.

18,471. Did you ever authorize your name to be put on a piece of paper?—If I did I forget it.

18,472. Could you have done it and forgotten it?—I have no recollection of it.

18,473. Do you recollect going to Mr. Nichols at any time about pay?—No, I never went to Mr. Nichols.

18,474. Do you know of any of your fellow railway men having gone to Mr. Nichols?—I believe John Shepherd used to go there.

18,475. Did you ever speak to John Shepherd about putting your name down, wanting a little more pay?—I have not any recollection about it; I might have done so.

18,476. You were not quite satisfied with that 4*l.* 10*s.*; did you ever expect to get another 30*s.*?—We expected to get something for the nomination and polling day.

18,477. What did you expect to get for the nomination and polling?—We expected 1*l.* each day.

18,478. All of you?—Yes.

18,479. Did you expect to get, in some way or other, another 30*s.*; something on the following Saturday night?—We expected to get 2*l.*, or the week's pay.

18,480. Either 2*l.* or 30*s.*?—Yes.

18,481. Did you ever hear from Shepherd that the railway men, as a body, wanted to get a sum of 8*l.* each?—No, I never heard of that.

18,482. You heard the sum of 8*l.* mentioned, did you not?—No, I did not hear anything about 8*l.* at all.

18,483. But you heard about the 1*l.* for the polling day, and 1*l.* for the nomination?—That is what we expected to get.

18,484. Did you ever hear from Shepherd that he had asked Nichols about that?—He said he had applied for more, but could not get it.

18,485. How long before the election was that?—I think about a month before the election came off.

18,486. When Shepherd told you that he had applied to Nichols for more money for you men?—I think about a week or 10 days, something like that.

18,487. Before the election?—Yes; I am not sure what day it was.

18,488. I suppose you railway people met together a good deal, and talked over these things?—Yes.

18,489. Was it not a matter of common talk amongst you that there was something like 8*l.*?—I never heard the sound of 8*l.*

18,490. You heard the sound of 1*l.* 10*s.* for the Saturday night, and 1*l.* for each of the two days?—Yes.

18,491. Did you ever apply for more money?—I never applied; I believe Shepherd did.

18,492. Did he tell you so?—He said there was no chance of getting more, that is all.

18,493. (*Mr. Commissioner Q'Brien.*) That was after the election I am afraid?—Yes.

18,494. ((*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Shepherd tell you where he had got the money from that he paid you?—No, I never saw anything about it.

18,495. Did he ever tell you where he got the money from?—He never told me.

18,496. You did not go to Nichols yourself with the other men?—No.

18,497. Or with Shepherd?—No.

18,498. Were you ever at the "Grapes"?—Yes, many times.

18,499. When you have been at the "Grapes" have you ever spoken to Nichols about the election matters?—I have been in the house since he has kept it.

18,500. I mean during the time of the election?—I was not in the "Grapes" at all during the election.

18,501. Never?—No.

18,502. Were you ever at Holdsworth's?—At the "Bell"?

18,503. You do not know Holdsworth's?—No.

18,504. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were paid that 4*l.* at three different times?—Yes.

18,505. Can you recollect what day the last was paid?—The first was on Saturday, the next on Sunday, and the next on Monday; so that the last must have been on Monday.

18,506. Was it 30*s.* each payment?—Yes, a sovereign and a half.

18,507. Do you mean that it was on the following days?—No, a week apart.

18,508. He did not come down three days running?—No.

18,509. These were the terms you were going upon for Mr. Monson; what were Mr. Gower's terms?—I do not know what they were.

18,510. Did you hear what Mr. Gower's terms were?—I did not hear what anything was particularly.

18,511. Never mind about particularly—generally. I do not want to know whether any particular friend of yours was offered a particular sum; but, tell me, what were the terms that were said to be offered?—I did not hear anything said.

18,512. You said just now that you did not hear particularly?—No; I have heard several sums mentioned.

18,513. That is what I want to know?—Such as 3*l.*, 5*l.*, and so on.

18,514. Do you mean a week, or for the whole thing?—5*l.*

18,515. That would be rather better terms than yours?—I never had it offered to me.

18,516. Where did you go to inquire what Mr. Gower's terms were?—Nowhere particularly.

18,517. About the platform?—Yes.

18,518. Was it there you heard it?—It might be there; I forget the place where I heard it particularly.

18,519. Did anybody come to you from Mr. Gower?—No.

18,520. Did you vote at the previous election of 1863?—Yes.

18,521. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

18,522. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee at that time?—Yes.

18,523. What did you get for work?—I got 5*l.* for my services.

18,524. Were your services in 1863 as valuable as they were in 1865?—I do not think there was any difference.

18,525. You do not consider that 5*l.* as for your vote, I suppose?—No, it was for being on the committee.

18,526. Did you have anything offered by the Wilkinson party in 1863?—No.

18,527. Did you get your 5*l.*?—Yes.

18,528. Who paid it?—I was paid 3*l.* through Mr. Smith. Mr. Buckland paid me 3*l.*; he gave me a cheque.

18,529. Was that one of Mr. Buckland's cheques?—It was through Mr. Smith, I believe.

18,530. Was it one of Mr. Smith's cheques?—Yes.

18,531. Who paid the other 2*l.*?—Buckland paid me the other 2*l.* afterwards.

18,532. Was that by cheque?—No, that was in money.

18,533. Did you get that before or after the election?—After the election, all of it.

18,534. How long after the election?—It might be six weeks or two months; something of that kind; I did not put down the date.

18,535. Where did you give your services for the 5*l.*?—Sometimes in one place, and sometimes in another.

18,536. You were not merely at one house?—No.

18,537. How many committee meetings did you attend in 1863, do you think? four or five?—Yes, quite that; half a dozen, I should think.

18,538. Were you well acquainted with the voters?—No, not all.

18,539. Some of them?—Yes.

18,540. Many?—Perhaps it might be one-third of the voters.

18,541. Did you canvass any of them?—Not particularly; I used to send them to the committee.

18,542. If you met them?—Yes, if I thought they were likely.

18,543. If they came in your way?—I sometimes walked a few miles for them.

18,544. Not many?—I did not exert myself much.

18,545. Were you to have anything on that occasion for the polling and the nomination day, when you voted for Mr. Gower?—No.

18,546. Did you attend the nomination?—Yes.

18,547. And, of course, the polling?—Yes, of course.

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18,548. Were you at that time in the railway company's service?—Yes.

18,549. Just the same as you are now?—Yes, just the same.

18,550. Had you voted at any previous election?—Yes, for Mr. Rawlinson.

18,551. When was that?—It was when he got in.

18,552. That was in 1858?—Yes, perhaps it might be.

18,553. Did you vote in 1859?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson in 1859.

18,554. Did you get anything for your services on that occasion?—No.

18,555. Did you work?—I got from Mr. Wilkinson 25*s.* for sticking bills; that is all I ever had of him.

18,556. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who paid you that?—Mr. Frederick Joyes.

18,557. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you find your own paste?—I believe it was mixed up for me before I started.

18,558. How many days were you sticking bills?—Five days, I believe it was.

18,559. You were out five days?—Yes.

18,560. All day?—Yes.

18,561. How did you manage with your railway?—I was not on the railway at that time.

18,562. What were you in 1859?—I was a coal-heaver; I used to work occasionally at piece-work, and I had many odd hours to myself then.

18,563. Had you a regular master in 1859?—Yes, I used to work at the coal wharf at that time; but many days I had not much to do.

18,564. Were you paid by the job?—By the piece; so much a ton.

18,565. In your off-times you stuck bills for Mr. Joyes?—Yes.

18,566. You voted for Rawlinson in 1858?—Yes, when he got into the House.

18,567. Did you get anything for your services on that occasion?—Not a halfpenny.

18,568. Did you render any services?—No, I did not do anything for him particularly; nothing at all more than to go and vote.

18,569. But you did not do much in particular for any of the others?—No.

18,570. Did you get anything at all when you voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I did not get anything.

18,571. Who was it that opposed Sir Henry Rawlinson on that occasion? Mr. Wilkinson, was it not?—Yes.

18,572. Had you anything offered you on the part of Mr. Wilkinson in 1858?—No, there was a ballot then, and one was balloted out; the others went to the poll. I believe Ralph Walters was balloted out.

18,573. Was that the election when Mr. Doulton came in?—Yes.

18,574. Doulton was balloted in, was he not?—Doulton and Rawlinson stood, I believe.

18,575. Mr. Wilkinson was balloted out, was he not?—Yes, I balloted him, and then I went for Rawlinson.

18,576. When that ballot took place did any one come to you and talk about the balloting?—No, no one; only I heard they were going to ballot, and I went and balloted, and then went to my work again.

18,577. No one spoke to you about the ballot?—No; only they told me how to do it when I got there.

18,578. What did you hear in the town? there was a great deal of interest for getting Mr. Doulton in?—I heard talk of throwing money about, but I never saw any of it.

18,579. On account of the ballot?—No, the election altogether.

18,580. Was there not money given on account of the ballot, on the part of Mr. Doulton?—I never saw any.

18,581. Did you see Mr. Roupell at that election?—No; I should not have known him if I had.

18,582. Mr. Roupell did not come to you?—No.

18,583. You got no pay offered for voting for Sir Henry Rawlinson or for balloting?—No, not at all. I never got a halfpenny.

18,584. Did you vote at the election before that, the general election in 1857?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson then.

18,585. No; that was Mr. Hackblock and Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Then I am wrong; I did not.

18,586. You did not vote then?—No.

18,587. Were you an elector then?—Yes, I believe I was.

18,588. You were an elector in 1852?—Yes.

18,589. When Mr. Cocks and Major Parrott were the candidates?—Yes, I was.

18,590. Did you vote at that election?—Yes; that was for Parrott.

18,591. Do you recollect what you were then?—I was a coalheaver at that time.

18,592. Did you give your services at that election on the committees?—Yes, I did.

18,593. Did you receive anything for your vote at that election?—No, nothing.

18,594. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You voted for Mr. Gower in 1863?—Yes.

18,595. I suppose a good many of the railway people supported Mr. Gower in 1863?—No, there was not a good many, not above three or four, I think, belonging to the station.

18,596. You were among the three or four who supported him in 1863?—Yes.

18,597. How was it you escaped from him in 1865? Did they not come to you? They gave you 5*l.*; that was decent pay?—I met Mr. Gower, and he asked me if I saw any reason why he should not come out again, and I said "No;" that is all we said.

18,598. They did not come to you again?—No.

18,599. You found they were slack in coming?—They did not come any more.

18,600. Then you joined the other men?—Yes.

18,601. A great number of men together?—18 or 20.

18,602. You joined them, and you all agreed to vote for Monson?—Yes.

18,603. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is the name of the station-master?—Nash.

18,604. Where does he live?—Close to the station.

18,605. Does he look after the men out of doors as well as the clerks inside?—He is over the porters; Mr. Wetherburn is my master.

18,606. Does he live there?—Yes, close to the station.

J. Compton.

JAMES COMPTON called, sworn, and examined.

18,607. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a voter?—Yes.

18,608. What are you?—A platelayer.

18,609. Connected with the railway?—Yes.

18,610. What rent do you pay for the house for which you vote?—It is worth about 15*l.* or 16*l.* a year.

18,611. You voted for Mr. Monson at the last election?—Yes.

18,612. Do you recollect when an arrangement was made with Mr. Shepherd about your all voting for Mr. Monson?—No, I do not recollect any arrangement made.

18,613. Any understanding come to?—I never had no understanding with Shepherd about voting for Mr. Monson; I promised Mr. Monson my vote, and I gave it; I promised him myself.

18,614. But you saw Mr. Shepherd on the subject?—No, not on that subject.

18,615. He spoke to you on the subject?—He spoke to me about being on the committee.

18,616. That is the subject of the election?—Yes.

18,617. You know that a number of the railway people were on the committee, did you not?—Yes, I knew there were some.

18,618. Just as you were?—Yes.

18,619. How long before the polling day was it that he spoke to you as to being on the committee?—About three weeks; between three weeks and a month.

18,620. At that time you thought the election would not come off so soon?—I had no idea when it was coming off.

18,621. What were you to have weekly?—After he arranged with me being on the committee I was to have 30*s.* a week.

18,622. I suppose you then promised to vote for Mr. Monson?—I promised Mr. Monson before that.

18,623. But you told Mr. Shepherd that you would vote for him, of course?—Yes.

18,624. How much did you get?—4*l.* 10*s.*

18,625. Did you get it in a bulk sum?—No, weekly.

18,626. He came round weekly, did he?—He came to my house.

18,627. Can you tell me the last time he paid you? Was it the Saturday before the polling?—I suppose it was, as far as I can recollect.

18,628. Then you expected, did you not, to be paid for the next week?—No, I did not.

18,629. Why not? There was no reason why you should not?—I never expected anything about it, because the polling day was coming off.

18,630. That was the time when you would do the most work; why should that week be left out?—I do not know anything about that. If the polling day had not come off for another week I might have expected it the next week.

18,631. The last 30*s.* you were paid on the Saturday before the polling day?—Yes.

18,632. The polling day was on the Wednesday: why should you not have the 30*s.* for the next week?—I was satisfied with what I had got.

18,633. But you expected the 30*s.*?—No, I did not.

18,634. You had heard that Shepherd had applied for more money for you?—No, I never heard it.

18,635. Was not your name down on the list?—I do not know that it was.

18,636. Just recollect: was not your name one of those on the list? If you were paid 4*l.* 10*s.*, why should you not have 1*l.* 10*s.* more?—I know nothing more about the 1*l.* 10*s.*

18,637. Why should you not be paid for the week in which the polling day was?—I am sure I do not know why.

18,638. Do you not know that a number of men applied to Shepherd about it?—I do not know that they did.

18,639. Did you not hear that they did?—No.

18,640. Did you not hear that there was no more money for them after the election?—I never heard him say so.

18,641. Did you not hear many of your fellow workmen say that Shepherd had said that there was no more to be had?—I do not recollect that.

18,642. Indeed you can?—I cannot.

18,643. Did you not inquire about it?—No, I never inquired about it.

18,644. Were you in the habit of seeing Shepherd almost every day after the election?—I used to see him perhaps every other day; every day, for what I know.

18,645. After the election?—Yes, I have seen him after the election.

18,646. Do you mean to tell me that after the election you did not speak to Shepherd about it?—No, not a word.

18,647. Nor he to you?—Nor he to me.

18,648. Was this the first time you had voted?—No.

18,649. When did you vote before?—I think I voted for Mr. Hackblock first.

18,650. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

18,651. For whom?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

18,652. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

18,653. You worked for him, did you not?—No.

18,654. What did you receive?—Nothing at all.

18,655. Not for Wilkinson?—No.

18,656. Mr. Norman Wilkinson, I understand, was very well known to the railway porters?—Very well known.

18,657. And very much respected by them?—Yes.

18,658. I believe he was a director of the railway at the time?—He might have been.

18,659. You voted in 1859, did you?—Yes.

18,660. For whom?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson three times.

18,661. Then you voted for Mr. Hackblock in 1857?—Yes.

18,662. Were you employed on his committee at all?—No.

18,663. And you got nothing?—No.

18,664. Did you attend any of the committee meetings at all at the last election in 1865?—Yes, I attended Mr. Langridge's committee rooms.

18,665. Can you tell me the first committee meeting you attended?—I cannot tell exactly; something like three weeks before the election.

18,666. Where was it?—At Mr. Langridge's.

18,667. What night was it, do you recollect?—I cannot recollect.

18,668. That was about 10 days, was it not, before the polling day?—I attended a great many times.

18,669. That was about 10 days before the polling day, was it not?—I cannot say whether it was 10 days or not. I attended the committee meeting.

18,670. Did you attend the next meeting after Mr. Shepherd spoke to you?—I attended them all. I do not know whether after he spoke to me or before.

18,671. Why should you attend before he spoke to you?—Because I understood there was going to be one there.

18,672. And you understood you were to be on it?—Yes.

18,673. Then you attended committee meetings before Mr. Shepherd spoke to you?—Yes.

18,674. And it was 10 days before the election that Mr. Shepherd spoke to you?—Yes, I cannot tell.

18,675. About 10 days or a fortnight?—It must have been more than that.

18,676. You had been attending the committee, and he told you, did he not, that you would be paid for what you had attended?—He told me I should receive 30*s.* a week for my duties.

18,677. He told you you would have 30*s.* for what you had attended?—I cannot say whether he said for what I had attended. He paid me as I went on, weekly.

18,678. You were paid for what you had attended?—Yes.

18,679. Besides attending the committee, what else did you do?—I went to sit on the committee.

18,680. You did not sit on the committee; you sat on a chair in the committee room, and drank beer, is that it?—Yes, I beg your pardon.

18,681. You sat in the room, did you not?—I was in the room.

18,682. You sat there and had some refreshment?—Yes, I had some refreshment, and paid for what I called for.

18,683. You did not always pay; you were a committee man?—I might have drunk with a friend.

18,684. Of course you did not always pay?—I did not pay for all.

18,685. You did not pay for all you drank?—I might not have paid for all I drank; I might have drunk with a friend once or twice.

18,686. How many meetings did you attend in that way, sitting down, and having some beer?—Three or four; it may be five. I forget.

18,687. Three or four in one week?—No, during the time.

18,688. How long did it last; the committee meet-

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J. Compton.

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ing at which you took your beer?—Two or three hours.

18,689. What else was done besides smoking, and drinking, and talking?—It required a great deal of study; very hard work for me.

18,690. What study was there? — To consider whether I was going to send a proper man to the House to represent the borough of Reigate.

18,691. I thought you had all made up your minds to that?—I made up my mind after I had promised.

18,692. That was long before you were a committee man; I am asking what you did as a committee man? —The principal thing I did was to give Mr. Monson my vote.

18,693. It was the only thing?—It was all I could do.

18,694. That is all you did?—Besides persuading others that had not promised anybody their vote. I persuaded them to vote for Monson.

18,695. Why, you know Shepherd persuaded them; who did you persuade?—Any of my fellow workpeople.

18,696. Can you tell me any whom you persuaded? —I cannot recollect which men personally; all that I knew anything about that I thought were inclined to go that way.

18,697. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you not expect to receive something for the nomination and polling day?—No, I did not.

E. Hayward.

EDWARD HAYWARD called, sworn, and examined.

18,698. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you employed by the railway?—Yes.

18,699. And were at the election?—Yes.

18,700. Do you live in a house and vote for it?—I live in a house.

18,701. Is that the house you vote for?—Yes.

18,702. What is the rent you pay for it?—5*s.* a week; it was 4*s.* 6*d.* at the time of the election.

18,703. What are you on the railway?—Carriage examiner.

18,704. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

18,705. Who asked you to vote for him?—He asked me himself.

18,706. Did you promise him at that time when he asked you himself?—I did not.

18,707. You said you would think about it, or something like that?—Yes.

18,708. Who asked you afterwards, and persuaded you to give your vote to him?—Mr. Shepherd.

18,709. Why did you promise Mr. Shepherd?—I understood that we were to have 30*s.* a week if we voted for Mr. Monson, to go on his committee.

18,710. Can you tell me about the time when you and Shepherd came to that understanding?—It was something like three or four weeks before the election.

18,711. You got 4*l.* 10*s.*, did you not?—Yes.

18,712. Were you paid that 4*l.* 10*s.* in a lump?—No, weekly.

18,713. By Shepherd?—Yes.

18,714. If it was four weeks you were not very well paid?—I cannot say exactly the time.

18,715. I should like to know, if you can tell me?—I cannot say exactly.

18,716. Did Shepherd tell you where the money came from?—No.

18,717. Do you know where he got the money from?—No, I do not.

18,718. You heard somebody else's name mentioned, did you not, by Shepherd?—No, not that I am aware of.

18,719. Do you recollect that occurring that we have been talking about, when the men were not quite satisfied with the pay?—Yes.

18,720. There was a kind of deputation; who was that deputation to go to?—That was to go to Mr. Nichols.

18,721. Who mentioned that Mr. Nichols was the right person to go to?—I am sure I cannot say.

18,722. You would not know anybody behind Shepherd's back, unless he or somebody else told you?—He never told me that he drew money from Mr. Nichols.

18,723. How did you find out that Nichols was the man to go to?—I do not know, it was talked about; he was Mr. Monson's agent, and was the proper man to go to.

18,724. Before you had the deputation you remonstrated with Shepherd, did you not?—Yes.

18,725. Did Shepherd say, "It is no good, I have "no authority to give you more than that," or something like that?—Yes.

18,726. Did he say, "You had better go to some one "else"?—He said he could not give more than that, and he would see Mr. Nichols.

18,727. Then he did mention somebody's name?—Yes.

18,728. Was your name down on the list, on what we have called the deputation?—I believe it was.

18,729. Did you write it yourself?—No.

18,730. Who did you desire to write it for you? Did you get Burlton to write it for you?—I think Burlton wrote them all.

18,731. Did you see him write them?—No, I think not. I was in the room the same evening, but not, I think, at the time they were written.

18,732. Did you hear at the time this dissatisfaction was growing up what Mr. Gower's terms were?—I had heard that they were giving 30*s.* a week.

18,733. The same as you?—Yes.

18,734. Did you not hear of anything better than that?—No.

18,735. Then you were dissatisfied with not beating them; you were not satisfied with the same terms?—We were satisfied so far as Shepherd was concerned, that we should receive 30*s.* a week or 1*l.* for the nomination and polling.

18,736. When did Shepherd tell you that?—A week before the election came off.

18,737. You were not paid 30*s.*, I suppose, for the last week?—No.

18,738. Were you paid for the nomination and polling day?—No.

18,739. You were disappointed about that?—Yes.

18,740. Who did you go to for that money?—I asked him about the 30*s.* for the last week.

18,741. Who else?—Mr. Nichols himself.

18,742. In his house?—Yes.

18,743. What did Mr. Nichols say to you?—That that was all that we should get.

18,744. What you had already been paid?—Yes.

18,745. Was it after the election you went to Nichols; that you went to his own house, and applied to him?—Yes.

18,746. You told me you had received 30*s.* weekly? Yes.

18,747. Did anybody apply to you for your vote on behalf of Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower called himself.

18,748. What did you say?—I did not see him.

18,749. Somebody else called for him afterwards? —I did not see any one; several called, but I was not at home.

18,750. Are you married?—Yes.

14,751. Did they leave a message with your wife? —Yes, and left a card.

18,752. Did you not see anybody at all on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No.

18,753. I do not mean at your own house, but anywhere?—Yes.

18,754. Who was it?—Mr. Apted.

18,755. Job Apted?—Yes.

18,756. When was it you saw Job Apted?—Three weeks, I should think, before the election.

18,757. Was that after you had come to an understanding with Shepherd or before?—That was after.

18,758. Did Apted come to you at your house ?—I do not know.

18,759. You saw him ?—Yes.

18,760. What passed between you ? Did you know him before, and did he know you ?—Yes.

18,761. He came and asked you how you were ?—No ; I came here to see him.

18,762. You went to his house ?—I went into the committee room.

18,763. Had you been waiting while the committee was doing business ?—No.

18,764. You came in and saw Apted ?—Yes.

18,765. Tell me what took place as well as you can recollect ?—I asked him to let me go on Mr. Gower's committee, as I understood they were receiving 30*s.* a week.

18,766. What did Apted say to that ?—He said he would see Mr. Gower, and asked how many there were.

18,767. How many did you tell him ?—I cannot say exactly, I should think 15 or 16.

18,768. How many were there in fact ?—I cannot say exactly.

18,769. What else was said ?—He would see Mr. Gower and see what could be done ; he said Mr. Gower was in London. I said I wished to know, because we were going on the other committee. He sent word over.

18,770. When ?—The same evening. He sent word over that Mr. Gower would not have anything to do with it, as there were so many of us, and he was afraid of a petition.

18,771. Who brought the message ?—I do not know.

18,772. Was it a young man ?—I do not know his name ; I did not see him. I was in bed when the man brought the message.

18,773. Did Apted mention any other name to you besides Mr. Gower's ?—Not that I am aware of.

18,774. Mr. Gower at that time was in London ?—Yes.

18,775. Then he could not not very well apply to him that evening ?—No.

18,776. He sent you an answer ?—Yes.

18,777. Did he tell you to whom he had been instead of Mr. Gower ?—No.

18,778. When you came and visited him here, when he said Mr. Gower was in London, did he not mention another name ?—I have no recollection of anybody else.

18,779. It is clear he did speak to somebody else about it ?—Yes ; I do not know what he did ; that was the answer.

18,780. Did he say he would send for anybody ?—No.

18,781. Did he send for anybody that you know ?—Not that I am aware of.

18,782. Who else was with him at the time in the committee room ?—Mr. Joyes.

18,783. Anybody else ?—A man of the name of Reeves.

18,784. Who was in the chair ?—We three were all that was in the room.

18,785. Did you go alone to Apted ?—I saw Mr. Apted in the room.

18,786. Did you come up from the railway alone ?—Yes.

18,787. You came, I suppose, as a kind of deputation from the other men ?—Yes.

18,788. Was there a meeting the night before, when they agreed that you should go up ?—Not where I should go.

18,789. There was an agreement come to that you should go up and see one of the agents ?—Yes.

18,790. Where was the meeting ?—We had no meeting on that, not at any of the public houses ; we only talked it over on the station amongst ourselves.

18,791. Did all these 15 or 16 men know what you were going to do ?—I believe they did.

18,792. They thought you would be a good man to work the business for them, and so they naturally asked you to go ; was that it ?—I do not know.

18,793. Did they say, "We will have this thing "done, and Hayward shall be the man to go" ?—That was so.

18,794. Was it in the evening that you came here ?—In the morning.

18,795. Did you know Apted before ?—Yes.

18,796. Did you know Joyes before ?—Yes.

18,797. And Reeves before ?—Yes.

18,798. Where was Reeves living then ?—At Redhill.

18,799. He came with you, did he ?—No.

18,800. Where is he now ; near the railway ?—Yes.

18,801. What is he ?—A switchman.

18,802. Was Reeves a voter himself ?—No.

18,803. He was one of your party, was he not ?—I do not know that he was. I met him here in the town.

18,804. He had nothing to do with your deputation ?—Not that I am aware of.

18,805. You met him here ; you would hardly expect to find him here. This was not his quarters ?—I do not know ; he was often about when he was on night duty.

18,806. Were you surprised to find him with Apted and Joyes ?—No, I did not find him ; we both went in together.

18,807. Did you have any further message or communication from Apted at all ?—No.

18,808. That was the last ?—That was the last.

18,809. It seems that there was no business to be done with Mr. Gower's people ?—No.

18,810. So you all went straight to Mr Monson ?—Yes.

18,811. Did you tell Apted when you saw him here what your terms were with Mr. Monson's party ?—I cannot say that I did.

18,812. He knew that Mr. Monson was after you. Did you tell him what the terms were ?—No.

18,813. You are sure you did not ?—Yes.

18,814. Did he not ask you ?—No.

18,815. One would have expected that you would say, "We have been offered so-and-so"?—No, he did not ask the question.

18,816. But you told him that you were in with the Monson party ?—No.

18,817. I mean that you had been talked to by the Monson party ?—I did not tell him so.

18,818. But it was told him by somebody at that time ?—No, I am sure I did not hear anyone tell him so.

18,819. Was that your first election ?—No.

18,820. Did you vote in 1863 ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson the two last elections.

18,821. Had you voted for any one else before that ?—No.

18,822. What did you get for voting at those two elections ?—I had 4*l.* 10*s.* at the last, not from Mr. Wilkinson.

18,823. What did you get in 1863 from Mr. Wilkinson ?—Not anything.

18,824. What did you get from Mr. Wilkinson the election before that ?—Nothing.

18,825. Nothing whatever ?—Not a farthing.

18,826. Nor any consideration at all ?—Not anything at all.

18,827. To go back to 1865 ; after you had had this interview with Apted, did you go to somebody else ?—No.

18,828. Did you not see Nichols about it ?—No.

18,829. Not that evening ?—No, not that day at all.

18,830. Did you see anybody else ?—I met Mr. Shepherd at the corner ; he asked me how we had got on, and I said that we had no decided answer.

18,831. He knew what you were going about ?—Yes.

18,832. Had Shepherd been present, do you recollect, when you and the other railway men agreed

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E. Hayward.

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that you should go up?—Shepherd knew I was coming over.

18,833. How did he know?—I told him myself.

18,834. When was that that you told him?—I cannot exactly say. About Tuesday or Wednesday, about three weeks before the election; I cannot go nearer than that.

88,835. When had Shepherd known that you were going up; the night before you went?—Yes.

18,836. He was present and heard it arranged that you should be a deputation to the Gower people?—No, I do not know that I was employed by any one.

18,837. I suppose they said, "You are a tidy man, "and we shall be obliged if you will go up." Was Shepherd present when it was agreed that you should go up and see Gower's agents the next morning?—No; I went to Shepherd myself.

18,838. During the day?—The day before I came over here.

18,839. What did you say to him?—I told him I was going to see Mr. Gower's party to see if I could get on there, as I understood they had a committee on, and that they were receiving 30*s.* a week, and that if we could get on their committee on the same terms that they were put on it would make it better for us.

18,840. So that you could work on both?—No.

18,841. The terms offered by Mr. Gower were rather better than Mr. Monson's terms?—It would have been if we had been put on when Mr. Gower's list came out.

18,842. Because you were to be paid backwards?—To be paid two weeks back.

18,843. What did Shepherd say to that?—He said he was quite agreeable.

18,844. Did he say he would come with you?—No.

18,845. What did he say more than that?—He said he did not see why one should go and have it all; he thought there must be some under-hand work belonging to it.

18,846. Belonging to what?—To my going over to Mr. Gower's party. He was frightened that I should get more money than he would. I told him I should not satisfy him where I was going before I had ascertained what I could do. Shepherd wanted to know, because then he might have come over and seen for himself.

18,847. Was Shepherd ready to go on Gower's committee, did you understand?—Yes, he was ready to go on Mr. Gower's committee.

18,848. You mean if he could get the back pay?—Yes.

18,849. What is Shepherd?—A plumber.

18,850. When you said you would not tell him who you should go to, was he annoyed at that?—Well, he did feel rather annoyed, but we had no conversation about it.

18,851. Can you give us any more information about the proceedings at the election?—No, not anything.

18,852. Did you see anything more particular take place?—No.

18,853. Were you active about it yourself?—No; I was on night duty most of the time.

18,854. Did the railway men frequently meet of an evening, and discuss how they would do?—No, I think not. There were several meetings I believe, but I only attended two or three of them.

18,855. Were those two or three meetings of an evening when the work was over?—Yes.

18,856. Where were they held,—at Langridge's?—Yes.

18,857. Was it agreed what they had better do?—Yes.

18,858. Was it understood from beginning to end that if possible they should hang together?—Yes.

18,859. They did not all hang together?—No, I think not.

18,860. For example, Joseph Smith; he was one of you?—I do not know Joseph Smith.

18,861. Was Boscawen a railway man?—Yes.

18,862. How did he go?—For Mr. Gower.

18,863. Was he looked upon as a deserter, a black sheep?—I do not know that he was at that time.

18,864. Were there many more; were there between 20 and 30 railway porters?—Yes, I think so.

18,865. You know Boscawen?—Yes.

18,866. He voted afterwards for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

18,867. He was one who had come into the same arrangement that you had made with Shepherd?—Yes.

18,868. Did he know of your coming down here to see somebody, when you saw Apted?—I cannot say whether he did.

18,869. You cannot say whether he was present when it was agreed that you should go?—I think he was not.

18,870. He had promised Shepherd in the first instance?—Yes.

18,871. Do you think that he had come over by himself the same evening, and seen Apted or some of the people here?—I do not know.

18,872. It would seem as if he had seen somebody, because he afterwards did go over?—I cannot say anything about that. All I heard him say was that he had seen Mr. Gower; that Mr. Gower had been at the station and seen him but he did not say that he had promised his vote, or that he had promised it to Mr. Monson.

18,873. I want to know how Boscawen came at last to vote for Mr. Gower?—I cannot say.

18,874. Did you consider that he was a kind of deserter?—No.

18,875. Can you tell me about how many of the railway men did vote for Mr. Gower?—I cannot say.

18,876. Do you know whether there were four or five?—I cannot say who did vote for Mr. Gower.

18,877. I mean your men?—I do not know any more than Boscawen.

18,878. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You knew that Boscawen had received money on behalf of Mr. Gower?—Yes.

18,879. And you could guess why he voted for Mr. Gower?—I can guess, but I do not know what he had, and I do not know who went to see him to get him away.

18,880. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you not a pretty strong notion at the time that he had something?—We might think that he had got something from the other party.

18,881. Did not that make the others a little discontented?—No, not that I am aware of.

18,882. Did they not say, "Hallo! Boscawen, how "is this?" As Shepherd was a little jealous of your going to see Apted, were not some of you a little discontented or jealous about Boscawen having any flirtation with Mr. Gower?—I do not know.

18,883. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said, "If "we had been paid as Gower's men were, we should "have had our back pay"?—We heard so. It would have been a week back.

18,884. When you heard that, was it before or after you had received the money from Shepherd?—Before.

18,885. Did you go to Apted before or after you had received money from Shepherd?—We went to Apted before.

18,886. And was it as soon as you had heard that Gower's men were going to receive their back pay?—No, the list had been out nearly a fortnight.

18,887. That is Gower's committee; but what I mean to say is, that as soon as you heard that Gower's men were going to receive back pay, then you went to Apted?—Yes.

18,888. And was it in consequence of that that you then consulted together?—Yes.

18,889. Thinking you would get more from Gower's party?—Yes, we thought that Mr. Gower would be the most fitting man.

18,890. Was that the general feeling amongst you

men, that Mr. Gower was the most fitting man ?—I believe it was.

18,891. If you could have arranged with Apted, and got *5l.*, you would have voted for Gower ?—Yes.

18,892. But not getting it, you preferred the *4l.* 10*s.* and voting against your conscience ?—Yes.

18,893. That was the general feeling amongst you 16 or 17 men ?—I believe it was.

GEORGE ROOM called, sworn, and examined.

18,894. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You live at what is called the Station-road, don't you ?—Yes.

18,895. I believe you are a builder ?—Yes.

18,896. You are a master builder ?—Yes.

18,897. What rent do you pay for your house ?—24*l.* a year.

18,898. Is it all occupied by yourself, or do you let out lodgings ?—I did let two rooms for a portion of time.

18,899. Do you now ?—No, I have shifted.

18,900. Then when you say you are paying 24*l.* for rent, do you mean that you were doing it ?—Yes.

18,901. You have changed your vote ?—I claim a vote now for that house; I have only shifted recently.

18,902. You used to let off two rooms ?—Yes, sometimes, and sometimes not.

18,903. You are a married man with a family ?—Yes.

18,904. Who was your landlord ?—Mr. Lees was the agent.

18,905. You voted, I think, in the last election for Gower, did not you ?—Yes.

18,906. Who persuaded you to vote for him ?—No one.

18,907. I mean, who canvassed you for your vote ?—Mr. Green. He asked me one day who I was going for, and I said "Mr. Gower."

18,908. Did he come to your house ?—No, I saw him in the Station-road.

18,909. Did you tell him who you were going for ?—Yes, I told him I was going to vote for Mr. Gower.

18,910. Had you made up your mind before ?—Yes, as soon as ever he came out.

18,911. Which came out first,—he or Monson ?—I do not know.

18,912. You asked Mr. Green to put you down on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No, not then; not at that time.

18,913. Then you told him you were going to vote for Gower. Did you see him again ?—Yes.

18,914. How long before the election ?—About three weeks, I think it was.

18,915. You asked him to put you down on Gower's committee ?—I do not know as I asked him. We were talking about it, and he said, "Will you go on ?" and I said, "Yes."

18,916. And did he say he would put you down ?—Yes.

18,917. Are you aware whether you did go down, or not ?—I was down, for anything I know to the contrary.

18,918. You suppose you were ?—Yes.

18,919. You attended the committee meetings didn't you ?—Yes, I think I attended nearly the whole of them.

18,920. Where were the committee meetings held that you attended ?—At the town hall.

18,921. I think on one or more than one occasion you took the chair ?—No.

18,922. You attended other meetings besides ?—I attended one at Bundell's.

18,923. You did attend meetings at some of the refreshment houses, didn't you ?—We were down there at Bundle's that night. That was not on account of the refreshments.

18,924. Don't misunderstand me. I do not mean that you went there for the sake of refreshments; but in one or two meetings which were held in the public houses, as we will call them, you took the chair ?—No.

18,925. Not at any ?—No, not at either.

18,926. Not at all ?—No.

18,927. And you were not even vice-chairman ?—No, nothing of the sort.

18,928. What decided you in making up your mind to vote for Gower ?—Why, I thought he was the best man, and I had voted for him before.

18,929. Were you applied to by the other side ?—No.

18,930. What, did not they pay you the compliment of asking you for your vote ?—No.

18,931. Did not any of them come to you and say they hoped you would go with them ?—No.

18,932. None of Mr. Monson's friends ?—No.

18,933. Surely you spoke to somebody about Mr. Monson ?—No, not at all.

18,934. Were you employed by Mr. Gower's party to pay the money away to the persons who assisted ?—No.

18,935. What was your work then ?—Attending at the committee rooms, and getting any votes I could.

18,936. Did you succeed in getting any votes ?—There were five or six came to the committee room.

18,937. You took them ?—Yes, they went to the agent's.

18,938. Do you know whether you succeeded in getting votes eventually from them ?—I do not know.

18,939. Some of them ?—I believe some.

18,940. Then you did something ?—Yes, I did something.

18,941. And who was the agent that you looked to ? Mr. Henry Green ?—Yes.

18,942. He was like your head man ?—Yes.

18,943. Did you pay any money out of your own pocket when you saw these men, in the way of giving them a pint of beer or half a pint of beer ?—Not on that account, but I have spent money out of my own pocket.

18,944. That would be the way in which you would do it. You would think, "If I do-so-and so, I "shall be able to get his vote ?—No, not giving beer.

18,945. But as an excuse to get him to sit down and talk ?—No, I never had one of them to sit down.

18,946. You always canvassed in the street ?—Yes.

18,947. You don't consider that you were a sum of money out of pocket ?—No.

18,948. And you did not send in any claim for money out of pocket. I am not speaking of any other claim for loss of time ?—No, not for money out of pocket.

18,949. You sent in no claim for money out of pocket ?—No.

18,950. You confined your claims to compensation for loss of time ?—Yes.

18,951. And to whom did you send in your claim ? to Mr. Green ?—I did not send any claim in.

18,952. Whatever you did, whatever you sought, was it of Mr. Green you sought it ?—Yes.

18,953. Was that after the election ?—Some before and some after.

18,954. Did Mr. Green pay you anything ?—Yes.

18,955. How much ?—30*s.* one week before the election, and 30*s.* the next week.

18,956. And then I suppose the week after that the polling came ?—Yes.

18,957. And what did he pay you for that week ?—I had 2*l.* for that week owing to the election.

18,958. That made 5*l.* then in all ?—Yes.

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G. Room.

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18,959. Did you know how much Mr. Green was going to pay you before you asked him?—I understood 5*s.* a day.

18,960. And did Mr. Green agree to do that?—Yes, 5*s.* a day, as near as I can tell.

18,961. Did Mr. Green tell you he was authorized to give you that?—No, he never said nothing about that.

18,962. Did he pay you all that before the election?—He paid me 3*l.* before the election and 2*l.* after the election.

18,963. How long after?—About a fortnight or three weeks.

18,964. Was this your first election?—No.

18,965. In 1863 did you vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

18,966. And were you on his committee in the same sort of way?—Yes.

18,967. Did you do for him in 1863 what you did in 1865?—Something similar.

18,968. Which was the better election in point of remuneration for time lost and services rendered?—I did not see any difference.

18,969. You received the same?—More that time; but I was on more weeks.

18,970. How much more did you receive in 1863?—I believe it was either four or five weeks; I won't say which. I was on at 30*s.* a week; 5*s.* a day.

18,971. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And was there 2*l.* for the election week?—There was not then.

18,972. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much altogether did you receive, say, in the five weeks?—If it was five weeks it was 7*l.* 10*s.*

18,973. Then in 1863 you received altogether 7*l.* 10*s.*? Were you canvassed by Mr. Wilkinson's party at that election?—They called round the same day I had promised Mr. Gower, and I told them then that I had promised Mr. Gower, and should not alter my mind.

18,974. Was there anything more, or were they satisfied with it?—They were satisfied with that.

18,975. Nobody made any offer from them?—No.

18,976. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you the 7*l.* 10*s.*?—Mr. Nichols; Mr. James Nichols.

18,977. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In one sum or weekly?—Weekly.

18,978. Had you been in any other election?—No, that was the first.

18,979. You said you took four or five men to the committee room. You took them to be put on the committee, I suppose?—Yes.

18,980. Who were they?—One was named Cook.

18,981. What Cook?—Thomas Cook.

18,982. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who was the other?—Fuller.

18,983. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Go on?—Those two I took there; I cannot remember the others.

18,984. That is what you did for your money?—Yes.

18,985. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were all the four put on the committee?—I suppose so.

18,986. You took them to be put on the committee?—Yes.

18,987. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And to be paid?—No, I did not.

18,988. You knew perfectly well that if they were put on the committee they would be paid?—I knew I was.

18,989. Now attend. You took them for that purpose?—No, except they liked to choose to get a job.

18,990. Did you take them to Mr. Green or to the committee room?—To the committee room; and I believe Mr. Green came and saw them.

18,991. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who were the others besides Cook and Fuller?—I do not know.

18,992. Then there were only two, I am afraid?—Marsh, I believe, was another.

18,993. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You told them you were on the committee, and said, "I am working"?—No, I did not mention that at all.

18,994. You did not mention that you were working?—No.

18,995. Was it John Marsh?—Yes.

18,996. Did you tell them you were working hard?—No, I did not tell them I was working hard.

18,997. Were there any more?—John Davey.

18,998. Of what place?—Ladbrooke.

18,999. What is Davey?—A carpenter.

19,000. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are they personal friends of yours?—No.

19,001. Do you employ them?—No.

19,002. Did you think they could afford to lose their time?—I do not know whether they could or not.

19,003. Could Davey, a journeyman carpenter, afford to lose his time?—I do not know whether he could or not.

19,004. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Could you afford to lose your time?—No.

19,005. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did it require much influence to be on the committee?—A little.

19,006. When you met a man in the street at the time of the election, was not this the general accost, "Well, are you put on the committee"?—Not that I know of.

19,007. You know what I mean, was it not the common accost when you met a man in the street and passed the time of day with him, "Well, have "you been put on one of the committees"?—No.

19,008. And if the man said "No," was it not then a common piece of advice, "Go to so-and-so, "and he will, perhaps, get you on Gower's or "Monson's committee"?—I should not know that unless I asked the man which way he thought of going. If he thought of going to vote for Gower, then I should ask him if he would go on the committee; if he would give his word that he would vote for Gower.

19,009. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it not by common repute understood that all the committee men would be paid?—I never understood it so.

E. Russell.

EDWARD RUSSELL called, sworn, and examined.

19,010. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

19,011. For whom?—For Mr. Gower.

19,012. I will just ask you two or three formal questions. Were you on the committee?—No.

19,013. What are you?—A gardener.

19,014. What were you at the time of the election?—I was a gardener then.

19,015. What rent are you paying for your house?—6*s.* 6*d.* a week.

19,016. I can see you look brimful of something to tell me. I am going to put one general question to you. Will you be kind enough to tell me what you know about the election of 1865?—Well, I had 6*l.*

19,017. Now see what a capital starting point that is. Who gave it to you?—Thomas Williams.

19,018. Who is Thomas Williams?—He lives at the pottery.

19,019. Is he a gardener?—He is at the pottery.

19,020. Is he a master or a working man?—I believe part of it belongs to his father. I believe he has the coal and coke.

19,021. When was it he gave you the 6*l.* ?—A day or two after the election.

19,022. Perhaps you will be kind enough to inform us why it was he gave you the 6*l.*?—For the cannon I lent that was left in Reigate Park.

19,023. What cannon was it ?—A mortar, perhaps, you call it.

19,024. Was this old cannon a family relic of yours ?—It might be oldish.

19,025. What was it lent for?—When the Prince of Wales was married they brought it up to the top of the park and let it, and I told them that whoever would buy the cannon I would vote for him.

19,026. What was the cannon worth ?—I had a bid of 4*l.* for it once.

19,027. And you refused it?—Yes.

19,028. How long did the cannon remain up in the park ?—It is there now, I believe.

19,029. When did you see it last ?—Within a few days. It wants a horse to get it away.

19,030. Whose cannon is it now?—That I cannot tell.

19,031. You never went after it, I suppose?—No.

19,032. It was not worth fetching back, was it?—I could not get it back.

19,033. Would not it have cost you more to get it back than the cannon was worth ?—No.

19,034. It was one of the old-fashioned mortars, I suppose ? How long had you had it?—Five years.

19,035. Who took it up in the park? Some of your neighbours ?—Mr. Charter, I think, fetched it.

19,036. How was it that Williams made this bargain with you about this cannon? Did he tell you he wanted a cannon?—Did he tell me he wanted a cannon?

19,037. Did Williams tell you ?—That was for his option, whether he liked to buy it.

19,038. Was it before or after the election that he talked of giving 6*l.* for it?—Oh, before.

19,039. And then the vote was to go with the cannon?—Of course.

19,040. How long before the election did you sell the cannon?—Not long.

19,041. A fortnight?—Thereabouts.

19,042. Had you promised anybody to vote before you sold the cannon ?—No, not at all.

19,043. Had both parties been to you?—Yes.

19,044. Had you told them both you had a cannon to sell ?—Yes.

19,045. Who did you tell on the Monson side that you had got a cannon to sell?—I did tell them, two or three of them came to me, they said, "What for "the cannon?"

19,046. Then it was commonly known that you had a cannon to sell ?—Oh, it was no secret at all.

19,047. Like the gentleman yesterday who wanted a horse and cart and made no secret of it, you made no secret of your cannon ?—Not a bit.

19,048. What did the Monson party do?—They did 6*l.*

19,049. Why did not you take it?—I did not much like the party. I thought they would not pay me.

19,050. Now you can tell me who it was that offered you 6*l.* on the part of Mr. Monson?—Francis.

19,051. Henry Francis?—Yes.

19,052. And you would not trust Henry Francis?—No.

19,053. Was he the only person who came to you on the part of Mr. Monson?—Grutchfield came to me.

19,054. Was that before or after Francis had been to you ?—Before that.

19,055. Was Grutchfield the first man that came to you on the Monson side?—Yes.

19,056. What did you ask?—He offered 4*l.*

19,057. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was the man you said made you an offer of 4*l.*, a bid of 4*l.*?—No, that was some years back.

19,058. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But then the cannon was better many years back?—Not a bit.

19,059. She was so old she could not get worse?—I do not know. I do not think it was worse.

19,060. Mr. Grutchfield offered you only 4*l.*, and you thought that too little ?—Of course.

19,061. Did you ask him for more money?—I told him I should not sell it.

19,062. Not at that price ?—No.

19,063. Of course he knew that your vote was to go with the cannon. Did you ask any price to Grutchfield ?—No, not at all.

19,064. You did not fix your market ?—No.

19,065. You wanted to get as big a sum as you could ?—Of course.

19,066. Were those the only two who came to you to bid for your vote on the part of Mr. Monson?—Before the election ?

19,067. Yes ?—Oh, no, Williams came.

19,068. We will come to Williams presently. I speaking now of those who came on the part of Mr. Monson. Do you recollect anybody else coming to you. According to your account Francis and Grutchfield failed ?—Nichols and Monson came.

19,069. When did they come ?—Somewhere about that time; a little before.

19,070. Did either of them say anything to you about the cannon ?—No, not then.

19,071. Did Nichols afterwards ?—Yes, he would not give any more.

19,072. Did he offer 4*l.* ?—4*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.*

19,073. You do not mean to say that he dropped down to 3*l.* 10*s.*, knowing that you would not take 4*l.* ?—It was 3*l.* 10*s.* or 4*l.* ; I won't be certain.

19,074. He offered you something ?—Either 3*l.* or 4*l.*

19,075. Were those the only persons who came to you on the part of Mr. Monson to canvass you?—Mr. Holdsworth called.

19,076. You had known Mr. Holdsworth, I suppose, very well ?—Oh, yes.

19,077. Where was it Holdsworth saw you?—I did not see him at all ; he came to my missis.

19,078. Came to your wife?—Yes.

19,079. What did Holdsworth bid?—10*l.*

19,080. Why did not you take the 10*l.* ?—Because I had already promised to take 6*l.*

19,081. Then you had promised before ?—Yes.

19,082. And you kept honestly to your bargain of 6*l.* ?—Yes; if he had offered 40*l.* I should have kept to my bargain.

19,083. Now we will come to Williams. It was about a fortnight before the election that you sold it to him. I need not go further into the matter, but there was a clear understanding that your vote should go with the cannon? That was distinctly understood between you ?—Yes.

19,084. Were you to do any work ?—No, there was nothing mentioned about work.

19,085. Then you voted, and Williams stuck to his bargain, and gave you the 6*l.* ?—Yes.

19,086. Did you vote in the election of 1863 ?—No.

19,087. Had you a vote then ?—No, I never voted before.

19,088. Were you on the register of 1863 ?—No.

19,089. Was there any stranger who came to bid for this cannon; some stranger that you did not know ?—No.

19,090. Did you attend the meetings at all ?—I went down to the "Angel" once.

19,091. Was there anything particular happening there ?—No, nothing but hollaing there.

19,092. Was there refreshment there ? You had some, I suppose ?—Yes.

19,093. Did you pay for it ?—No.

19,094. If I may ask the question, what did you have ?—What did I have ? I had a little beer and ginger beer.

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E. Russell.

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19,095. No spirits?—Well, I think I had a glass of brandy and water.

19,096. You did not pay for any?—No, I did not.

19,097. There were a good many there enjoying themselves in the same way?—I do not know whether they called it enjoying themselves; I didn't enjoy it much.

19,098. Did you see any of them pay?—No, I did not.

19,099. Now you have been very good-natured in telling me all this; is there anything more that you know about the election of 1865?—No, I do not think there is.

19,100. Any of these little incidents, money passing?—No, that I do not. I never troubled myself at all about it.

19,101. You sold your cannon, got your 6*l.*, and then you voted, and were happy?—Yes.

19,102. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where is the cannon? I should like to see it?—Up in the park; it lies down in the bushes; somebody tipped it over.

19,103. It is yours, I suppose, now?—I do not know who it belongs to.

19,104. Where did you get the cannon from?—I took it.

19,105. Come, come, where did you get it? You took it from the enemy?—I do not know. I do not think that is a fair question.

19,106. When they were buying this cannon, did they look into its mouth, as they might look into the mouth of a horse?—Perhaps they might.

19,107. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was in the bushes when you sold it, pitched over?—Yes, I believe it was.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Well, we won't press the question about where you got it in the first place, because you are so good-natured.

19,108. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I dare say you would not mind selling it again? Do you look upon it as a real bargain?—Yes.

19,109. Whose cannon do you believe it to be now?—Well, it ought to be Mr. Gower's.

19,110. Did Williams tell you where he got the 6*l.* from?—No, he did not.

19,111. You had a slight notion as to where that 6*l.* came from?—He never told me.

19,112. Where do you believe it came from?—I believe it came from Mr. Durrant.

19,113. What is the reason of your belief? Who told you?—Mr. Durrant said he gave it to Williams.

19,114. Did you hear Mr. Durrant say so?—Yes.

19,115. Then if the cannon is anybody's it is Durrant's?—I do not know who gave him the money.

19,116. You do not know who gave Durrant the money?—No.

19,117. You ought to have told me about Durrant when I asked you if there was anything more?—I did not think about it.

19,118. Is that all you have got to tell us? Are there no other little secrets?—No secrets.

19,119. That was a secret, you know?—No, I do not know anything more about it.

G. Stapleton.

GEORGE STAPLETON called, sworn, and examined.

19,120. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Stapleton?—A coalheaver.

19,121. Where do you work?—At Reigate Station.

19,122. Oh, you are one of the men engaged at the railway, are you?—No.

19,123. I beg your pardon. You are not engaged at the railway?—I work at the railway but am not engaged by the railway company.

19,124. For whom do you work?—For Mr. Dann.

19,125. What rent do you pay for the house you live in?—10*l.* a year.

19,126. Is this your first time of voting?—No.

19,127. When did you vote before?—At Mr. Wilkinson's election.

19,128. In 1863?—Yes.

19,129. And you voted for Mr. Gower in 1865?—Yes.

19,130. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—No.

19,131. How was that?—I did not promise to vote.

19,132. When were you applied to?—I am sure I cannot say; some time before the election.

19,133. How long before the election?—I cannot say.

19,134. Who applied to you?—Mr. Gower asked me first.

19,135. Who afterwards?—Mr. Joyes.

19,136. And who else?—No one else.

19,137. When Mr. Gower asked you I suppose you told him, "Well, I will consider about it"?—I told him I should not promise him at present.

19,138. Did the Monson party canvass you?—Yes.

19,139. They called upon you?—Yes.

19,140. Who called upon you?—One or two of them; Corderoy and Mr. Richardson.

19,141. And I suppose you said the same thing, "Well, I won't promise"?—I did say so.

19,142. "I won't promise; I will consider about "it"?—I said, "I won't promise."

19,143. You had not made up your mind at that time, I suppose?—Yes; I had made up my mind not to promise.

19,144. You had not made up your mind for whom you would vote?—Yes, I had; I knowed whom I was going to vote for.

19,145. But you had made up your mind not to promise?—I had made up my mind not to tell them.

19,146. You intended to keep it a secret?—Yes, I did keep it to myself.

19,147. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you married?—Yes.

19,148. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your wife knew?—I had no family.

19,149. Your wife knew?—No; she asked me in the morning as I was going out, and I told her I should not say.

19,150. And you kept it a profound secret?—Yes, I did.

19,151. Might I ask you why you kept it a secret?—Well, I do not know that I had a particular reason altogether.

19,152. You must have had a reason, because you have acted differently from any other man at Reigate that we have heard of at present?—It seems like child's play to come and ask you some weeks before to make a promise. Promises are often broken.

19,153. I could understand a man not having made up his mind; but a man having made it up, it seems strange to keep it a secret. Why should you have kept it a profound secret?—Well, I don't know as I was obliged to tell anybody who I was going to vote for.

19,154. But what object had you, because it is so very different from other men, what object had you in keeping it a secret?—No object in particular.

19,155. Did you hear that money was going?—Well, I did not hear before I was offered, so I cannot say I did.

19,156. Who offered you money?—Not Gower's party.

19,157. I did not ask you that. Who offered you the money?—Monson's people offered me money.

19,158. Who offered it to you?—Corderoy.

19,159. What had he the impudence to offer you?—10*l.*

19,160. Tell me, how did he come to you, and what did he say when he offered you the 10*l.*?—I really forget. He wanted me to go their way, and I told him I should not promise.

19,161. You know, he came to you; what did he say? "Will 10*l.* stand in your way?" or what did he say?—He offered me 10*l.*; that is all that passed.

19,162–3. No; he said, "You can have 10*l.*," or something of that kind?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell us how it was done?—There is nothing more; I do not know of anything more. He came up and asked if I was going their way, and I said I should not promise. That is all that passed.

19,164. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where were you when he came up to you?—Going home, down the street.

19,165. After your day's work?—Yes.

19,166. What is Corderoy?—A painter.

19,167. He meets you, and salutes you and says, "Have you made up your mind for whom you are "going to vote?"—He said something like that. He asked me which way I was going, and I told him I should not promise; that is what I said.

19,168. You knew he was canvassing, I suppose, for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

19,169. What did he say?—He did not say anything more to me about it.

19,170. You did not tell us what he said?—He asked me which way I was going, and I told him I should not promise. That is all he said to me, besides making the offer.

19,171. Tell us how he made the offer; what did he say when he made the offer?—Well, I don't know. He could not say more than that he would give me 10*l.* if I would go their way.

19,172. He said, "I will give you 10*l.* if you will "go our way"?—That is all.

19,173. Is that what he said?—Yes.

19,174. Did not you look at him and say, "How "can you get 10*l.*?" You did not think he had 10*l.*?—I was not going to vote that way.

19,175. Do you think he had 10*l.* to give you?—It is very likely he might; I cannot say.

19,176. Do you think he had?—I did not see the money.

19,177. I know you did not; but did you think he had it to give you? It is a high price, you know?—It is a high price.

19,178. You had heard that the people who were on the committee were to have 4*l.* or 5*l.*?—I heard so; but it was merely hearsay.

19,179. Of course you had heard it. Everybody had heard it, that the gentlemen on the committee were receiving 4*l.* or 5*l.*, 30*s.* a week. How long was it before the election that you spoke of this?—A week or ten days; I cannot say.

19,180. You did not believe that he would give you 10*l.*?—He might.

19,181. Did you believe it?—I could not say.

19,182. Did you believe it?—If he told me so, I had no right to disbelieve it.

19,183. You had in your mind an opinion at the time?—But I did not want the 10*l.*; I was not drawed up for 10*l.*

19,184. Did you believe you could have had 10*l.*?—I might have had it.

19,185. Do you believe it now; seriously?—I might; I cannot say.

19,186. I will not ask you whether you can say that you would have had it; but did you believe you could?—No doubt, if I had liked, I could have had it; but I did not want it. I was not going to vote that way.

19,187. How soon after that did you see any of the Gower party?—I had seen them before.

19,188. You had not promised them?—No.

19,189. How soon after that did you see any of the Gower party? That is my question?—I used to see them every day.

19,190. Who used you to see every day?—I cannot say particularly; at the station there are so many backwards and forwards that I cannot say.

19,191. I am beginning to think there is a great difficulty in getting matters out of you?—That is all I know about it.

19,192. Who did you see of the Gower party after that offer?—I cannot say particularly.

19,193. To whom of the Gower party did you mention the offer of 10*l.* that was made to you?—I did not say anything about it till after the election for some time, not till lately.

19,194. During the election you had made up your mind to vote for Gower, and you are what we call a 10*l.* proof voter. Did not you tell anybody, "Here "I am; I was offered 10*l.*"?—No, I did not.

19,195. Did you tell your wife you were offered 10*l.*?—No.

19,196. How soon after the election did you mention it?—I cannot say precisely.

19,197. How soon after?—I cannot say.

19,198. To whom did you mention it after the election?—I do not know who it was; I cannot say who it might be.

19,199. You say you did not mention it before the election; to whom did you mention it after the election?—Not any one particular.

19,200. Did you mention it to any one at all?—Not till lately.

19,201. To whom?—I cannot say.

19,202. You say it was not till lately; surely you can tell us who it was?—It was not till lately.

19,203. How long ago?—I cannot say precisely.

19,204. A week or a month?—It might be a week, or it might be a month, or it might be three weeks; I cannot say.

19,205. I ask you, did you ever mention it to any human being till to-day?—Yes; a person asked me the other night whether there had been any money offered.

19,206. Who asked you?—Job Apted asked me.

19,207. When was it that Job Apted asked you?—One night last week.

19,208. Since this Commission? Where was it?—Against the hall door; I was looking at the names on the door.

19,209. He said, "Mr. Stapleton, you will be "examined soon," did not he?—No, he did not.

19,210. What did he say?—Well, I will tell you what he did say. He asked me whether I knowed anybody had been offered money by the Monsons.

19,211. He said, "You are going to be examined, "Stapleton," did not he?—No, not as I am aware of.

19,212. Oh come, come?—That is the truth.

19,213. Everything is truth, you know, till it is discovered to be otherwise?—That is the truth.

19,214. How could Job Apted know that anybody had offered you money?—He did not know.

19,215. You had not told it to any human being?—I might have said I had been offered 10*l.*

19,216. You told me you did not, you know; you said it was Job Apted asked you. Well, what did you say to him? He said, "Have you been offered any "money?" or, "Has anybody offered you any money?"—I do not understand.

19,217. Job Apted met you at the door and asked you if you had been offered any money?—He asked me if I knowed anybody had been offered money down our way, and I could not say "No;" I told the truth, and I said "Yes."

19,218. He asked you if you knowed anybody who had been offered money by the other side?—Yes.

19,219. What were you doing at the hall?—Looking at the names.

19,220. After you had got your summons?—Yes.

19,221. And Apted came up to you?—His door is opposite.

19,222. He saw you looking at the names?—I suppose so.

19,223. He asked you if you knew anybody, and what did you say?—I could not say "No" if I told the truth.

19,224. No, no; tell me what you did say?—I said "Yes."

19,225. What did you say?—That was all that passed.

19,226. Job Apted did not stop there?—Yes, Job Apted did stop there.

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G. Stapleton.

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19,227. He said, "Well, who was it that offered "money?"—He might ask me who it was, and I told him Corderoy; that is all.

19,228. He asked you if you could tell him anybody who was offered money, and you said, "I was," I suppose?—I told him I had been.

19,229. He said, "Who offered you the money?" Why don't you tell us the whole story?—I do tell you as well as I can.

19,230. Then you said, "Mr. Corderoy"?—Yes.

19,231. You see I have to get it word by word from you. And then he asked you, "When was it?" —No, he did not ask me anything about time.

19,232. Then he asked how much money it was? —He might have said, "How much?"

19,233. Did not he? You know this only occurred last week?—Yes; I told him 10*l.*; that was all.

19,234. And he said, didn't he, "Why, you have "been offered no money on our side?"—No, Mr. Apted did not.

19,235. "Well, you know you have received no "money from us," or something of that kind?—No, he did not say no such thing.

19,236. Did not he?—No.

19,237. You have not been offered any money on that side?—No.

19,238. And you had no money?—Well, I had some for work I had done.

19,239. What? You had been at work? You did not tell me you had been at work?—Oh, I am a pretty good chap to work.

19,240. Well, how long had you been at work?—Well, I went to four of the meetings; that was all I did.

19,241. You went to attend meetings?—Yes.

19,242. What did you put them down at each? What did you receive for them?—I received 3*l.*

19,243. That would be 15*s.* a meeting?—Then there is the nomination and polling day, you know, sir.

19,244. That was included?—Yes.

19,245. Who paid you?—Joyes.

19,246. Who engaged you?—Joyes.

19,247. What meetings did you attend?—One at Mead-vale; one at Redhill; one at Earlswood; and one at Reigate-hill, and I was liable to all calls when they engaged with me.

19,248. Of course you considered yourself liable to be called?—Yes.

19,249. What time do you work for your master? What hours?—From 7 to half-past 5.

19,250. Of course if you were called in those hours you did not consider that you should go?—No; it was the evening I had to do it; but I would rather be without the work; I could earn more at home than at electioneering, even at that price.

19,251. And I suppose you do earn more?—Yes, during the summer.

19,252. At what?—Gardening.

19,253. Did Apted ask you how much you received on the Gower side when he spoke to you?—No.

19,254. He was only anxious to know what you were offered by the other party?—He never asked me anything about the Gower side, and nobody ever promised me anything.

19,255. How long before the election was it that Joyes asked you to attend the meetings?—I do not know; it might be seven or eight weeks, perhaps; I can't say exactly.

19,256. What did you do at the meetings?—I did not do anything particular; I went the same as the rest, to hear and see, and say "Gower for ever," perhaps.

19,257. To say what?—"Gower for ever;" that is generally the cry, you know.

19,258. You had not voted before, had you?—I voted for Wilkinson.

19,259. Had you been employed?—Yes.

19,260. Oh, you had been employed in 1863?—Yes.

19,261. For what?—Attending the meetings and so on of a night; taking papers to the "Swan," and Mead-vale.

19,262. What were you paid on that occasion?—3*l.*

19,263. The same?—Yes.

19,264. Have you voted at any other election?—No.

19,265. That was the first time you voted?—Yes.

19,266. By whom were you paid 3*l.*?—By Mazden, I believe.

19,267. That was for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

19,268. And Joyes paid you in 1865?—Yes.

19,269. Were you one of these men that are called rooks or rabbits?—No.

19,270. What did they call them?—They called them Monsonites and Gowerites. That is all I know of.

19,271. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were a Gowerite?—Yes.

19,272. Who is your master?—Thomas Dann.

19,273. Did he canvass you?—No, he never said anything about the election, except "George, wilt "promise?" or something of that sort. He never said anything to press me in any way whatever. He never has done so, and I have worked for him for 15 years.

19,274. Did Mazden speak to you about voting for Gower?—Yes.

19,275. What did he say?—Something about "Going our side, George," or something of that sort.

19,276. Did he speak to you about going on the committee?—I do not know, and I cannot say whether I was on the committee or not.

19,277. Did he say, "If you come on our side, it "will be better for you, you will get paid for your "work"?—Something of that kind. "If you go to "work you will get paid for it."

19,278. Did Mazden tell you what you might expect?—No.

19,279. Was that before you had seen Joyes?—I never saw Joyes.

19,280. I understood you to say that Joyes paid you the 3*l.*?—Yes, the last election. Mazden has not spoken to me about this election.

19,281. Did he speak to you about the election of 1863?—Yes, he said, "Come and work for us, "George," or something like that.

19,282. Who did he canvass for?—Wilkinson, I believe. I voted for Wilkinson.

19,283. He told you if you came and worked you would get paid?—Something of that kind.

19,284. Did you get paid in 1863?—Yes, but none too well for running about.

J. Trussler.

JAMES TRUSSLER sworn, called, and examined.

19,285. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Trussler?—A plasterer.

19,286. What rent do you pay for your house?—13*l.* a year.

19,287. Whom did you vote for at the last election? Mr. Gower.

19,288. Why did you vote for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower came to me.

19,289. And so did Mr. Monson, did not he?—No, Mr. Monson did not.

19,290. And was that your reason for voting for Mr. Gower, because Mr. Gower canvassed you?—No, that was not the reason. About 12 months before the last election Mr. Hanbury, a gentleman, canvassed on behalf of Mr. Gower.

19,291. Twelve months before the last election came on, do you mean for the previous election?—No, not the previous election; on account of another election coming on.

19,292. Oh, for fear that there should be another election?—Yes.

19,293. Mr. Hanbury was canvassing for Mr.

Gower?—Yes. Mr. Gower came to me, and I said I would not vote against him. I thought he was an ill-used man, because he was fit for us at first, and yet not fit for us this time.

19,294. Was that your reason for voting for Mr. Gower, because you thought he was an illused man, and because he came and canvassed you himself? You don't mean that?—Yes, I do.

19,295. Were you put on Mr. Gower's committee when the election drew near?—No.

19,296. You were not?—No.

19,297. Were you asked to go on his committee?—He asked me to go on his committee, but I declined.

19,298. Then did he come a second time, when the election was going on?—He only canvassed me once.

19,299. That was a long time before the election?—No, he did not come till a month or five weeks, I cannot say exactly the time.

19,300. And did anybody else come to you about Mr. Gower besides Mr. Gower himself?—No one came to me to trouble me at all about Mr. Gower, except himself.

19,301. Not to trouble you, but to canvass you?—I might have been asked.

19,302. That is the very thing I want?—There might have been one.

19,303. Who was the one?—No one came to me and asked me.

19,304. Who asked you without coming to you, then?—A man named Titchener.

19,305. Did George Jupp come and ask?—He did not ask me, for when Mr. Gower came he run out of the way.

19,306. Why did he do so?—I don't know.

19,307. Was he shy about his vote?—I do not know I am sure. After Mr. Gower was gone he came out.

19,308. You mean when he saw him coming he cut away?—Yes.

19,309. Did he ask you to vote for Mr. Gower?—No; he knew I was going to vote for Mr. Gower.

19,310. Did he ask you which way you were going to vote; because he was not present at the interview?—He knew it.

19,311. How did he know it?—Because I told him myself.

19,312. Did you tell Jupp why you were going to vote for Gower?—I told him all along I was going to vote for Gower, because I thought he was the best man.

19,313. Give me the time?—I do not know that I can recollect.

19,314. I think I can remind you?—If it is right I will tell you.

19,315. Oh, then you do recollect there was something?—I do not know what you are going to say.

19,316. Do you remember telling George Jupp that you had been offered 2*l.*?—No, I do not.

19,317. That is not the right sum?—I do not recollect that ever I told George Jupp that I was offered 2*l.*

19,318. Never mind whether you recollect or not; did you tell him so, or have you forgotten it?—No.

19,319. Do you mean to say you did not tell George Jupp that you were offered 2*l.*?—No.

19,320. Did you tell George Jupp that you had received the 2*l.*?—No.

19,321. Well, what was the story about the 2*l.*? I wish you would let me have it?—I do not know that I had any conversation with George Jupp about 2*l.*

19,322. What was the story about the 2*l.*? Somebody said something, you recollect?—They might have said something.

19,323. What was the story about the 2*l.*?—I was told that a man of the name of Kilminster said that Stevens gave me 2*l.* on the polling day in "Grapes" yard.

19,324. That was Edwin Stevens?—Yes.

19,325. Was that right?—It was not right. I was not in "Grapes" yard all that day.

19,326. Do you recollect Mazden's name being in the story?—Mazden had nothing to do with me.

19,327. Did you receive 2*l.* from him?—No, I did not.

19,328. Had he anything to do with the 2*l.*?—No, Mazden never had anything to do with any money to me.

19,329. Then it was George Stevens?—Edwin Stevens.

19,330. When did you receive the 2*l.* from Stevens?—On the polling day (it was said).

19,331. Where was it he paid you the 2*l.*?—It was said that it was in the "Grapes" yard, but where it was I don't know. I never seed the 2*l.* I take my oath.

19,332. You told me just now that Edwin Stevens paid the 2*l.*?—I did not say that Edwin Stevens paid me the 2*l.* I said that Edwin Stevens give me the 2*l.* The report was given out that I received it on the polling day.

19,333. When did you receive it? If it was not on the polling day, when was it?—After the election.

19,334. Edwin Stevens paid you?—No, he did not.

19,335. Who paid it?—Titchener.

19,336. What did he pay you the 2*l.* for?—For loss of time on the polling day and nomination. The report was so.

19,337. The report was pretty well founded, only there seems to have been some mistake in the name and the day. When was the promise made about this 2*l.*?—At the time the election was on. It was three weeks or something like that before the election.

19,338. Were you promised it by Titchener or by somebody else?—By Titchener.

19,339. Was not I right in what I said before, that you told George Jupp that you received the 2*l.*?—He told me that I was accused of taking 2*l.* from Stevens on the polling day.

19,340. And you did not receive anything from Stevens?—No.

19,341. He was on the wrong scent to some extent. Did you say more than that? Did you say to Jupp something like this, "How in the world do you know "that"?—No, I do not recollect it.

19,342. But I want you to try if you cannot. Don't you remember saying to Jupp, "What, do you mean "to say you know about it"?—No, I don't.

19,343. Something like that?—I don't recollect anything of the sort.

19,344–5. Didn't you go on and beg Jupp not to split?—No, I did not, for I would not sell myself for a glass of brandy and water, and I know he would.

19,346. Did not you say to Jupp, "Well, I know I "had; pray don't split," or something like that?—No, I don't recollect that.

19,347. Don't you recollect telling Jupp that you hoped he would not split?—No.

19,348. Nothing of the sort?—I do not recollect it.

19,349. You don't mean to say that you did not say so?—I do not recollect.

19,350. Do you think it impossible?—It might be; it might be that I did.

19,351. It might be that you did say so?—I won't confess to that.

19,352. Will you deny it? We can get Jupp in a very short time?—It is so long ago.

19,353. Then I won't ask you any more about it. Had you been asked to vote for Monson?—Yes.

TWELFTH DAY.

J. Trussler.

4 Sept. 1866.

19,354. And who asked you to vote for Monson?—Henry Francis, I think it was.

19,355. Anybody else?—Spence.

19,356. Did Henry Francis offer you money?—Yes.

19,357. You did not agree with him; people did not seem to think him the right man?—I promised to vote for Gower, and I went for Gower.

19,358. Francis offered you how much?—6*l.*

19,359. Did you object to that on principle, because you had promised to vote for Gower, or was it because you did not think Henry Francis was very good pay?—No, not at all; I had promised Mr. Gower, and I did not mean to vote for Mr. Monson.

19,360. Did he show you the 6*l.*?—I did not see it.

19,361. What did Spence say?—He told me that if I would vote he would give me 5*l.*

19,362. Did you say, "I might think about it." Then did he say, "Well, then, I will call on you "again;" or, "We shall have some hopes of you"?—I never saw him afterwards about it.

19,363. Did you tell Henry Francis the same, "Well, I won't make up my mind," or did you say to yourself, "I won't have much to do with Francis"?—I told him I would not promise.

19,364. Did you get anything at all put down by the Monson party?—No.

19,365. Not a farthing?—No, I did not.

19,366. Might you not?—Well, if I liked to have took it, perhaps I might.

19,367. Who from?—If I liked to take it from Mr. Francis, I might, but I would not promise him.

19,368. And is your recollection good enough to say you are sure that you did not receive anything?—Yes, my recollection is quite good enough for that.

19,369. You were shaky about the 2*l.*?—It is quite good enough for that, I assure you.

19,370. Well, I see the difference. Was this the first election at which you had voted?—Yes.

19,371. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you had promised to vote for Mr. Gower before Francis and Spence came to you?—Not Francis.

19,372. You told Francis that you would think about it?—I told him I would not promise.

19,373. But you told us just now that, having promised to Mr. Gower, you were going to stick to it?—Yes.

19,374. Then why did not you tell Francis at once that you had promised Gower, and therefore he need not come to offer you money?—I had made up my mind.

19,375. Then was not the shortest way of getting rid of him to say, when he came and offered you money, "I have promised Mr. Gower"? Did not you feel very much insulted that you had been offered money?—I did not mean to take Monson's money.

19,376. But you had no objection to take Gower's money?—Not for the time I had lost.

19,377. Then why didn't you tell Francis at once that you had promised Mr. Gower, and that you didn't want to be bothered by him? Why did not you tell him that, and so get rid of him?—You see the result of your not telling Francis that you had promised Mr. Gower was that you got a visit from Spence?—No, Spence called before Mr. Gower came out.

19,378. That is not what you gave us to understand just now. When was it that you first had a glimmer that you were going to have something for your services for Mr. Gower?—A month or five weeks before the election.

19,379. Who was that from?—From Titchener.

19,380. Then eventually he paid you?—Yes.

19,381. Did Titchener tell you where he got the money from?—No.

ALVIN STREET sworn and examined.

A. Street.

19,382. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was your qualification at the election?—15*l.* a year rent.

19,383. And what are you?—A carpenter at Mr. Wyatt's.

19,384. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower.

19,385. Were you on his committee?—I believe so.

19,386. Who canvassed you?—Mr. Alec. Rose canvassed me.

19,387. Where do you live?—In Holmesdale-road.

19,388. Did Rose ask you to go on the committee?—Yes.

19,389. Did he tell you what you were to have if you went on the committee?—No.

19,390. Did Rose say anything to you about being remunerated for work?—Yes.

19,391. What did he say?—He said I should be paid for what work I did.

19,392. Did you do any work?—Well, I was at their meetings.

19,393. You attended meetings in the evening?—Yes, that was all.

19,394. Did you attend meetings in this hall?—Yes.

19,395. Did you attend any of the meetings at the public houses?—I attended one or two.

19,396. You attended one or two public house meetings?—Yes.

19,397. Did you canvass?—No.

19,398. You did not ask anybody to vote?—I did not ask, only amongst my own class of people.

19,399. If you tumbled in among any of your own class you asked them, I suppose, which way they were going to vote?—Yes, and I took out messages and some circulars.

19,400. Well, that did not hurt you?—No.

19,401. I suppose the messages were not many?—One or two.

19,402. Do you go to the extent of two messages?—More than that.

19,403. But so few you cannot tell me how many?—I cannot tell you how many.

19,404. Did you see Frederick Joyes?—I saw him during the election time.

19,405. Did you have any conversation with him about your work?—No.

19,406. Did Joyes speak to you about being on the committee?—No.

19,407. It was only Rose?—No.

19,408. Have you been paid anything?—Yes.

19,409. What were you paid?—4*l.*

19,410. Who paid you?—Mr. Rose, I think.

19,411. You think Rose?—Yes.

19,412. When did he pay you?—Two or three weeks after the election.

19,413. How came you to be paid so soon after the election? did you ask for the money?—I believe I saw him one day, and upon saying the elections were all over he said, "I owe you a little money for your "work." I said, "Yes;" when he said, "You had "better come down with me, and I will pay you."

19,414. Where did you go to be paid?—At Mr. Smith's office.

19,415. The election agent?—Yes.

19,416. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who took you?—Rose.

19,417. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you at Mr. Smith's; was it in his presence you were paid?—Mr. Smith gave Rose a cheque, and he gave it to me.

19,418. Was it a cheque for 4*l.*?—Well, I forget now.

TWELFTH DAY.

A. Street.

4 Sept. 1866.

19,419. Where did you get the gold ?—I cashed it at the bank.

19,420. Did you go to the bank yourself ?—Yes.

19,421. And on presenting it yourself you got the 4*l.*?—It was 5*l.* I think I gave Mr. Rose 1*l.* to give to somebody else.

19,422. You are quite certain you went to the bank and got the money ?—Yes.

19,423. And gave Rose the 1*l.* ?—Yes.

19,424. Did Rose tell you who the other 1*l.* was for ?—Yes, Mr. Ede.

19,425. Can you tell us which Ede ?—I don't know no more than it was the one who worked at the stone quarries.

19,426. When you were at Mr. Smith's was anything said to him about your services, what you had done ?—I do not know there was in particular.

19,427. Were you present when Mr. Smith gave the cheque ?—Yes.

19,428. Then either you or Rose asked him for the cheque ?—Rose did.

19,429. Did you hear Rose tell Mr. Smith what he asked him the cheque for ?—I forget, but I dare say it was to pay me for the work I had done.

19,430. To pay you ?—Yes.

19,431. Is that all you have received ?—Yes.

19,432. Was anything paid you, besides the 4*l.*, for going to the poll, for polling day ?—No.

19,433. How were the particulars made out so as to make up the 4*l.* ?—I made out a little account for being messenger and delivering messages.

19,434. Was there anything else in the account ?—No, nothing more.

19,435. Did you vote in 1863 ?—No.

19,436. Were you on the register ?—No.

19,437. Did any of the Monson party canvass you this last election ? — No, only Mr. Monson himself.

19,438. Was anybody with Mr. Monson ?—Serjeant Johns.

19,439. Was it Josiah Ede the 1*l.* was to be paid to ?—I do not know his name just now.

19,440. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What Ede was it given to ?—I gave it to Mr. Rose ; at least, I do not know whether it was Mr. Rose or Mr. Joyes who took it ; we were together.

19,441. Who was the 1*l.* to go to ?—To Ede ; but I do not know his Christian name.

19,442. What is he ? — He works in the stone quarry.

19,443. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you never receive any money from Joyes ?—No.

19,444. Neither before or after the election ?—No.

19,445. You received no money from him ?—No.

19,446. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you sure the money you paid out of the 5*l.* was to go to the man Ede working in the stone quarries ?—He used to work in the stone quarries. I never paid him the money myself.

19,447. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I understand you paid it to Alec. Rose ; you only suppose it was to be paid to one of the Edes ?—Yes.

19,448. Did you hear from Rose he wanted it for one of the Edes ?—That is what he said in Mr. Smith's office.

19,449. And that is all you know about it ?—Yes.

19,450. Is there anything you know more about the 4*l.* or 5*l.* that ought to be told to us ?—No.

19,451. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know any Ede that works as a gardener ?—I believe that is James Ede.

19,452. Do you know his uncle ?—No.

19,453. Or his nephew ?—I do not know any relationship of the Edes, the only one I know being the one whose Christian and surname too I have given.

19,454. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you give a receipt for the 4*l.* ?—No.

19,455. For the 5*l.* ?—Neither.

19,456. Did Mr. Smith ask you for a receipt ?—No.

19,457. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you quite sure that out of the 5*l.* 4*l.* were for you ?—That is what I had.

19,458. Did Rose go to the bank with you ?—No.

19,459. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The cheque was made out in your favour ?—Yes.

19,460. And did Mr. Smith understand he was giving the 5*l.* for you ?—No, because it was mentioned before Mr. Smith in his office Mr. Ede was to have 1*l.*

19,461. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you certain as a fact you never received a farthing from Mr. Joyes ?—I am quite certain.

The witness then withdrew.

JOSEPH STEER sworn and examined.

J. Steer.

19,462. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A coachman.

19,463. In whose employ ?—Mr. Wilson Sanders.

19,464. You were in his employ during the election last year ?—Yes.

19,465. Are you there still ?—As his coachman.

19,466. What rent do you pay for your house ?—10*l.* 8*s.* a year.

19,467. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

19,468. Was that the first time you voted, Mr. Steer ?—Yes.

19,469. I believe you were a very active friend of Mr. Gower's, and that you were on his committee ?—I was on his committee.

19,470. And very active ?—I do not know as to being very active ; perhaps I may have been.

19,471. Who put you on his committee ?—I saw James Ede and Rose, and I suggested that my name should be put on his committee ; I had come down purposely.

19,472. Had you anything to sell ?—Yes.

19,473. Because we heard of a person who had a cannon to sell ?—I had pigs.

19,474. Did Ede or Rose take a fancy to your pig ?—No.

19,475. They did not buy it ?—No, and no one did take a fancy to it.

19,476. Did they offer you anything for it ?—No, they never offered me anything.

19,477. Do you not remember being offered 7*l.* for it ?—No, I wanted 7*l.* 10*s.*

19,478. They asked you the price of it ?—Perhaps they might.

19,479. Where was this grunter ?—At home in my garden.

19,480. I suppose they came to you and saw it, I suppose they were both together, Mr. Ede and Mr. Rose ?—No, they never came to see it.

19,481. Who came to you ?—Nobody, that I know of. I saw some of the Monson party sometimes and asked them if they wanted to buy a pig.

19,482. Did anybody offer you anything for it ?—No.

19,483. Who spoke to you about it ?—Nobody. I spoke to them.

19,484. Who did you speak to ?—James Apted ; I thought he was a pork butcher, and therefore might buy it.

19,485. Did he come to you ?—No.

19,486. Did you go to him ?—No ; I knew him very well.

19,487. Did he ask you to vote for Mr. Monson ?—No.

19,488. What did you say to him ?—I do not recollect it ; it is so long ago that I forget.

19,489. Did you offer him the pig ?—I told him I would sell him my pig for 7*l.* 10*s.*

19,490. What did he say ?—I cannot recollect.

TWELFTH DAY.

J. Steer.

4 Sept. 1866.

19,491. I suppose he would not give so much; you wanted 7*l.* 10*s.*, and he said it was a high price; did he not say that?—No, I do not recollect what he did say.

19,492. Did he offer you anything at all?—No.

19,493. Did he offer you any money for the pig?—No.

19,494. I believe you said whoever would buy your pig should have your vote?—No, I did not.

19,495. Was it in jest?—I was joking. I did not mean anything when I was talking about selling the pig.

19,496. Then it was only a joke, it was in a joke?—Yes.

19,497. Well, you were on Mr. Gower's committee; what did you receive?—1*l.* 10*s.*

19,498. From whom?—From James Ede; I saw Rose, I think, in the square one night, he asked me who I was going to vote for. I said I had not made up my mind to decide right off. On Saturday I came down intending to have my name put on the committee. I was going in when James Ede, who was at the door, said if I did what was right, and attended the meetings, I should be paid for my work.

19,499. What time was that?—That was five weeks before polling day.

19,500. Who paid you the 30*s.*?—James Ede.

19,501. When?—It might be six weeks or two months after the election.

19,502. And that was all a jest about the pig?—Yes.

19,503. Did you not mean to offer it?—I never meant to sell the pig, not on that account. If they had offered to buy the pig I should have let them have it, but not on that account. It was not well.

19,504. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it worth 1*l.*?—I gave 25*s.* for it.

19,505. Yes, but it was not well; what was the real value of it?—I cannot say.

19,506. At all events it was not worth 7*l.* 10*s.*?—No.

19,507. Was it worth 40*s.*?—It was a nice pig, but I do not know what it was worth.

19,508. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not mean to sell it?—No, I never meant to sell the pig on that account.

19,509. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you anything more to tell us?—No, that is all, I have done, and all I know about the thing.

19,510. You knew that others received money?—I believe, John Brooker received 30*s.* from Ede.

19,511. What is he?—A gardener.

19,512. You believe he received 30*s.* from James Ede?—Yes, but I do not know; I heard Brooker say so one night, for work he had done.

19,513. During the election?—Yes, during the election.

19,514. What was the work you did?—I attended two meetings down stairs, and the nomination day and polling day. I had some one to give me notice to come down, and I did come down here.

19,515. Some of the notices you did not attend to?—Yes, I did.

19,516. But that was all the work you did?—Yes.

19,517. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 30*s.* from Gower?—From Ede.

19,518. Did you not receive 1*l.* from Mr. Apted?—No.

19,519. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is there any other Steer besides you?—My brother voted for Mr. Monson; his name is Thomas.

19,520. Was there any other Steer who voted for Mr. Gower?—Not that I know of.

19,521. Did you not receive 1*l.* from Mr. Apted?—No.

19,522. Just recollect yourself?—I did not receive 1*l.*

19,523. Is there anything you know about 1*l.* from Apted?—No.

19,524. Or money at all as connected with Apted?—No further than James Ede said he would pay me something for my work.

19,525. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Apted say that?—I believe he did one night.

19,526. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The actual payment, besides what you received from Ede, was 1*l.*, from Apted?—No, I did not receive that, I never received any more than 30*s.*, and that was from Ede.

The witness withdrew.

B. Smith.

BENJAMIN SMITH sworn and examined.

19,527. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A shoemaker I may say.

19,528. Were you ever a baker?—I do a little of it now I may say, my missis and I.

19,529. Were you not on Mr. Gower's committee?—Well, I was not on particular, no other way than this, in case I was wanted. I promised I would do anything that they wanted.

19,530. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

19,531. What rent did you pay?—I think I am rated at 10*l.* a year.

19,532. But what rent?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

19,533. You say you offered, if they wanted you for anything, to do it?—Yes.

19,534. Did they want you for anything?—If they wanted me to collect voters together.

19,535. Did they require you to do that?—Not any further than that I attended the hall, and was ready to carry any message, and in case they wanted anybody to assist I would go.

19,536. I wish to know whether they ever did want you to help them, and to collect the voters together?—No; I believe I went to some of the voters to say there was going to be a committee meeting called, and to keep them together.

19,537. You did a little for them?—Yes, it was but a little.

19,538. What did they pay you for that little?—I had 2*l.*

19,539. Did you receive it altogether?—Yes, altogether.

19,540. Not more?—No, not more.

19,541. Who paid you?—Mr. Durrant.

19,542. When was that?—It was some time after the election, but many weeks, though I cannot say exactly well how long.

19,543. I believe they used to come to your house?—No; they went in when they could to the freehold hall; they gave Mr. Gower leave to make use of that.

19,544. Make use of what?—What they call the freehold hall, and I think Mr. Gower first met there.

19,545. Have you got anything to do with the hall?—No, sir, it was the chapel.

19,546. Did they not use a room in your house?—No, not Mr. Gower; but I voted for Mr. Wilkinson before, and they had it.

19,547. Were you paid anything for your house or the hall last election?—No.

19,548. Did you receive nothing but the 2*l.*?—No.

19,549. Was Mr. Monson's party trying to engage a room in your house?—Yes; I was asked by one or two.

19,550. What did they offer for it?—They offered nothing in particular, but they asked whether they could have it for a committee room, and I told them I had no objection. They said, "Who do you vote "for?" I said I had promised to Mr. Gower, "but "it has nothing to do with my room." They said, "If you vote for Mr. Gower we cannot give you "much of an answer at present," and so it went off.

19,551. Did you get anything from the Monson party?—No; but I was rather tempted that way.

19,552. Who tempted you most?—I was asked by two or three parties.

19,553. What was the highest sum?—They told me a sovereign, but they said, "We can do that" (*holding up five fingers*).

19,554. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Holding up five fingers?—Yes; but nothing was said.

19,555. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did that?—If you wish to know, it was Mr. Grutchfield.

19,556. When he held up the five fingers, did you say "All right"?—No; I said, "I have made up my "mind to go for Mr. Gower."

19,557. Was this your first election?—No, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson. I never voted only at two elections.

19,558. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—Yes, I suppose it was.

19,559. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

19,560. What did you get that time for all your services?—It was a long time I was on his committee, three weeks, but I cannot tell to a day or two. I think it was close up to that.

19,561. What did you get?—5*s.* a day.

19,562. Do you know what it came to?—I cannot tell to a day or two.

19,563. Did they pay you by the day?—They paid me by the day; I think I took in two payments.

19,564. Did you get 35*s.* twice over?—No, not so much as that. Oh! twice 35*s.*; I know I have gone over a fortnight, and perhaps three weeks.

19,565. You got 5*s.* a day for close upon three weeks?—Yes, I think it was.

19,566. Who paid you?—Mr. James, at the "Swan."

19,567. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you do for your 5*s.* a day in 1863?—For Mr. Wilkinson?

19,568. Yes?—I had a goodish bit to do round about the freehold. There were a good many papers, and I went sometimes twice a day. There were a good many papers carried about that time, and mostly something to do every day.

19,569. You were not going about all day long?—No, not all day long. I hope not. At election times people are not expected to do that.

19,570. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you say?—I said people are not expected to work all day long at election times, not for that money; it is rather light sometimes.

19,571. Was it Mr. Durrant paid you the 2*l.*?—I had but little to do, for Mr. Gower was so strong they had not many circulars to send round.

19,572. Was it Mr. Durrant paid you the 2*l.*?—He paid me if I would promise to do anything I was wanted to do.

19,573. After the election you were paid 2*l.*?—Yes.

19,574. Are you sure it was Durrant who paid you?—Yes.

19,575. The brewer?—Yes, I am quite sure. I beg your pardon, I am a little deaf. I did not understand you right.

WILLIAM TAYLOR sworn and examined.

W. Taylor.

19,576. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote at the last election?—I did, sir.

19,577. For whom?—Mr. Gower.

19,578. What are you?—A carpenter.

19,579. What do you pay for your house?—6*s.* a week.

19,580. Who do you work for?—Mr. Nightingale.

19,581. Which way did he vote?—I suppose he voted for Mr. Gower. I have never seen the poll books.

19,582. Were you on the committee?—Yes.

19,583. Who put you on the committee?—Mr. Joyes.

19,584. Frederick?—Yes.

19,585. Were you to do anything for being put on the committee?—No.

19,586. Were you to work for the party?—Nothing was said about it; I went on my own accord, and Mr. Gower put me on the committee.

19,587. Had you been told if your name went on the committee you would get paid like the others?—No.

19,588. When did you go on the committee?—Soon after Mr. Gower said he was going to put up as a candidate.

19,589. Had you voted for Mr. Gower before, on the previous election?—Yes.

19,590. Were you on his committee then?—I was.

19,591. Were you paid anything for the election in '63?—Yes.

19,592. Who paid you?—Mr. Love—George, I think—the painter.

19,593. What did George Love pay you?—He paid me 1*l.*

19,594. What was that for?—It was for loss of time.

19,595. What time had you lost?—The nomination day, polling day, declaration day, and attending committee meetings at the "White Hart."

19,596. How many committee meetings did you attend in 1863?—About two at the "White Hart."

19,597. Were there any refreshments going at the "White Hart"?—Not in the committee room.

19,598. At the bar?—No.

19,599. Did you have anything there?—I never had a drop at the bar.

19,600. Had you a drop anywhere else?—I had a glass of grog in the room below.

19,601. At the "White Hart"?—Yes.

19,602. Did you pay for it?—No, I did not.

19,603. In which room were you the longest at a time; where the committee meeting was, or where the refreshments were?—In the committee room, where I was nearly all the evening, with Mr. Phillips, Mr. Hanbury, and others.

19,604. In the committee room there were no refreshments, but only in the room below?—That is all.

19,605. You got 1*l.* in 1863?—Yes.

19,606. Having got that in 1863, did you not expect something in 1865? did you not expect it in '65?—No, I did not expect it, because I never asked it.

19,607. How came you to get it?—This was in September, after the election in February, when I received the 1*l.* He said, "Here is 1*l.* for you, Taylor, "for services you rendered at Mr. Gower's election." I could not afford to lose my time, and therefore I took it.

19,608. Do you mean to say nothing was said to you about being on Mr. Gower's committee before you walked into the room?—No.

19,609. Did you attend the meeting here saying, "Those who voted for him should be well paid"?—I was in the committee room. I heard that speech, but I took no notice of it.

19,610. Why?—I could not tell whether it was a promise or anything else.

19,611. You heard him say, "Those who worked "should be well paid"?—He said he hoped that every one would put his shoulder to the wheel.

19,612. What else did he say?—I did not hear him say anything about payment; I did not hear every word, but it was to that effect. I did not hear any promise.

19,613. Do you know Mazden?—I do.

12,614. Is he a neighbour of yours?—No.

19,615. But you know him?—Yes, he keeps a public house in Mead-vale.

19,616. Did he speak to you in 1865 about voting?—No.

19,617. Nor 1863?—No.

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19,618. Do you know George Jupp?—No.

19,619. Will you undertake to say you had not said in Mazden's presence you received 2*l.* in '65?—Yes.

19,620. Did you receive 2*l.* in any way, in meal or malt?—No.

19,621. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you receive?—1*l.* in '63.

19,622. And in 1865 nothing?—Nothing.

19,623. Have you never asked anybody for anything?—No.

19,624. Be very cautious, will you?—I am cautious.

19,625. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know Buckland?—I do.

19,626. Will you undertake to say he never paid you anything?—He paid me 5*s.* five or six weeks before the election.

19,627. Did he owe you 5*s.*?—No.

19,628. How came he to give you 5*s.* five or six weeks before the election?—Mr. Buckland said to me, "It is very hard for you to go about and spend "your own money, which I am sure you cannot "afford to do; here is 5*s.* to get yourself a glass of "ale with." It might be three or four weeks before the election.

19,629. That was no reason for your going about the election?—No doubt it was not; but those were the words, as near as I can recollect.

19,630. Did not Buckland say something about going on the committee?—No.

19,631. Was it before or after you went on the committee?—I think it was after, because I know I went on the committee the very first.

19,632. Did you not think it very strange he should offer you the 5*s.*?—No, not at all; I did my best in 1863.

19,633. I mean this time; surely your services were worth more than 5*s.*?—I would freely have given my services for nothing.

19,634. You are put down as a man that was paid?—I was not paid more than what I have told you.

19,635. You may have forgotten it?—No.

19,636. Have you not received something else from Buckland besides the 5*s.*?—Not a fraction.

19,637. Has Buckland spoken to you about having more?—No.

19,638. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you engaged as a canvasser or messenger?—No, sir.

19,639. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Joyes or Rose say anything to you about canvassing?—I did my best.

19,640. Well, but was it not worth something?—Yes, but I do not think it is right a man should make a fortune by such things as that.

19,641. They do not make fortunes here, though a candidate may lose one; did you not speak to Job Apted about it?—No.

19,642. Come, I see you have got something to tell?—I have received nothing but the 5*s.*, and if you were to keep on till the world's end you would only make me tell lies if I told different.

19,643. Do you know Durrant?—A brewer?

19,644. Yes; do you know him?—I do not know that I ever spoke to the man.

19,645. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are put down by your friend Buckland as a paid man?—I am sorry for it.

19,646. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Since you received your summons have you been talking to Buckland, Joyes, or anybody else about your evidence?—No, there was no evidence for me to give.

19,647. Have they not spoken to you about coming before this Commission?—Not that I know of; I have spoken to them and many others.

19,648. Not as to giving your evidence here?—No, sir.

19,649. Do you mean to say nobody has told you to come here and keep things dark?—No, nobody has ever said such a thing.

19,650. Or anything like it?—No.

19,651. I ask you this because Mr. Buckland has said he paid you money, and I do not suppose he means the 5*s.* when he says that, and if Mr. Buckland comes here and says he paid you more it would rather astonish you?—It would on my part; what he may have put down I cannot say, but I never received it.

19,652. Is there any other William Taylor on the register?—Not that I know of. I think there is a William Taylor of Redhill. I am William Taylor of Nutley-lane.

19,653. Did you not tell George Jupp you had received 2*l.*?—No; I do not know such a man as George Jupp.

19,654. A journeyman carpenter?—I might have seen him, and may know his face, but I do not know him by name.

19,655. What time in the day, Taylor, did you poll?—I think it was about 2 o'clock in the day that I polled.

19,656. What time of the day did you poll in 1863?—I think it was at 8 in the morning.

19,657. And then I suppose you went to your work at once?—No, I did not.

19,658. What did you do then? did you walk about all day?—No, I did not, I went to Redhill and other places.

19,659. You did not go back to work?—No.

19,660. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you not expecting something for what you did at the election of '65?—I do not know that I was expecting anything.

19,661. That is hardly an answer; is it that you do not know?—I was never promised anything; I was very well satisfied as it rested, and would have been more so if Mr. Gower had been left in his seat.

19,662. After the election were you not rather expecting that your services would be recollected?—A man might think so.

19,663. When you were put on the committee this last time was it not explained to you, that if you did work your services would be paid for?—There was never a word said about it; there was only Mr. Joyes in the room I believe. I asked him to put my name down on the committee for Mr. Gower, and I would do what I could for him. That was all that was said; he put me down, and I left the room.

19,664. The money you received this last election was 5*s.*?—Yes.

19,665. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you know Mr. Apted?—I did.

19,666. Is it not the fact that you have complained since the election that you have not been paid?—No.

19,667. Have you never made a complaint at all to anybody?—No.

19,668. Or ever thought of making a complaint?—No.

19,669. Do you know Mr. Nightingale's yard?—Yes, that is where I work.

19,670. Were there any of your fellow workmen expecting to be paid?—I believe a man of the name of Pullen, who was here yesterday, expected to be paid.

19,671. Was he disappointed?—I do not know whether he got anything.

19,672. Did he not express before you, amongst your fellow workmen, that he was disappointed in not being paid?—I do not know whether he did, there was so much said in the shop from day to day.

19,673. Did you hear that?—Not to my knowledge.

19,674. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it not in Mr. Nightingale's yard there used to be beer sent to you?—Yes, our lunch beer was sent every day.

19,675. Do you recollect one day when you were in there complaining that the beer was all very well, but you expected to be paid for your services?—Not me.

19,676. Do you recollect anything of the sort?—No.

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19,677. Do you recollect saying that if they did not pay you better you would go over to Mr. Monson?—I had no such a thought in my head.

19,678. Did you say so?—No.

19,679. You might have said so, and they thought that you meant it?—No, they would not have done so from the part I took on Mr. Gower's side.

19,680. Might you have said so and led them to think so?—No.

19,681. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You seem to be a respectable man; did you know that you were returned as a man who was paid for canvassing and work for Mr. Gower, as a man who was liberally paid by your friend Mr. Buckland?—I was not, but I did a great deal of work.

19,682. You are returned as a man who was paid; does that satisfy you?—I did not have the money.

19,683. Did you authorize anyone to put you down?—I do not know whether they ever understood that I was to be paid, but I never understood that I was to be paid; I rendered my services with the greatest pleasure all the time.

19,684. Nothing is worse treatment to a man who works honourably for others and is unpaid than to be put down by others as a paid man, he not being paid; this your friend Mr. Buckland has done. What do you say to that?—I should think it is not quite right; the only amount which he did give me was the 5*s.*, and that was weeks before the election.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM TURNER sworn and examined.

W. Turner

19,685. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A labourer.

19,686. What rent did you pay for your house?—3*s.* 6*d.* a week.

19,687. How did you get on the register?—I do not know.

19,688. How long have you been a voter?—I voted at this last election.

19,689. Do you know who put you on?—I do not know who put me on the register.

19,690. For whom did you vote?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

19,691. I suppose you were on his committee?—Yes.

19,692. How long were you on his committee before the election?—About three or four weeks.

19,693. And what did you receive?—1*l.* 10*s.*; 30*s.*

19,694. Only 30*s.*?—No more.

19,695. From whom did you receive it?—From Alec. Rose.

19,696. Was it Mr. Rose who put you on the committee?—Mr. Joyes canvassed me.

19,697. Mr. Joyes put you on the committee, and Mr. Rose paid you?—Yes.

19,698. I suppose he told you you would be paid when you were put on the committee for what you did?—Yes, that I should be paid for my work.

19,699. When were you paid the 1*l.* 10*s.*?—After the election.

19,700. That was not paying you for much work?—No.

19,701. You expected more I suppose?—I did expect rather more.

19,702. How much did you expect; 5*l.*?—No.

19,703. How much for your work during the four weeks?—I expected 3*l.*

19,704. I suppose they told you that you would get the other 30*s.* by-and-by?—No, they did not.

19,705. Or that you would get something by-and-by?—Yes.

19,706. When did you apply again; did you apply at all for the other 30*s.* or whatever it was?—I applied to Mr. Joyes before I got any and he said he had got none.

19,707. After you received that 30*s.* did you apply again?—Not for more.

19,708. You thought that was no use?—Yes.

19,709. Had you been canvassed at all by the other side; the Monson party?—No.

19,710. Nobody came to you?—No, not to say anything about the election.

19,711. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) This was your first election?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE TREW sworn and examined.

G. Trew.

19,712. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you? A carpenter.

19,713. What rent do you pay for your house?—I pay quarterly; 10*l.* a year.

19,714. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

19,715. Why did you vote for Mr. Gower?—I looked down Mr. Monson's list, and I could see the names, and as they were such as I did not like when Mr. Gower asked me, I said yes, I would decidely vote for him.

19,716. Was that some time before the election?—It was the first time I saw Mr. Gower.

19,717. Were you put on his committee?—Yes.

19,718. You were not put down so soon as that?—I believe I was put down as soon as the next committee list came out.

19,719. What were you to do on his committee?—I was to use my best endeavours in his interest.

19,720. And what besides?—If I was there ready to do a job, and he gave me one, I should do it.

19,721. Did it happen that they did want you do a job at all?—Yes, they wanted me to put a flag up, and I did. I bought the flag.

19,722. Not out of your own pocket?—I did.

19,723. What did it cost?—15*s.*

19,724. You paid for that?—Yes.

19,725. Where did you put it up?—In my garden.

19,726. Yours is a private house?—Yes.

19,727. You mean it was your enthusiasm that made you put the flag up?—Yes.

19,728. Were you paid for it?—No.

19,729. You were not paid for it?—No.

19,730. You said that if they wanted you to do any jobs for them you were to be ready. Did they want you to do any jobs for them?—I went to all the meetings.

19,731. Yes, but that you did from your own enthusiasm? Did they ask you to do anything for them?—I did the same as the rest if I was sent anywhere to work.

19,732. I want to know whether you did anything more than the rest did?—I believe I did.

19,733. Tell me anything more?—I attended all the meetings.

19,734. Tell me what more you did than the rest did?—They did not all attend the meetings.

19,735. But I mean in point of work?—There were a few papers I took.

19,736. What did you consider your services were worth altogether?—Sometimes I can earn 1*l.* a week and sometimes more.

19,737. What do you think they were worth to Mr. Gower?—A great deal more than I got.

19,738. Do you think so?—Yes.

19,739. Were you not satisfied?—No.

19,740. I am sorry for that, and I dare say Mr. Gower is too. What was it you did get?—2*l.*

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19,741. You gave us some notion of how much work you did?—Yes.

19,742. Who paid you the 2*l.*?—Tom Penfold.

19,743. Did you tell him you were not very well satisfied?—No; he came and brought me the money and put it on the bench, and he said, "George, here "is a little money for you." It was just before Christmas.

19,744. Which of Mr. Gower's men did the money come from?—Tom Penfold paid me.

19,745. Who did he get the money from?—I do not know.

19,746. I thought you would have asked?—No, my employer was there, and I did not want him to know all about my business.

19,747. What was your employer's name?—Mr. B.

19,748. He was there?—Yes.

19,749. Was he a Monson man?—I do not know what he was.

19,750. But who did he vote for?—He voted for Mr. Gower.

19,751. You did not say anything more; you only took the money?—I said I wished he would double it, or something like that. I also said, "I should "like it every day."

19,752. When you saw Mr. Penfold again did you not ask him where it came from?—No.

19,753. Did you not say, "Who sent that? because "I should like some more"?—No.

19,754. Nothing like that?—No.

19,755. Did he tell you that, may be, there would be some more for you?—No.

19,756. That was all that you got, was it?—That was all.

19,757. Was there not five shillings more?—Never five pence.

19,758. You did not go out watching at night at all?—I did, one night.

19,759. You forgot to tell me that in the first instance?—That was just before the time of the election.

19,760. I have been asking you particularly about all the service you did, and that never occurred to you till I mentioned it?—No. That was to watch my own property.

19,761. To take care of your own boat?—Of my own flag. If any of the Monsonites had got it I would have given him a punch of the head.

19,762. They did not have an eye to your flag?—They would have taken it if they had dared.

19,763. Do you think that they had an eye to it?—They were skulking round about the premises.

19,764. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Why did you not drop your flag at sunset?—Because I dared them to take it.

19,765. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And you sat up all night to protect your flag?—Yes.

19,766. You had not much pleasure from it if you were up all those nights to protect it?—It was only one night.

19,767. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you go off your property that night?—Most likely I did.

19,768. Did you?—Yes.

19,769. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) If you were going about, you can tell me whether there was plenty of treating going on?—I never had plenty of treating.

19,770. Did you see much treating?—No.

19,771. You saw none at all?—Yes, I did.

19,772. You did see some?—I suppose it was treating. I saw a little beer going forward on Earlswood-common; a pot, or perhaps two or three pots. I do not know how much.

19,773. You do not mean that it was flowing in the gutter?—No.

19,774. Was that Gower's or Monson's beer?—Mr. Gower's, I suppose, as I had just heard Mr. Gower speak. I do not know. I know I did not pay for it. The stuff was not good enough for me.

19,775. You did see beer going on the common?—I saw beer drinking.

19,776. Were you a voter in '63?—Yes.

19,777. Who did you vote for; for Mr. Wilkinson or Mr. Gower?—Mr. Wilkinson.

19,778. Were you on his committee then?—Yes.

19,779. Did you do as much work for him then as you did this time?—No.

19,780. Not so much.

19,781. How much were you paid?—About 30*s.*

19,782. Was that because of the difference in the work that you received 30*s.* instead of 2*l.*?—I was on his committee for seven or eight weeks for 2*l.*

19,783. You were not so long on the other?—I was not so long on the other. I was only three or four weeks on the other.

19,784. Who did you say you voted for in '63?—Mr. Wilkinson.

19,785. Was there any flag then? You did not have the same one; the one in '65 was a new one?—This last one was a new one. I had a flag in '63.

19,786. Was the flag a new one for '63?—No, it was one sent to me.

19,787. Had it done duty at any previous elections?—Never.

19,788. What colour was the flag staff?—White; there are three of them in my garden.

19,789. Yes, that is at common times?—Always.

19,790. What do they mean?—I put things on at different times to go round; weathercocks.

19,791. You do not mean that you put different things on yourself?—Yes.

19,792. According to your colours?—No, not according to my colours.

19,793. What; you take a weathercock according to the time?—My mode is to put it to the east.

19,794. When you get a weathercock on the top, and different things on yourself, people might contrast one with the other; that is so?—No, I think not; sometimes I have got some boats sailing round, and weathercocks.

19,795. Have you voted before '63?—No.

19,796. That was your first election?—No.

19,797. Do you consider you were pretty well paid?—No, not for the time; coming here and there, poking about over at that place, and only for 30*s.* I had to poke about at that place over there.

19,798. What do you mean by "that place over there"?—I had to poke about there.

19,799. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which do you call the poking place?—The "Swan." It is a rum place to be forced to be blocked up in a room.

19,800. Was the flag of '63 the same colour as the flag of '65?—No; one was a Union Jack, and one was Mr. Wilkinson's own colours. One was "Gower "for ever!"

19,801. You said one was "Gower for ever!" When you were for Mr. Gower you put up the flag "Gower "for ever!"—Yes.

19,802. It was not Mr. Gower in '63?—No.

19,803. I do not think I caught from you how it was that you got on Mr. Gower's committee in '65?—He asked me himself when he asked me for my vote, and I said yes.

19,804. Did any one else speak about your going on the committee?—No; Mr. Penfold and Mr. Smith were along with him. They never spoke to me, but I suppose they told him who I was.

19,805. Who paid you in '63?—Smith, I think he calls himself; over there, the agent.

19,806. He was not agent then?—It was Mr. James who was the man.

19,807. Do you know a gentleman of the name of Mazden?—I know a man of the name of Mazden.

19,808. You call him a man. You know a man of the name of Mazden?—Yes.

19,809. Did you have any conversation with him about the election of '65?—No.

19,810. Did he not talk to you about being on the committee?—No.

19,811. Did he not tell you that if you went on the committee you would be paid like the others?—No.

19,812. Or that you might expect to be paid?—No; I told Mr. Gower if I went on his committee I should expect to have something for my labour. He said, "Yes, I want no one to work for me for "nothing."

19,813. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that at the last election?—Yes.

19,814. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that when he canvassed you?—Yes.

19,815. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He said, "Yes, "certainly, he did not want any one to work for "nothing"?—Yes, or something to the same effect.

19,816. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you attend the committee meeting just before the election down here when Mr. Gower made his speech down below?—Yes.

19,817. When Mr. Gower said something of this kind, that all those who worked for him should be paid well?—I never heard those words.

19,818. You did not hear that speech; perhaps you were not present?—I might have stepped out.

19,819. If you did step out, where were you likely to step to?—Over to Mr. Fuller's.

19,820. What house is that?—The "White Hart" tap; I might have stepped there.

19,821. You might have gone into Mr. Bonny's, close by?—No, I never go into that house.

19,822. You do not condescend to go into Mr. Bonny's; nothing below the "White Hart" tap?—If I want a drop of porter I go to the "White Hart" tap or the "Little Crown." Except Mr. Mazden's, I only drink at my own house.

19,823. Except Mr. Mazden's?—I was only once there.

19,824. When you were at Mr. Mazden's during that once did you have any talk about the election?—No.

19,825. Mr. Mazden did not talk to you about it?—Never.

19,826. He looked upon you as a good man without that, did he?—No, we did not drink tea together exactly.

19,827. Then Mr. Mazden and you were not on very good terms; is that what you mean?—Yes.

19,828. When you had your beer at the "White Hart" tap, did you pay for it?—Yes.

19,829. Always?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

ABNER TRUELOVE sworn and examined. *A. Truelove.*

19,830. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your qualification to be on the register?—11*l.* is the amount I pay.

19,831. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

19,832. What are you?—A gardener.

19,833. Were you canvassed by the Monson party?—Yes, the Sunday before the election Mr. Brown came to me and asked me if I had promised my vote.

19,384. Who did he come for?—For Mr. Monson.

19,835. Now tell us what he said?—Mr. Brown came and asked me if I had promised my vote.

19,836. What is Mr. Brown?—He is a plasterer, so far as I know.

19,837. What is his Christian name?—Jim; Jim Brown. He came to me in the morning, and I told him I had been on the committee ever since Mr. Gower came, and he must have seen it; he said "That "may be, and your promise, like pie crust, may be "broken." I said "That all depends upon what fat "you put in the crust." He said he could not do more for me than 5*l.*

19,838. Then he understood what you meant by the fat in the crust?—Yes, he knew. I said, "Can you "give me more than 5*l.*," or could he give me the 5*l.* then. He said he could not that day, but he could meet me the next morning at Cockshot-hill, at Mr. Wick's.

19,839. Was that where you were working?—Yes. On the following morning, the Monday morning, somewhere about 10 o'clock, Jim Apted and Brown came to me.

19,840. Were Mr. Brown and Mr. Apted together?—Yes, they were together, but when first I saw them Mr. Apted was in what we call Smoke-lane; there is a little gate which leads out of the field into Smoke-lane. Brown came up, and he called to Apted, and he said, "We are short of money to-day, but will 50*s.* do "for you." I said, "Yes, I will take it."

19,841. That was James Apted?—Yes, James Apted the porker. He told me to go to the "Castle," to get the other 50*s.*

19,842. Did they give you the other 50*s.*?—I never asked for it.

19,843. Did you have the first 50*s.*?—Yes.

19,844. Which of the two gave it you?—James Apted.

19,845. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When he said, "Will 50*s.* do for you," what did you say?—I said I would take it.

19,846. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What were you to do for it?—They did not say whether I should do anything.

19,847. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was to vote for Mr. Monson, I suppose?—He said, "Will "you go for Mr. Monson?" I said, "I will go," but I did not say what for.

19,848. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you understand what he meant by his saying "Will you go for "Mr. Monson?"—Yes; but I did not say that I would vote for him.

19,849. You took the 50*s.*?—Yes.

19,850. Did the other side come for you?—Mr. Gower came to me in the first place.

19,851. Did you promise Mr. Gower when he came to you?—Yes, at once.

19,852. Was that before you saw Apted and Brown?—Yes, three weeks or a month before.

19,853. How long before the election did you take the 50*s.* from Mr. Apted?—On the Monday morning before.

19,854. That was after you had been advertised on the committee?—Oh, yes.

19,855. Who put you on Mr. Gower's committee?—I do not know who put me on. Mr. Durrant asked me whether I would mind going on, and I said I did not care whether they put me on or not. I know my name was on soon after that, but I never authorized them to put me on.

19,856. That was the little temptation held out to you?—There was no temptation held out to me at that time.

19,857. When was it held out to you?—The Monday before the election.

19,858. The day when you saw Mr. Brown and Mr. Apted?—Yes.

TWELFTH DAY.

A. Truelove.

4 Sept. 1866.

19,859. Who held out the little temptation?—Mr. Durrant came to me on Monday night.

19,860. What took place between you and Mr. Durrant?—He said, "I suppose we shall have you these two next days;" I said, "I do not know."

19,861. Those were the nomination and polling pays?—Yes; after I said I did not know, he said why, and I said, I should not lose my time to vote. Well, he said, "if you like to get up to-morrow morning and "come and stick up some flags and poles, I will see "you righted." He never said what I was to have at that time.

19,862. There was no mention of any money?—No.

19,863. You were to be paid?—I was to be satisfied.

19,864. You could only be satisfied with money?—Well, that will satisfy me as soon as anything else.

19,865. You understood from Mr. Durrant that you were, in fact, to be paid?—Yes.

19,866. Did you put up the flags?—Yes, the next morning, on nomination morning.

19,867. How many flags did you stick up?—Three I think.

19,868. Were those in Mr. George Trew's garden?—No, I do not know where they were.

19,869. Where did you stick up the flags?—On the freehold; I do not know whether it was Mr. Trew's.

19,870. Was that all you did?—Yes.

19,871. Then you attended the nomination?—Yes.

19,872. And shouted?—Yes.

19,873. Heartily?—As loud as I could.

19,874. What did you do after the nomination?—We stopped about in the town all the day.

19,875. You went to different houses and had a little refreshment?—I drink only beer; I did not have anything else.

19,876. You did not pay for it, of course?—At some places I did, and at some places I did not.

19,877. On the following day; was it the polling day?—Yes.

19,878. What time did you poll?—As soon as it was open.

19,879. Was that 8 o'clock?—Yes.

19,880. What did you do after?—I remained here one hour, and then I went home.

19,881. Did you stop at the polling booth to give three cheers to your men as they came up?—No; I was at home a great part of the morning.

19,882. Doing the domestic?—No, I was in the garden.

19,883. Was it your own garden?—Yes.

19,884. Did you come down to the poll and take the voters up?—In the afternoon I spent my time with George Waters.

19,885. Who is George Waters?—A publican on the freehold.

19,886. There was a little refreshment going on there of course?—Yes, with paying for it; not without.

19,887. Did Mr. Durrant satisfy you for all this work?—Not so much as I expected.

19,888. What did he give you?—1*l.*

19,889. When?—I cannot say whether it was three weeks or a month after the election.

19,890. When he gave it you, did you tell him you were not satisfied?—I told him I thought he could have done a little more; he said he could not, he did not know whether he would be able to give me any more or not.

19,891. Did he send you a cask of beer?—No; I wish he had.

19,892. He gave you 1*l.* and said you might expect more?—He said he could not say whether I should get any more or not.

19,893. He rather led you to expect that that was not all you would get?—I thought that was what he meant.

19,894. He did not give you 5*l.*?—No; I wish he had.

19,895. Were you at Groom's the night before?—The nomination night?

19,896. Yes?—I was there about a hour and a half.

19,897. You did not stop there all night?—No; I like my bed too well.

19,898. Some of the voters did?—I heard so, but I never saw them.

19,899. Were you out watching that night?—No.

19,900. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you make up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower?—When he first came round.

19,901. Do not say that, because I do not think you would be rogue enough to take 2*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Apted and Mr. Brown if you had made up your mind previously to vote for Mr. Gower; do you give yourself so bad a character as that?—I had promised Mr. Gower.

19,902. Let me understand you; did you intend to vote for Mr. Gower at the time you received the 2*l.* 10*s.* from these men?—Yes.

19,903. You did?—Yes.

19,904. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you on your regular work at the time of the election?—Three or four days a week.

19,905. What was that?—I was jobbing about at the time.

19,906. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And I suppose if you had got the 5*l.* you would have kept it?—Yes; I thought it would learn them better than to come and offer me money.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien remarked that the witness meant by that, that by becoming a rogue himself he might teach other people morality.

R. Turner.

RICHARD TURNER sworn and examined.

19,907. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A smith.

19,908. What rent do you pay for the house for which you vote?—15*l.*

19,909. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

19,910. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes, I believe I was.

19,911. You know you were?—My name was put on when they asked me.

19,912. How long before the election had your name been on?—I cannot say.

19,913. Three or four weeks?—More than that.

19,914. Were you told that you would be paid for what you did if your name was on the committee?—No; not at that time.

19,915. When were you told that?—Some time after.

19,916. By whom?—By Mr. Joyes.

19,917. What were you to be paid?—I was to be paid for being on the committee and doing what they wanted.

19,918. But how much?—No price was mentioned.

19,919. You voted in 1863, did you not?—No, I did not.

19,920. Yes you did, did you not?—I think not.

19,921. Just recollect yourself; it was when Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson were candidates?—I did not vote then.

19,922. How many weeks were you engaged in attending committees?—No time was mentioned.

19,923. Well, how much did you receive?—I received 3*l.*

19,924. From whom?—From Mr. Joyes.

19,925. After the election?—After the election.

19,926. Did you receive it in one sum or two sums, or how ?—I received it in one sum.

19,927. You were to receive other monies, were you not ?—No, there was nothing else.

19,928. You expected more, did you not ?—No.

19,929. Was it 3*l.*?—3*l.* There was nothing more mentioned.

19,930. Had you been offered money on the other side ?—No.

19,931. They did not come to you ?—Yes, they came to me.

19,932. Who came to you ?—Mr. Monson and Mr. Hart.

19,933. They did not offer you money ?—No.

19,934. Did any other person on behalf of Mr. Monson come to you ?—No one ; I told Mr. Monson I had promised my vote for Mr. Gower.

19,935. I thought you voted in 1863 ?—I did not vote in 1863.

19,936. How was that ?—I did not vote at all.

19,937. You had a vote in 1863 ?—Yes ; but I did not vote at all.

19,938. They offered you no money ?—No.

19,939. They came to you ?—Yes ; I told them I would not vote at all.

19,940. You told them you would not vote unless it would be worth your while ?—No.

19,941. You voted in 1859 ?—Was that for Mr. Monson or Mr. Wilkinson ?

19,942. Did you vote in 1859 ?—Not at that time I did not.

19,943. Did you vote in 1863 for Mr. Gower ?—Yes, I did.

19,944. I told you you did, and you said you did not ?—I made a mistake.

19,945. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

19,946. What did you receive ? I will take it shortly ?—Nothing at all.

19,947. I do not mean for your vote ?—No,

19,948. Did you not work for them at all ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

19,949. Did you not work ?—No.

19,950. Did you ever receive any money except this 3*l.* at any former election ?—No.

19,951. On any former election did you receive money ?—No.

19,952. You never received any ?—No, not before this.

19,953. You received money at a former election, did you not ?—No.

19,954. Did you not receive money ? —I never received any money for my vote.

19,955. At that election did you not ? — What election ?

19,956. Well, I will ask you ; in 1859, did you not receive money ?—No.

19,957. Nor in 1858 ?—No.

19,958. Nor in 1857 ?—No.

19,959. Nor in 1863 ?—That was when I received the 3*l.*, this last election.

19,960. You received money for your loss of time ? —No, I did not.

19,961. If you received money in 1865 why should you not receive it in 1863 ?—It was in 1863 I received the 3*l.*

19,962. Is that the only money you ever received at any election ?—I had a present of 5*l.* once before that.

19,963–4. When was that ? We will call it a present ; that is the best name.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who did you vote for when you got the present of 5*l.*?—I did not vote.

19,965. Who gave you the present ?—Mr. Joyes brought it.

19,966. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The election before the last ; in 1863 ?—Yes.

19,967. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Just be certain ; was it in 1863 ?—Yes.

19,968. Was it the election before the last ?—Yes.

19,969. You did not vote in 1863 ?—No, I was not at home ; I went out.

19,970. How came you to go out ?—I did not want the bother.

19,971. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where did you go to ?—I went to London.

19,972. Did you get 5*l.* for going to London ?—Yes.

19,973. How long did you remain there ?—I came back the next day.

19,974. Mr. Joyes gave you 5*l.* as a present ?—Yes.

19,975. You did not think that was for keeping out of the way, did you ?—No.

19,976. A man of your intelligence and age, did you not know that it was for keeping out of the way ?—I did not know it at all ; I did not tell him I was going, and I did not ask him whether I should go.

19,977. How did Mr. Joyes know you were in London ; did you not tell him you were going ?—He lived next door to me, and so he knew I was gone.

19,978. Which Mr. Joyes ?—Frederick Joyes.

19,979. Did he give you any money to go ?—No.

19,980. You did not know you would have any money at that time ?—No, I had no promise of anything.

19,981. You did not expect anything when you came back ?—No.

19,982. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Which side was Mr. Joyes on then ?—Mr. Wilkinson's.

19,983. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now, that being in 1863, I should really like to know for whom you voted in 1859 ?—For Mr. Wilkinson, I believe.

19,984. You voted on that occasion ?—Yes.

19,985. I ask you what money you got for your vote on that occasion ?—Nothing at all ; not a farthing, nor yet a glass of beer.

19,986. Did you vote in 1858 ?—I voted in all the elections the last few years.

19,987. Did you vote for Mr. Doulton ?—I voted for him once.

19,988. Money was very plentiful then, there was a great abundance ?—If there was I never saw any.

19,989. Who canvassed you for Mr. Doulton ?—I met with him myself at Reigate-heath ; he was alone there.

19,990. You did not know anything about him and he did not know anything about you ?—No.

19,991. Did you expect anybody else to canvass you ? —No;

19,992. He canvassed you himself ?—Yes, he hoped that I would vote for him.

19,993. Were you on his committee ?—I believe he put my name on.

19,994. You lost some time over his election ?—No.

19,995. Did you not receive any money at that election ?—No.

19,996. No money whatever ?—No.

19,997. Did you receive any other money at elections except the 3*l.* and the 5*l.* you have spoken of as a present, or in any way ?—Not in any way whatever.

TWELFTH DAY.

W. Johnson.

4 Sept. 1866.

WILLIAM JOHNSON, desiring to make a statement, was ordered into the witness box, sworn, and examined.

19,998. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have some statement to make with respect to something you saw in the paper about a witness of the name of Potter?—Yes, I saw it yesterday. One day in the fore part of last week I went from the Court into the "Grapes" in Bell-street, when Potter was there.

19,999. You are going to tell us something that took place at Mr. Nichols' between Potter and who?—Between Potter and Mr. Nichols. In the first place I did not know who this Potter was at that time, until after Potter spoke over the bar to Mr. Nichols, and I did not hear what he said, but Mr. Nichols came to the other side of the bar in the passage, and Potter said to Mr. Nichols, "I shall know nothing."

20,000. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You heard him say that?—I heard him say that to Mr. Nichols, "I "shall know nothing." Mr. Nichols said, "What-"ever you know, you had better speak it at the first, "because you will have to speak it."

20,001. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. Nichols said that?—Yes. Potter then asked him if he would stand a pint of beer for him, and Mr. Nichols turned round to him and said, "I am disgusted with you," and then Mr. Nichols walked towards the door, at the same time saying. "Here is a fine witness to go "forward; he wants me to treat him with beer." There were several men there at the time when Mr. Nichols spoke those words.

20,002. Who were there?—There were three or four there. There was one close to the door, one of the reporters here; Mr. Inglefield is the man.

20,003. Anybody else?—Mr. Apted was standing at the bar.

20,004. Could Mr. Inglefield hear what was said by Mr. Nichols?—He could hear what was said by Mr. Nichols because he stood close to the door and Mr. Nichols spoke it out loudly.

20,005. Is there anybody else that you wish to mention who was near?—There was James Apted who was there, and I cannot remember who the others were, but there were some more there.

20,006. "Ned, do not know anything," that was the expression of Potter yesterday?—That was the expression I saw in the paper. I went to Mr. Nichols and said, "This is a false statement," for I had heard what the man said, "and I am ready to go forward "and state that it is so."

(*The Witness.*) There was another statement made, probably you would rather have it now than at another time, and that is a statement in the evidence of George Walker.

20,007. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What day was he examined?—I forget.

20,008. When did you see Mr. Walker's statement?

20,009. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Oh, Walker the gardener. What was it?—Where he denied the statement about having the money. He told me the same day that he had been paid 5*l.*, and that there was 15*s.* due to him, which he had paid for expenses, that he had not got, but that was to come; he told me that on more than one occasion.

20,010. That was the man who said he was discharged?—No.

20,011. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He received 5*l.*, from whom?—From Mr. Smith, and he likewise said, if Mr. Smith did not pay him his master said he would.

20,012. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) His master was Mr. Conway?—Yes.

20,013. Mr. Conway denied it, and the denial might still be perfectly true?—Yes. It was only with reference to Mr. Walker's statement I wished to speak.

Mr. Page here informed the Commissioners that he wished to make a statement. He had been in Court yesterday when Potter said that when he came into the committee room Mr. Monson was singing. He was there, and he would distinctly say that Mr. Monson was not singing.

20,014. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had he been any part of the evening?—Not that I am aware of. The witness Potter also stated that he had paid for some rum for his wife. Mr. Monson never paid for it himself in any way.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien remarked that they would hear from Mr. Monson himself, who, no doubt, would be desirous to repudiate it.

Adjourned till 11 o'clock the following morning.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

THIR-TEENTH DAY.

W. Bone.

5 Sept. 1866.

Wednesday, 5th September 1866.

WILLIAM BONE sworn and examined.

20,015. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

20,016. Who for?—Mr. Monson.

20,017. What is the rent of the house you occupy?—I paid 4*s.* 6*d.* a week during the time of the election; I pay 5*s.* a week now.

20,018. What are you?—A carriage inspector.

20,019. Of the South-eastern or Brighton railway?—On the South-eastern railway.

20,020. What wages do you get?—32*s.* a week.

20,021. Is that the rate of wages which all you carriage inspectors get?—No, I get 32*s.*; but my three workmen get 24*s.* a week.

20,022. Then you are the superintendent inspector?—Yes.

20,023. We had one carriage inspector here yesterday?—Yes.

20,024. Was he one of your inspectors?—Yes, his ame was Edward Hayward.

20,025. Are there any other men under you who have votes besides Edward Hayward?—No, they have not got votes.

20,026. How came you to vote for Mr. Monson?—I was canvassed by Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower, but I did not promise my vote to either of them; afterwards I was asked by Mr. Shepherd to go on the committee for Mr. Monson.

20,027. When did he ask you to be on the committee, how long after you had seen Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower?—Some time after.

20,028. How long before the election?—About a month previous.

20,029. When Mr. Shepherd asked you to join the committee did he tell you what you would have?—30*s.* a week; he did not ask me for my vote at the time.

20,030. You understood perfectly well that if you

went on his committee you would be holding yourself out to your neighbours as a voter for Mr. Monson?—It may appear so, but at the same time no promise was made of my vote.

20,031. Do you mean to say that if you give a gentleman permission to put your name on his committee, that you do not intend to give your vote also?—It appears so; but at the same time I look upon the matter in a different light, to me it does not appear to make much difference.

20,032. Just explain the way you looked at it?—I mean to say then that I never promised my vote; I was never asked for my vote by Mr. Shepherd or Mr. Monson.

20,033. Mr. Gower asked you for your vote, and Mr. Monson, and you hesitated, and afterwards you went on the committee and were to have 30*s.* a week; did not you consider that it was binding upon your vote?—I did not consider it binding, but it appeared as if I should vote for Mr. Monson.

20,034. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Not binding as a promise?—Not as a promise. I did not promise my vote.

20,035. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then what did you consider was Mr. Shepherd's object in placing you on the committee?—I suppose he thought I would vote for Mr. Monson, of course, but he never asked me the question.

20,036. I suppose you looked upon it more as a question of contract than as a question of honour?—I did.

20,037. That is a very honest answer so far as it goes. Were you to do anything on the committee?—I was to do anything that might be required, and I attended once or twice in the evening. If there was nothing to do of course there was nothing for me to do.

20,038. Amongst you railway men had you agreed all of you to go together?—We had met in a room.

20,039. Was that before Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower called on you?—It was afterwards.

20,040. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What room was it?—Mr. Langridge's.

20,041. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) To talk about this matter amongst yourselves?—Yes.

20,042. Was it not arranged amongst yourselves that you would all go the same way?—I cannot say that it was.

20,043. There was some arrangement amongst yourselves that you should all combine together and get what you could?—There was some arrangement of the kind.

20,044. Was that before Mr. Shepherd called upon you?—After.

20,045. Did you agree with Mr. Shepherd directly he made an offer to you to go on Mr. Monson's committee?—I do not know about an agreement.

20,046. There was an agreement about 30*s.*?—30*s.* was mentioned, but there was nothing binding about it.

20,047. We will not call it a binding agreement, but there was an understanding?—There was something to that effect.

20,048. Was it before you had the understanding with Mr. Shepherd that you railway men met in the room that you speak of?—There were more besides railway men there.

20,049. I mean at the time that you men collected together about your voting?—That was afterwards.

20,050. When you met in this room was it generally spoken of about this arrangement with Mr. Shepherd?—No, it might have been the subject of conversation.

20,051. On that occasion did you talk about your all going on Mr. Monson's committee and having 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

20,052. Did you meet on the platform or about the premises of the railway and talk the matter over?—Not to my knowledge.

20,053. If there was such a meeting you were not a party to it?—No.

20,054. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What amount would that give you at that time if you had received all?—4*l.* 10*s.*

20,055. You would have received 6*l.* if you had been paid?—The last week was not paid.

20,056. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you have any money paid down from Mr. Shepherd?—I was paid week by week.

20,057. Were the other men paid week by week?—Yes.

20,058. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did Mr. Shepherd pay you?—Yes.

20,059. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you recollect Mr. Apted being spoken to about the election by any of your men?—I do not remember anything of it myself.

20,060. Do you recollect Mr. Hayward going to him?—I heard something about his going one morning.

20,061. Who went with him?—I do not know.

20,062. Did he come back and report the result of his interview with Mr. Apted; you heard of it?—There was something mentioned; I think that he could not come to terms.

20,063. At one of these meetings at which you were present was it not spoken of, that one of you should go to Mr. Apted and try and arrange better terms to vote for Mr. Gower?—I said nothing about voting for Mr. Gower.

20,064. Well, then, never mind about voting for Mr. Gower, but about going on his committee?—There was something about it, but I did not intend to go on his committee.

20,065. You had not promised your vote to Mr. Monson, and therefore if the Gower party had promised you more money you were perfectly willing to go on the committee?—No.

20,066. You told me it was a question of contract and not a question of conscience?—I do not know that I should.

20,067. On whose side did your political principles lead you, on Mr. Monson's or Mr. Gower's?—I think I should have voted for Mr. Monson if I had not received anything.

20,068. If you had not received anything?—I believe I should.

20,069. Do you recollect anybody going to Mr. James Nichols about your going on Mr. Gower's committee?—No, I do not.

20,070. Were you a party to any discussion to arrange a deputation to go to Mr. Nichols?—I suppose you mean about something being written.

20,071. I am speaking of a deputation going to Mr. Nichols?—Yes, I do recollect it.

20,072. Were you one of the party?—I was one I presume.

20,073. Were you one of the party agreeing to the deputation to Mr. Nichols?—I believe I was.

20,074. You know you were, do not say you believe?—Well, I cannot say that I know I was. I do not remember whether I agreed to it, but I know there was something mentioned about it.

20,075. Never mind about agreeing, you assented?—You would say so I suppose.

20,076. You see you are quarrelling with words and terms. You fence with the questions?—I do not know that I do, I remember being present on that occasion and something being said about sending to Mr. Nichols.

20,077. Was Shepherd present on that occasion?—I believe he was.

20,078. Were several of your railway men present?—There were several present.

20,079. How many?—I cannot say the number.

20,080. Somewhere about 15 or 16?—There might be that number, but I should not say there were; of course I cannot tell you.

20,081. Were there not about all the men belonging to the railway present, who had votes, at that meeting?—I do not think they were all there who had votes.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

W. Bone.

5 Sept. 1866.

20,082. There are not more than 15 or 16 who had votes?—I should not think they were all there.

20,083. Were a dozen there?—Yes, there might have been a dozen.

20,084. Did you put your name to any writing?—I believe I did.

20,085. You wrote it yourself?—Yes.

20,086. Did you see the paper to read?—I did not read it, I heard it read.

20,087. Tell me, were not the terms these in fact, that you would all go in a body for Mr. Monson's side if you could be guaranteed 8*l.* a vote?—I do not remember anything mentioned to that effect.

20,088. Was it not 4*l.* 10*s.* for attending the committee to begin with?—From Mr. Monson.

20,089. I am speaking now of the original which you signed which was to go to Mr. Gower?—Yes, but nothing was said about Mr. Gower, I have no recollection of any deputation being sent in our behalf to Mr. Gower.

20,090. You know that Mr. James Nichols was the leading man, and agent for Mr. Gower?—No, for Mr. Monson.

20,091. Oh, I beg your pardon. That was after you saw Mr. Apted?—I know nothing about Mr. Apted.

20,092. Then a deputation went to Mr. Nichols on the part of Mr. Monson?—Yes.

20,093. Was not the sum mentioned that you were to receive, 4*l.* 10*s.* for being on the committee?—I received it.

20,094. I am speaking of the document you signed?—There was no money mentioned in that, so far as I recollect; it was only respecting the polling day.

20,095. Then 1*l.* 10*s.* for the last week, and 1*l.* for the nomination day, and 1*l.* for the polling day?—I think it was something to that effect.

20,096. You know it was, do you not?—Something was said to that effect, but I cannot recollect word for word what was said.

20,097. Who drew up the paper, who wrote it?—Mr. Burlton I think.

20,098. You are quite sure about that, are you not?—Yes, it was Mr. Burlton.

20,099. And was not Mr. Burlton's name the first that was put upon the document?—That I cannot say.

20,100. Did you see Mr. Burlton writing his name there?—I saw him write it, but whether he put his name first or not I cannot say.

20,101. You signed your name to it?—I believe I did.

20,102. You were the fourth man who signed his name; did you see Cheyney sign his name?—I cannot say whether he signed, I do not recollect whether he was present that night.

20,103. You think he signed it without being present?—No, I do not imagine he would sign it without being present.

20,104. Was not the paper you signed to this effect: that you and the rest of the railway men would not vote for Monson unless you received 1*l.* 10*s.* for the week of the election, and 1*l.* for nomination day, and the same for the polling day?—That was sent to Mr. Nichols.

20,104*. What became of that paper?—I do not know.

20,105. Was not that first of all a document which was to be made as an offer to Mr. Gower's committee?—There was something said about that I think.

20,106. There was to be a deputation to Mr. Gower's committee?—I know nothing about Mr. Gower.

20,107. Do you know nothing of a deputation of Mr. Edward Hayward and Mr. Reeves attending at the town hall for Mr. Gower?—I do not, not to Mr. Gower.

20,108. This paper was signed by you?—Not in the way you said; this paper written by Mr. Burlton was to Mr. Monson.

20,109. Was there one signed to go to Mr. Gower?—Not that I remember, I never signed any, and I do not know what any one else did.

20,110. Perhaps they were signed in duplicate, and one sent to Mr. Gower's committee and one to Mr. Monson's?—Not that I know of.

20,111. Were there not two deputations?—Not that I know of.

20,112. We know as a fact that somebody went to Mr. Apted and that Mr. Apted would not agree to terms, and his excuse was in evidence yesterday that if he went to 16 or 19 men as a class there would certainly be a petition?—It was not so to my knowledge.

20,113. You only speak of a deputation to Mr. Monson?—That was all, so far as I know.

20,114. The same terms were offered to Mr. Monson's party, 8*l.* per vote?—That is the one I went on. I do not know about 8*l.* a vote, but we wanted 1*l.* 10*s.* for a week, and I received three weeks, which made the total 4*l.* 10*s.*

20,115. Did Mr. Shepherd promise you anything for your polling day?—No.

20,116. Or anything for nomination day?—No.

20,117. Then for the Saturday following the election, if you had 1*l.* 10*s.*, it would amount to 6*l.* If there had been an agreement you would have received 1*l.* 10*s.* extra for the work?—Yes.

20,118. He had not agreed to that, he had only agreed to give you 4*l.* 10*s.*?—There was no agreement for 4*l.* 10*s.*

20,119. Yes, you were to have 30*s.* a week up to the Saturday before the election; that would be 4*l.* 10*s.* Now, did not your men want to be paid for the week of the election?—Yes, I believe we did.

20,120. And did not you want to be paid for nomination day and polling day?—Yes, I believe we did.

20,121. You wanted to be paid 1*l.* 10*s.* for the week of the election, and 1*l.* for the nomination day and the same for the polling day?—Yes.

20,122. So that each of you would have 3*l.* 10*s.* for the week of the election?—It would make it so.

20,123. That was what you wanted?—It was mentioned.

20,124. Having been mentioned between you, was it not agreed between you that that offer should be made both to Mr. Gower's committee and Mr. Monson's?—Not to my recollection, it was only to Mr. Monson's.

20,125. Who went to Mr. Gower's committee to make the offer?—I did not.

20,126. You went to Mr. Nichols?—I believe Mr. Hayward was one who went with them, I cannot say.

20,127. And Mr. Reeves?—I do not know.

20,128. What is Mr. Reeves? What wages does he get?—I do not know what his wages are.

20,129. Somebody did go to Mr. Nichols on Mr. Monson's part. Did you ever hear the result of the offer to Mr. Monson's party; somebody went and wanted to have the extra 3*l.* 10*s.* for the election week; did you ever hear the result of the application?—I do not know whether I heard the result word for word; I know I have heard it.

20,130. Did not some one tell you what the answer of Mr. Nichols for Mr. Monson's party was?—I believe it was spoken of by Mr. Hayward.

20,131. What did Mr. Hayward tell you, did he tell you that the Monson party would agree to it?—No, it was not Mr. Hayward; it was Mr. Shepherd.

20,132. What was it Mr. Shepherd said?—He said we could not get any more. I believe those were the words he used, he said he could not agree to it. I did not bother about it.

20,133. But it was rather an important thing. 3*l.* 10*s.* for the week; did you ever hear whether Mr. Shepherd went to the Gower committee?—I never heard him mention it.

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20,134. Did you ever hear that Shepherd had applied to Mr. Gower's committee ?—No.

20,135. You were paid the 30*s.* a week up to the Saturday before the election ?—Yes.

20,136. And then all of you went and voted for Mr. Monson ?—I voted for him myself.

20,137. You know very well who voted for Mr. Monson ?—I know that I voted, and I believe that Mr. Hayward did, but I cannot say.

20,138. Do you not believe that all of you voted for Mr. Monson ?—I cannot say ; I can say that Boscawen did not vote.

20,139. Yes, we know all about Boscawen. Did any of the Gower party come to you before the election and ask you to vote for Mr. Gower ?—No, I was not canvassed by any one, only by Mr. Gower.

20,140. Did you make any application afterwards for more than the 4*l.* 10*s.* ?—No, I did not.

20,141. You never asked Mr. Shepherd ?—I do not recollect asking him after the election.

20,142. Not after the election ?—No.

20,143. Did you have 1*l.* for the nomination day ?—No, I did not.

20,144. Did you on the polling day ?—No, I did not.

20,145. Did you see Mr. Shepherd on the polling day ?—Yes, I saw him in the afternoon.

20,146. When did you vote, what time ?—I cannot say exactly, but I think it would between 2 and 3 o'clock, about half-past 2, after my dinner.

20,147. Did you before you voted ask Mr. Shepherd whether you were going to get this extra money for nomination and polling ?—No, I do not recollect. I recollect asking him on the day whether he had polled, and I think he said no. I saw him just before going to dinner.

20,148. Do you know what became of the piece of paper that was drawn up by Mr. Burlton and signed by him ?—I do not.

20,149. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that the first time you voted ?—Yes.

20,150. It was all the same to you whether you voted for Mr. Monson or Mr. Gower ?—I believe I should have voted for Mr. Monson if I had not been on his committee.

The witness withdrew.

JOSEPH GOLDSACK sworn and examined. *J. Goldsack.*

20,151. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A coke-man.

20,152. At the Redhill station ?—Yes.

20,153. What do you pay for your house out of which you vote ?—6*s.* a week.

20,154. What are your wages ?—18*s.* a week.

20,155. You voted for Mr. Monson at the last election ?—Yes.

20,156. Was that the first time you voted ?—No.

20,157. You received, I suppose, like the others 30*s.* a week for being placed on his committee ?—Yes.

20,158. You were aware of the arrangement made with Mr. Shepherd ?—Yes.

20,159. Were you one of the deputation that waited upon Mr. Nichols ?—After the election ?

20,160. Not before the election ?—No.

20,161. You waited upon him after the election ?—Yes.

20,162. How many of you went after the election ?—Three.

20,163. You and who else ?—Mr. Hayward and Mr. Taylor.

20,164. What was that for ?—To know if he would give us 1*l.* for the two days.

20,165. You mean 1*l.* a day for each day, do you not ?—Yes.

20,166. And 30*s.* for the week ?—Yes.

20,167. You asked for 3*l.* 10*s.* after you had received 4*l.* 10*s.* ?—No, 2*l.*

20,168. Did you go on behalf of the other men for 2*l.* more for each man who voted ?—Yes, I tried for the other 2*l.*

20,169. Not for yourself alone merely, but on behalf of the other men ?—Yes.

20,170. How many of you were there in respect of whom you applied to Mr. Nichols ?—About eight or nine.

20,171. More than that ?—I cannot say exactly.

20,172. There were nearly 20 ?—No, I do not think they were all spoken to.

20,173. You went on behalf of those men for the 2*l.* You thought they were entitled to it ?—Yes, I understood we were to have it at first.

20,174. According to the original agreement ?—Yes, that was what I understood.

20,175. You were one of the people ; who put down your name ?—I did not put it down myself, but I said I would have it put down. It was not convenient for me to be there.

20,176. What did Mr. Nichols say ?—He said we had got all we should have.

20,177. To whom did he say that ?—To myself and two others.

20,178. If he had said that before the election the result would have been different ?—No, it would not have been different with me I think.

20,179. This was a day or two after the election ?—Yes.

20,180. You had your hopes up till then ; he told you, "I am afraid there will be no more money for "you" ?—He told us we had all we could get. I thought it was part of the agreement to have the 2*l.*, and we went to see whether we were going to get it or not, and he told us we should not get it.

20,181. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you satisfied or dissatisfied ?—Not dissatisfied. I was very well satisfied.

20,182. You got you 4*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM BELCHER sworn and examined. *W. Belcher.*

20,183. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are a railway man, are you not ?—Yes.

20,184. What rent do you pay ?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

20,185. What are you ?—Driver to a stationary engine.

20,186. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Not a locomotive ?—No.

20,187. Which company do you work for ?—The South-eastern.

20,188. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Monson.

20,189. And who asked you for your vote ?—I applied for money the same as the others.

20,190. You did in the first instance ?—I was never asked by any one.

20,191. And did you enter into the same arrangement as those we have been talking about entered into, to receive 30*s.* a week ?—Yes.

20,192. And was the arrangement made with you by Mr. Shepherd ?—Yes.

20,193. I believe it was after the election that you were not very well satisfied with the terms, and there was a deputation to Mr. Nichols, was there not ?—Yes.

20,194. That was after the election ?—Yes.

20,195. You went on the deputation to Mr. Nichols, but you did not get any satisfaction ?—No.

20,196. Were you paid your 30*s.* by the week, or how ?—Weekly.

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20,197. Altogether it made 4*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes.

20,198. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You of course kept on your work at the railway, and still received your 18*s.* a week ?—Yes.

20,199. And your 30*s.* a week from Mr. Shepherd —Yes.

20,200. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was Mr. Shepherd who paid you too ?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

T. England.

THOMAS ENGLAND sworn and examined.

20,201. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A warehouseman on the South-eastern railway.

20,202. What wages do you get ?—1*l.* a week.

20,203. What is the rent of the house you occupy ? —6*s.*

20,204. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Monson.

20,205. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee ?— Yes.

20,206. At the request of Mr. Shepherd ?—Yes.

20,207. In the same way as the others ?—Yes.

20,208. Did Mr. Shepherd pay you ?—Yes.

20,209. How much did he pay you ?—For three successive weeks, at the end of the week 30*s.*

20,210. Did you do anything for that 30*s.* a week ?—I was called on the committee, as the others were ; I was ready to do anything, but I cannot say that I did any actual work ; I was ready to do anything of course.

20,211. But you did nothing ?—I did nothing that I could call actual work.

20,212. You have served the South-eastern Railway Company and know what work is ?—Yes.

20,213. You got 1*l.* a week for your services as warehouseman ?—Yes.

20,214. Did you do anything practically of the value of 1*l.* 10*s.* for Monson ?—Not after that rate.

20,215. Or any other rate ?—No, I entered it the same as the rest, and I expected to do more than I did do ; I thought there was nothing wrong in receiving 30*s.* a week being on the committee.

20,216. You voted for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

20,217. Did you sign a piece of paper which was to be sent to Mr. Monson's agent ?—I think very likely I did sign, but I cannot recollect.

20,218. You might have signed or authorized your name to be put on the committee.

20,219. You know what the paper was ?—Yes.

20,220. It was in fact to ask for an increase of pay ? —Yes, 2*l.*

20,221. And 30*s.* besides ?—Yes, for an extra week.

20,222. 30*s.* for the election week ?—Yes.

20,223. Was it after or before the election that the paper was drawn up ?—Before the election.

20,224. Was it during the week before ?—It was something like eight or nine days before, but I do not recollect exactly.

20,225. Do you know whether Mr. Hayward went with that paper ?—There was Mr. Hayward I think.

20,226. To whom did you go ?—To Mr. Nichols.

20,227. Then perhaps you can tell me whether that was before or after the election that you went to Mr. Nichols ?—It was certainly before the election.

20,228. You went before ?—Yes.

20,229. Were there two deputations, one after and one before ?—I know nothing of one after.

20,230. Tell me what took place between you and Mr. Nichols before the election ?—I never spoke to Mr. Nichols at all.

20,231. Who went with you ?—There were three or four.

20,232. Did Mr. Shepherd go ?—He did not go ; Mr. Hayward was one of them.

20,233. Was Mr. Hayward one of the spokesmen ? —He did speak, I am sure I did not speak ; myself.

20,234. Whoever spoke, will you tell us what was said ?—I believe a party went and spoke to Mr. Nichols outside the room, I do not remember a word that Mr. Nichols said, I understood afterwards that the request would not be complied with, that was all.

20,235. You knew what the request was, it was to get that increase paid ?—Yes, it was.

20,236. Which would make it come up to 8*l.* a vote ?—It was an extra 2*l.* besides the 4*l.* 10*s.*

20,237. Yes, it would be 4*l.* 10*s.* up to the Saturday night before the election, 30*s.* for the week of the election, and 2*l.* for the nomination and polling days ?—That was what we requested.

20,238. You went in the name of all the voters belonging to the railway ?—Oh, yes, of all that were present at that time ; of course it was in the name of all ; there is no mistake about that.

20,239. Some 16 or 17 ?—Yes, about 15 or 17.

20,240. Do you know of a deputation being sent to Mr. Gower's committee ?—Nothing at all.

20,241. Or to Mr. Apted ?—No, I never spoke to Mr. Apted in my life.

20,242. But did you hear of any person going to Apted ?—No, I would not have had anything to do with Mr. Gower's party at all, not under any circumstances.

20,243. You were not of that way of thinking ?— No, if I had got nothing I should still have voted for Mr. Monson.

20,244. You did not get your request acceded to ? —No.

20,245. Do you know of any deputation being sent after the election to Mr. Nichols ?—No.

20,246. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was not expected that all the railway people should be present at the nomination ?—Not that I am aware of.

20,247. You were never intended to be there, the men could not come away from their work ?— No.

20,248. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It would be almost impossible for any of them to get away to attend the nomination ?—It would have been so for me.

20,249. The South-eastern railway would not allow their men to come away ?—Those who worked over night perhaps might have.

20,250. If they had chosen they might have been out next day ?—They might have got leave, myself and others.

20,251. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But it was not intended you should attend the nomination ?—I should think not.

20,252. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When the deputation went to Mr. Nichols you were one of them ? —Yes, I was requested to go.

20,253. Are you sure that was before the election ? —Yes.

20,254. Was Hayward with you ?—He was there.

20,255. Do you remember whether Goldsack was there ?—I do not recollect Goldsack being there.

20,256. Do you remember a man of the name of Taylor there ?—He was.

20,257. Can you tell me whether Goldsack was there or not ?—I do not remember his being there, but I will not say he was not there.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN MCMILLAN sworn and examined.

20,258. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are an engine driver ?—Yes.

20,259. What are your wages ?—7*s.* a day.

20,260. Two guineas a week, including Sunday ?—Yes.

20,261. What do you pay for the house for which you vote ?—13*l.* 10*s.* a year.

20,262. You voted for Mr. Monson on the last election ?—Yes.

20,263. And did any one canvass you at all, or did you come into the arrangement ?—Shepherd called on me and asked whether I would permit my name to be put on the committee.

20,264. Your belonging to the committee would be no matter, for you would be on your engine ?—I attended no committee, I had not an opportunity.

20,265. He paid you 1*l.* 10*s.* a week ?—He left it at my house.

20,266. You were away ?—Yes.

20,267. I suppose he left it with your wife ?—He left it at my house.

20,268. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He paid you by the week, every week ?—Yes.

20,269. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And I suppose you came up and voted ?—No, I was on duty at the time.

20,270. Did you not vote at all ?—No, I could not come in time.

20,271. I am afraid you did not return the money ?—No.

20,272. I suppose it was a mere accident your not voting ?—If I had been at Redhill, I should have come and voted for Mr. Monson.

20,273. Did you with a party afterwards wait on Mr. Nichols for more money ?—I did not, I could not attend any meetings.

20,274. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Shepherd knew very well what your employment was ?—Just so.

20,275. And that it would be almost impossible for you to attend ?—He knew very well I could not get there.

20,276. But you might by accident have had an opportunity of voting ?—Yes ; I said on one occasion if I could get there conveniently I would come.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN REEVES sworn and examined.

J. Reeves.

20,277. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you in the employ of the South-eastern Railway Company ?—Yes.

20,278. What are you ?—I am a signalman.

20,279. What rent do you pay for your house ?—6*l.* 10*s.* a year.

20,280. Do you pay by the year ?—No, I pay 2*s.* 6*d.* a week ; I pay it weekly.

20,281. What wages do you get ?—1*l.* 5*s.* a week.

20,282. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long has your name been on the register ?—It is not on the register.

20,283. How long have you been in the company's service ?—I have been in the company's service 24 years.

20,284. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How came you to be on the register ?—I never was on the register.

20,285. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At the last election were you employed at the station for Mr. Monson before the election ?—No, sir, I never had anything to do with Mr. Monson at all, or any of his agents.

20,286. You took an active part about the election ?—I did a little.

20,287. For Mr. Monson or for Mr. Gower ?—Not for Mr. Gower.

20,288. Did you know the arrangement made among the railway men was to go for Mr. Monson ?—I cannot say what the arrangement was ; I know there was an arrangement.

20,289. That was some time before the election, some three weeks ?—Yes.

20,290. Do you know what the arrangement was they came to ?—No, I do not know what the arrangement was.

20,291. Did you not learn it from some of them ?—I heard it rumoured about, but not from any foundation.

20,292. You know Hayward ?—Yes.

20,293. Did you not hear it from Hayward himself ?—Yes, I did.

20,294. Did he not give you to understand that it was 30*s.* weekly for three weeks, amounting to 4*l.* 10*s.* —He told me it was 30*s.* a week.

20,295. Then you did know ?—No, because there was the polling day, and they said nothing about that.

20,295*. What arrangement was it they made ?—No more than what the men have said this morning.

20,296. What arrangement was it ? — He never mentioned to me about polling day.

20,297. But he told you it was 30*s.* a week ?—Yes.

20,298. Do you recollect coming into the town here and meeting Hayward when he was going to talk to one of the Gower men ?—I do.

20,299. Did you go with him ?—I did.

20,300. And who was it you went to ? — Mr. Joyes, Mr. Apted, and Mr. Buckland, the agents of Mr. Gower.

20,301. Were they all sitting together ?—I do not think Mr. Buckland did sit down ; I think he came into the room, and went away very shortly.

20,302. Had you told Hayward just before that it would be a good thing for him to go, on behalf of the other railway men, to talk to Apted or some of the Gower agents ?—I do not know exactly.

20,303. You were an active man for Gower ?—Yes.

20,304. And you were anxious to get the railway interest for Mr. Gower, I suppose ?—That is right.

20,305. Did you not tell Hayward something of this sort, "If you come up to Gower's people, very "likely you will have better terms than with the "others" ?—Yes.

20,306. Well, that naturally would be so ; and Hayward as a deputation waited on Apted ?—Yes.

20,307. How was it Hayward did not get more satisfaction from Mr. Gower's agents ?—Mr. Joyes and Mr. Apted said Mr. Gower was in London, but they would see him in the course of the day, and would let him know their minds before 7 o'clock of the evening, either yes or no.

20,308. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What were the terms ?—The terms were 30*s.* a week, the same as Monson was giving, and to put them on Mr. Gower's committee on the first of his coming out ; that would be a fortnight longer.

20,309. That would make it more ?—Yes.

20,310. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It would be 3*l.* more ?—Yes ; but Hayward would ask for no polling money or nomination money.

20,311. He wanted the back money ?—Yes.

20,312. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You know the terms Hayward wanted ?—Yes.

20,313. What was the reason they did not come to terms ?—I could not tell ; I do not know ; they sent up to my house, saying they would not come to such terms.

20,314. That was at 7 o'clock the same evening ?—Yes.

20,315. Who had they seen in the meantime ?—I do not know.

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20,316. I thought as you were a Gowerite they would employ you to take a message ?—No, I do not know what was the cause no further than they sent word over "No."

20,317. Did you afterwards attempt to come to terms with Mr. Gower for the railway people?—No, I had nothing more to do with it after that.

20,318. The negotiations were broken off ?—Yes.

20,319. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was anything said to the Gower party, that the men would require to be paid polling and nomination money ? —Not a word that I heard ; there might be.

20,320. Were you present at a meeting of the railway men when a document was drawn up ?—No, I was not.

20,321. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When Hayward came over here I suppose he probably came by himself ?—Yes.

20,322. And you took him in and introduced him to Apted ?—Yes.

20,323. He knew that you were a Gowerite ?—Yes.

20,324. He would therefore rather go in introduced by one of their friends than introduced by himself ?—Yes.

T. Tullett.

THOMAS TULLETT sworn and examined.

20,325. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A bricklayer.

20,326. What do you pay for the rent of your house ?—5*s.* per week.

20,327. For whom did you vote at the last election? —Mr. Gower.

20,328. You were on the committee, I suppose ?—No.

20,329. Who applied to you ?—Mr. Durrant.

20,330. Did not Durrant put you on his committee at all ?—No, not that I am aware of. I did not see it on the bill.

20,331. Had you been engaged for him long ? Had you been engaged on behalf of Mr. Gower long before the election ?—Well, about a fortnight.

20,332. What did you do for him ?—Well, I do not know as I did anything particular.

20,333. Well, but I mean you were supposed to be doing something for him ?—Yes, I was supposed to be doing for him. I did not.

20,334. They did not ask you to do anything ?—No.

20,335. What was to be given you for the fortnight ? —I told Mr. Durrant I could not afford to lose time, and he said he would see me paid.

20,336. You told him you could not afford ?—Yes, and he said he would see me paid, and he did.

20,337. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much ? —2*l.*

20,338. Did he pay you, or see you paid ?—He paid me himself.

20,339. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) After the election ?—Yes, I should think it was five or six weeks after the election.

20,340. Did you go to his house ?—No ; he saw me.

20,341. He called you in as you were passing ?—He came up to the front.

20,342. Do you live near him ?—Yes.

20,343. And he gave you the 2*l.* ?—Yes.

20,344. Did he tell you that was what he thought was going ?—There was nothing mentioned about money.

20,345. Did he pay you the 2*l.* without saying something ?—Well, he told me there was my 2*l.* for my time to make up for what I lost.

20,346. You told me you lost no time ?—Yes, I did lose time.

20,347. You said you did nothing ?—I did nothing, but there was nomination day and polling day.

20,348. You think that was a loss of time which it is right for men to be paid for ? You call that loss of time ?—Yes.

20,349. Do you always expect to be paid for polling? —I do not know as I always expect it.

20,350. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you think that a labouring man ought to be paid for going to the poll ?—I think so.

30,351. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And for going to the nomination ?—Yes, every man ought to be paid for that.

20,352. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What would you think would be a fair remuneration for a labouring man who votes ?—Well, I am sure I do not know.

20,353. You think he ought to be paid ?—Yes, he ought to be paid for his day's work.

20,354. Well, what ought he to get? Let us see what you think he ought to get for the nomination. You are the best judge of that ?—Well, I should like to get all I could.

20,355-6. That is not the question at all. You would not like to get anything dishonestly. What do you think would be a fair remuneration for a labouring man like yourself for attending the nomination ? Really you must answer this.

20,357. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were paid 1*l.* a day ?—Yes, but I was there a fortnight before that.

20,358. A fortnight doing nothing ?—I cannot say I did anything, but I was ready to do anything they wished me to do.

20,359. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You think a labouring man ought to be paid for attending the nomination and attending the poll. What I want to know from you is what do you think would be a reasonable sum to pay for the nomination day, for a man who had a vote ?—I do not know.

20,360. You know very well what you think would be a fair remuneration ?—I know what I received.

20,361. Never mind what you received. What do you think would be a reasonable sum ?—Well, I think 1*l.* a day would not be too much.

20,362. You are not speaking now on behalf of all the labouring men in England, because they would not claim that. Now, in the case of a man who has a vote, what should you think should be paid for loss of time ? I am speaking now of an honest loss of time, not of a man who wants to sell his vote, but a man who is entitled to be paid for his loss of time ; what do you think he ought to get ?—I do not know.

20,363. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What do you get as a bricklayer ?—5*s.* a day.

20,364. Do you think you ought to get more than 5*s.* a day for voting ?—I do not know as I ought.

20,365. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is it the opinion of the labouring men in Reigate, as far as you know, that they ought to be paid for polling and for the nomination ? Is that the general opinion among the labouring classes of Reigate ?—I am sure I do not know whether it is the general opinion.

20,366. Is it the opinion of those that you know ? Do they think that they ought to be paid ?—I cannot tell. I have never heard them say anything, so I cannot tell their thoughts.

20,367. It is your opinion ?—Yes.

20,368. I suppose you would not vote without being paid ?—Yes, I should.

20,369. You would not have lost your time without ?—Yes, I should have lost time to vote for Mr. Gower.

20,370. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Out of whose pocket do you think the money ought to come to pay you for attending the nomination and the polling ?

Who ought to pay you?—Well, I am sure I do not know. Mr. Gower, I should think.

20,371. And do you think that any gentleman who stands for this town ought to pay all the voters for their loss of time?—I do not know.

20,372. Is that your view of political rights?—Yes, well I should say so.

20,373. You should say so?—Yes.

20,374. What did you do on the nomination day to earn this 1*l.*?—I was about in the morning looking about to get the voters together.

20,375. The nomination day I am speaking of. What did you do to earn your 1*l.*?—Only go to the nomination.

20,376. And shout?—No.

20,377. You did not even make a noise?—No.

20,378. Did you hold up your hand?—Yes.

20,379. And that was all?—Yes.

20,380. What did you do after the nomination?—I cannot say what I did.

20,381. Go to the beer house?—No.

20,382. Did you go to your work?—No.

20,383. You were idle all the day?—Yes.

20,384. Then you think that a gentleman who stands here as a candidate is to pay you for being idle all day?—I should not have lost my time.

20,385. Who asked you to be idle all day?—Well, very often we cannot begin a job if we do not go to it in the beginning of the day.

20,386. I suppose you were very glad of the chance of being idle?—No, I do not know.

20,387. Did you go to your work on the polling day?—No.

20,388. What did you do besides voting?—I was only about getting the voters together.

20,389. Whom did you get together?—I do not know.

20,390. Did you get one?—I do not know as I got one. I went round and saw them, round about the town.

20,391. Tell me one you brought up?—I never brought one up.

20,392. In fact you did nothing?—I cannot say what I did do, hardly, that day. I forget.

20,393. You forget?—Yes.

20,394. Were you sober?—Yes.

20,395. Did you go to any house for breakfast?—No.

20,396. You had breakfast at home?—Yes.

20,397. What time did you vote?—Half-past eight.

20,398. You voted at half-past eight, and you had got some work to go to, hadn't you?—No.

20,399. Whom were you working for?—Mr. Charles Nightingale.

20,400. Why couldn't you go and work for Mr. Charles Nightingale after you voted? Were you on day work for Nightingale?—Yes.

20,401. And time work too. Were you not on time work for Nightingale? You understand what I mean, as a working man, so much an hour?—It was the hour system.

20,402. Do you mean to say you could not go back to your work?—I believe the labourers and everybody left off for that day. Nobody was at work then.

20,403. They were all idle?—Yes.

20,404. And all expecting to be paid by the candidates?—No; a great many did not expect it, because they had not got any vote.

20,405. But those that had votes wanted to be paid?—I cannot say, I am sure.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM WHITMORE sworn and examined.

W. Whitmore.

20,406. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are a railway man?—Yes, on the South-eastern.

20,407. And what rent do you pay?—10*l.* 8*s.* a year.

20,408. Do you pay by the week?—By the quarter.

20,409. What are you?—I am a labourer on the South-eastern.

20,410. What do you get?—1*l.* a week.

20,411. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes, I did.

20,412. For Mr. Monson?—Mr. Gower.

20,413. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

20,414. How was that?—Well, I thought he was the best man.

20,415. Well, what was the reason you voted for him, I want to know?—I voted for my own interest. I thought he was more likely to benefit the working man.

20,416. Well, who secured your vote for Mr. Gower?—I believe Gower and Smith called.

20,417. Whom did you promise your vote to?—Not to anyone.

20,418. To whom did you make the promise to vote to Gower?—Mr. John Simmons called, but I was not at home; and Mr. Gower came and I promised it to him. I said I should not vote against Gower.

20,419. Do you know Stephen Jordan?—No, I do not.

20,420. I thought you knew him?—No.

20,421. Not anything about him?—Not anything about him.

20,422. You have heard of such a man?—No, I do not know that I have.

20,423. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you say John Simmons?—Yes.

20,424. What is he?—He keeps a beer house.

20,425. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did he put you on Mr. Gower's committee?—I was told my name was on, but I told them they must put it off, for I should not attend any meeting. I think they took it off. I never attended any meetings.

20,426. What were you to get for your services?—Nothing at all. I was not promised anything, and I never had anything.

20,427. For your loss of time, I mean?—I never lost any time. I went and gave my vote in at 20 minutes past 8, and went to work again.

20,428. Did not you expect anything?—No, I did not expect anything.

20,429. What did Simmons say to you?—He never said anything, no further than he said, "Will you "promise your vote for Gower?". That was all that passed.

20,430. And you said "Yes?"—I said "Yes."

20,431. Did you have any talk with any other agent?—No, not in the least.

20,432. Did you make any application to any person?—No, not at all.

20,433. Do you know that the railway men were voting generally for Monson?—No, I do not. I had no interest then, whatever.

20,434. Interest in what?—In the railway men. I went to work in the morning and came home at night, and I never attended any meeting at all, and never associated with them.

20,435. Were you not aware which way they had agreed to vote?—No.

20,436. You knew which way they did vote?—I did not, not till I came here.

20,437. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There are two William Whitmore's?—Yes.

20,438. Is the other William Whitmore any relation of yours?—No, he is no relation of mine. I live in North-street, Warwick-town.

20,439. Where does the other man live?—I believe in Mead Vale, I am not certain.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

W. Whitmore.

5 Sept 1866.

20,440. He is near Mazden?—Yes.

20,441. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There is a man at Mead-vale of the name of William Whitmore?—I believe there is. If you will look at this I think you will find it right (*handing a notice to the Commissioner*). That is what I received this morning; perhaps you will look at it.

20,442. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said you were not associated with the other men?—No, I was not.

20,443. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you aware at the time that there was an arrangement among the railway men, although you may not have known what the arrangement was?—No, I did not know anything at all about it.

20,444. Whom did you see besides Simmons?—No one at all. I went and gave my vote in in the morning.

20,445. But before that?—No one at all before that. Mr. Monson's party never came near me, never asked me.

20,446. Do you know Henry Green?—Yes.

20,447. Do you know Mazden?—Yes, I do know him; never in his company.

20,448. You have been in Green's company?—Yes; he is here now; but never before.

20,449. Had you any conversation with Green before the election?—No; not any whatsoever.

20,450. About your vote?—No.

20,451. You are clear about that?—Yes.

20,452. I want to go one step farther. Did Green propose any arrangement to you?—No.

20,453. That you should vote for Gower?—No, not then; no words passed whatever.

20,454. Nor after the election, didn't you see Green?—No. I went to my work, and I never saw him afterwards.

20,455. Did you never receive money or money's worth, or anything for the vote you gave to Gower?—No, I never received anything; never was promised anything.

20,456. But were you never expecting to be paid anything whatever?—No.

20,457. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You never claimed anything?—No.

20,458. You thought it was your duty to vote without claiming anything for loss of time?—Yes. I went and gave my vote in, and then went to my work.

20,459. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you ever voted at an election before?—No; this is the first time I ever voted.

The witness withdrew.

T. Tullett.

THOMAS TULLETT recalled.

20,460. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I want to know whether you were spoken to about your vote by James Smith?—Yes, I was.

20,461. Did he offer you money?—Well, not the first time.

20,462. Was he a voter?—Yes.

20,463. Whom did he vote for?—Mr. Monson.

20,464. Did he offer you money?—Well, the last time he did.

20,465. When was the last time?—On the Monday before the nomination; but I did not see the money.

20,466. The nomination was on Tuesday?—Yes, the nomination was on Tuesday; this was on the Monday night.

20,467. What time of the night was it that James Smith saw you, and offered you money for Monson?—Well, I should think it was near 12 o'clock.

20,468. He is on the register, I suppose, James Smith?—Yes.

20,469. Now, what did he offer you?—He stood and talked to me about whether I had made up my mind. I told him I had, and he said, "You had "better by half come our way; I can do better for "you;" and he said, "Would a tenner be any good "to you?"

20,470. Had you told him what you would get?—No, I did not.

20,471. He said, "Is a tenner any good to you?"—I said, "No. I shall not promise you. I have pro- "mised my vote to Gower, and I shall give it." That was all that passed, and I went in.

20,472. Do you know George Baring?—Yes.

20,473. Was he with him?—Yes.

20,474. Do you mean to say you were not paid any money?—I was never paid a farthing of money. I never saw the money.

20,475. Was that James Smith, of 4, Rees-cottages, near the Brighton-road?—Homesdale-road.

20,476. Is Baring a voter?—No, I believe not.

20,477. Where does he live?—In High-street, I think.

20,478. What is he?—He is foreman for Mr. Henry Thornton, a nephew of his, I believe.

20,479. Were you paid any money on the part of Monson?—No.

20,480. Were you paid any other money except that 2*l.* from Durrant?—No.

20,481. Not by anybody?—No.

20,482. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you vote before 1865?—No.

20,483. When did they come to you?—It was on the Monday when Mr. Smith came.

20,484. At what time?—About 12 o'clock at night.

20,485. To your house?—Yes, to my own house.

20,486. Were you in bed?—Well, I cannot say that I was in bed; I was upstairs. It might not be quite 12. I cannot say exactly.

20,487. You did not think he had 10*l.* to give you?—Well, I could not say whether he had got it, or had not. I did not see it.

20,488. Nor did not think that he had it? It was a mere attempt?—I cannot say.

20,489. You do not mean to tell me that if 10*l.* were placed before you, you would not have accepted it?—I should not then.

20,490. Why?—Because I promised my vote for Gower.

20,491. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you think there was any chance of getting the 10*l.* from James Smith?—Well, I cannot say about that.

20,492. Did that have more effect upon your mind than the promise that was made by Mr. Gower? Were you not rather doubtful of getting the 10*l.* from Smith?—I could not say anything about that. I had made up my mind to vote for Gower, and I voted. If he had offered 20*l.* I should not have taken it when I had given my word.

20,493. You trusted to Durrant's generosity?—Yes. If he had never given me anything I should not have asked him; but still he came and gave it to me.

The witness withdrew.

W. Verrall.

WILLIAM VERRALL sworn and examined.

20,494. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A cow-keeper.

20,495. What rent do you pay for your house?—I pay no rent; it is my own property.

20,496. What is the value of it?—I cannot say.

20,497. By the year?—I am rated at 10*l.* a year.

20,498. That would be about 15*l.* a year in value.

Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—I cannot say whether I was or was not.

20,499. You voted for him?—I voted for him.

20,500. And worked for him; did all you could for him?—I did not.

20,501. Were you not at the nomination?—I was not.

20,502. But you polled for him?—I polled for him.

20,503. Did you receive anything for your loss of time in polling?—Nothing at all.

20,504. Nothing whatever?—Nothing whatever.

20,505. Who asked you to poll?—Who asked me?

20,506. Yes?—Why, Mr. Gower himself.

20,507. Somebody besides that, you know?—No one.

20,508. I beg your pardon; Mr. Joyes, didn't he?—No.

20,509. Was it Mr. Mulley?—No.

20,510. Now, you did not promise till the day of the polling for whom you would vote, did you?—I promised before.

20,511. When did you promise?—I cannot say exactly. Mr. Gower called at my house, and I promised him my vote, and I voted for him.

20,512. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And he gave you nothing?—He gave me nothing whatever.

20,513. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know Mr. Movely?—No, I do not.

20,514. Do you know Mr. Moody?—I do.

20,515. Did he bring you up to the poll?—He did.

20,516. Where did you meet him?—Well, he met me on the common not far from my house; but not by no appointment.

20,517. Did he bring a cab for you?—No; it was a four-wheeled little van.

20,518. What time in the morning?—Well, I cannot exactly say, but some time in the forenoon; I cannot say exactly the time.

20,519. And had you no refreshment or anything of that kind?—Refreshment before I went, or after I voted?

20,520. Well, after you voted?—I had.

20,521. Where?—I had a glass of brandy and water at the "Warwick Arms."

20,522. I suppose you were treated?—The landlady gave me a glass.

20,523. You did not pay for it?—She gave it to me.

20,524. Well, that is not paying for it?—I did not pay for it, of course.

20,525. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ask for it?—I did not.

20,526. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Generous landlady. Did Mr. Moody order it for you?—He was not there at the time I was.

20,527. How did you go to the "Warwick Arms"? Who told you to go there?—No one.

20,528. How did you happen to get into the "Warwick Arms"?—Well, I might as likely have gone into any other house as there.

20,529. But you would not have got a glass of brandy and water anywhere else?—Well, I do not know. The landlady might have given it to me, or the landlord.

20,530. Was it a Gower house?—I do not know.

20,531. It is dangerous to speak of influence of that kind with a landlady, you know?—Well, I do not know.

20,532. I do not wish to say anything against the landlady?—I think there was nothing improper took place.

20,533. No, no; I know that.

20,534. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you tell your wife?—Well, I do not know as I did.

20,535. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) No, I thought so. Is that all you got for voting—a glass of brandy and water? Did you get anything else?—No.

20,536. Was this the first time you voted, the last election?—No.

20,537. But you had been at the "Warwick Arms" before that day?—Before that day?

20,538. Yes; you had known the "Warwick Arms," and the "Warwick Arms" knew you?—Yes, I have known it ever since it has been built, by seeing it.

20,539. Yes, but the "Warwick Arms" knew you very well?—I do not know particular about that.

20,540. You voted before?—I have.

20,541. At another election?—Yes.

20,542. For whom in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

20,543. Were you on his committee then?—I cannot recollect exactly whether I was or not.

20,544. I think you were?—I cannot say exactly, for I forget.

20,545. Did you receive anything for loss of time at that time?—Nothing at all.

20,546. Had you voted in 1859?—1859? I forget the date; if you will tell me the candidates I can answer.

20,547. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Wilkinson and the Honourable Mr. Monson?—I voted for Mr. Monson.

20,548. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—That I cannot say exactly, for I forget.

20,549. Did you get anything for loss of time?—Not at all.

20,550. You got nothing on any occasion?—None whatever.

20,551. You had heard, I suppose, that people were paid?—Well, I did not.

20,552. You travelled about pretty well; you did not hear men had been paid?—I did not know anything about it at that time.

20,553. Now you do?—I have heard it since I have been here; since the Inquiry, but not before.

20,554. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You understand exactly the effect your answers will produce?—Yes.

20,555. That you have received nothing at all at any of the elections for your votes?—Nothing whatever.

20,556. Nor for your time in backing the candidates?—Nothing at all.

20,557. Do you mean to give us that impression?—I do, for truth.

20,558. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I do not understand whether you answered my friend distinctly whether you knew Mr. Frederick Joyes?—I knew him by sight, but never had any conversation with him.

20,559. You have never spoken to him about this election?—Not at all.

20,560. Before?—Never.

20,561. Before the election?—No; nor yet after.

20,562. Were you on the committee?—The election committee?

20,563. Yes?—Well, I am not certain whether I was or was not; but I never attended.

20,564. Your name is William Verrall, of Earlswood?—Yes.

20,565. Well, you were on the committee?—Well, I say I cannot recollect whether I was or was not.

20,566. Do you recollect anybody speaking to you about going on the committee?—I do not.

20,567. Do you know your name was there?—I do not; I do not remember anybody asking me or my telling them.

20,568. Was it put there without your authority?—I cannot tell you how it came there; but I cannot remember, to the best of my knowledge, telling anybody.

20,569. Do you know Mazden?—I do.

20,570. Had he spoken to you about it?—Not a word.

20,571. Do you recollect the meeting on Earlswood-common, where there was a big booth?—I remember seeing the booth.

20,572. Were you at that meeting?—No; I saw the booth, but I never went into it.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

W. Verrall.

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20,573. Did you go into the little refreshment house very near the booth at Earlswood?—I did.

20,574. There were a great many voters there?—Well, they were very nearly all gone when I got there. I had been haying, and I was on my road home, and I went in and got a pint of ale.

20,575. You paid for it, I suppose?—Yes.

20,576. Did never anybody before that speak to you about the meeting?—They did not; and I did not know there was going to be a booth there till I saw it.

20,577. Did nobody speak to you about it?—Not a word.

20,578. Was your name put on the committee without your authority?—Well, I do not know. I do not recollect telling anybody to do it; not to the best of my knowledge.

20,579. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to ask you one question, Verrall; you have a house of your own?—Yes.

20,580. It is a freehold?—No, it is a copyhold.

20,581. I hardly like to ask you the question, but, however, is there any charge on your house, on your copyhold house?—Any charge on it?

20,582. Yes; has anybody got a charge upon it?—Not that that I know of. The sheepskins are at home right enough.

20,583. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The parchment you mean?—Yes, that is it; the skins.

20,584. (*The Chief Commisioner.*) Just tell me whether anybody has got a charge on it?—No one.

20,585. In case any suggestion is made, this gives you the opportunity of denying it. That you are sure about?—I am sure about it.

20,586. Did you have any conversation with the Monson party before you gave your vote at the last election?—No one.

20,587. Nobody?—Nobody.

The witness withdrew.

W. Walby.

WILLIAM WALBY sworn and examined.

20,588. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A butcher.

20,589. And what rent do you pay for your house?—25*l.*

20,590. At the last election, 1865, were you in the same house?—Yes.

20,591. Whom does the house belong to?—Mr. William Heath.

20,592. Whom did Mr. Heath vote for at the last election?—I cannot positively say.

20,593. No, but whom do you think he did?—I believe that Mr. Heath and Mr. Bachelor are partners, and one voted each way, but which way I can not tell you.

20,594. Then there is nothing in that?—No, nothing; nothing in that.

20,595. You understand me?—I understand you.

20,596. Now, you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

20,597. I believe you were rather active, and attended the meetings and heard what was going on?—Sometimes; not all of them.

20,598. No, not all the meetings?—No.

20,599. But you attended a good many meetings?—A few.

20,600. And knew what was going on?—Yes.

20,601. And did you see much treating?—A little.

20,602. Well, both sides, were you aware of it?—I cannot say anything about Monson.

20,603. You cannot?—I cannot.

20,604. What was the reputation of the Monson party for treating?—I do not know.

20,605. You do not know?—I do not know anything about it.

20,606. You will not give them a bad character?—I cannot say anything about them.

20,607. At the last election, as far as Mr. Gower's side went, was treating pretty free?—Not particularly free, it was not.

20,608. Had you seen the previous elections?—Yes.

20,609. Well, now, comparing it with previous elections, was not treating at the last as good as any of them?—Well, I had very little to do with the election before; I cannot say.

20,610. I suppose you were canvassed in the first instance by Mr. Gower himself?—Not in the first instance.

20,611. Who canvassed you in the first instance?—Joyes, Frederick Joyes.

20,612. Did you promise him or say you would think about it?—No.

20,613. What did Joyes say to you about it?—Well, I do not know what he did say. He asked me about my vote or something. I do not know what it was, but in the course of conversation it was.

20,614. But he said a little more than that. If he did not the first time it must have been another time?—Very likely.

20,615. Did he say anything to you about it the first time?—I do not think he did.

20,616. The next time he talked to you about it; was it after Mr. Gower had been to you, do you recollect?—Yes, I think Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith were there together; I am not sure.

20,617. Did you promise Mr. Gower when he came?—No.

20,618. You had seen Joyes again?—Yes.

20,619. Be so good as to tell me in your own way what passed between you and Joyes?—I promised my vote to Joyes.

20,620. You promised Joyes you would vote for Gower?—Yes.

20,621. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) On the second interview?—It might have been the third or fourth; we had so many interviews.

20,622. You wanted a little pressing?—No, my mind was already made up.

20,623. What passed?—He asked me for my vote, and I promised him. We made an agreement that I was to work up to the time of the election for 5*l.* after the vote was given.

20,624. It had nothing to do with the vote, but you were not to be paid until after the vote was given?—Nothing was said about it.

20,625. I thought you said so?—The agreement was made after I had promised the vote.

20,626. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I quite understand. Was that 5*l.*, as you understood Joyes, to include everything, or were you looking for something more, something extra for the two last days?—No, nothing more; nothing extra.

20,627. And that is what you were really calculating on?—Yes.

20,628. Was there anything more said?—What about?

20,629. About that; about any further terms?—No.

20,630. I believe you went on and did stick to the Gower party?—Oh, yes.

20,631. To the end?—Yes.

20,632. And polled for them?—Yes.

20,633. Did you get your money?—No.

20,634. Whom did you ask for it?—Nobody.

20,635. I suppose you rather expected Joyes in the first instance was the man to look to?—Yes, that is the man I should look to for it.

20,636. Didn't you make any application or whatever you call it?—No, I made no application whatever; but in the course of conversation it came up, and he said I should have it. That is all I know about it.

20,637. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did he say that.

20,638. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was after the election?—Oh, some time after the election, some months.

20,639. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Recently?—It might be four or five months, or six months ago.

20,640. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you account for your not having had it at all?—No.

20,641. No portion of it?—No.

20,642. Well it seems rather hard?—It does, doesn't it?

20,643. Now, you told me very candidly about that. Now, in 1865 was there any overture made to you by the Monson party?—Not to my knowledge, never.

20,644. Well, but you would know it?—No.

20,645. There was not?—No.

20,646. I do not mean they came and offered you so much money, but did they canvass you?—Yes, I was canvassed for my vote in my absence.

20,647. Was any overture made to you at all, any proposal made to you about voting for Monson?—No, I do not remember any.

20,648. Well, you would remember it if there was?—No.

20,649. Did any of his agents come to say, "We "can do just as well for you if you will do work for "us," or anything of the kind?—I do not remember anything of the sort.

20,650. Before the election you had friends among the Monson party?—Yes.

20,651. And have now friends, private friends?—Yes.

20,652. Did any of them come and make any suggestion as to what business might be done?—No.

20,653. Now go back to 1863, the previous election; whom did you vote for then?—Wilkinson.

20,654. In 1863 did you work for Wilkinson on his committee?—I do not know. I forget whether I was on the committee or not. I won't be certain.

20,655. You were a kind of partisan for him before the election?—I was.

20,656. Whom had you made any arrangement with then?—No arrangement was made.

20,657. But who was the person to whom you had promised your vote? Who was the Frederick Joyes at that election?—He was the same Frederick Joyes he is now.

20,658. He had been to you in 1863, much the Frederick Joyes which he was in 1865?—No. He was the same man, but he was not in the same way as he was in 1865.

20,659. Not in the same relation to you?—No.

20,660. Well, but you promised your vote to him?—I think I did; yes, I did.

20,661. I would much rather have it from you; hadn't you any sort of terms with him or understanding?—When?

20,662. In 1863?—Not any.

20,663. Nothing at all?—No.

20,664. With anybody?—No.

20,665. Nothing whatever?—Nothing whatever.

20,666. And did you get anything for your vote?—No.

20,667. Did you get anything for your vote the last time?—I did.

20,668. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you get?—2*l.*

20,669. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I would much rather have got it from you; you did not volunteer that?—I will give you an answer "yes" or "no." I might make a mistake if I went on of myself.

20,670. Who paid you the 2*l.*?—Frederick Joyes.

20,671. Well, he was in much the same relation to you in 1863 that he was in 1865, wasn't he?—No, I do not think so.

20,672. Perhaps you mean that the difference was that although in both he paid you money, yet in 1863 he had not promised you any sum?—I was not aware that any would come in 1863. It came voluntarily to me after the election for my services.

20,673. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) So you were inclined to trust him in 1863? That is the reason why you were inclined to trust him in 1865?—He paid me without any agreement, or without my having knowledge that I had anything to come,

20,674. What was the 2*l.* for?—For assisting, bringing up voters, and so on.

20,675. On the polling day?—Yes.

20,676. You did not expect it?—I did not expect it.

20,677. Why didn't you expect to have anything?—I did not expect it.

20,678. Why not?—I rendered my services if I could assist them in bringing up voters to the poll.

20,679. Looking back to the general election in 1865, had you voted then?—I did not.

20,680. Had you voted before 1859?—No.

20,681. When Joyes canvassed you in 1865, didn't you say something to him about this 2*l.* that you had received in 1863?—No.

20,682. Didn't you say, "Well Joyes, you gave me "2*l.* in 1863, what am I going to have this time?"—Nothing mentioned about the election of 1863, or the money.

20,683. No little nods or winks, or anything of that sort?—No.

20,684. No signs?—No, all straightforward.

20,685. No holding up of fingers?—I did not know anything about it, I did not understand it.

20,686. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 2*l.* from Mr. Joyes in 1863?—Yes.

20,687. He told you he had that for you, I suppose?—Yes.

20,688. You knew it was not out of his own pocket?—Certainly not.

20,689. How did you know that he had not more than 2*l.* for you?—I did not know anything about that.

20,690. How did you know he had not 4*l.* for you?—I did not, I never asked; I was very well satisfied with two sovereigns.

20,691. How did you know he did not get 5*l.* for you, now?—I do not know.

20,692. You did not apply to a higher source, you did not go to anybody else?—I did not.

20,693. You did not?—I never made an application to any one.

20,694. You were to work up to the time of the election; that was said after you had promised to vote. If that was a fair transaction, why didn't you proceed to enforce it?—I took the man's word for it.

20,695. Did you not proceed to enforce it?—No.

20,696. He gave you no excuse or explanation why the money was not coming?—No; only the thing I thought of was, I thought the petition might be going on, and I would not say anything about it.

20,697. But you are a respectable man, and if it was really for honest work, what about the petition? That could have nothing to do with it?—I do not know that it has.

The witness withdrew.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

G. Walker.

5 Sept. 1866.

GEORGE WALKER sworn and examined.

20,698. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A gardener.

20,699. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you vote?—15*l.* 12*s.*

20,700. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

20,701. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

20,702. Who put you on his committee?—Mr. Rose.

20,703. Did he tell you you would be paid when he put you on?—He told me I should be paid, but no amount.

20,704. You would be paid so much a week, I suppose?—He never said anything of the kind. He said I should be paid.

20,705. He did not say how much a week?—No.

20,706. How long before the polling day was it?—I think it was about three weeks and four days.

20,707. And I suppose you continued on the committee up to the polling?—Yes.

20,708. What were you paid afterwards?—3*l.* 5*s.*, that is 5*s.* for night work.

20,709. Oh, the 3*l.* was for the committee work?—Yes, and 5*s.* for night work.

20,710. Were you paid the 3*l.* after you voted?—Yes, a month afterwards.

20,711. By Mr. Joyes?—No, 2*l.* from Mr. Smith, and 1*l.* from Mr. Apted.

20,712. Did you go to Mr. Smith?—Yes, I went to the office.

20,713. Mr. Smith the solicitor? You went to the office?—Yes, Mr. Smith the lawyer.

20,714. Did you take a bit of paper with you, or anything of the kind?—No, I sent my bill in.

20,715. To whom?—To Mr. Smith.

20,716. A bill in writing?—Yes.

20,717. What did you say in the writing?—Well, you know, of course I put on my time, how long I was on the committee, and I charged for my time.

20,718. But I mean how did you put it? "Mr. "Smith to Mr. Walker"?—Yes.

20,719. "3*l.*"?—No, I put down 4*l.* 15*s.*

20,720. Had you received 5*s.* then?—No, I received 5*s.* a day for polling day.

20,721. You had received the 5*s.* then?—Yes.

20,722. Then how did you make up the 4*l.* 15*s.*?—Well, I put down according to the time I was at work for Mr. Gower, and the time I lost.

20,723. How did you get out the 4*l.* 15*s.*?—I cannot exactly say how I put it down; but I dare say you have got the bills.

20,724. No, I have not, indeed?—Well, I cannot say exactly.

20,725. You did not put down any days or time,—only said "Mr. Smith to Mr. Walker, 4*l.* 15*s.*"?—Yes, according to the time.

20,726. That is a curious sum, 4*l.* 15*s.* How many days did you charge for in that?—I was there three weeks and four days.

20,727. Three weeks would be 18 working days, and four days would make 22 days. I cannot make out the 4*l.* 15*s.* now?—I did not get it.

20,728. You only got 3*l.*?—I only got 3*l.* besides the 5*s.*

20,729. Did you do anything else besides being on the committee?—I did everything I was required.

20,730. Did you do anything else besides being on the committee?—I think I brought three or four voters to the poll.

20,731. You were in Mr. Conway's service?—Yes.

20,732. You did not leave his service?—Only at night, when I had done work.

20,733. Will you tell me what you did besides being on the committee?—Well, I cannot recollect anything I did; merely did the best I could as regards getting voters for Mr. Gower; that is principally what I did.

20,734. What did you do; now, tell me?—I did not do anything but that.

20,735. In fact, you did nothing?—Well, I did do something.

20,736. What did you do? You are a good, honest fellow; what did you do?—Well, I have told what I did; I told you that I did the best for Mr. Gower as I could with regard to fetching voters to the poll.

20,737. Tell me any one thing you did?—I did nothing more than that.

20,738. Tell me anything at all you did?—No, I cannot.

20,739. Attended the committee; were you chairman of the committee at all?—No.

20,740. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I will take this answer down, "Cannot tell anything I did"?—No.

20,741. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many committee meetings do you think you attended during the three weeks?—Well, I think I might attend to three or four; I do not know exactly now.

20,742. Were there refreshments going?—Yes.

20,743. I mean refreshments on account of the election?—There was drink.

20,744. Which you might help yourselves to, and did, as committee men?—Yes; it did not make no difference to me; sometimes I had a glass of ale and sometimes a bottle of ginger beer.

20,745. You had what you liked?—Yes.

20,746. And didn't pay for it?—No.

20,747. Did you ever apply for the balance; you only got 2*l.* from Mr. Smith; how came you to go to Apted for the other 1*l.*?—I went there before I went to Smith.

20,748. I thought you sent in a bill to Mr. Smith?—So I did. I had the pound from Apted before Smith paid me; that was on the polling morning.

20,749. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Before you polled?—Yes.

20,750. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On the polling morning?—Yes.

20,751. That is a kind of refresher?—I do not know what you call it.

20,752. Where did you receive the 1*l.*?—At Apted's.

20,753. You called in there before you went to the poll?—That was before I went to the poll; I never went to the poll till 10 or 11.

20,754. What time did you receive the pound?—About half-past 8.

20,755. As you were going to work?—No, I was going to Redhill to fetch voters.

20,756. Did you deduct that 1*l.* from the 4*l.* 15*s.*?—I reckoned that when I made up my account; I took that into account.

20,757. Your claim was only 3*l.* 15*s.*?—It was only 3*l.* 5*s.*

20,758. What did Smith say when he gave you the 2*l.*?—He did not say anything particular; he said he could not let me have it all; he gave me a cheque for 2*l.*

20,759. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it paid by cheque?—Yes.

20,760. Did you apply again to him for the 1*l.* 15*s.*?—No.

20,761. He said he could not let you have it all?—He said when settling-up time came it would be all right; I have never asked him for it since.

20,762. Had you voted before 1865?—No, this was my first time.

20,763. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were not very well pleased at not getting all the money you wanted, were you?—I was very well satisfied with what I got.

20,764. Did you complain to Mr. Conway that you had not been paid all you expected?—No.

20,765. Did you tell him that you had not had your money before you were paid it?—No.

20,766. Hadn't you any talk at all with Mr. Conway about the money you thought was due to you for your services?—No.

20,767. Nothing whatever?—Nothing whatever; I had no conversation at all with Mr. Conway.

20,768. Did Mr. Conway tell you that he thought you ought to be paid?—No.

20,769. You sent in an account, you know, to Mr. Smith?—Yes.

20,770. Did you know that other people were doing the same thing?—No, I never troubled my head about other people; I looked after myself.

20,771. Did you know that other people who had the same sort of claim that you had were sending in their accounts too?—No, I did not.

20,772. Didn't you know one that did?—No.

20,773. Did you say in your account, "Services "during the election"?—I might have said that; I do not exactly know what it was.

20,774. Something like that?—It might have been something like that.

20,775. Do you recollect going to any one before you did that, and asking in what way you had better make out your account?—No, I do not recollect anything at all of the kind.

20,776. Don't you think you did do so?—Did what?

20,777. Go to somebody and ask them, "How had "I better make out my account"?—No, I do not. I sat down to my table and wrote out my bill, and the time I spent on the election, and of course I put it just what I thought proper.

20,778. And you put down something like, "For "services rendered"?—I cannot exactly say.

20,779. Before you sat down and wrote out your account had not you made inquiry about how the other people made out their account?—No, I did not.

20,780. You are sure?—Yes, I am.

20,781. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you speak to Mr. Gower about your services?—I did not.

20,782. Did Mr. Gower speak to you;—I do not recollect his speaking to me at all after he canvassed me.

20,783. Did Mr. Gower say something to you of this sort, "Well, we all know how much you have "worked; no doubt you have got many voters to the "poll, and Mr. Smith will pay you"?—No, nothing of the kind; I never had any conversation at all with Mr. Gower.

20,784. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said something when you received the summons to attend here, did you not?—I only received it this morning at breakfast time. I did not know anything about it till this morning at half-past 8.

The witness withdrew.

JACOB WESTBROOK sworn and examined.

J. Westbrook.

20,785. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A brickmaker.

20,786. What rent do you pay for your house?—*5s.*

20,787. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

20,788. At the last election whom did you promise your vote to?—Well, I never promised no one particular.

20,789. Did you take an active part for Mr. Gower? No.

20,790. I thought you did; I thought you treated the people, and that you talked to some?—No.

20,791. Did you ask them to vote for him?—No.

20,792. You know Mazden?—Yes.

20,793. Did you receive any directions from Mazden about what you were to do for Gower?—Nothing particular.

20,794. But general; what general directions did you get?—No general directions.

20,795. Well, what directions did you get?—All that I was to do was to see what I could see, and hear what I could hear.

20,796. Mazden told you; is that right?—Nothing particular.

20,797. Did Mazden tell you that you were to see what you could see, and hear what you could hear?—Yes.

20,798. Were you on the committee?—No.

20,799. What were you to get for seeing all you could see, and hearing all you could hear?—Well, all that I got was the loss of time.

20,800. No. What were you to get? You may have seen nothing, and heard nothing?—No, I did not see, nor I did not hear anything or say anything.

20,801. I do not say you did; but will you tell me?—10*l.*

20,802. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You saw nothing and heard nothing?—And said nothing.

20,803. Did you get your 10*l.*, or any portion of it? Did you ask for it?—Yes, but I did not expect to get it.

20,804. Did you ask?—I asked Mr. Mazden and I asked Mr. Smith, but I never expected to get a halfpenny.

20,805. What answer did you get from those gentlemen?—They would see.

20,806. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you get anything?—No.

20,807. Why not?—I do not know why, I am sure.

20,808. Did you pay any money to the voters out of your own pocket?—No.

20,809. Did you make any payments at all out of your own pocket when you were looking about?—Well, I spent a good many shillings, but I never treated anybody except myself. I may have given some of them a pint of ale.

20,810. Did any one tell you that you were to treat the voters, to give them a pint of ale?—No.

20,811. Nothing of the sort?—No.

20,812. Did not Mazden say so?—No.

20,813. I want to know then why in your opinion you were not paid. Why do you think you were not paid?—Well, I don't know.

20,814. It is rather curious, do not you think so?—No, I do not at all.

20,815. Don't you think it is rather curious you were not paid?—No.

20,816. I think we shall find out how it was, but I wanted you to tell me. Do you recollect being applied to by the Monson party?—Yes.

20,817. Who was it made an application to you?—Well, I cannot hardly tell you. There was a man named Coomber.

20,818. Which one was that, because there are three or four of them?—John, I think his name was, and Hewett.

20,819. They applied to you on Monson's behalf?—Nothing was mentioned.

20,820. What did they say, if you please?—Nothing in particular. I do not remember exactly what might have been said.

20,821. They came to you, or you went to them?—They came to me.

20,822. I wish you would tell me a little more readily. They had a conversation with you?—No.

20,823. You do not mean "No" to that. They had a conversation with you?—No conversation whatever.

20,824. Then they came to you, stood quite silent in the house, turned round three times, and walked out again?—Out of my house?

20,825. Yes?—No.

20,826. They were not a very pleasant party if you had no talk at all?—I never saw Coomber but once, when he came to my house.

20,827. What did he come for? It is no use getting Coomber in the house if he doesn't say anything?—I had a mistake and a disagreement, and he came to rectify it.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

J. Westbrook.

5 Sept. 1866.

20,828. Well, what was it?—A disagreement in words, nothing at all to do with the election.

20,829. Just tell me, you won't mind satisfying my curiosity about it?—No, but it was nothing concerning the election whatever.

20,830. I should like very much to know about it. I don't want to go into private concerns?—It is a private concern what we were speaking of, nothing to do with the election whatever.

20,831. I don't want to press it, but you ought to tell me by rights?—It is nothing to do with the election, nothing whatever.

20,832. Which side was Coomber?—Monson's.

20,833. Which side was Hewett?—Monson's.

20,834. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are wrong as to the Christian name. It was either George or William, not John?—I understood his name to be John.

20,835. Edwin Coomber, you know, voted for Gower?—I think this was John.

20,836. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you any private arrangement with Hewett?—With Hewett?

20,837. Yes?—Well, he wanted me to attend their meetings, and said if I attended I should have half-a-crown every time I went.

20,838. Did they both propose that, or only Hewett?—Only Hewett.

20,839. If you went you were to have half-a-crown each time?—Independent of the election. The election had nothing to do with it.

20,840. I know that, but was it each time?—Each time.

20,841. And that was to be independent of the election—Yes.

20,842. What did you say to that? I suppose you were quite willing?—No, I told him I could not always attend; and he said I was to go when I could.

20,843. Did you say you were agreeable about that, to go when you could?—Yes, but not on condition to give my vote.

20,844. No; you were to go when you could. Did you agree to that?—Well, that was circumstantial.

20,845. Did you agree to those terms?—I went once or twice, and then we disagreed.

20,846. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you get your half-crowns?—I got 30*s.*

20,847. Who from? Hewett?—Hewett.

20,848. But you were only to get half-a-crown a meeting. How came you to get 30*s.*, for going once or twice?—Two weeks, I suppose.

20,849. But you were only to get, you know, according to your statement, half-a-crown a meeting?—That is what it was.

20,850. Did you go to all the meetings?—No.

20,851. Did you attend every night?—No.

20,852. Only once or twice?—Well, I cannot say exactly how many times.

20,853. When was the 30*s.* paid you by Hewett?—That I cannot say. It was paid in two instalments.

20,854. Weekly instalments?—Two 15*s.*

20,855. On Saturday night?—I think it was.

20,856. When did you have your disagreement with Hewett at the commttee room?—I never had no disagreement with him.

20,857. Oh, was that with Coomber?—With Coomber.

20,858. If they paid you so well as 15*s.* on those two Saturday nights why did not you continue to go there?—That would not pay me for the loss of time while I had been there.

20,859. Don't talk to me about loss of time, you had only been once or twice?—I did not attend every night.

20,860. You say, "I went once or twice and got 30*s.*" [illegible] up properly and tell me what you [illegible] times did you go?—I do not [illegible]ep no account.

[illegible] more than once or twice?—[illegible]s.

20,862. What, during the fortnight?—Yes.

20,863. Did that dozen times extend over more than one or two evenings?—More than one or two evenings.

20,864. You know there would be 12 nights only for the fortnight. Did you go every night?—Well, I do not know.

20,865. If you went every night, where did you go? Where were the meetings?—At different places.

20,866. Where these places were was there refreshment?—Well, all that I had ——.

20,867. Answer me the question, were there refreshments at these different committee rooms, where you went?—Nothing but beer. There was a little brandy, but I never took anything.

20,868. You don't call beer refreshment, I suppose. Did you pay for the beer you had?—Occasionally I did.

20,869. Not often?—Sometimes I paid for it, and sometimes I did not, but generally speaking I was money out of pocket. It cost me more.

20,870. What did you do at the committee meetings?—I never was at committee meetings.

20,871. What do you call the meetings you attended then?—I do not know.

20,872. What business was conducted at the meetings. Any business at all?—Nothing particular.

29,873. Did you attend more than six of those meetings?—I believe I did.

20,874. Do you usually go out to a beer house of an evening?—No, never.

20,875. You are a brickmaker, you know; you cannot work overtime at brickmaking in the dark?—I work generally from 4 o'clock in the morning to 8 or 9 at night.

20,876. I suppose you did on this occasion?—No, I left off sooner.

20,877. How much sooner did you leave off?—Two or three hours. And then I have got other parties to pay when I am absent.

20,878. At what did you go to these beer houses of an evening?—Generally about 7 o'clock.

20,879. How long did you stop?—About two hours; I cannot say exactly.

20,880. And you were paid 15*s.* a week for attending those beer houses? Was that so? Eh? And you considered that bad pay, did you?—It required a great deal of money to attend those places.

20,881. Was it before or after Mazden had promised you the 10*l.* that you attended these meetings for Hewett?—It was after, I believe.

20,882. It was after?—I believe so, or before, I am not certain. I believe it was before.

20,883. Now, was it before?—I won't say for certain.

20,884. How long before the election did Mazden promise you the 10*l.*?—Not many days; it might be a week before; I cannot say.

20,885. How long before the election was it that you attended these beer houses?—I should say a month.

20,886. Well, your transaction with Hewett, you know, was before the one with Mazden; it must have been?—It was no transaction at all, I don't call it.

20,887. Now, did you have any quarrel with Hewett?—No.

20,888. Why did not you go on attending with him, and getting the 15*s.* a week? Did you want more money?—No.

20,889. Did you ask him for more?—No.

20,890. Then why did not you go on?—On account of some of the publications printed about Mr. Gower turned my mind against him.

20,891. Was it in consequence of that that you ceased going to these beer house meetings?—No.

20,892. Did you speak to Hewett about it?—No; I spoke to another man; I forget his name.

20,893. One of Monson's party?—Yes.

20,894. Was he a person you used to meet at these meetings?—I saw him once or twice.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

J. Westbrook.

5 Sept. 1866.

20,895. Did he leave the Monson party?—I do not know whether he did.

20,896. Then did you go and make overtures to Mazden and say, "I am disgusted with these papers "that my party have been publishing, and I am coming "over to you"?—No, I hardly ever see him.

20,897. After you had left these beer house meetings did you ever see Hewett again?—No.

20,898. Did not Hewett come and speak to you, and look you up?—I saw him the night before the election.

20,899. Did not he come and speak to you, and look you up, and say, "How is it you are going to "vote on the other side"?—No.

20,900. Did nobody?—There was somebody come in the morning; I do not know who it was. I cannot say who it was.

20,901. Were you at the "Grapes" at all?—No.

20,902. Never attended there?—No.

20,903. The public house?—No.

20,904. Who took you up to the poll?—Well, I come up with two or three more.

20,905. Who were they?—Brown was one; I forget the other names.

20,906. William Brown?—No, I do not think it was.

20,907. George Brown?—Yes; it didn't make any difference to me whether they come with me or not.

20,908. Where were you when you were asked to come up to the poll on the polling day?—I was home.

20,909. What time of the day?—I should say about 9 o'clock in the morning.

20,910. Quite early?—From that to 10.

20,911. Did you ever apply to Joyes or to any of those men for a part of the 10*l.*?—No.

20,912. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said you could not give me any answer why you never got any of the 10*l.*, do you recollect?—Yes.

20,913. I dare say now you can give me a very good reason why you did not get any of the 10*l.*?—No.

20,914. I wonder you cannot; I can give you a very good one. I thought it would be likely to come out. They were not very likely to pay you when you were in the enemy's pay?—I don't think they would for that.

The witness withdrew.

ROBERT HOULTON called, sworn, and examined.

R. Houlton.

20,915. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A chimney sweep.

20,916. What rent do you pay for your house under which you vote?—10*l.*

20,917. Have you been long a voter for this borough?—Only two elections.

20,918. For whom did you vote in 1865?—I did not vote at all.

21,919. Not the last election?—No.

20,920. Didn't you?—No.

20,921. How was that?—Well, I kept away from it; working for all nearly.

20,922. Tell me how you kept from it?—I went away on purpose because I should not vote.

20,923. Where did you go to?—London.

20,924. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that the election of 1865?—Yes.

20,925. (*Mr. Commissioner OBrien.*) When did you leave? We understand the election was on the Wednesday; when did you leave for London?—The day before.

20,926. That was on the Tuesday, the nomination day?—Yes, at least I won't be sure whether I did not leave on Monday.

20,927. And how long did you remain in London?—Till after the polling was over.

20,928. I mean till what day?—Wednesday, the polling day; at night I came back.

20,929. In the evening?—Yes.

20,930. Where did you stay in London? You were pretty comfortable there?—I cannot recollect. I was all over the place.

20,931. And what money did you expend?—I cannot tell.

20,932. You went up on Monday and enjoyed yourself till Wednesday. What did you spend? A couple of pounds?—I do not know.

20,933. About; I do not want it to a shilling or two?—I might have spent more.

20,934. Did you take your wife with you?—Yes.

20,935. Any one else; any of your children?—I took a young child with me, not my own.

20,936. Well then, I suppose it cost you more than that?—It might have done; I never kept an account.

20,937. Who paid you that?—Mr. Nichols.

20,938. But he paid you for more than what you expended, I suppose; loss of time?—No, I never lost any time.

20,939. You were away from your business from the Monday?—He did not know where I was going.

20,940. What did he pay you?—What he paid me was 5*l.*

20,941. When did he give you the 5*l.*?—A week or two before, perhaps.

20,942. He gave it to you a week or two before?—Yes.

20,943. Do you recollect which it was?—I cannot say particularly. I should think it was quite a fortnight.

20,944. Before he gave you the 5*l.*?—Before the polling day.

20,945. Mr. Nichols paid you 5*l.* about a fortnight before the polling day?—It might be thereabouts.

20,946. I suppose that was to be part of your expenses for being away to avoid the trouble?—He never knowed nothing about my going away, sir.

20,947. What did he pay the 5*l.* for?—In the first place it was a bit of chaff with Lucock.

20,948. Never mind that; what did he pay you the 5*l.* for?—To get Lucock to vote for Monson, and to do what I could for him.

24,949. He gave you 5*l.* What was it for?—That was to give to Locock, if I could buy his vote and interest.

20,950. You are a voter yourself?—Yes.

20,951. And you received 5*l.*, which, of course, you have not returned to Mr. Nichols?—No.

20,952. Then you know you got it for yourself. You received it on your own account, otherwise you would not have spent it. You received 5*l.* Now tell me, what were you to do for that 5*l.*?—There was 5*l.* and I could do as I liked with it, or the best I could with it; one or the other. I cannot say which.

20,953. Telling you to do the best you can is telling you to use it yourself?—He did not tell me those words, but I understood the money was to go to pay Lucock to work for Monson. That is what I understood.

20,954. Take care?—I cannot say more than the truth.

20,955. Be cautious. Did you pay Lucock?—He would not have anything to do with it.

20,956. Did you return it?—No.

20,957. Now, giving you an opportunity of explaining, let me ask, did you not receive it for the purpose of doing as you liked with it?—Yes, of course, that was to do service.

20,958. And you expended it in going away to

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London?—I did not say I expended it all in going away to London.

20,959. But you expended some of it in going to London and taking your wife and a child. What did you do with the remainder?—I might have spent it with some of Monson's party at public houses.

20,960. Well, of course you might, and you might not. Do you mean to tell me that you did spend any of it in that way?—Yes.

20,961. How much?—I cannot tell.

20,962. What did you spend of the 5*l.* with Monson's party?—I cannot tell what I did spend.

20,963. Did you spend any?—Yes.

20,964. With whom?—Well, I could not say the names of the parties I might meet with; Monson's party.

20,965. With whom?—I should be troubled to mention the names.

20,966. You cannot tell when you spent nor with whom you spent. When you went away I suppose you had not promised Mr. Nichols that you would vote for Mr. Monson?—I told them both; both understood that I should not vote at all.

20,967. Never mind what both understood; I am speaking about Mr. Nichols. Did you tell him that you should not vote for Monson?—Of course I told him I should not vote at all.

20,968. Did you tell him you should not vote for Monson?—I do not think he asked me.

29,969. Did not he?—I believe not. One day Mr. Monson and he was coming up Reigate-hill as I was going down, and he called me.

20,970. Did not he ask you?—I never stopped to hear what they had to say.

20,971. Did not they stop you?—They called me.

20,972. But you went on?—Yes.

20,973. Who canvassed you on behalf of Mr. Gower? You did not treat them so badly?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Morrison.

20,974. Did they speak to you?—Yes.

20,975. You stopped to hear what they said?—Yes, of course I did. They came to my house.

20,976. And did you promise them to vote?—No, I told them I should not vote.

20,977. You told them you should not vote for whom?—I told them I should not vote at all.

20,978, Did you say why?—Yes, I told Mr. Morrison.

20,979. Tell me, what reason did you give to Mr. Morrison?—Because I worked for most of the gentlemen.

20,980. And you told him you would not vote at all?—Yes.

20,981. Did you tell Mr. Nichols you would not vote at all?—I do not think he asked; he understood it. I do not recollect his asking me to vote.

20,982. Did you tell him you would not vote at all, that was my question?—I do not know whether he asked me whether I was going to vote at all. I cannot answer that question.

20,983. You say he understood you were not going to vote?—Of course he did; or else if he had not understood it he would have asked me for the vote.

20,984. You told him, I suppose, that you were not going to vote?

20,985. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith*). You said so before, you know?—If he asked me I must have told him.

20,986. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*). At the time you got the 5*l.* I suppose?—No; before that.

20,987. How long before you got the 5*l.* from him was it you told him that you would not vote?—I do not know that I told him at all. If I told him, it must have been before that time.

20,988. How long before that time?—I should rather fancy as soon as they began to canvass.

20,989. Tell me who was pressing you to vote for Mr. Gower; which of the gentlemen you worked for; who was pressing you most?—Not one.

20,990. Not one?—Not that I recollect.

20,991. When you went away, you know?—There was not one; not to my recollection. Only Mr. Morrison and Mr. Gower came and asked me, and I said "No."

20,992. How long have you been a voter for the borough?—Only the last two. I do not think I was on before, not in Mr. Monson's time.

20,993. You were in 1863. For whom did you vote then?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

20,994. Were you on Mr. Wilkinson's committee?—No.

20,995. How came you to vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—I worked for Mr. Norman Wilkinson, and knowing what a kind man he had been ——

20,996. Never mind the kindness. You were working for Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—At his house.

20,997. You mean only occasionally; in your professional calling?—That is all.

20,998. You were paid for that and you gave service for it. What were you paid? How much did you receive for that?—Of Mr. Wilkinson?

20,999. On that occasion?—Nothing at all.

21,000. I do not mean from Mr. Wilkinson himself?—Not any one else.

21,001. Nobody?—No.

21,002. Nobody at all?—Nor did I expect to.

21,003. Who took you to poll for Mr. Wilkinson?—Perhaps a dozen; nobody took us; we went of ourselves.

21,004. With whom did you go?—Mr. Holdsworth, Mr. Catling, and Mr. Bartlett.

21,005. You did not receive anything from Mr. Holdsworth in 1863?—No, not a farthing.

21,006. Did you promise Holdsworth to vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—I did not want any asking for that. Mr. Gower and James Nichols met me in Church-street, and he introduced me to Mr. Gower, and he asked me if I would vote, and I said, "No; if I vote "at all, I shall vote for Mr. Wilkinson." He called once and I told him he need not call again, as I had made up my mind if I voted at all to vote for Mr. Wilkinson.

21,007. You received 5*l.* in 1865 and did not vote?—Yes.

21,008. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me; although you did not vote you took rather an active part about the election in 1865, didn't you?—Very little, sir.

21,009. But a little?—It was a little. I went to four people.

21,010. Did you canvass Webb among others?—I went to Webb.

21,011. And did you ask him to vote?—Yes.

21,012. Which way did you ask him to vote?—For Mr. Monson.

21,013. That is a man named Matthias Webb?—Yes.

21,014. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which way did he vote?—For Gower.

21,015. (*The Chief Commissioner*). Did you know at the time you went to him that he was a Gower man?—I could not tell.

21,016. But did you know at the time that he was along with the Gower party?—I won't say that I recollect so or not. I should rather fancy from his words or his ways that he was that way.

21,017. Then may I take it that you believed at the time he belonged to Gower's party?—Yes.

21,018. Well, what did you tell him you would do or get done for him if he voted for Monson?—I said if he would vote for Monson I could get three or four pounds for him. That is what I said.

21,019. I need hardly ask you who told you to say that?—Oh, there was not a word passed at all, scarcely.

21,020. I meant to say I need hardly ask you which of Mr. Monson's agents it was who induced you to do that?—They never made use of such words.

21,021. Who told you to say you could get 3*l.* or

4*l.*?—Mr. Nichols did not tell me to say that. He said I was to go and do what I could.

21,022. Did Nichols give you three or four names on a piece of paper and say, "Go to Webb and the "other, and I will tell you what you may do. You "may offer them 4*l.* a head"?—I do not recollect. He never gave me no paper.

21,023. But had he a bit of paper, first of all, with the names written down?—I do not know that he had.

21,024. Do answer me?—I never saw the paper.

21,025. That won't do for me; there may be a way out?—I don't want a way out.

21,026. Did Nichols give you those four names written out?—No.

21,027. Did he give you two or three names written out?—No.

21,028. Did he mention three or four persons to whom you had better go?—That is nearer.

21,029. I want to know, first of all, whether the names were down on the paper?—Not that I know of. He had got no paper.

21,030. Did not Mr. Nichols mention the name of Lucock to you too?—Yes.

21,031. Where was Lucock at that time?—I think he was at the top of the town I believe at that time; oh, no, I don't know.

21,032. Was Lucock at that time up in the town?—I cannot tell where he was at that time. It was not then that I saw him; it might have been the next day.

21,033. Where did you see him the next day?—I think it was at the top of the town.

21,034. You knew Lucock very well; you went to him and said that you could get him 4*l.*?—Yes.

21,035. If he would vote for Monson?—Yes.

21,036. Well, now, what was the name of the other?—I did not offer any money to the others because they would not hear. Monk was one. I asked him.

21,037. Did you say the same to Monk?—No; at least I do not think I promised any amount of money to him.

21,038. "I do not think I said the same to Monk." Is that it?—I asked him to vote for Monson.

21,039. I will take any answer you like to tell me to put down?—It is a long time to recollect.

21,040. Did you say that you could get him 4*l.*?—I think not.

21,041. Very well, I will take it that you did not?—I asked him if he would vote for Monson, and he said he had not made up his mind about it.

21,042. One would think that would be just the time to pop in with the offer of the money?—I do not think I mentioned it.

21,043. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you the man that offered him 30*s.* a week; I mean Monk?—No.

21,044. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me also who the other man was?—I went to Turner; but he would not hear.

21,045. Which of them?—William, I believe; but he would not hear a word I had to say.

21,046. Where did you get William Turner's name? From Mr. Nichols too?—Yes.

21,047. Do you recollect whether there was anybody else?—No, I never asked any more.

21,048. How long was it before the election that you got these names from Mr. Nichols?—About a fortnight, I suppose.

21,049. During that fortnight, you know, there was plenty of time for you to have some talk with the Gower people?—I had no talk.

21,050. You had not?—None at all; not as I know of; they never come to me; never troubled me a bit.

21,051. Then why did not you vote for Monson?—I told you why.

21,052. Because you thought you would annoy your customers?—Yes.

21,053. If I take your answer to that as quite correct you must allow me to have my own understanding about Mr. Nichols and the 5*l.* and the journey to London?—Yes.

21,054. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take the 5*l.* from Nichols because you did not want to annoy your neighbours, the people you work for?—That is another side of the question.

21,055. Well, let us take the other side of the question. I want you to answer that?—I was wrong in having anything to do with him.

21,056. Now, really was not the truth of it this, that you were to have the 5*l.* for going to London; not to vote?—It would be against their interest, because if I voted I should vote for Monson.

21,057. Then you got the 5*l.* to vote for Monson?—No.

21,058. What for?—To play with Lucock; to give to him, and to go and see these four.

21,059. You never gave a single penny to any of them. If it was given to you to give to Lucock, and he would not take it, why did not you give the money back to Mr. Nichols?—He never asked for it.

21,060. Common honesty would have suggested to your mind to give it back. You received the money you say to play with Lucock?—It was not mentioned for that.

21,061. What was it for?—To do as I liked with it, and I suppose I did as I liked with it.

21,062. Was not it honestly given to you, in fact, in order that you should vote for Monson?—No.

21,063. You did not understand it so?—It was not so.

21,064. Was not Nichols afraid you would be caught hold of by your customers on the Gower side; was not that the reason?—No.

21,065. You were afraid to vote for Monson?—I did not want to vote for either.

21,066. You did not want to vote for either, and you were afraid to vote, and so you took the 5*l.* Well, I think we can understand it, if you don't give your explanation?—I did not want to vote.

21,067. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told us that Nichols gave you 5*l.* before you went up to London?—I said a fortnight before the election.

21,068. That was not the only amount, was it?—Yes.

21,069. Are you sure?—Quite sure.

21,070. The only amount at that time, but you received a little more money, did not you?—No, not at any time.

21,071. I do not mean for yourself?—I was not offered any at all.

21,072. Were not you paid a little more than that?—No.

21,073. Recollect?—I do not want no recollection.

21,074. Are you quite sure?—I know what you are thinking upon; Buckland and Joyes fancy that it was more, but they are very much mistaken.

21,075. I have not seen either of them, but they thought it was 10*l.* didn't they?—It has been hinted, but they did not know what I had.

21,076. What made them think it was 10*l.*?—I cannot tell what makes them think; I cannot tell what you are thinking of now.

21,077. Was there anything said about 10*l.*?—No.

21,078. Perhaps I ought not to have said 10*l.*, but 2*l.*?—No.

21,079. I want to have this explained. You were to tell two or three of these people, two of them certainly, that you could get 4*l.* each for them. That would be 8*l.*, and your fiver would not do for that?—If I had got them to promise I should have gone to head quarters at once.

21,080. Were not you already provided with some

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money, if they were willing, to slip it into their hands as an earnest?—Only that 5*l.*

21,081. Was not that it?—No, only 5*l.*

21,082. Do you mean to say you never were offered another 5*l.*?—No, I was not.

21,083. Nor got it?—No, nor yet expecting it.

21,084. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I do not think you have told us what was your real object in going to London?—Yes, I have; because I did not want to vote.

21,085. You had no other object?—No; I might have done some business there.

21,086. But very likely you did not?—Very likely.

The witness withdrew.

J. Worsfold.

JAMES WORSFOLD called, sworn, and examined.

21,087. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You voted at the last election?—Yes, for Gower.

21,088. What are you?—A coach painter.

21,089. What wages do you get?—27*s.* a week.

21,090. What rent do you pay?—10*l.* a year.

21,091. And how long have you been on the register here?—Only this last election.

21,092. Were you on Gower's committee?—Yes, I believe I was.

21,093. Who asked you to go on the committee?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith canvassed me five or six weeks before the election, and I promised Mr. Gower there and then.

21,094. That is not when you went on the committee?—I do not know what time I might have gone on; a few days; I do not know.

21,095. No one else asked you?—No one else but Mr. Gower. He asked me then, and I promised to vote. He asked me if I had any objection to go on the committee.

21,096. Did Mr. Gower tell you that if you went on the committee you would get remunerated for your loss of time?—No, he did not.

21,097. Or Mr. Smith either?—No.

21,098. You know Mr. Durrant?—Yes, I do.

21,099. Did he speak to you?—He did not.

21,100. Not about the election?—No

21,101. Have you received any money since the election?—No, I have not been offered anything. It is very acceptable sometimes, but I have not been offered anything on this occasion.

21,102. Has not Durrant spoken to you about this election?—No, he has not.

21,103. Not in any way?—He might have spoken something about it, but he did not ask me for my vote. Mr. Gower asked me five or six weeks before, and I promised it then, and no one else has asked me for it. Mr. Gower asked me if I had any objection to go on the committee.

21,104. Not Joyes?—No.

21,105. Nor Buckland, nor any of those men?—No, none of them.

21,106. Did you attend the committee often?—No, I did not attend the committee at all.

21,107. Were you canvassed by the Monson party?—No, I was not.

21,108. Not at all?—No, I did not have one of the Monson parties to see me about it.

21,109. Were you at the committee when Mr. Gower made the speech which you know has been mentioned here, that those who worked for him should be paid well?—No, I was not there, but I have seen the speech he made, though I was not here to hear it.

21,110. Where did you see it?—In the paper.

21,111. Since this Inquiry?—Since the Inquiry.

21,112. Not before?—No, I did not hear of it before.

21,113. Did not you hear it abroad amongst your committee men?—No; I do not remember anything about it.

28,114. About what?—About what was in the paper. I only saw it in the paper. I had not heard it before.

21,115. What Mr. Gower said?—I saw something in the paper about it.

21,116. Before the election did you hear it rumoured amongst your fellow committee men that they were going to be paid for their services?—No, I did not.

21,117. Or get something for their work?—No.

21,118. Have you been offered anything?—No, nothing.

21,119. Who took you up to the poll?—Well, I don't know who it was. I was up early in the morning. I came up in a carriage with a few more.

21,120. Were you at the nomination?—No.

21,121. Did you go to your work after you had polled?—No, I was about that day.

21,122. What, attending, bringing up voters?—No, I was about in the town.

21,123. Doing nothing?—Doing nothing.

21,124. About in the refreshment houses then?—Well, I can't say I was not in a refreshment house. I was in one.

21,125. Which one was that?—I believe it was the "Crown" that I went into.

21,126. Who keeps that?—I do not know.

21,127. Did you pay for your refreshment?—Yes, I paid for what I had, and I was asked to drink by some one who stood in the bar. I do not know who it was.

21,128. Did you attend any of the refreshment houses before?—Yes, I was at the "Angel."

21,129. Was there a good deal of refreshment going on?—I do not know; there might have been. I was there an hour or so.

21,130. Did you have refreshment there?—I don't know. I was asked to take a glass of grog, and I had it. Who paid for it I don't know.

21,131. And you, upon your oath, say that you never were offered anything, and never received anything?—No, I never were offered anything and never received anything.

21,132. You know Groom?—Yes.

21,133. Groom that keeps the "Barley Mow"?—No.

21,134. But you know him?—Yes.

21,135. You knew him previous to the election?—Yes.

21,136. You recollect a conversation with him about the election?—He is a shopmate of mine, and of course we had plenty of conversation together.

21,137. You had a conversation about the election?—No, nothing particular.

21,138. You had not?—Nothing out of the usual way.

21,139. Do you recollect Groom saying anything about Durrant to you?—No, he did not.

21,140. You were at the breakfast at the "Barley Mow," were not you, on the day of the election?—Yes, I was.

21,141. At what time did you go in there?—I do not know what time; it was sometime before I come to the poll. It might have been 8 o'clock, or perhaps a little before.

21,142. Well, about 8 o'clock; you breakfasted there?—Yes.

21,143. Did any one take you in there?—Did any one take me in? No.

21,144. How did you know there was a breakfast?—Well, I was living close to the place, and I was asked to go in and have breakfast, and I went in.

21,145. Who asked you?—I do not know. There were several about there. I cannot tell.

21,146. Had you made up your mind whom to vote for before you went in?—I told you I had promised Mr. Gower five or six weeks before the election.

21,147. But you might have altered your mind?—No; when I make a promise I keep it.

21,148. On that occasion did you have some conversation about whether you did mean to do it or not?—No, I did not.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS WILLIAMS called, sworn, and examined.

T. Williams.

21,149. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Williams?—A potter.

21,150. Where do you work?—Where I live, at Woodhatch.

21,151. What rent do you pay for your house?—28*l.*

21,152. Are you a master?—Yes.

21,153. You employ people?—Yes.

21,154. How many people do you employ or influence?—I do not know that I influence many. I employ four or five.

21,155. You might influence them by employing them occasionally, not regularly. Did you vote for Gower?—Yes.

21,156. Before the election you were on his committee, were not you?—Yes.

21,157. Who put you on his committee?—Mr. Gower, I suppose, or Mr. Smith. I do not know.

21,158. Who asked you to go on?—Mr. Gower or Mr. Smith.

21,159. What were you to do?—Nothing.

21,160. Shall I put that down, "I was to do no-"thing"?—Yes; I never was asked to do anything.

21,161. And were you to receive anything?—No; there was nothing mentioned about that.

21,162. What did you expect?—Nothing.

21,163. Did not you expect to be paid for your services or loss of time?—No.

21,164. Did not you lead them to think you were expecting something?—No.

21,165. Were you asked by anybody to canvass for Gower?—Well, I don't know; I might be asked by Mr. Durrant; that is all.

21,166. Do you mean to say that Durrant came to you and asked you to do it for nothing?—Yes, I never asked him for anything.

21,167. I did not say you did, but did Durrant come to you and say, "Will you be good enough to "canvass and do what you can for our side for "nothing"?—Well, he asked me if I would ask one or two to vote, but as for any money there was nothing said about it.

21,168. I know there was nothing said about money?—I never recollected any.

21,169. Did he ask you to go and speak to one or two people for nothing?—There was nothing said about money.

21,170. He did not state that what you were to do was to be gratuitous?—I thought so; I did not expect anything, and he never said a word about any.

21,171. Any what?—Any money.

21,172. Not about any money, but did not he say you would get something?—No.

21,173. Not for loss of time?—No, I never lost any time.

21,174. You may have lost no time, but when Durrant asked you to go to these men he could not tell that you were not going to lose any time?—No, very likely not.

21,175. Then did not Durrant give you to understand that if you did lose any time you would not be forgotten?—No.

21,176. Have you seen Durrant lately?—No, no lately.

21,177. How long since?—Three or four days.

21,178. Did you tell Durrant you were summoned?—No.

21,179. Did Durrant tell you were summoned?—No.

21,180. Did Durrant know you were summoned?—No, I have never been summoned

21,181. I beg your pardon, how is it you are here?—I had a letter here this morning.

21,182. Not a summons?—No.

21,183. It is quite immaterial. Did Durrant say anything about what was going on up here?—No.

21,184. You had no conversation at all?—No.

21,185. Have you made any application to any person since the election?—What for?

21,186. Anything?—No.

21,187. Not to anybody?—No.

21,188. Were you here yesterday?—No.

21,189. Did you hear at the election anything about a cannon that was changing hands?—Yes, I did.

21,190. What was the name of the man to whom the cannon belonged?—Russell.

21,191. You all supposed that was his cannon, did not you?—I believe it was his cannon.

21,192. Do you recollect going to him about the cannon?—Yes.

21,193. You offered him something for the cannon, did not you?—Well, I did sir, and I gave him something at the time.

21,194. Who sent you to him?—Mr. Durrant.

21,195. When was that? How long before the election?—I cannot tell you how long; a fortnight or three weeks.

21,196. Well, what did Durrant tell you to offer for the cannon?—He did not tell me to offer anything for the cannon, not then.

21,197. Not when?—When I asked Russell about it, he told me he had been bid 6*l.* for the cannon, and he had been bid 10*l.* for the cannon.

21,198. I dare say he told you who it was bid the 10*l.* Who was it?—Mr. Holdsworth.

21,199. Will you be kind enough to tell me what Durrant told you to give for the cannon if you could get it?—He told me I could offer him 6*l.* for it.

21,200. And you did offer it?—I gave it to him.

21,201. Oh, you gave him 6*l.*?—I gave it; Durrant gave me the money to give to him.

21,202. Did you take the 6*l.* with you?—When Durrant gave it to me.

21,203. Did it not strike you as rather odd that he had refused 10*l.*, and come down to 6*l.*?—I don't know whether he had the 10*l.* right down offered to him.

21,204. Did he tell you who the man was that offered it to him?—Mr. Holdsworth.

21,205. I am afraid you did not walk off with the cannon?—No.

21,206. It was up in the bush?—Up in the bush.

21,207. Did you say to Russell, "I should like to "see the cannon; just come and show it to me"?—No, I did not.

21,208. You did not see it at all?—No, I knew where it was.

21,209. Well I have never seen it yet; perhaps you never have?—Yes, I have.

21,210. When did you see it?—A twelvemonth ago.

21,211. It was after the election?—No.

21,212. You have never seen it since you bought it?—No.

21,213. Whose cannon is it now?—Whose is it now?

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21,214. Yes?—I do not know that I can tell you.

21,215. Did Durrant send you with any more money to anybody?—No.

21,216. You knew that money was going on the Gower side?—I knew that, because I took it.

21,217. Did not you know that money was going on the Gower side?—No, I did not.

21,218. But you took this 6*l.*?—I took this money, and took it down to him.

21,219. Did you not know from that circumstance that money was going on the Gower side?—Not any more.

21,220. But you knew from that circumstance that money was going on the Gower side? Say "yes" or "no," whichever you like. — I did not know that more was.

21,221. I have not said a word about "more," but you yourself took 6*l.* and paid it. Now do you mean to say you have no notion that money was going on the Gower side?—Well, there was money going.

21,222. Do you mean to saythat you were not looking for anything for your vote?—No.

21,223. Not looking for anything for your services?—No.

21,224. I do not mean going to get it, but expecting it?—No, nor expecting it.

21,225. Nor hoping for it?—No.

21,226. But were not you thinking you deserved something for your services?—I might have deserved something, but I never asked for anything or expected anything.

21,227. I forget whether you told me how long this was before the election?—Three weeks.

21,228. After that had you some talk with some of Monson people?—No.

21,229. Or they with you?—No.

21,230. Was any sort of overture made to you from the Monson side?—No, not from any one.

21,231. Were you at any of the Monson houses?—I may have gone into the "Grapes," to have a glass of beer or anything of that sort.

21,232. At Mr. Nichols'?—Yes.

21,233. Do you happen to recollect when it was you went into the "Grapes"? It was in the evening, was it not?—Yes.

21,234. Tell me how long before the fortnight, may it have been a week?—It may have been a fortnight.

21,235. What did you do in there?—I do not recollect anything in particular.

21,236. Cannot you recollect any one in particular you met there?—No.

21,237. Do you recollect meeting any one of Mr. Gower's party in Mr. Nichols'?—No, I do not remember it.

21,238. I wish you did remember who was in Mr. Nichols'?—I do not recollect.

21,239. Did you see Mr. Nichols himself?—That I cannot say.

21,240. Did you have a little talk with him about the election?—No; I never talked with him about the election.

21,241. The election had gone off then. I do not know whether you mean any conversation about the election which had taken place, or the election which was about to take place?—No, never.

21,242. But about what was going on?—I never had any conversation with Mr. Nichols about the election.

21,243. Do you recollect coming out of the "Grapes" and seeing one of the Monson party?—No.

21,244. I will go back from that to the other story, going back for what you did for Mr. Durrant when you bought the cannon. Did you go back at once, and tell him what you had done?—No.

21,245. What did he say to you?—All right.

21,246. What, "good-bye" like that (*making a motion with his hand*)?—Yes.

21,247. What did he say about you? Did he ask you to go to somebody else, as you were rather a good hand?—No.

21,248. Then did you say, "Very well; good-night "Mr. Durrant"?—I suppose I did, but I do not know.

21,249. Something like that. Is that all that psssed?—Yes, I never went to any one else.

21,250. I do not say you did go to anybody else; but did Mr. Durrant say that he would like you to go to somebody else?—No.

21,251. I do not understand those things so well as you; but it seems to me odd that when you went back to Mr. Durrant, and said you had made such a good bargain, that he should merely say, "Very well; good "night." It was an odd way of dismissing you; did you not think so?—Yes.

21,252. Was not something else said by Mr. Durrant? Did he not say, "All right, you shall not be forgotten"?—No.

21,253. Did you have a glass of grog with him, or anything like that?—I have had several glasses of grog with him.

21,254. But then?—No.

21,255. It seems to me such a very odd thing to dismiss a man like that who had made a very good bargain.—I had nothing to do with the bargain.

21,256. If you sent a man to buy a horse, and the man bought it for you on good terms and a little bit cheaper than you expected, and he came back and said, "I have bought the horse," you would not say "Good night;" that would be rather abrupt. There would be some little talk about commission for the horse, or something of that kind?—I do not know; that was all that passed.

21,257. My friend has suggested to me that if you got nothing you had the satisfaction of grumbling over it that Mr. Durrant was rather ungrateful; you felt that?—Not at all.

21,258. Did you not expect what you had done would be reported in higher quarters, and go up to the commander-in-chief?—Not that I know of; it might have been.

21,259. May I take this down, "I did think after I "had bought the cannon it might be mentioned in "higher quarters"?—No.

21,260. Did you receive any other money, whether it was for yourself or for other people; did you not receive any other money beyond the 6*l.*?—No.

21,261. When Mr. Durrant told you to go and get the cannon how much money did he give you?—6*l.*

21,262. But he did not know Mr. Russell's price?—I told him Mr. Russell's price, and I took it straight to Mr. Russell.

21,263. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had been with Mr. Russell twice?—Yes.

21,264. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you tell Russell, "I think I can get you your price for the "cannon"?—I did not tell him that; he told me what he wanted, and I said I would see Mr. Durrant, and let him know.

21,265. What he wanted was 6*l.*?—Yes.

21,266. Did he tell you that first?—Yes.

21,267. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you live next door to Mr. Russell?—No.

21,268. How far from Mr. Russell?—Half a mile.

21,269. You are a man who employ five or six men; what is Mr. Durrant?—A brewer.

21,270. Were you under any obligation to Mr. Durrant?—No.

21,271. Do you mean to tell me Mr. Durrant would come to you, a man who employs five or six men, and say, "Go to Russell"?—No, he did not.

21,272. What did he say?—That came up in conversation.

21,273. What did he say?—He asked me if I knew Russell, and I said yes.

21,274. Go on?—He asked me to go and see him about his vote.

21,275. That is telling you to go. It does strike me as singular a respectable man like you should be made a messenger to Russell; you were to go and see Russell about what?—About the gun.

21,276. About the cannon?—Yes.

21,277. You know that was all a sham; you were to get Mr. Russell's vote; we will have things by the right name?—Yes, of course it was.

21,278. And you knew it?—Yes.

21,279. You went on a sham to go and bribe Mr. Russell, and you went up there and saw him?—Yes.

21,280. Did you go to his house?—No.

21,281. I want to know the employment of a respectable man who has five or six men under him; did you go up and see him?—I saw him in the road.

21,282. Where did you find him?—He came out in the road.

21,283. Did you go to his house?—Not then.

21,284. How did you find him in the road?—He was out in the road in front of his house.

21,285. Then you did go to his house; what time in the day was it when you went?—The evening

21,286. You want in the evening half a mile; what part of Reigate is it?—It is at the back of the park.

21,287. Rather a remote place; you went to the back of the park and saw Mr. Russell on a July or June evening in front of his house; he was a poor man, and you knew a little money would be in his way?—I did not know it.

21,288. Yes you did know he was a poor man; you said, "What will you take for your cannon," and then you went back again to Mr. Durrant?—Not that evening.

21,289. When did you go to Mr. Durrant again? You had ascertained then that there was a voter to be had for 6*l.* "Now," you said, "I am sent on this respectable "message to bribe this poor man, and I have found "him willing to receive 6*l.*;" when did you see Mr. Durrant with that message?—I cannot say what date.

21,290. You went very soon after. How far does Mr. Durrant live from you?—Half a mile.

21,291. Did you go to Mr. Durrant or did Mr. Durrant come to you?—I went to Mr. Durrant.

21,292. When?—In the evening.

21,293. The next evening?—No.

21,294. When?—A night or two after.

21,295. Did you go to Mr. Durrant to deliver the message to him, or for any other purpose?—I do not know that I went in particular for that.

21,296. What did you go to him for?—I do not know.

21,297. You were in constant communication with Mr. Durrant during the three weeks?—No, not particularly; I saw him a great many times.

21,298. You saw him almost every day in the week?—No, I should say that I did not see Mr. Durrant not once in the day; it was in the evening.

21,299. I mean almost every evening?—Not every evening.

21,300. Almost every evening during that time?—No.

21,301. How often in the week?—Two or three times a week.

21,302. Now, you went down to him, and you told him you had seen Russell, and that he was a safe man, and that he would be ready to be here for 6*l.*?—Yes, I told him he would sell the gun for 6*l.*

21,303. Don't tell me about the gun; Mr. Durrant knew as well as you did that it was all a farce and sham. You said to him, "Here is a man who is to "have 6*l.*;" did he give you the 6*l.* then?—I do not know whether it was that night.

21,304. Did he say, "You must come again; I have "not got the 6*l.*; I must go to head quarters and get "the 6*l.*; I must go and get the money"?—He did not go.

21,305. He did not give you the 6*l.* that evening?—Not that evening, I called for it.

21,306. He must have told you that he had not got it; where did he tell you he would get it from?—I do not know; from Mr. Smith, I suppose.

21,307. Where did he tell you he would get it; did he tell you he would go to the committee?—He would get it from Mr. Smith, I suppose.

21,308. How soon after the evening you told him that did he give you the 6*l.*?—Two or three nights.

21,309. You were living half a mile from him, and he told you he would get it from Mr. Smith?—Yes.

21,310. You knew Mr. Smith was the agent for the Gower party?—Yes.

21,311. Then he gave you the 6*l.*; are you sure it was not 8*l.*?—It was not.

21,312. Remember yourself, and be very cautious; now are you sure you did not receive 8*l.* on that occasion?—I did not.

21,313. How did he pay you?—He gave me six sovereigns.

21,314. Are you sure there were not eight sovereigns?—I am quite certain.

21,315. It was too late to go that evening to Mr. Russell?—No.

21,316. As soon as you got the money what did you do with it?—I took it straight down to him.

21,317. How far was Mr. Russell's from Mr. Durrant's?—About five minutes walk.

21,318. Will you tell me why Mr. Durrant did not go with the money?—I do not know why he did not. He asked me if I would take it down.

21,319. Will you tell me why Mr. Durrant employed you in this transaction with the money?—I do not know why.

21,320. Do not tell me that you do not know why. I could very well understand why he should employ you in this transaction with Mr. Russell if it was not a single transaction?—I do not know why it was.

21,321. Is that the answer you give?—Yes; he asked me to go and see Russell, and I told you once before I went and saw him.

21,322. You had seen the gun before you knew the gun was for sale, did you not?—Yes.

21,323. How long before Mr. Durrant spoke to you did you know the gun was for sale?—A week perhaps.

21,324. Who told you?—Mr. Russell did.

21,325. Then you saw Mr. Russell three times about the gun?—I do not know that I saw him about the gun, but he told me about it.

21,326. You saw him three times?—I saw him three times, but I do not know that it was about the gun.

21,327. You told Mr. Durrant that it was to be sold?—I told him so.

21,328. And you told him that his vote would go with it?—Yes.

21,329. I ask you again, upon your oath, for all that dirty work did you not receive anything?—I did not.

21,330. Was it your love of the dirty work that made you do it?—I do not know.

21,331. Had you a love for the dirty work?—I do not know about that. I did not receive a farthing.

21,332. Did you like the work?—No; I wish I had never had anything to do with it.

21,333. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say that three or four days ago you went and saw Mr. Durrant?—Yes.

21,334. Tell me the day?—I do not know the day.

21,335. Tell me what time of the day?—I do not know what time of the day.

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21,336. Tell me the time of the day, do you recollect that?—I think it was on Saturday.

21,337. This last Saturday; now what time of the day was it?—After dinner I think.

21,338. In the afternoon?—Yes.

21,339. Tell me the business you went on?—He asked me if I had got a summons, and I said, "No."

21,340. Mr. Durrant asked you?—Yes.

21,341. That is not what you said half an hour ago; you told a different story then. How came you to go to Mr. Durrant, or did he come to you on Saturday?—He was over at my place.

21,342. He came over to you?—Yes.

21,343. Then you did not go to him?—No.

21,344. Was that the first thing Mr. Durrant said to you, "Have you got a summons"?—No, I do not know that it was. He came to me on business.

21,345. On what business?—He brought me some beer.

21,346. Does he deliver his own beer?—He does sometimes.

21,347. It is not usual, is it?—Oh, yes; very usual.

21,348. Had you ordered any beer?—Yes.

21,349. When?—Two or three days before.

21,350. Were you out of beer?—Yes.

21,351. Mr. Durrant came to you with your beer, and did he at once say, "Well, have you got a "summons"?—I do not know that he did directly; it came up in conversation. He asked me if I had got a summons and I said, "No."

21,352. What was the conversation that brought up the summons?—Something about the election.

21,353. Something about the election and about this Inquiry?—Yes.

21,354. Tell me what he said?—I cannot remember what he said about this Inquiry.

21,355. Yes you can, and you must tell us?—I cannot.

21,356. You omitted to tell us before that Mr. Durrant spoke at all to you about this Inquiry?—It was not about the money.

21,357. About this Inquiry?—He asked me if I had got a summons.

21,358. Why did he ask you that?—I suppose because a great many had summonses.

21,359. He did not stop there. You told him you were likely to attend here?—I do not know I told him that.

21,360. Tell me what took place between you and Mr. Durrant in speaking with reference to this Inquiry?—I do not know that he spoke about my evidence at all; he only asked me if I had got a summons, and I said "No."

21,361. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you not Thomas?—Yes.

21,362. Thomas Williams, junior?—Yes.

21,363. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Durrant give you any caution as to what you were to do if you came before this Commission?—No.

21,364. He spoke to you about the Commission and the Inquiry?—I told him I should out with the truth.

21,365. Yes, but you have not out with it yet?—I have.

21,366. Not the whole of it?—I have.

21,367. Have you anything further that you ought to inform the Commission of and make them acquainted with?—No.

21,368. Be cautious; you say you have not?—I have not.

21,369. Have you not received money from Mr. Durrant?—No, never a farthing.

21,370. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Or money's worth?—No.

21,371. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you owe him any money then at the time of the election?—No.

21,372. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now listen, what I have got there is Mr. Durrant's account; it may be you can explain it, and I hope you can. In Mr. Durrant's account I find, "Thomas Williams, "jun., taking an active part in Woodhatch and "Dover-green district." That is your name (*handing document to witness*)?—Yes.

21,373. There is your name, and Mr. Durrant has returned it. I have not told you what sum yet, but to that name 6*l.* is put; what was that for?—For the cannon.

21,374. It is for taking an active part in Woodhatch and Dover-green district?—I never took an active part in Woodhatch and Dover-green district.

21,375. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take an active part?—This money I took and handed to Russell.

21,376. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) 6*l.* is what he put you down for, and he appears to have been paid for that?—Perhaps he will answer for that when he comes.

21,377. We shall ask him?—I hope you will.

21,378. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you on your solemn oath swear that you did not have any money from Mr. Durrant?—I do.

21,379. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Except the 6*l.* for the cannon?—I do.

21,380. Do you not think, after my reading that over and your seeing your name, that you have got a claim on Mr. Durrant for 6*l.*?—No.

21,381. He seems to have got 6*l.* then for nothing. I wish an account from you; it looks as if he got 6*l.* for you?—I hope he may be able to answer for himself. I have not had the 6*l.*

21,382. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Durrant tell you that he had returned your name as having received 6*l.*?—He said he should return it.

21,383. For what money?—For 6*l.*

21,384. For what?—The cannon.

21,385. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And you assented to that?—Yes, I must; how could I get off from it?

21,386. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But you had not received 6*l.*?—I did receive 6*l.*

21,387. I beg your pardon; you never received 6*l.*—I did receive 6*l.*

21,388. You never received a farthing; it is a quibble?—I received 6*l.*

21,389. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is a quibble; it passed through your hands?—Yes.

21,390. Mr. Durrant returned this amount as having been paid to you?—I never received a farthing.

21,391. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You consented that Mr. Durrant should return you as having received 6*l.*?—Yes,

21,392. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When did he tell you that?—Last Saturday.

21,393. Was not that the object of his visit to you?—No.

21,394. What more did he tell you about that?—Nothing.

21,395. Yes, he did; we are obliged to drag this out of you by degrees; he did not stop there; he said more than that?—He told me he had returned me for 6*l.*

21,396. Did he not tell you something of this sort, that you were not to say that that was 6*l.* on account of a bribe?—No.

21,397. But for your work as canvasser?—No.

21,398. Nothing of the sort?—No.

21,399. Tell me what he did say?—Nothing of the kind. I told him that I should speak the truth.

21,400. Why did you tell Mr. Durrant you should speak the truth?—Because Mr. Russell said he should speak the truth.

21,401. How did you know that?—He told me he would a week ago.

21,402. Then Mr. Durrant did speak to you about his business on Saturday?—About the 6*l.*

21,403. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You went to Mr. Durrant's about it?—Yes, I did.

21,404. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you tell Mr. Durrant that Russell would speak the truth?—Yes.

21,405. You did?—Yes.

21,406. When you told him that Russell said he would speak the truth, what did Mr. Durrant say?—He said "Very well."

21,407. What else?—That was all.

21,408. No, indeed, that was not all?—Well, I do not know.

21,409. If that was all why should you say "It is my intention to speak the truth"?—He told me he had put the 6*l.* to me, and I said, "I shall tell them all "about it."

21,410. In what way did he tell you he had put the 6*l.* to you?—There was nothing more.

21,411. You are sworn to tell the whole truth?—I have told the whole truth.

21,412. No, you have not. I am very much inclined to disbelieve you when you tell me you have told the whole truth?—I have told you the whole truth about the money I received.

21,413. I am asking you about this conversation with Mr. Durrant?—I do not recollect anything more.

21,414. You will, if you only make up your mind?—I do not recollect.

21,415. What I believe is that you have come here not to tell the truth. You have told the Chief Commissioner and myself that you had no conversation about this Inquiry, and then it comes out that you had a long conversation with him?—It was not long.

21,416. Well, then, it was a short conversation, but an important one?—I have told you all about it.

21,417. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you go to Russell's?—Last week.

21,418. What day?—I do not know what day.

21,419. What took you to him? I am giving you an opportunity of clearing it up, and I wish you would; what took you to him?—I saw him when I went down there.

21,420. What took you down there?—I do not know anything in particular.

21,421. You went to see him?—I saw him when I got there.

21,422. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You went on purpose to see him?—No, not on purpose.

21,423. What for?—For a walk; I often go there for a walk in the evening.

21,424. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You knew he would very likely be examined about the cannon?—Yes, I knew he had a summons.

21,425. And he told you that he would honestly speak the truth?—He said he would speak the truth.

21,426. You saw Mr. Durrant after that?—At my own house; I think it was Thursday.

21,427. It was after Russell told you that he would speak the truth, and then you and Mr. Durrant knew it would come out?—Quite so.

21,428. And then it was that Mr. Durrant said, "Well, I have put you down for 6*l.*"?—He told me that I was put down at 6*l.*

21,429. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have not yet explained why you told Mr. Durrant you should speak the truth; who was it suggested that you should not tell the truth?—I do not know.

21,430. Did Mr. Durrant suggest it to you?—No.

21,431. Why should you make use of that extraordinary expression, that you would speak the truth?—I do not know.

21,432. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you say anything to Russell that it would be rather an awkward thing if that thing came out about the cannon?—No, I did not mind.

21,433. I did not expect that you did; I asked you whether you said that?—No.

21,434. You were a little alarmed then?—No, I did not feel the least alarmed about it.

21,435. You are a man of means?—Yes.

21,436. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you say anything like this, "I suppose we are not going to "hear anything about the story about the cannon"?—No.

21,437. You did not say, what?—I did not say anything about that.

21,438. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Durrant say he should not like the story to come out?—I do not know.

21,439. Did he wish it not to come out?—I do not know.

21,440. Did he say so?—No.

EDWARD WORSELL sworn and examined.

E. Worsell.

21,441. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a bricklayer?—Yes.

21,442. What rent did you pay for the house out of which you vote?—5*s.* a week.

21,443. What do you make by the week? What are your wages?—5*s.* a day, 30*s.* a week.

21,444. You voted for Mr. Gower at the last election?—Yes.

21,445. Had you voted before that?—No, I never had a vote before.

21,446. Were you on his committee?—Yes, I believe I was.

21,447. Mr. Green, I believe, put you on his committee?—Yes.

21,448. Henry Green?—Yes.

21,449. How much did Mr. Green give you for being on the committee?—He never gave me anything further than that I told him I was short of money, and he said, "I can lend you a sovereign;" that was all.

21,450. He lent you a sovereign?—That was all.

21,451. During the time of the election?—Yes.

21,452. I dare say you have paid him since?—No, I have not had time yet.

21,453. I am not at all astonished that you laugh at my simplicity to put such a question to you, but I will take care not to expose myself again to your laughing at me. That was not the only money you expected?—I did not expect any.

21,454. You thought you were entitled to a little more than 1*l.*?—I do not know about that.

21,455. Mr. Green put your name on the committee; that was four or five weeks before the election commenced?—Three or four weeks.

21,456. 1*l.* would be nothing; did you not expect a little more from Mr. Green?—What Mr. Green said to me was he would pay me for my loss of time.

21,457. Of course he would pay you for your loss of time?—Yes.

21,458. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was before he paid you the 1*l.*?—Yes. He was to pay me for my loss of time; I only lost one day.

21,459. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were on the committee some weeks?—I did not lose any time from being on the committee.

21,460. He told you you would be paid?—He told me so, first of all he lent me the sovereign.

21,461. That was on account?—He said it was not on account.

21,462. He said, "Mind, Worsell, I will lend you "this, but it is not to be on account"?—He said he would lend it to me; nothing was said about account at all; he said he had lent other sovereigns to other men and had never got paid.

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E. Worsell.

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21,463. He must have been a very good man to do that. Did you know a man named Layton or Leaton?—No.

21,464. We may be wrong in the name; it was a man you spoke to about not splitting, you said you would be true and you would not split. You recollect talking to a man about splitting?—I have split now all I know.

21,465. You have not split at all. Do you not recollect speaking to a man about not splitting?—I do not know Layton.

21,466. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is his name if it is not Layton?—I do not know what man you mean; I know Langton and Leatham.

21,467. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said to Mr. Langton or some one else, "They may serve me "with as many warrants as they like, I will not "split." Do you recollect saying that?—No.

21,468. Come now, I will put you in mind of it; you said, "You would be damned if you would split," using a strong word of that kind?—I had nothing to split.

21,469. But you said you would not?—I do not know that I did.

21,470. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You might have done so?—I do not say that I did not.

21,471. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you not get any more money at all?—No.

21,472. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have not applied for any since?—No.

21,473. Of course I mean to borrow any?—No, I have not borrowed any. It is no use to borrow any more, I have not paid that back.

21,474. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not expect to have to pay it back?—I do not know; I thought it was but fair for the time I lost.

21,475. What was the time you lost?—Two days.

21,476. The nomination day and the polling day?—Yes.

21,477. Did you know Mr. Green?—Yes, he was the man.

21,478. Oh, yes. Did you know a man of the name of Richard Goldsmith?—I know William Goldsmith, but not Richard.

21,479. Mr. Goldsmith had a sovereign lent him; I thought perhaps you might have been in the same boat?—No.

21,480. Notwithstanding your declaration, have you got anything further to split?—No, I have told all I have got to tell; there is nothing more.

21,481. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are not expecting to have to pay Mr. Green back that pound; just tell me honestly?—I have not paid it back; not yet.

21,482. Are you expecting to have to pay it?—I did not pay it back; I thought it would about pay me for my trouble.

21,483. It is for your satisfaction more than mine that I asked you; but I see that Mr. Green has charged the 20*s.* to Mr. Gower, so he is paid back?—Oh, then I am not in debt now.

The witness withdrew.

J. Hodge.

James Hodge sworn and examined.

21,484. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When were you summoned?—About a week before the Commission came.

21,485. What are you?—A publican.

21,486. Where do you live?—At Woodhatch.

21,487. What rent do you pay?—Thirty guineas a year.

21,488. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

21,489. Who asked you to vote for him?—Mr. Gower himself,

21,490. Did you promise him when he came that you would vote for him?—I told him he need not trouble himself any further, I was all right.

21,491. Did many people come to see you were all right?—Several did.

21,492. Who, among others?—Job Apted.

21,493. Did you go on the committee?—No.

21,494. Were you asked?—Yes, by Mr. Smith, who was with Mr. Gower.

21,495. Not by anybody else?—No.

21,496. What did Job Apted come to you about?—Merely to ask whether I was going to vote for Mr. Gower.

21,497. Had you no particular conversation?—No.

21,498. Woodhatch, how far off is that from this place?—About a mile; it is near the toll-gate.

21,499. Was your house open always?—Always open; not free for liquors.

21,500. But not at the election?—Not at all.

21,501. Was there any committee at your house?—I believe there were two committee meetings; two meetings I believe there were.

21,502. What did you charge for the room for the two meetings?—Nothing at all.

21,503. Were you to canvass?—No, sir.

21,504. Were you to do any work for Mr. Gower's party?—No, sir.

21,505. Were you to be paid at all for your place?—Not a farthing.

21,506. Not a farthing?—No, sir.

21,507. What did you get for what you did?—I sold my liquor.

21,508. Who paid for that?—Mr. Apted paid the biggest part, Job Apted.

21,509. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much might it be?—That I could not tell you, but it was between 4*l.* and 5*l.*; it might be clean on upon 5*l.*

21,510. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And how much was the next meeting?—That I could not tell; there were not many there; one paid for some, and then another paid.

21,511. How was it paid for?—It was paid for as it came in. I said I would not make an account; I would have it from the bar.

21,512. Was Mr. Apted there?—No, he was not there.

21,513. Who paid for it?—That I cannot say; that is what I cannot say; whoever ordered it when it was put on the table, two or three pots of beer and two or three glasses, the money was laid down.

21,514. Whose money was laid down?—It was mine when I picked it up.

21,515. I do not ask who picked it up, but who laid it down?—I do not know; it might be three or four would say they would pay for it, and so on.

21,516. Do you mean to say there was no treating that night?—That was all that I knew of.

21,517. You have mentioned none?—Only these two.

21,518. Were there two or three of Mr. Gower's agents there, leading men, and did they take care when any of the others chanced to come in to ask them to have something to drink?—I believe they did.

21,519. And then paid you for it?—Yes.

21,520. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Will you tell me about the amount of the second night?—I could not give you an idea; it was nothing in comparison with the first night, but what it was I can give you no idea.

21,521. But it was not so much as the first night?—No.

21,522. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you get no allowance for your rooms?—No.

21,523. Nothing at all?—No.

21,524. Did you not send in some claim for the committee room, two meetings?—No.

21,525. Did you receive any money at all?—No.

21,526. Not for any purpose?—No.

21,527. For no reason?—Not for any reason.

21,528. Did you make no claim?—No.

21,529. Did you send in any account to Mr. Apted?—No.

21,530. No further than the liquor?—The first night I did make out a claim for that, I did make out an account for that.

21,531. Did you send in an account to Mr. Smith?—No, sir.

21,532. Was this the first election you had voted at?—Yes.

21,533. Where were you in 1863?—In America.

21,534. Never mind that; it was the first election you were at?—Yes; I made a mistake, I was at Wandsworth.

21,535. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you know a man of the name of Brown?—I did.

21,536. Did Brown come to you?—I cannot say whether I went to him or he came to me; he was up at a building at his work, and I was taking beer to him.

21,537. I believe he is not a voter?—No.

21,538. Did Brown ask you to vote?—Yes.

21,539. Who for?—Mr. Monson.

21,540. Did he offer you anything?—He did, he offered me four sovereigns and two halves.

21,541. Just tell us in your own way all that took place between you and Brown?—I do not know whether it is worth mentioning.

21,542. We will judge whether it is worth mentioning or not; I mean in reference to the election and your voting; we will start with this 5*l.*?—He used to be tempting me all day, and I said, "It is no "use, Brown, it is no use; I have told Mr. Gower I "will vote for him."

21,543. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is Brown?—A plasterer.

21,544. Was it in joking or jesting; why should a plasterer offer you money?—He was trying to canvass me, and then the next day he showed this money, saying, "This is for you, Hodge."

21,545. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he show you the money?—He did.

21,546. Do you know a voter of the name of William Banks?—Yes, he was there at the same time, and was an eye witness to it.

21,547. It is in consequence of what Banks told us we are asking these questions?—Brown said, "If you "will not come our way we will not have any more "beer at your house;" I said, "I can do without you."

21,548. Did Brown say where he got the money from?—Oh, no; I did not ask him any questions.

21,549. Did you ever see Brown at any of the houses in the town?—No.

21,550. You never went to the "Grapes"?—No; I cannot say I never went into it, for I might in passing by, but I never went in on any particular occasion.

21,551. Then that is about all that took place between you and Brown?—Yes.

21,552. Do you know where Brown is now?—No; the last I heard of him was he was in London, but that was shortly after this, for he was dismissed from Carruthers, he was their foreman.

21,553. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I suppose you knew Apted very well?—Yes.

21,554. Do you recollect complaining to Apted because he had not paid you according to what you understood?—I asked him twice about the money for the beer which I served the night of the first meeting.

21,555. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Amounting to 4*l.* or 5*l.*?—Yes, just upon that.

21,556. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you not been paid for that?—I have now, I was on about twice.

21,557. After the 4*l.*?—No, after they had had my liquor.

21,558. You told me Apted paid you for all the liquor?—So he had, but it might be five or six days or seven; but so that I got my money that was all I cared about.

21,559. Do you recollect that about this time you had a pig, and rather a fine one?—I had two or three.

21,560. But you had a good pig then?—And so I have now.

21,561. Do you remember offering to sell this pig for a large sum of money?—No, sir.

21,562. Do you mean to say you did not offer to sell it for 20*l.*?—No, that is a mistake; if anybody had offered me 30*l.* I would not have sold him for I had made up my mind to eat him; I was tempted several times about him.

21,563. Before the election or after?—Before and after too.

21,564. Do you recollect being asked the price of it?—No, I never mentioned any price; I never said anything about the price.

21,565. I wish to know whether you were offered anything for the pig?—No.

21,566. Were you asked what the price was?—No.

21,567. Do you recollect saying your vote would go with the pig?—No, I never said no such thing.

21,568. No such thing?—No.

21,569. Nothing of the kind?—Nothing of the kind; if I did I don't know it.

21,570. Was anything said about any rabbits?—That was a common tale about rabbits, but there was nothing about money; there might have been something said, but I did not know it; I was a keeper of rabbits then.

21,571. Do you remember being offered 17*l.* for a lot of rabbits?—I was not; I should have been very glad if I had.

21,572. I do not mind about glad or sorry, but were you offered 17*l.* for a lot of rabbits before the election?—I was not.

21,573. Did anybody ask you what you would take for the rabbits?—They might have done, but I do not remember.

21,574. And did you say 17*l.*?—I did not, for I knew no one would give me such a sum of money for them.

21,575. Is that your only reason for saying it did not take place?—It never took place that I know of.

21,576. If you did, you would know of it?—I should think so; but I should think that was rather exorbitant.

21,577. Did you not say that anybody that gave you 17*l.* for your rabbits should have your vote?—I never said no such thing.

21,578. No such thing?—No such thing at all.

21,579. Do you know at all of anybody who said this took place?—No.

21,580. Did you never hear this before?—I did not; it is the first I ever heard about it.

21,581. There were the rabbits?—There were about 30, to the best of my recollection.

21,582. You were not asked the price of the rabbits or the pig?—No.

21,583. You would not agree for the price of the pig or the rabbits?—No.

21,584. You quite understand me?—I do.

21,585. And you say you never said whoever would give you 20*l.* for the pig or 17*l.* for the rabbits should have your vote?—No, I never said no such thing. I should have been very happy to have done as was done by the cannon. I should have collared the chance.

21,586. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ever

THIRTEENTH DAY.

J. Hodge.

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see Apted?—He was at my house very often; he comes in and out of my house, but I do not take any notice.

21,587. Did you see Brown?—Yes.

21,588. Did you hear him say from whom he got the money?—No, it was when I was up there about the beer. Brown and Apted have been at my house twice.

21,589. Was that before or after Brown had offered you the 5*l.*?—Before.

21,590. Did Brown ever speak to you about your vote at your own house?—I have no doubt he did.

21,591. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know Johnson?—I do.

21,592. Is it William?—I do not know whether it is William or not.

21,593. Do you remember having a talk with him about the pig?—He might do.

21,594. Do you remember having a talk to him about the price of the pig?—He might have said something.

21,595. He might have been saying what he has said now; did he not ask you what you would take for your pig?—He might have said so, but I have no recollection of it.

21,596. Did you say to Johnson your vote would go with the pig or the rabbits?—No.

21,597. That you deny?—I do deny it.

21,598. Did you say to Johnson, I give you the name, "This lot of rabbits I will sell for 17*l.*"?—No, I did not; the rabbits were not for sale.

21,599. And "the vote should go with it"?—No, I did not.

21,600. I give you the name now, and you can see it here; you see it here (*showing the witness a paper*)?—Yes, I see, but I positively deny that I said that.

21,601. You positively deny any such thing?—I do, any such thing.

21,602. In reference to some prior part of the history of this case, I will ask a question or two: Apted and Brown were frequently at your house?—Brown used to come in sometimes, and Apted would often look in.

21,603. What is Apted's business?—He is a pork butcher; he was pretty well over every day; he has to come and send.

21,604. Did they appear as friends much together?—They were together when I saw them together.

21,605. They were several times at your house?—I might see them three or four times a week; Brown, I think, nearly every day.

21,606. Did James Apted ever offer you money or anything if you would vote for Mr. Monson?—I do not remember.

21,607. He canvassed you, of course?—Yes.

21,608. Did he hold out any inducement to you to vote for Monson?—Not particular that I know.

21,609. Anything out of the particular?—Reeves, a shoemaker, was on to me one day.

21,610. Was that at your own house?—Yes.

21,611. He is a voter?—Yes, I believe he is. He lives down here in Bell-street.

21,612. That is John Reeves?—Yes.

21,613. Did he ever offer you money?—There was some money offered.

21,614. What did he offer you?—10*l.*, on my bar table.

21,615. Did he put it on your bar table?—Yes.

21,616. What became of the 10*l.*?—He took it up again.

21,617. Who did?—Reeves. He wished my missis to take it, saying it would buy her a nice silk dress.

21,618. Did you see this man Reeves offer this 10*l.* to your wife?—No, I went out of the bar, saying I would have nothing to say to it.

21,619. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You saw the sovereigns yourself?—Yes, and I believe there were ten—I thought there were.

21,620. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He told you there were ten?—Yes.

21,621. And he put them down on the table?—Yes.

21,622. And they looked like ten?—Yes.

21,623. Did anybody else canvass you?—No, only the same man.

21,624. How soon after did he try you again?—Not many days; it was something like the week before the election, that was the last time.

21,625. That was after Brown had offered you the 5*l.*?—I think it was; I cannot positively recollect whether it was after or before, to be certain.

21,626. I suppose on the second time when he offered you the 10*l.* you still refused?—Yes.

21,627. You told him you intended to vote for Gower?—Yes, no man's money should buy me. I would not be bought or sold.

21,628. And you received no money from Gower's party?—No, only for this liquor.

21,629. Or expect any?—No, nor yet expect any.

21,630. That was the first time?—Yes, that I was at an election; and I do not know anything of this money that was flying about.

21,631. Did anybody else, except these two men, Reeves and Brown, offer you any money?—No, I think not; and I do not know anything further about it.

Adjourned until 11 o'clock the following day.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

Thursday, 6th September 1866.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

J. Donaldson.

6 Sept. 1866.

JAMES DONALDSON sworn and examined.

21,632. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—Engine driver.

21,633. What rent do you pay for your house?—6*s.* 6*d.* a week.

61,634. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

61,635. Can you tell me how many railway voters there were; perhaps you know the exact number?—No, I do not.

21,636. Do you know it pretty nearly?—I should say about 20 or 22.

21,637. They say between 20 and 30; perhaps you know exactly?—I do not know.

21,638. Did you enter into the same arrangement as the others did?—Yes, I was put on the committee.

21,639. Did you receive 30*s.* a week, making it 4*l.* 10*s.*—Yes.

21,640. Who did you receive the 4*l.* 10*s.* from?—Mr. Shepherd.

21,641. Did you vote at any other election before this?—Yes, several.

21,642. At the last election before this, in 1863, were you at that time engine driver?—Yes.

21,643. Did you vote for Mr. Wilkinson or Mr. Gower?—Mr. Wilkinson.

21,644. Will you tell me whether all the railway men went together, as they did the last time?—The chief part of them.

21,645. You understand my question?—Yes.

21,646. Then do tell me if that was so?—The principal part went together, but there were some who did not.

21,647. So there were this time, there were one or two who did not go with the others; were they as much together in 1863 as they were last time?—I was on the committee.

21,648. But the railway men, did they hang together for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—Yes, they hung together.

21,649. What did you receive in 1863, I want you to tell me shortly?—Nothing.

21,650. How was that? Why was it they arranged to stick together?—There was no arrangement in particular, but we were all for Mr. Wilkinson. There was no committee for him the same as there was this time.

21,651. Was Mr. Wilkinson a director of the railway at that time?—Not that I am aware of.

21,652. I wish you would tell me why it was they agreed to go for Mr. Wilkinson in preference to Mr. Gower?—I suppose they considered he was the best man, because he was for the ballot.

21,653. I do not think that was the reason; I wish you would tell me?—I do not know the reason.

21,654. Did you receive anything at all for it?—Nothing at all.

21,655. No consideration?—No consideration whatever.

21,656. I am to take that as correct?—You are to take that as correct.

21,657. You quite understand that in the fullest sense of the word?—I quite understand; I never received any consideration or anything.

21,658. Tell me, at the general election of 1859, when the Hon. Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson stood, who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

21,659. He was not here at that time?—I believe not.

21,660. He was not here at that time himself; he was put up rather behind his back as they say?—Yes.

21,661. Did the railway men hang together; did they go in the same train?—I think they were principally for Mr. Wilkinson, but they were not so much combined.

21,662. You are an intelligent man, and I want to know exactly, as far as you can tell me, in 1859 what did the railway men get for their votes?—I am not aware of anything.

21,663. What did you get?—Nothing.

21,664. Nothing whatever?—Nothing whatever.

21,665. Do you wish me to understand you to pledge your word that they got no consideration at all?—I cannot speak for them, I speak for myself.

21,666. But for yourself?—I did not get anything.

21,667. Nor afterwards?—Nor afterwards.

21,668. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Not till 1865?—Not till 1865.

21,669. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There were two elections in the year before, in 1858; do you recollect whether you voted on the second election, when Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson fought it?—Yes, I went to the poll every time Mr. Wilkinson stood; I went for Mr. Wilkinson.

21,670. Did you ever receive anything for it?—No.

21,671. Did you go for Mr. Wilkinson on the Doulton election?—I ballotted for him.

21,672. Then you did not go further than that?—No.

21,673. I have finished your evidence with these words, "always voted for Mr. Wilkinson, and never "got anything"?—That is quite right.

21,674. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What wages do you get as engine driver?—7*s.* a day.

21,675. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1865 who was it who came among the railway people for Mr. Monson in the first instance, making arrangements?—Mr. Shepherd was the first who spoke to me about it.

21,676. I know that Mr. Shepherd made the arrangement, but he was not very high up as an agent. I want you to tell me, if you please, who was the first man, so far as you believe, who came down and worked the matter amongst the railway people?—I cannot say any one. I quite understand the question; but I am not aware of any one.

21,677. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not know who put Mr. Shepherd in motion?—No.

21,678. You say you voted for Mr. Wilkinson all through because he supported the ballot?—Yes.

21,679. Did the candidates at this last election, either Mr. Gower or Mr. Monson, support the ballot?—No.

21,680. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson for the ballot. You thought the ballot would put a stop to the intimidation, bribery, and corruption?—To a certain extent it would.

21,681. Do you think it would put a stop to men receiving money for their votes?—I cannot say that.

The witness withdrew.

WILSON BATES sworn and examined.

W. Bates.

21,682. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—An engine driver.

21,683. On the railway?—Yes.

21,684. You are on the South-eastern railway?—Yes.

21,685. What rent do you pay?—At the election time 6*s.* a week, but I am at another house now.

21,686. 6*s.* a week in 1865; what rent do you pay now?—I have a house I have built of my own; it is a society house I live in now.

21,687. A freehold house?—Yes.

21,688. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is it of 10*l.* value?—It is more than that.

21,689. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You get 7*s.* a day?—7*s.* a day.

21,690. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

21,691. Who did you vote for?—For no one at all last election.

21,692. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were out on the line, engaged all day?—I could have voted if I had chosen, but I made up my mind not to vote.

21,693. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you, with the others, agree to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

21,694. You did not come into the agreement?—No.

21,695. Did you promise your vote?—No.

21,696. Did you receive anything from either side?—No.

21,697. Did you not receive anything from Mr. Monson?—No.

21,698. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or from Mr. Shepherd?—No.

21,699. Did Mr. Shepherd offer you anything?—No.

21,700. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote in 1863?—Yes, for Mr. Wilkinson.

21,701. In 1863, do you recollect who canvassed you?—I saw Mr. Wilkinson himself, and I promised him my vote.

21,702. And you gave it to him?—Yes.

21,703. Did you get anything for it?—No.

21,704. Nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

21,705. How many elections have you voted in altogether?—Two before that.

21,706. Who for?—For Mr. Wilkinson each time.

21,707. Did you not get anything for it?—Nothing at all.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

W. Bates.

6 Sept. 1866.

21,708. You did not get money, but did you not get anything else ?—No, nothing at all.

21,709. No promise or consideration ?—No.

21,710. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You could have voted then, last time; why did you not vote ?—I was not disposed to vote, and I do not intend to vote any more.

21,711. Why not ?—I think I had better let it be.

21,712. In the first instance was any money offered to you ?—Nothing at all.

21,713. Was it offered to you and you handed it back ? Did not anything of the kind take place ?—No.

21,714. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote for Mr. Wilkinson because he supported the ballot ?—That was chiefly it.

21,715. (*Mr.*) *Commisssoner O'Brien.*) What was it disposed you not to vote again ; you seemed not to like it ?—I cannot get off to come just as I like ; it is rather inconvenient to us railway men to vote.

The witness withdrew.

T. Peeps.

THOMAS PEEPS sworn and examined.

21,716. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A smith.

21,717. At the railway ?—Yes, a railway smith.

21,718. About what are you earning ?—6*s.* a day.

21,719. What rent do you pay for the house you vote out of ?—5*s.* a week.

21,720. You voted at the last election ?—Yes.

21,721. Were you one of those men who came into the arrangement made by Mr. Shepherd ?—I was.

21,722. And you received the 4*l.* 10*s.* ?—I did.

21,723. Do you know of the deputation that time to the Gower party ?—No.

21,724. When Mr. Hayward and Mr. Reeves went up ?—I have heard of it since, but I did not know it at the time.

21,725. You knew of a deputation that went to Mr. Nichols, did you not ?—I did.

21,726. For more money ?—I did.

21,727. And you approved of the deputation that waited for more money ?—Yes.

21,728. Do you know of the deputation that waited upon him after the polling ?—I am not aware of any.

21,829. Had you voted before ?—Yes.

21,730. For whom ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

21,731. There was no money going then ?—Not any that I received.

21,732. But, so far as you are aware, was any going among the railway people ?—Not that I am aware of ; I never had any or saw any.

21,733. You would know it from the kind of knowledge that comes generally ; may we take it that so far as you believe there was no money going in 1863 amongst the railway people ?—So far as I believe there was not, I do not know of any, I never saw any or heard of any.

21,734. Can you tell me who it was who sent Mr. Shepherd amongst you ?—No, I cannot.

21,735. Because it was a bad thing ; you agree now with me that it was a bad thing to distribute money amongst respectable men like the railway men ?—It is, so far as it goes ; I suppose it looks bad at the last.

The witness withdrew.

J. Whitmore.

JOHN WHITMORE sworn and examined.

21,736. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your qualification as to rent ?—10*l.* a year.

21,737. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—For Mr. Gower.

21,738. What are you ?—A guard.

21,739. A railway porter ?—No, a goods guard.

21,740. Did you say a goods gatherer ?—A goods guard.

21,741. Do you belong to the railway ?—Yes.

21,742. You are guard to the goods trains ?—Yes.

21,743. What wages do you get ?—30*s.* a week.

21,744. Do you know Mr. Shepherd ?—Yes.

21,745. Did you get any money from Mr. Shepherd ?—I never did.

21,746. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

21,747. Did Mr. Shepherd offer you any money ?—No.

21,748. You were not one of the compact amongst those who got 4*l.* 10*s.* ?—No.

21,749. Who did you get your money from ?—I got 2*l.* from Mr. Green three months after.

21,750. Henry Green ?—That was not for the election ; he said he gave it to me because I was ill.

21,751. (*Mr.*) *Commissioner O'Brien.*) What was it for ?—Because I had been ill three months.

21,752. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When did Mr. Green give you the money ?—About three months after the election.

21,753. Who canvassed you ?—Mr. Green.

21,754. How long before the election did he canvass you ?—A fortnight or three weeks, perhaps.

21,755. Were you to go on the committee ?—They put me on, but I scratched my name off several of the papers.

21,756. Did Mr. Green speak to you about going on the committee ?—He did speak to me, and I said no.

21,757. Did he say if you went on the committee and worked you would get something ?—No, he did not.

21,758. Did any one else speak to you besides Mr. Green ?—No.

21,759. Had Mr. Green ever been so charitable before as to give you a couple of pounds ?—No.

21,760. You were surprised, were you not ?—Yes.

21,761. What is Mr. Green ? a labouring man, is he not ?—A builder, I think he is.

21,762. A builder in a small way ?—No, I think not.

21,763. He works with a trowel ?—I do not know about the trowel.

21,764. He works on a building ?—Yes.

21,765. Had you told Mr. Green you wanted money ?—No, I never saw him till he came up to the station.

21,766. Of course you had not told him you had been poorly ?—No, he knew that, because I live close to him.

21,767. Had you been away from your work ?—Yes, for three weeks.

21,768. Did the railway pay you after you went ?—No, only sick money.

21,769. That is, what you got from the sick fund ?—Only what we pay ourselves.

21,770. From the men's sick fund ?—Yes.

21,771. Had you asked Mr. Green for 2*l.* ?—No.

21,772. He paid you at the station ?—Yes, up at the station.

21,773. How long after you had been at work did he pay you ?—About the second or third day.

21,774. Then you were three weeks away without his coming to you ?—Yes.

21,775. He knew you were ill ?—Yes.

21,776. Did he pay the 2*l.* at once ?—Yes, he gave it me in my hand when I was coupling the trucks, and he said, "Here is 2*l.* for a present for you ;" and I said, "Thank you ;" and of course I took it.

21,777. What did he say when he gave you the 2*l.* ?—He asked me how I was. I said I was better, and he made me a present of it.

21,778. Then he pulled 2*l.* out of his pocket and gave it to you ?—Yes.

21,779. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think you are

over honest, Whitmore; he did not give you more than 30*s.*, did he; I do not want to take the shine out of Mr. Green?—No, 2*l.*

21,780. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he give you 30*s.* or 2*l.*?—2*l.*

21,781. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You got 2*l.* from him?—Yes.

21,782. Then you got no more from him?—No.

21,783. Are there more than one J. Whitmore's?—There are several about.

21,784. Not J. Whitmores?—I do not know.

21,785. Did you not get in the month of August 2*l.*?—It was about three months after the election, as near as I can tell.

21,786. What I want to know is, did you not get 30*s.* from Mr. Green about the time of the election?—No.

21,787. You got about the time of the election, early in July, 30*s.*?—No.

21,788. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you employed as a watcher at all?—No; I am not at home till 11 or 12 o'clock at night.

21,789. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think you must make a mistake; did you not get 30*s.* again soon afterwards?—No; I never received any more than 2*l.*

21,790. Are you a good scholar?—Not much.

21,791. Because here it is written down, and if you like you can see it?—No, I do not care about seeing it.

21,792–3. Just look, perhaps it may remind you. I see in the month of July apparently John Whitmore was paid 30*s.*; that was the same time that Ede and William Whitmore and Oxtoby were paid 10*s.* You know those men?—No.

21,794. Does not that remind you of it?—It is not me, there are other Whitmores.

21,795. I have got the other Whitmore, William Whitmore; he received it the same time as you received it?—No.

21,796. On that occasion I see Bridges and Tivey were down; is there a man named Tivey?—I do not know.

21,797. Just on the same day that Bridges was paid you got another 10*s.*, did you not?—No; I received 2*l.*; that was all.

21,798. Yes; I find the 2*l.* is put down after; that is in the month of August. They were paid at the same time that you were paid the 2*l.*?—I do not know, they paid me at the station.

21,799. Was Cooper there?—No one was with us.

21,800. On the same occasion Cooper is put down 10*s.*?—No, there was no one.

21,801. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you heard that the other railway men were getting 4*l.* 10*s.*?—I heard that they had it.

21,802. You heard them say it?—Yes.

21,803. And they were looking for more, you heard them say that?—Yes.

21,804. You were not sufficiently paid by an offer of 2*l.*?—They never offered me anything at all.

21,805. But you knew as well as they did that it was 2*l.* for your vote. Did you not ask Mr. Green for more? Don't try to put it on his thinking you were ill, that is simple folly; you might have been ill for years and Mr. Green would not have given you a farthing. Did you not apply to him for more?—No.

21,806. You said, "This is rather poor pay, the "other railway people are better off than this; those "who vote for Mr. Monson are better off than I am"?—I never spoke to him.

21,807. Why did you not?—I did not think it worth while to ask him.

21,808. Who else did Mr. Green get amongst you; you know Mr. Shepherd took a great number of you away?—I do not know, I was not at home to see.

21,809. Mr. Green got you and Boscawen and somebody else?—I do not know that.

21,810. What time of the day did you vote?—About 11 o'clock.

21,811. Did you vote at any previous election?—Yes.

21,812. For Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

21,813. All the men voted for Mr. Wilkinson before, I believe?—Nearly all.

21,814. I suppose that was on account of Mr. Wilkinson's influence?—It might be.

21,815. I mean there was no money going?—No.

21,816. Everybody amongst you knew the last time the money was going of course?—Yes.

21,817. What I want to know is, had you arranged amongst the others (I do not mean at any meeting) that you would have money for your vote at this election?—No, I did not; I never thought I was going to get any money at all; I never asked for any, and I never was promised any.

21,818. What influence could Mr. Green have with you; who was Mr. Green; did you know Mr. Green before?—Yes, I did.

21,819. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When the 2*l.* was given to you by Mr. Green you did not believe it was on account of charity by Mr. Green?—I did not believe so.

21,820. Did you not honestly believe it was for your vote for Mr. Gower?—I thought it was very likely.

21,821. You thought it was more than likely?—Yes, when I had the money.

21,822. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have a relative up there of the name of Symonds?—Yes.

21,823. What is he?—My father-in-law.

21,824. Are you his father-in-law or he yours?—He is mine.

21,825. He voted for Mr. Gower?—I think he did.

21,826. He was very active; he exerted himself a good deal, did he not, for Mr. Gower?—I was not at home to see it; I cannot say.

21,827. You know that he did?—I know he was working for Mr. Gower.

21,828. Did he not canvass you for Mr. Gower?—No, he did not know which way I was going.

21,829. Then, of course, nothing passed between you and him about your vote?—No.

21,830. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you voted before 1863 at any other election for Mr. Wilkinson?—I voted twice for Mr. Wilkinson, I think.

21,831. Any money either time?—Yes.

21,832. What was the amount?—2*l.*

21,833. What time was that, was it the first time you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—It was the second time, I think, when I had 2*l.* for Mr. Wilkinson.

21,834. This last time, in 1865, you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

21,835. The election before that was 1863, two years before, and you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

21,836. Was that the time you voted?—Yes.

21,837. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith,*) Did you get 2*l.* in 1863?—Yes, for Mr. Wilkinson.

21,838. What do you mean by the last election?—The election before this one.

21,839. Who paid you then?—Mr. James.

21,840. What did you do for the 2*l.*?—I had done nothing.

21,841. When did Mr. James pay you?—Some months after the election.

21,842. How came he to pay you?—Because it was the same time he was round, and I lost my day's work.

21,843. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he go round the railway people in 1863?—I know he came round.

21,844. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where were you; were you at home when Mr. James came round to you?—At the "Warwick Arms."

21,845. Did Mr. James come round to look up the railway people who promised?—I do not know.

21,846. You say he came round, what was that for?—To pay them, I suppose.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

J. Whitmore.

6 Sept. 1866.

21,847. Were you paid at the "Warwick Arms"?—I was paid at Symonds's, my father-in-law.

21,848. Did you see him go to Symonds's?—No.

21,849. Were you paid in the street?—I was paid at the corner there, by the door.

21,850. By Symonds's door?—Yes.

21,851. Was the door open?—Yes.

21,852. Were you coming out of the house or was Mr. James coming out of the house?—He came round the corner coming round into the house.

21,853. Did he go into the house?—Yes.

21,854. After he paid you the 2*l.*?—Yes.

21,855. Did you hear from your father-in-law, Symonds, that he had received 2*l.* or any money from Mr. James?—No.

21,856. Do you know what Mr. James went into the house for two months after the election?—No, I cannot say; I know he paid me.

21,857. Directly he paid you he went into your father-in-law's house?—He went indoors.

21,858. Was your father-in-law at home?—I do not know.

21,859. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that a house frequented by the railway people?—No, not much.

21,860. Did your father-in-law keep the "Warwick Arms"?—No.

21,861. Your father-in-law's was a private house?—No, a beer shop; "The Thimble and Nutmeg Grater."

21,862. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It is not the "Barley Mow"?—No.

21,863. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you see Mr. James afterwards?—No.

21,864. Not after he came out of your father-in-law's?—No.

21,865. Did you go into your father-in-law's house?—Yes.

21,866. When Mr. James was there?—Mr. James was coming in when I was coming out, that was when he paid me. I did not go in after.

21,867. You did not follow him?—No.

21,868. Did you ask Mr. James for 2*l.*?—I asked him if he could not pay me for the day's work.

21,869. When did you ask him that?—Before that.

21,870. Did you tell him what time you had lost?—I lost a day at poll and the day before.

21,871. What did you lose?—Polling day and nomination day; half a day on nomination day.

21,872. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told Mr. James that?—Yes.

21,873. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You do not mean to tell me that you let the railway goods stand whilst you went to vote?—I got another man.

21,874. Were you allowed to come to the nomination?—Nobody asked me.

21,875. Nobody asked you?—No.

21,876. You simply thought you would like to see the nomination, and then you wanted to be paid?—Yes.

21,877. How long before Mr. James paid you the 2*l.* had you asked him to pay you for your loss of time?—It was just after the election.

21,878. Had you voted before at any other election?—No.

21,879. That was your first?—Oh, I voted twice for Mr. Wilkinson.

21,880. Then you voted in 1859?—Yes.

21,881. Did you vote then for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

21,882. Were you paid for it?—No.

21,883. Did you owe anything or get anything?—No.

21,884. Did you ask for anything?—No.

21,885. Was Mr. James agent then?—I do not know who was agent.

21,886. Now, having applied to Mr. James in '63, did you not apply to Mr. Green in '65 for loss of time?—No.

21,887. Had you told Mr. Green that you had received 2*l.* in '63 from Mr. James?—No.

21,888. Or that you had received anything from Mr. James?—No.

21,889. Having received 2*l.* in '63 from Mr. James, had you the slightest doubt whatever that the 2*l.* paid to you by Mr. Green was paid for your vote?—I suppose so.

21,890. You are sure it was?—No, I am not sure; he said he would make me a present of it.

21,891. You had not the remotest claim on him except for the election?—I had no claim for the election.

21,892. You had no other claim?—No.

21,893. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You got 2*l.* in '63 from Mr. James at the "Thimble and Nutmeg Grater;" did you know Mr. James at that time?—I had seen him about.

21,894. How was he going about?—I did not know what he was going about.

21,895. Are you quite sure you knew him?—They called him Mr. James.

21,896. I should like to know how he did go about?—I saw him walk about the streets; I never saw him interfere with anybody, or ask anybody anything.

21,897. Do you mean he walked about like anybody else?—Yes, like a gentleman.

21,898. Well, like a gentleman; like anybody else?—Yes.

21,899. You believe the man who paid you in '63 was Mr. James?—Yes.

21,900. Had he any difficulty at all in walking about?—Not that I know of.

21,901. Did you notice whether he walked with a stick or without one?—No, that I do not know.

21,902. I want to ask you this; in 1862 Mr. Symonds knew what you had got?—Yes.

21,903. In 1865, when the election came on, I suppose Mr. Symonds had not forgotten it?—I do not know.

21,904. It is a curious thing, but perhaps you cannot account for it; you got the same in 1865. I suppose Mr. Symonds booked you pretty early in the election?—I do not know that he booked me at all.

29,905. Perhaps that is right. When the election came on were you rather disappointed when you heard what was going among the railway people?—Not the least.

21,906. You heard that 4*l.* 10*s.* was going among them?—They went which way they liked, and I went my way.

21,907. So far as that goes you were quits?—I was independent in voting the way I did; I had promised my vote, and that was enough.

21,908. You got paid for it; do not parade too much about being independent. I did not say anything about it at first; it was you who began; but having heard about the 4*l.* 10*s.*, did you not feel a little bit vexed?—No.

21,909. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Tell me about the "Thimble and Nutmeg Grater;" you go there sometimes, do you not?—Yes.

21,910. I am afraid it suffered a good deal during the election?—I do not know; I was not at home to see that.

21,911. You know what a bill there was for broken crockery; come, come, you know there was?—No, I do not know anything about it.

21,912. You have heard of it?—I have seen it in the papers.

21,913. You have heard that there was a large bill for 10*l.* or 12*l.* for broken crockery. You told us that you knew there was money going this time; did you not know that there was money going in '63?—No, I did not.

21,914. You kept your getting money dark?—No, I did not.

21,915. Did you tell any of the other railway people about your getting money?—No, I did not.

91,916. Then you did keep it dark?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

JOSEPH HEWETT sworn and examined.

21,917. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A labourer.

21,918. When did you get your summons?—Yesterday; no, Tuesday.

21,919. What rent do you pay?—I am a freeholder.

21,920. What is the value of your house a year?—I am rated at 12*l.*

21,921. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

21,922. Mr. Monson, did you?—Yes.

21,923. Do you know Jordan?—Yes.

21,924. Stephen Jordan, is it?—No, Thomas Jordan.

21,925. Did Thomas Jordan ask you to vote for him?—No, sir, for Mr. Monson.

21,926. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He is the builder?—Yes.

21,927. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you been previously canvassed by Mr. Gower or some of his party?—Yes, Mr. Gower tried to canvass me.

21,928. Had you promised him?—I told him I would not have nothing to do with him.

21,929. Then Thomas Jordan had more persuasion about him than Gower had?—Yes.

21,930. Was it Mr. Monson canvassed you?—He never spoke to me at all; he never spoke to me.

21,931. As far as you were concerned, it was Jordan against Gower, and you voted for Jordan?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

21,932. What terms did you make with Jordan?—I went to work on behalf of Mr. Gower, canvassing.

21,933. And when you did canvass what were you to get?—I was to have 15*s.* a week and finishing paying after the election.

21,934. You agreed to that?—Yes.

21,935. How much did you get?—I got 5*l.* to wind up.

21,936. Making it up 5*l.* altogether?—Yes.

21,937. Did you get it from Jordan?—No, I got it from Richard Peat.

21,938. Who is he?—A bricklayer.

21,939. Of where?—Mead-vale.

21,940. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He paid you all, I suppose?—Yes.

21,941. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He paid you at once?—No.

21,942. Was it paid at once or at different times?

21,943. (*Mr. Commisssoner Smith.*) What was the first payment?—The first payment was 3*l.* 10*s.*

21,944. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that your first election?—No.

21,945. In 1863 had you voted?—Yes.

21,946. Who for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

21,947. In 1863 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

21,948. What did you get on that occasion?—10*s.*

21,949. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you get 10*s.* a week?—I got 10*s.* for two days, nomination and polling day.

21,950. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was not all you got?—Yes; and I was money out of pocket.

21,951. If you got anything, one would suppose you got more?—I did not.

21,952. Who procured you that?—Mr. Alexander Rose set me to work.

21,953. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Set you to work?—Yes, to holla and shout; and hard work it was.

21,954. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you?—Mr. Rose.

21,955. He paid you, too, did he?—Yes.

21,956. Do you mean 10*s.* a day, so that you got a pound?—No, 10*s.* for two days.

21,957. Was that really all you received at that election?—Yes.

21,958. And did you not apply to him for more?—No.

21,959. You thought it was too bad, did you not, and that you would get more?—Not a bit.

21,960. Who did you vote for in the general election of 1859?—I did not vote at all; I never voted before 1863.

21,961. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Rose did not canvass you in 1865?—No.

21,962. He did not canvass you in '65?—No, he was too stale.

HENRY CHILD sworn and examined.

21,963. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a voter?—Yes.

21,964. What are you?—A carpenter.

21,965. What do you pay rent for the house which gives you a vote?—4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

21,966. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

21,967. Had you been canvassed on Mr. Gower's side?—No, sir.

21,968. Did not any one canvass you on Mr. Gower's side?—No.

21,969. Who canvassed you on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Joseph Hewett.

21,970. The last witness?—Yes.

21,971. Joseph Hewett canvassed you, did he?—Yes.

21,972. He told you, I suppose, something like this, "I am on the list, and you might as well come "on"?—Yes.

21,973. He told you what that was to him?—Yes.

21,974. The finishing money put it up to 5*l.*; he told you it would all come to 5*l.*?—Yes.

21,975. And I suppose it did come to 5*l.*?—Yes.

21,976. That was the figure?—Yes.

21,977. Did you get the 5*l.* in one sum or two?—In three sums.

21,978. Who paid you?—Richard Peat.

21,979. Who told you to go to Mr. Peat?—No one.

21,980. How did you know he was paymaster?—I did not know till I found it out. I did not know how it was, but Peat told me himself.

21,981. I suppose he said, "I have money for you"?—Yes.

21,982. And he paid you 15*s.*?—Yes.

21,983. And then again did he pay you a second 15*s.*?—Yes.

21,984. You went up early to the poll?—Yes, about 9 o'clock.

21,985. And then you went down to Peat's?—No.

21,986. When did you go for the balance?—On polling night.

21,987. I knew you would not allow a day to pass; were you all paid there together, or did you go separately to Peat?—I did not go to Peat at all.

21,988. Where did you get it?—At the "Plough."

21,989. You got the wheat to go to the "Plough"?—Yes.

21,990. Who keeps the "Plough"?—Worsley, I think; I am not sure, but I think that is the man.

21,991. And you got the wheat to go to the "Plough" in the evening?—Yes.

21,992. And I suppose you had a right jolly evening of it, getting the 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

21,993. I suppose they gave you plenty of beer that night?—No.

21,994. Something better?—No, not that night.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

H. Child.

6 Sept. 1866.

21,995. That was a dry night ?—Yes.

21,996. You had had beer probably before ?—Yes.

21,997. Which you did not pay for ?—Yes.

21,998. How many of you were at the "Plough "?—About half a dozen; I cannot say exactly how many.

21,999. Was there a man named Marchant there ?—Yes.

22,000. And Peat was there handing round the money ?—Peat came there, but I was not in the room when he came.

22,001. He was in the room before you ?—No, he came after.

22,002. And there were about half a dozen waiting; did he pay you in the presence of each other, or did he hand the money privately to each ?—We were in the room at the time.

22,003. There was no secret about it ?—No, there was no secret.

22,004. I should like to know whether Jordan was there ?—No, I did not see Jordan there.

22,005. Had you been there before ?—No.

22,006. You are a carpenter ?—Yes.

22,007. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you give us the names of the half dozen that were there ?—Hewett was there and Marchant.

22,008. The builder ?—Yes.

22,009. What is his Christian name ?—James, I think.

22,010. And what is he ?—A builder.

22,011. Can you give me the name of another who was there ?—(*A voice in Court.*) Fuller was another.

It appearing Fuller was then in Court, he was desired to remain in order to be examined.

22,012. You do not remember anything else ?—There were more.

22,013. Do you recollect any other names ?—I do not recollect any other names.

J. Fuller.

JOHN FULLER sworn and examined.

22,014. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you a voter ?—Yes, I am.

22,015. Had you voted at the last election ?—I did.

22,016. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Monson.

22,017. What rent do you pay ?—I occupy a house in Mead-vale at 4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

22,018. What are you ?—A labourer.

22,019. What do you work at ?—Drying fuller's earth.

22,020. Were you canvassed by Jordan ?—No.

22,021. Who were you canvassed by ?—Joseph Hewett.

22,022. When Hewett canvassed you it was of course for Monson ?—Yes.

22,023. Did you promise to vote for Mr. Monson ?—I never made any promise to any one in particular, at first I told Mr. Hewett I would stick to him.

22,024. Did Hewett say he would stick to you ?—He said he would stand the same as the others.

22,925. In what way was he to stick to you ?—In the same way as he began when he canvassed me.

22,026. Did he tell you what you were to have ?—No, not when he first canvassed me.

22,027. When did he tell you what you were to have ?—After he found it out himself.

22,028. What did he tell you ?—He said he would go and see, and he came back and said he thought he could get me 5*l.*

22,029. I will not make a long story of it, but you voted ?—Yes.

22,030. Did you receive any money before you voted ?—No.

22,031. After you voted were you at this "Plough "?—Yes, I was.

22,032. And you found your friend Hewett there ?—Yes, we were together.

22,033. After he asked you to go to the "Plough" did he tell you what it was for ?—We knew.

22,034. How came you to know what you were going for ?—We were ordered to the room, but what for I did not know.

22,035. When you got to the "Plough" did you see your friend Richard Peat there ?—No, not when I got there.

22,036. But afterwards ?—Yes.

22,037. Was Jordan there ?—No, he was not; I never saw him at all.

22,038. This was on the night of the polling ?—Yes.

22,039. Did Mr. Peat pay you anything ?—Yes, he paid me 3*l.* 10*s.*

22,040. Did you have any paid you before this 3*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes, I had two sums of 15*s.* each in separate sums from Hewett.

22,041. That is just what I was asking you, did you receive any money before the poll, and you said, No, and you did receive 15*s.* each ——

(*The Witness.*) Did I not tell you that ?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) No, you did not, you misunderstood the question; I know you mean to tell me right, but you omitted that.

22,042. Hewett paid you two sums of 15*s.* each ?—Yes.

22,043. Were those paid on Saturday night ?—Yes.

22,044. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you sure it was Hewett who paid you the two 15*s.* ?—Yes.

22,045. Then on the night of the polling you got the additional sum of 3*l.* 10*s.* from Richard Peat ?—Yes.

22,046. Did he tell you what it was for ?—No.

22,047. It was for your voting ?—I suppose so.

22,048. Did you yourself have any beer at the "Plough "?—Not any.

22,049. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Not that night ?—No.

22,050. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had had it all before ?—I never had any at that house that night.

22,051. You had got what you wanted ?—I had a portion of liquor that day.

22,052. Did you pay for it ?—No.

22,053. Where did you get it ?—I had a portion at the "Plough," but that was in the forepart of the day, and I believe that was the only place which I had anything.

22,054. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you pay for it ?—No.

22,055. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Tell us who were the persons there that you knew or remember besides yourself ? — There was Marchant, and Hewett, and Child, and I think George Brewer.

22,056. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was anybody else there ?—Only those I think that I have named; at least, that is all that I can remember.

22,057. Did Hewitt tell you where to meet many others ?—No.

22,058. Had you voted at any previous election ?—No.

22,059. That was your first, was it ?—Yes.

22,060. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you hear from Hewett how many would be got on the same terms ?—I am sure I do not know.

22,061. Was it about a dozen ?—As I told you just now, I really do not know.

The witness withdrew.

J. Weller.

JOHN WELLER sworn and examined.

22,062. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A carman.

22,063. And what rent do you pay for the house out of which you vote ?—5*s.* 6*d.*

22,064. 5*s.* 6*d.* a week ?—Yes.

22,065. You voted at the last election, we understand, for Mr. Monson ?—Mr. Gower.

22,066. Oh, you voted for Gower, did you ?—Yes.

22,067. Oh, I beg your pardon. Who canvassed you ?—Mr. Gower himself.

22,068. Oh, yes, but somebody else ?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Joyes.

22,069. Joyes and Buckland, I believe ?—I won't be certain whether it was Mr. Joyes or Mr. Smith.

22,070. Well, Buckland spoke to you, and so did Mr. Apted, did he not ?—Yes.

22,071. You were on Mr. Gower's committee, were you not ?—Yes.

22,072. What were you to have, Mr. Weller, for being on the committee ; working on the committee ? —Nothing.

22,073. What ?—No money.

22,074. But you were to be paid, were you not ?—I have never been paid.

22,075. Oh, no, but you were to be ?

22,076. You were to be paid ?—They told me I should be paid.

22,077. Who told you you were to be paid, Mr. Joyes and Mr. Buckland ?—Yes, Mr. Joyes was one, and so was Mr. Buckland.

22,078. I believe they told you you were to be paid about 5*l.* ?—No.

22,079. How much a week ?—Never no sum weekly. I never had nothing weekly paid.

22,080. But how much were you to be paid altogether ? These other gentlemen came out like men, and told us at once what they were to be paid, and what they were paid ; every one honestly.—I was not paid anything.

22,081. But how much were you to be paid ?—Never had any promise to be paid any certain sum.

22,082. How much did you expect to be paid ?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) It all comes out at last. Do tell it all.

22,083. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*) What did you expect to be paid ?—I did not expect anything except they please to give me anything.

22,084. What did you think they would please to give you ?—I do not know.

22,085. You were very angry that you were not paid, weren't you ?—No.

22,086. To whom did you apply for payment afterwards ?—Apply for payment ?

22,087. For money. Never mind "payment," but money ?—I asked Mr. Smith once whether there was anything for me, and he said he had not got anything for me. That is all.

22,088. How could Mr. Smith know anything about you ? Mr. Smith never promised you any money or said you should be paid. Why did you go to Mr. Smith ?—Mr. Rose told me if I wanted anything I was to go to him.

22,089. But Mr. Rose did not tell you that till you spoke to him about money ; applied to him for money ? —Not till after the election.

22,090. After you voted you applied to Mr. Rose for money ?—Yes.

22,091. What did he say to you ?—He said he had not got any ; I was not on his list.

22,092. And then he said you were to apply to whom else ?—To Mr. Smith.

22,093. How soon after the election, or after you voted, did you go to Mr. Smith ?—Some time.

22,094. A week or two ?—A month, I dare say.

22,095. Then you went to Mr. Smith and asked him, "Have you any money for me"?—Yes.

22,096. Very well ; what did he say ?—He said he had not got any money then.

22,097. "Then"?—Yes. And when he had got some he would give me some ; and I never asked anybody since.

22,098. Did you get any money at all ?—No, not a sixpence.

22,099. Had you voted before at any election ?—No.

22,100. This was your first ?—My first.

22,101. Then you were taken in ?—It appears like it.

22,102. It appears uncommonly like it ?—And I did not think that any one had any money myself till after the election.

22,103. You knew money was going after the election ?—I did afterwards, not before.

22,104. You were promised before that you would be paid ?—For nomination day and polling day, they said I should get paid for that.

22,105. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who said ?—

22,106. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I asked you, and you said they did not tell you what you were to be paid ; how much ?—No sum was mentioned.

22,107. Who told you that you would be paid for nomination and polling day ?—Mr. Rose.

22,108. And that you would be paid for what you did on the committee ?—I never received anything.

22,109. But didn't they tell you you would be paid ? —They told me I should be paid.

22,110. For what you did on the committee ?—Yes, but they did not mention any sum.

22,111. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say you did not get any money ?—No.

22,112. You say you did not get any money from Mr. Joyes ?—No.

22,113. And you say you did not get any money from Mr. Smith ?—No.

22,114. You say you did not get any money from Mr. Buckland ?—No.

22,115. Eh ?—No.

22,116. A smallish sum, I grant ; but didn't you get something ?—No.

22,117. Whom did you get 10*s.* from ?—No one.

22,118. Your name is John Weller ?—Yes.

22,119. There is no other Weller ?

22,120. I see here your name for 10*s.* paid ?—I never received a halfpenny.

22,121. Well, it is as well to tell you that your name is here ?—Yes ; very well.

22,122. It is down here as "Weller, 10*s.*," in Buckland's account.

22,123. Did you get something from Mr. Apted ? —No.

22,124. Did you apply to him ? You know Job Apted ?—Yes.

22,125. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You can write, can't you ?—No, I cannot.

22,126. Look at that paper ?—I cannot read.

22,127. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you write ? —No.

22,128. Did you authorize anybody to write anything for you ?—No.

22,129. Is there another John Weller ?—I am sure I do not know what there is about Warwick-town or that way. I authorized nobody, and I received nothing.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It may be somebody has been pretending he was John Weller.

22,130. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ever see that piece of paper before ?—No, never.

22,131. Did you ever authorize anybody to make out a bill against Joyes for two days' carrying circulars ?—No.

22,132. Did you carry any circulars ?—No.

22,133. Well, we will just see whether there is another. Are you John Weller, of Nutley-lane ?—Yes.

22,134. We will see whether there is any other John Weller.

22,135. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know

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Apted yourself?—Yes, I have seen him many times. That is the gentleman you mean, there (*pointing*).

22,136. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you know Rose?—Yes.

22,137. Joyes?—Yes.

22,138. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did Joyes know you?—Yes, I have been in the town with him a good many years.

22,139. He did know you?—Yes.

22,140. He did before the election?—Yes; he does now.

22,141. Ah, he does now; but did he before the election, and at the time of the election?—I do not know whether he did; I have been in the town a good many years.

22,142. Well, then, he did. Don't let there be any mistake?—I hope not.

22,143. Did you receive 10*s.* from Mr. Apted?—No.

22,144. Did you receive any sum from him?—No, from no one.

22,145. Do not say "from no one;" I am not asking you about any one else. Did you receive any sum from Apted?—No, I did not.

22,146. I do not care to have a question answered by something that will fit another question.

22,147. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you at any time make a claim in any shape or way at all, for 10*s.*, for carrying circulars on two days?—No, I did not.

22,148. You never did?—No.

22,149. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You went to Joyes for the money?—I asked Joyes if there was any money allowed for me, and he said he had not any; I was not on the list.

22,150. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is Rose?—There is so many of them; there is first one and then another. I asked him on the road how it was getting on; and then I asked another.

22,151. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But you asked them all? You applied to Joyes and Buckland?—Yes, I asked them all, but I was not on the list.

22,152. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But you did not ask them for any particular sum?—No.

The witness withdrew.

JOSEPH HEWITT recalled.

J. Hewitt.

22,153. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that witness John Fuller, John Fuller, of Mead-vale? because there are two on the register?—Yes, Mead-vale.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE BREWER sworn and examined.

G. Brewer.

22,154. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is the rent of the house you occupy?—4*s.* a week.

22,155. What are you?—A day labourer.

22,156. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

22,157. Who was it asked you to vote for Monson?—Mr. Hewitt.

22,158. Joseph Hewitt? Did you promise him?—Yes.

22,159. At once?—Yes.

22,160. When he asked you to vote for Monson did he tell what you would get?—He told me we should have 15*s.* a week for two weeks, and to wind up we should have the residue of our money.

22,161. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) So as to make it 5*l.*?—That is it.

22,162. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you and Hewitt and the other men who have been mentioned already working together?—No; Hewitt and I were.

22,163. Were you living near each other?—We were not a great way off.

22,164. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Hewitt and you were working together?—Yes, Hewitt and I were working together.

22,165. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose you did do work for the money?—Yes, we were about at nights.

22,166. You were about at nights?—Yes.

22,167. What were you doing at nights?—We were several nights canvassing.

22,168. You canvassed?—I did what little I could, and that was not much.

22,169. You voted for Monson?—Yes.

22,170. Then in the evening did you go to the "Plough"?—Yes.

22,171. You were paid 3*l.* 10*s.* there?—Yes.

22,172. Who paid you? Richard Peat?—Richard Peat.

22,173. Did you hear Richard Peat say where he got the money from?—No.

22,174. Had you voted before?—Yes.

22,175. At the election of 1863?—See; that was Monson, wasn't it?

22,176. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Yes.—Yes, I voted for Mr. Monson.

22,177. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For Monson?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Monson was not up in 1863.

22,178. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) No, you make a mistake there. It was Gower and Wilkinson. Whom did you vote for then?—I voted for Wilkinson.

22,179. Did you get anything for voting?—I had 30*s.* a week two weeks. That was all.

22,180. Was it paid you?—Yes.

22,181. Who paid you?—Rose.

22,182. Alec Rose?—Yes.

22,183. Was this for your services in canvassing?—I went to work all the time; what I could puddle about and do.

22,184. How old are you?—76 come the 11th of March.

22,185. Had you voted before? Did you vote in the election of 1859? I will tell you who were the candidates, Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson. Did you vote on that occasion?—I think that I did, but I am not positive.

22,186. If you are not positive about your voting, do you know whether you received any money?—No.

22,187. Had you ever received money before for voting?—Yes.

22,188. When?—Stop a minute. I shall get wrong presently. Let us speak the truth if we can.

22,189. I do not want to hurry you?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson at that time.

22,190-1. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Against Mr. Monson?

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In 1859. You know that was the election before 1863?—No, I cannot say which I voted for.

22,192. Just let me correct a mistake which I think you have fallen into. Wasn't it Ephraim Rose paid you?—I do not know what his Christian name was.

22,193. Where was he living?—Mead-vale.

22,194. Where did he work?—Worked at the asylum.

22,195. Then that was Ephraim. Do you recollect receiving money before for voting?—Yes, I voted for Monson.

22,196. Before ?—Yes.

22,197. In 1859 ?—Yes.

22,198. Against Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

22,199. Were you paid for that ?—Yes, I received 3*l.*

22,200. Who paid you that 3*l.* ? That was for Mr. Monson, who was afterwards Lord Monson ?—Yes. I won't say that he paid me. He stood just like this gentleman (*pointing*).

22,201. Do you recollect who paid you that 3*l.* in 1859 ?—No, I do not. I was in the room taking refreshments, and when I had taken refreshments there might be three or four gentlemen, as you might be, and who they were I do not know any more than you do. They asked me if I had taken my breakfast, and I said, "Yes, gentlemen, I have." They told me to go out of the room. They were in the room two or three minutes, and they hurried me back again, and there laid my money. You gentlemen all know just as well as I do, who laid the money down. Now I know no more.

22,202. And you do not know who the gentlemen were ?—Not at all, no more than you do.

22,203. Perhaps you can recollect the house where you received that 3*l.* ?—At the "Bell," Reigate.

22,204. At the "Bell" ?—Yes.

22,205. When you saw the 3*l.* on the table did you take it up ?—Yes, and I should have done if it had been five times as much.

22,206. And you would have pocketed five times as much if it had been there ?—Yes.

22,207. Did you receive any hint from these gentlemen that this 3*l.* was for you ?—No more than when I walked in it was close to my plate, the money was. I do not know who put it there.

22,208. You found the money close to the plate where you had been eating refreshment ?—There was only myself.

22,209. Were you the only person having refreshment ?—Yes, in the room.

22,210. When you came out did anybody else go in for refreshment ?—I took my money and drank my beer and walked away, and took no notice of anybody else.

22,211. Before you went away did you see any other voter go into the room ?—No.

22,212. Doing the same as you had done ?—No.

22,213. How came you to go there for your refreshment that day ?—I was ordered to go there, you know, to that house.

22,214. And you do not recollect who ordered you to go there ?—I think I can tell you presently. I think it was Thomas Holdsworth.

22,215. Thomas Holdsworth ?—I think it is. There is many people about here know as well as I do.

22,216. Who was the landlord of the house that you went to ?—He was the very man.

22,217. Holdsworth was ?—Yes.

22,218. Having drawn your recollection to the fact that Holdsworth told you to go to the house, do you recollect whether Holdsworth was in the room when you got the 3*l.* ?—No, there was no one.

22,219. There was nobody in the room ?—No.

22,220. Oh, I see ?—There was no one but myself.

22,221. That is in 1859. Now, did you go to the previous election in 1858 ?—To where ?

22,222. There was an election in October between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson ?—I know nothing about it.

22,223. After the election of February. Do you recollect Mr. Doulton being here ?—Yes.

22,224. And Sir Henry Rawlinson ?—Yes.

22,225. And the Honourable Mr. Monson ?—Oh, was he one with them ?

22,226. He was one with them then ?—Well, I cannot say anything about that.

22,227. Whom did you vote for then ? Did you vote for Mr. Doulton ?—For Rawlinson.

22,228. Did you get any money then ?—No.

22,229. Were you offered any ?—No. I will tell you what I said. I said I would vote for any person who would give me a new flannel jacket; and there was a lady in the room, and she said, "I will give you "one, my man." That is all I know.

22,230. Was there a pocket in the flannel jacket ?—Certainly.

22,231. When you put the flannel jacket on did you find anything in the pocket ?—I will be answerable that there was not anything there. I had 9*s.* 6*d.* given to me to go and buy it, and I bought it at Mr. Elgar's; and he is not the man to put anything in the pocket. We are all too much tarred with one stick.

22,232. Then was that flannel jacket given to you on behalf of Sir Henry Rawlinson ?—I know no more than you do on that subject. I said I would vote for any person that would give me a new flannel jacket, and this lady said, "I will give it to you."

22,233. And you voted for Rawlinson ?—I did so.

22,234. Did you vote in 1857, when Mr. Hackblock was up ?—No.

22,235. You began with the flannel jacket and 9*s.* 6*d.*, and you ended with 5*l.* ?—And dear money earned.

22,236. What is ? The 5*l.* ?—Yes.

22,237. Could you have made more at your own daily labour ?—No, but for what I did I expected better pay. People don't ought to break their heads for nothing.

22,238. Did you canvass anybody ?—No; they would not be ruled by me.

The witness withdrew.

James Marchant sworn and examined.

22,239. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A labourer.

22,240. What do you pay rent for your house out of which you vote ?—Well, I do not pay any rent at all. It is my own.

22,241. What is the annual value of it ?—About 6*s.* a week.

22,242. 15*l.* a year. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Monson.

22,243. You voted, I suppose, with Hewitt and the others ?—Yes.

22,244. Who canvassed you ?—Joseph Hewitt.

22,245. Who spoke to you ? Mr. Hewitt ?—Joseph Hewitt.

22,246. And I suppose he told you what you would get; 15*s.* a week, and finishing up with an amount of 5*l.* ?—Yes, that is it.

22,247. That is it ?—Yes, that is right.

22,248. He told you that that is what they were all having on Monson's side ?—He told me that was what I was to have.

22,249. And what they were all having ?—Well, he did not mention about that.

22,250. Who paid you ?—Joseph Hewitt paid me.

22,251. The two 15*s.* ?—The two 15*s.*

22,252. And who paid you the balance, the finishing up ?—Richard Peat.

22,253. How long before the election was it ? I think it was about a fortnight ?—Oh, longer than that.

22,254. They said 15*s.* a week, you know ?—15*s.* a week is all we had for two weeks.

22,255. About a fortnight before the election ?—Yes.

22,256. I suppose you went pretty freely about among the Monson houses ?—Well, we went round sometimes.

22,257. And had refreshments ?—Well, we had nothing but a glass.

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22,258. I mean you did not pay it?—Sometimes.

22,259. Very seldom?—It was very seldom; not if I could get it from them.

22,260. Were you out every night during that fortnight?—I was out a great many nights.

22,261. Every night I should think?—Well, before that fortnight I was out.

22,262. What were you doing before that fortnight?—I was on the committee.

22,263. You were on the committee, were you?—Yes.

22,264. I am speaking of after the arrangement, never mind about before the arrangement, when you were to have the 15*s.* and the finishing up. Were you out before that?—We had 15*s.* two weeks running, and then the other 3*l.* 10*l.* afterwards.

22,265. Who told you to go to the "Plough" to receive the money?—That I cannot say.

22,266. It was known amongst you?—It was known amongst us.

22,267. This was not the first time you voted? In 1863 you voted, didn't you?—Never voted before.

22,268. Then I am wrong. You never voted before?—No.

22,269. You had not your qualification?—No.

The witness withdrew.

J. Hewitt.

JOSEPH HEWITT recalled.

22,270. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where did you get the money that you paid to Marchant and to Brewer, and also to Fuller? You paid Fuller two 15*s.* as well as the other two?—Yes.

22,271. Well, where did you get the money?—I got it all from Mr. Peat.

22,272. Of Peat. Did you go in and tell Peat before you got the money what you had been doing?—No; Peat knew what was going on.

22,273. How did he know?—Because he was along with us till this time.

22,274. He was not with you when you were canvassing Marchant and Brewer and Fuller, was he?—I do not know whether he was at that meeting or not.

22,275. That was not a meeting, was it?—Yes, I canvassed them when we met one evening.

22,276. Do you mean they were at some public house?—Yes; it was at a public house.

22,277. Where was it?—At Mr. Wallis's, Mead-vale.

22,278. Was that the time when so much beer was drunk at Wallis's?—I do not know how much was drunk, I am sure.

22,279. No, no; but do answer my question?—Well, there was some drunk. I do not know a great quantity, not that I know of.

22,280. Do you recollect one night at Wallis's beer house when all the beer was drunk out?—It never was all drunk out that I know of.

22,281. Do you remember one night when they said it was all drunk out?—No.

22,282. Don't you recollect one particular night when they said there was no more beer?—No, I do not.

22,283. Did you never hear of it?—No.

22,284. Well, now, it does not appear that Peat was by when you canvassed these men?—No, he was not.

22,285. Now tell me this: Peat was not by, you say, when you canvassed these men?—No, he was not.

22,286. Well then, did you go and represent to Peat what had been doing?—I represented it to Thomas Jordan.

22,287. You represented it to whom?—To Thomas Jordan; and then he told me he had not got time to see to it.

22,288. Then did you understand that Jordan was to go and tell Peat?—I understood Jordan that he would give Peat the money, and he was to give it to me to pay the man, because he could not get round.

22,289. Did Jordan tell you afterwards that he did give the money to Peat?—Yes.

22,290. Eh, he did?—Yes.

22,291. Then did he say, "Go and get it from Peat"?—Yes.

22,292. And you went?—Yes.

22,293. Was Jordan the only man that you accounted to?—Jordan was the person that set me at work.

22,294. Was he like your head man?—Yes.

22,295. Was there anybody else that you accounted to besides Jordan?—No.

22,296. Did you send in your account to Jordan?—No, never sent no account at all in.

22,297. Oh, you did not?—No.

22,298. Well, but then when you got paid for your loss of time, hadn't you sent in the account before that?—No, I never sent no account at all in.

22,299. Then how did it come?—Jordan knew how I was to be paid without an account, so that he could hand Peat the money.

22,300. Yes, but you, for your own services?—My own services? I only received the same as the rest of the voters had.

22,301. But those voters did not canvass you?—No.

22,302. Well, but you had canvassed them and got their votes?—Yes.

22,303. Didn't you send in an account for that?—No.

22,304. Didn't you get anything for that?—Nothing extra.

22,305. Nothing extra?—No.

22,306. The meeting you talk about was at Wallis's?—That was the meeting where I canvassed these men.

22,307. Wallis's is not a beer house, but a private house?—He was going to open it as a beer house, but he found he could not.

22,308. Where was the beer supplied from to Wallis's?—From John Newnham, at Horley.

22,309. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Horley is about five miles from here?—Yes.

22,310. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is Newnham?—I do not know what he is now, I am sure.

22,311. What was he at that time?—He was a brewer at that time.

22,312. Did it come in as it was wanted, can you tell me?—No; it was coming in on the speculation that he was going to open as a beer shop. Then he could not open it as a beer shop after he had got the beer in.

22,313. Who ordered it of Newnham?—I do not know, I am sure.

22,314. How did you know that it came from Newnham's?—I know it came from Newnham's.

22,315. I know that, because you told me; but how did you know?—By hearing people say so, that is all. Leastways, in fact, Wallis told me so himself.

22,316. Did you know Newnham at the time?—Yes.

22,317. Do you know any other house he supplied?—No.

22,318–19. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Newnham was a voter, wasn't he?—I do not know whether he was then or was not. He kept the "Wheatsheaf" at one time, at Warwick-town.

22,320. He was on the register. He kept the "Wheatsheaf" inn at this last election. Was he a voter?—He was on the register.

22,321. Was it John Newnham, of Station-road?—Yes.

22,322. That is the man?—Yes.

22,323. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was Jordan at that meeting at Wallis's?—I do not know whether he was or was not. I forget whether he was or not. I do not much think he was.

22,324. Was Peat there?—Peat was there a little while.

22,325. Was Comber there?—Yes; I believe he was.

22,326. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which Comber? Because there are several?—John Comber, of Meadvale was there. I do not know any but him.

22,327. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect also being at the "Bell" public house just before the election?—The "Bell"?

22,328. At the "Bell"?—Where is that?

22,329. Do you recollect being there?—No, I do not.

22,330. Don't you?—No.

22,331. Do you recollect hearing of a public meeting which was held by the Gower party at the "Bell" public house? Now, bear this in mind, and attend to what I say?—No, I do not.

22,332. Are you sure you do not?—Yes, I am.

22,333. Do you recollect Jordan paying anything to your men to go there?—No. I do not know where the "Bell" was.

22,334. Never mind where it is. Did Jordan tell you to go to the "Bell" when there was to be a meeting of Gower's party there?—No; I do not recollect it.

22,335. Did you hear him tell anybody else?—No.

22,336. Do you remember Jordan handing out to each person a shilling, and telling them to go to the "Bell" public house to make a noise while Mr. Gower's meeting was going on?—No.

22,337. Did you ever hear of that before?—No; not to my recollection.

22,338. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know a man Robert Allen?—No. Oh, I know a man named Robert Allen.

22,339. He was at the meeting that night?—Not that I know of. I have no recollection of it.

22,340. Do you know a man named Jabez Tyrrell?—Yes.

22,341. He was at Wallis's that night, wasn't he?—I do not know, I am sure.

22,342. Yes?—I do not recollect it.

22,343. Nor James Tyrrell?—I do not recollect.

22,344. At the house that night?—Yes; I know what you mean. I do not recollect it at all.

22,345. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you went into the box we did not know you were such an active man; but how many of these men did you canvass?—I do not know how many exactly now; I forget. James Peat is one.

22,346. Don't tell us any of these names we know of. Give us the information. Now tell me how many of these men did you promise the 5*l.* to?—I never promised them at all.

22,347. Then how many men did you canvass, ask to vote for Mr. Monson?—John Fuller, George Brewer, James Marchant, James Peat, and John Lane, Mead-vale.

22,348. John Lane; that is a new name. Now, was there anybody else?—No; I do not recollect anybody else.

22,349. Do you recollect any more men that were paid to your knowledge?—No.

22,350–51. Whether you canvassed them or not?—No, nobody; only Henry Child. He was paid the same as the rest of us.

Well, we know. He has told us so.

22,352. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you pay Lane?—Yes.

22,353. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you pay him?—Paid him the same as I did the rest.

22,354. 30*s.* before the election. Was he to be paid the rest, 3*l.* 10*s.*, afterwards?—Yes.

22,355. Peat paid him?—Yes.

22,356. At the "Plough"?—Yes.

22,357. Now let me ask you another general question. Is there anything else in reference to this election that you consider ought to be told to the Commissioners?—No, I do not know of anything.

22,358. As to money being paid, or money being promised?—I was never promised more than I had.

22,359. No, no; about anybody else?—No; I do not know that anybody else was.

The witness withdrew.

James Peat sworn and examined.

J. Peat.

22,360. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were a voter at the last election?—Yes.

22,361. And voted for Monson, I suppose?—Yes.

22,362. What rent do you pay?—12*l.* a year.

22,363. What are you?—A labourer, working on the road.

22,364. You were promised by Hewitt 15*s.* a week?—Yes.

22,365. And he paid you 30*s.*?—Yes.

22,366. Of course you did nothing for it?—Sometimes I had to go a little way to carry a little parcel.

22,367. Did nothing more than just go now and then a little way, and carry a little parcel?—Yes.

22,368. And you were paid 30*s.* before the election?—Yes.

22,369. On the night of the polling were you at the "Plough?"—Yes.

22,369*. And were you there paid 3*l.* 10*s.* by Richard Peat?—Yes.

22,370. Did you vote at the previous election?—The time before?

22,371. 1863?—Yes.

22,372. Were you paid for that?—No; never had a halfpenny.

22,373. Did you vote at any other election?—No.

22,374. Was 1863 your first time?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

Thomas Funnell sworn and examined.

T. Funnell.

22,375. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A labourer.

22,376. What do you pay as rent for the house for which you vote?—4*s.* 8*d.* a week.

22,377. For whom did you vote at the last election? Mr. Monson.

22,378. Oh, you were one of Mr. Hewitt's men, were you?—No.

22,379. Who spoke to you about it?—Mr. Jordan, Thomas Jordan.

22,380. Oh, I beg your pardon. Jordan spoke to you himself?—Yes.

22,381. What did he tell you?—Well, I was in his house, and I had nothing to do, and he asked me whether I wanted a job. I told him I did.

22,382. What took you to his house?—Why, it is a beer shop. I was there after a pint of beer.

22,383. He is a builder besides?—Yes.

22,384. He asked you if you wanted a job. Go on?—Yes. Well, I did. He said he would give me one. He would give me some bills and circulars to carry round.

22,385. Yes; what were you to have?—Oh, we did not have any agreement what I was to have then. I went to work for him.

22,386. What was the agreement then?—Did not have no agreement. I went round carrying them round, and sticking the bills up.

22,387. Go on. What did you get?—Well, I did not get anything till after the election was over.

22,388. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you had done your work? That was right.—Yes.

22,389 (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you get?—I got 5*l.*

22,390. Did you get 5*l.* in one sum?—No.

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22,391. I thought you got nothing till after the election ?—No more I didn't.

22,392. Why didn't they give it to you in one sum ? Who paid you ?—Jabez Tyrrell paid me.

22,393. He paid you, how much ?—He paid me 2*l.*, and then afterwards he paid me 3*l.*

22,394. He did ?—Yes.

22,395. He paid you 2*l.* when ?—About a fortnight, perhaps, after the election.

22,396. Yes ; and when did he pay you the 3*l.* ?—About a fortnight after that.

22,397. How came Tyrrell to pay you ? I thought your arrangement was with Mr. Jordan ?—Jordan left the money there for him to pay me.

22,398. Who told you that ?—Jordan did himself.

22,399. Was that the old man, or the young man ?—The old one.

22,400. He is ill, I am afraid, now ?—Yes, he is. I live close by him.

22,401. Jordan told you the money was there for you ?—Yes.

22,402. Why didn't you get the 5*l.* at once ?—Well, I do not know how it was.

22,403. Now tell me ; you received the money at Jabez Tyrrell's. Who else received money there besides you ?—I do not know.

22,404. Oh yes you do, indeed ?—No, I do not. I do not know.

22,405. Did he pay much money away ? You must know that ?—Well, I do not know anything about it.

22,406. What is Mr. Jabez Tyrrell ? — Why, he keeps a beer shop.

22,407. Oh, another beer-shop keeper. When did you see Jabez Tyrrell ?—The night before last. I was in there last night, but he was in bed.

22,408. But he was not in bed the night before last ?—No.

22,409. He was up and well ?—No. He has not been well for these four years.

22,410. What is the matter with him ?—Rheumatics. Can't get about.

22,411. He was busy at the election ?—Not very busy, I think. He could not get about.

22,412. You got 5*l.* at this election. Were you ever employed at any other election ?—No.

22,413. This is your first ?—Yes.

22,414. Had you ever voted at any former election ?—No.

22,415. This is the first time you had a vote, I suppose ?—Yes.

22,416. You did not go to the "Plough" the evening after the election, did you ?—No.

22,417. Were the other men sent to ?—No.

22,418. Did you know anything of Hewitt at all ? Hewitt had made an arrangement with other men. You were not of that class ?—No.

22,419. Did you know Hewitt ?—I knew him. I had seen him.

22,420. Did you know he was working under Mr. Jordan ?—No, I did not know anything about that.

22,421. How long before the election was it that Mr. Jordan asked you about a job ?—About three weeks I think it was.

22,422. Who told you it would be 5*l.*, if no arrangement was made with you ? Who told you it would be 5*l.* ?—Nobody didn't, till the election was over.

22,423. Well, I mean after the election was over ?—Jordan.

22,424 Jordan told you 5*l.* was what they were giving ?—Yes, and I had it.

22,425. Did anybody speak to you about Mr. Gower ? He was a good man, you know. Did not anybody speak to you about him ?—Well, I do not know that they did.

22,426. Oh, yes, come ; they had spoken to you about Mr. Gower ? Didn't they ?—Well, I made up my mind to vote for Mr. Monson ; so I didn't care.

22,427. But somebody spoke to you about Mr. Gower ?—Yes. Latham did, a neighbour of mine.

22,428. What is his Christian name ? George ? (*A pause.*) Well, we will call him Mr. Latham. He told you that he thought it would be better for you to vote for Gower ?—Well, I do not know.

23,429. Oh, come. We will get it. He told you that it would be better for you to vote for Gower ?—I do not know what he told me.

22,430. You know it quite well, Mr. Funnell. You know what Mr. Latham told you about Mr. Gower. Now tell me, what did he say ?—No, I do not know nothing more about it.

22,431. Oh, yes, you do. Why do you say you do not know ?—Well, I do not know.

22,432. Yes, he asked you to vote for Gower, and he told you that you would have employment, and go on his committee ?—Perhaps he did.

22,433. Well, I will take that. And he told you you would be paid for it if you went on his committee ; he said that, didn't he ?—I do not know whether he did or not.

22,434. Yes you do ; come, come.—No, I do not know.

22,435. Come, Mr. Funnell.—Well, he might.

22,436. Well, I will take it that he did. First of all he told you to go on his committee, and you would be paid for it ?—I do not know.

22,437. For loss of time, and for labour, and for other things quite right ? Didn't he know you as a neighbour ; and he knew you were out of employ, didn't he ?—I do not recollect anything about that.

22,438. Yes you do. Was it before Mr. Jordan spoke to you, or afterwards, that Mr. Latham spoke to you ; or before that Jordan spoke to you ?—Well, Latham and I lived close together. He talked to me before I saw Jordan.

22,439. I am afraid Mr. Latham did not ; he only told you, I think, 3*l.* was their figure ; wasn't it ? they didn't give much ?—Never told me no figure at all.

22,440. But about money ?—Never told me anything about money.

22,441. That you would not be so well paid for what you did ?—Never said nothing about money at all.

22,442. Well, tell me ; don't be so indignant about money ; don't be so angry.—Well, he never said anything to me about it.

22,443. About being paid for your services ?—No.

22,444. About being on the committee and being paid for your services ?—I do not think he did.

22,445. Why did Mr. Latham say you should not vote for Gower ?—Well, I do not know why he should.

22,446. You do not recollect what Mr. Latham said ? Did you see anybody else ; did you see Apted, or anybody in behalf of Mr. Gower ? — No. I did not go to anybody.

22,447. Did anybody come and see you ? At election times the voters do not visit ; they are visited ?—I do not recollect anybody calling on me.

22,448. You did not see Mr. Rose ? you know Mr. Rose, do you ? or Mr. Joyes, Mr. Apted, or any of these gentlemen ? They did not call on you ?—I know Mr. Rose very well. He never called on me.

22,449. Never spoke to you about the election ?—No.

22,450. About voting for Mr. Gower ?—No.

22,451. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want you to tell me, Funnell, you spoke to Jabez Tyrrell ?—Yes.

22,452. He lives next door to you ?—Almost ; just close.

22,453. He is a neighbour ?—Yes.

22,454. That is quite enough. He has two sons ?—Yes.

22,455. Young Jabez Tyrrell and James Tyrrell ?—Yes.

22,456. Are they at home with him ?—No, they are removed. I do not know where they are. They are up in Norwood or somewheres, or near London. I do not know where.

22,457. How long have they been away ?—Well, they were not with him for some time because they are married men. They lived handy there.

22,458. Ah, I mean, how long since they lived there ?—Well, I cannot say exactly.

22,459. Have they given up their houses?—Oh, yes.

22,460. Left the neighbourhood?—Yes, six or nine months ago.

22,461. And changed their neighbourhood?—Yes.

22,462. They were there at the time of the election?—Yes, both of them.

22,463. Does Jabez Tyrrell, the father, go and see them sometimes?—I do not think he gets out but very little. He has been very ill these four years.

22,464. He does not get out in the morning at all, I believe? He cannot get up very well?—He cannot get up all day, I believe, many a day.

22,465. He can get up in the afternoon a bit?—Some days he can.

22,466. Did you see Jabez Tyrrell yesterday?—No, I did not.

22,467. The day before, Tuesday?—The day before I did see him.

22,468. He was able to get up Tuesday?—Yes, he was up.

22,469. Was he in your house?—No, he was in his own house.

22,470. Oh, you went to see him?—Yes.

22,471. Did you go to his house yesterday?—I did. I went in last night.

22,472. Was he up?—He was in bed.

22,473. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What time did you go there?—About 8 o'clock.

22,474. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect seeing him here on market day in the town?—I was not here.

22,475. Did you go and look for him?—No.

22,476. Do you recollect seeing him at market?—I was not here.

22,477. Perhaps it was the market before?—I have not been here ne'er a market for some time.

22,478. Then I am wrong somewhere. Where would his market be; here?—I do not know.

22,479. Well, you live next door. If you do not know I am surprised. I will take it if you say so.—Well, I do not think he goes at all.

22,480. Where does he go to church on Sunday?—I do not think he goes at all. He cannot walk.

22,481. Has he got any trap?—No.

22,482. What is he, a beer house keeper?—Yes.

22,483. Hasn't he got a little trap?—I think when he goes he hires.

22,484. Can you tell me whose trap he hires?—Well, I do not know.

22,485. But I dare say you can guess. Whose trap does he hire?—Well, I have seen him go off in Mr. Church's cart. I do not know whether he hires or how he gets it.

22,486. You are sure you cannot tell where his sons are?—No.

22,487. Do they come home now and then?—I have not seen them since they went away; neither of them.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN READ sworn and examined. *J. Read.*

22,488. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You voted at the last election?—I did.

22,489. For Mr. Gower?—For Mr. Monson.

22,490. What are you?—A bootmaker.

22,491. You live in Bell-street?—I do.

22,492. What rent is your house?—I occupy two houses. I pay 40*l.* a year rent. One I let off for 16*l.* a year. 24*l.* I pay rent for myself.

22,493. Did you take an active part for Mr. Monson?—I did.

22,494. And canvassed a good deal?—I did.

22,495. And did you attend the committee meetings?—I did.

22,496. Which committee meeting did you attend, the one at the "Grapes"?—I did not attend one at the "Grapes."

22,497. Which one did you principally attend?—I attended several. I attended one at the "Plough" at Earlswood, I think it is the "Plough," Mr. Moody's house, and several others; and I attended one at the freehold at Reigate; one at Mr. Toplis's, at Redhill; in fact several.

22,498. You went round the borough pretty well?—I did.

22,499. Distributed your services?—I did.

22,500. Pretty freely?—Yes, I did all I could.

22,501. Now, at these committee meetings which you attended was there much refreshment going on?—Well, it was liberally supplied.

22,502. Did you enjoy the festivities of the evening with the others?—Oh, I did.

22,503. Did you pay for what you had?—Well, I did not in the committee room; but what I had in front of the bar I paid for, and I treated a lot of others that stood round.

22,504. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think we may take it they did not pay for what they had?—Certainly not.

22,505. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And amongst all those who went up into the committee room it was just the same?—Quite so.

22,506. Now, do you know Mr. James Hodge who keeps the "Angel"?—The "Angel" at Woodhatch? I do.

22,507. Now, we are told that you went to the "Angel" and offered him ten sovereigns for his vote?—I never did.

22,508. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Oh?—I will tell you what I did do with regard to Mr. Hodge at the "Angel." I only wish to be clearly understood about the matter. Some few days before the election, I cannot exactly say how many days before, Mr. Hodge was anxious, I believe, to let his house. He had repeatedly talked to me about his house, about letting it as a committee house. I offered him 10*l.* for the use of his house as a committee house for us to meet at. He told me that that would be no use whatever to him; his wife at the same time, in a jeering sort of tone, said, "I want all that, and enough "money to buy me a silk dress." That was Mr. Hodge's reply to me.

22,509. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) No, no; Mrs. Hodge's?—Mr. Hodge's and Mrs. Hodge's too.

22,510. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We will talk about the silk dress presently. How long before the election was it that you offered him that 10*l.*?—I think it was the Monday before the election; the Monday as the election took place on the Wednesday.

22,511. In the very week?—Yes. We felt we were rather weak in that neighbourhood, and we thought that if we could hold a meeting or two we could secure a few votes.

22,512. That is only a beer shop?—No, a licensed house.

22,513. But a very small house?—No, a moderate sized house.

22,514. What rent do they pay?—I suppose it would be about 30*l.* or 40*l.* a year.

22,515. This was the day before the nomination?—No.

22,516. What?—Oh, the night before the nomination; yes.

22,517. You were weak in that district?—We were.

22,518. Just so. Did you ask him for his vote?—No.

22,519. Why not?—I did not.

22,520. You only asked him for his house?—I only asked for the use of his house, and for the use of the house I offered him 10*l.*

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22,521. And you put the 10*l.* on the table?—I did not. I had not 10*l.* in my pocket at that time; not in any shape or form the value of the money.

22,522. If Mr. Hodge said you put 10*l.* on the bar table, is that true?—No, it is a wilful lie.

22,523. Don't say that?—I can prove it.

22,524. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Don't say that behind his back?—Well, I should say the same before his face.

22,525. You say it is incorrect?—It is incorrect.

22,526. It might not be wilful at all.

22,527. (*Mr Commissioner Smith.*) Did you afterwards offer to Mrs. Hodge the 10*l.*?—No, never.

22,528. What? — Never. I never offered Mrs. Hodge one penny piece in my life, unless it has been when I have been passing the house and gone in and had something; I have put my money down to pay for it, and if it has been a sixpence or a shilling I have taken my change in the usual way of business.

22,529. You could only have held one meeting, or two at the most?—No; but you must understand, Mr. Hodge had been in treaty for his house. I believe Mr. James Apted had offered him to take his house.

22,530. But he had not taken it?—No.

22,531. Was that 10*l.* to be as a consideration for the offer made by Apted?—It was understood that Hodge's house was to be let, and we were rather weak in the district, and we offered to take his house for meetings.

22,532. Do you mean to say you were rather hard up for votes in that district?—Yes, we were rather bad in that district.

22,533. Bad for votes?—Yes. Our impression was that if we could hold a meeting in the district we might, perhaps, secure one or two votes.

22,534. Then you would have been satisfied if you could have secured one or two votes by the meeting?—We should have been satisfied, no doubt.

23,535. Suppose you could have secured Mr. Hodge's vote?—I do not know anything about Mr. Hodge's vote. I never asked him for his vote in my life. And I think Mr. Hodge, if you knew him as well as I do, is a very unlikely man.

23,536. Wasn't it in your mind at all events? Didn't you understand that if you paid that 10*l.* for the house on the night before the election that Mr. Hodge was to vote for Monson?—No.

22,537. Why not?—Because I had understood from Mr. Hodge that he was going to vote with a friend of his, and that friend I did not know.

22,538. Did he tell you for whom he was going to vote?—No, he did not. He told me that 10*l.* would be of no use to him.

22,539. Did you know whether Hodge had got any rabbits?—No, I did not. I never was a dealer in rabbits yet.

22,540. But you know they deal in a great many things at the time of an election. Did you ever offer him anything for his rabbits?—No.

22,541. You offered him 10*l.* for the use of his house?—As a committee room.

22,542. It was a large sum?—I know it was. We are rather more liberal at those times than other times.

22,543. I understood you to say that you offered him 10*l.* because Apted had asked him for the use of the rooms three weeks before. You knew that Apted had not taken the rooms?—I did.

22,544. How do you form that as consistent that you should pay for the three weeks?—Apted was with me at the time that the offer was made.

22,545. Was Brown with you?—No.

22,546. You know Brown?—I know lots of them. I do not know which Brown you are speaking of.

22,547. Oh yes you do, Mr. Read?—I do not. We have so many of them in this neighbourhood.

22,548. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was Apted with you in the evening that you offered the 10*l.*?—It was in the afternoon, about 2 o'clock. We have so many persons in this neighbourhood of the name of Brown that I really do not know which one you are alluding to. If you will mention his Christian name I shall be most happy to answer you.

22,549. He was working near by there as a plasterer?—The only other person besides Apted with me was Mr. James Curtis.

22,550. They heard what passed?—They did. I was on my road to Charlwood in the afternoon when I went in there. I offered to take the house as a committee house for 10*l.* to hold a meeting or two there. Mrs. Hodge's reply to that was, she said, "Oh," she says, "we've been offered that long enough "ago. I want that to make a silk dress out of it." I said, "I have got nothing more to say to you."

22,551. Did you hire any other room?—No, I did not.

22,552. I could understand your conduct if you went about and engaged committee rooms. Did you hire any other?—That was the only committee room I was authorized to hire.

22,553. Who authorized you to hire that?—James Nichols.

22,554. Did he name a price?—Anything under 10*l.* I could go as far as 10*l.*

22,555. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say Apted was with you?—He was.

22,556. Did Apted say anything to him about having spoken to him three weeks ago?—I did not hear anything of the sort. I do not believe he did; if he had I should have heard it. He was present the whole of the time. We went in and had a little refreshment. I had a glass of ale; that is the only thing I took, I don't know what the others had, and we went off to Charlwood.

22,557. You say you did not know that man Brown who was very active indeed for Monson?—I really do not know him. I might know the man by sight, but I do not know the man you mean.

22,558. He was the man who did in fact you know offer Hodge two half-sovereigns and 5*l.*?—I am not aware of it.

22,559. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know any Brown who was working for Monson?—Mr. Stephen Brown, of Redhill. I know him. I believe he voted for Monson, but whether he worked for him or not I cannot say.

22,560. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He was working as a plasterer upon a house close by the "Angel"?—I do not know the man, not to my knowledge.

22,561. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now, can you say that you said or did anything to give Hodge to understand that you included his vote. He understood it was for his vote?—I did not give him to understand that it was. I told him he could have 10*l.* for his house.

22,562. That might be enough to make a man believe it?—It might be in your opinion.

22,563. I am not speaking of my own opinion now, but I mean in justice to Mr. Hodge. Mr. Hodge said he believed it, and I say that in justice to him. That is all I say?—I cannot see that, because Hodge had already told me himself which way he intended to vote. He did not tell me which he was going to vote for, but he said there was an old friend of his that he was going to vote with, whether for Monson or Gower I did not know.

22,564. It was an odd thing, if you thought he was going to vote for Gower, that you did not say something?—Not at all, if we thought we could gain two by losing one, by having his house as a committee house.

22,565. It was quite enough to justify Hodge?—I don't think so.

22,566. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At an election, the night before the election, a man coming into your house——?—It was not the night before the election, it was the night before the nomination.

22,567. It is the same thing?—Not exactly.

22,568. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Don't think

yourself so exceedingly clever: it *was* the night before the election?—No it was not; it was the night before the nomination.

22,569. The nomination is the election, therefore you are quite wrong, you see. It *was* the election?—I beg your pardon, then. We expected, if we had taken the house at that time, to have held two meetings there.

22,570. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you canvass any others?—Oh, I canvassed all I could.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said you were active in your canvass.

22,571. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you make an offer of money to any of them?—No.

22,572. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you receive?—I received altogether a sum of 50*l.*

22,573. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you that?—James Nichols.

22,574. Did Nichols tell you who the money came from?—No.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say, "I received "50*l.* for my services."

22,575. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You expended more, did not you? Some money passed through your hands?—No, I will tell you honestly and fairly how I spent the money.

22,576. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How did you dispose of it?—I should think I spent nearly 30*l.* for ribbons, making colours, during the election.

22,577. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I thought you had that for yourself?—Certainly not. I had a balance of a few pounds which I considered myself entitled to return. I offered it to Mr. Nichols, and he said, "You can keep that for yourself, Mr. Read; "you have dearly earnt it."

22,578. How much was that?—I think it was 7*l.*

22,579. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you spend any of that in treating at public houses?—Occasionally I have asked persons to have what they liked, a glass of anything.

22,580. Voters?—I was not particular; they may have been voters and may have been non-voters. I am not particular myself.

22,581. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you furnish an account of the money to Mr. Nichols, an account of the 50*l.*, showing how it had been expended?—I did not.

22,582. What did you do with the ribbons?—Distributed them among any that liked to apply for them. I supplied all the horses employed during the election with rosettes.

22,583. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And the voters?—Yes.

22,584. Did you know that was illegal?—I did not. I am not here to answer anything about the legality or illegality of the thing, but I am here to tell you of the fact. I am here to tell you what I did.

22,585. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How did you receive the 50*l.*?—I received 20*l.*, then 10*l.*, and afterwards 20*l.*

22,586. Did not you give Mr. Nichols an account of how that was expended?—No, I did not.

22,587. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Let me see; you received 50*l.* altogether from Nichols. We will take it altogether that that was about it?—Yes, it was not over 50*l.*

22,588. You say you have sent in no account to Mr. Nichols?—No.

22,589. Then how did Mr. Nichols know what you ought to be paid, because you came in and said, "I "have disbursed a quantity of money, and I am sure "it amounts to very near 50*l.*" I want to know how it was; 50*l.* is a big sum. Why did Mr. Nichols pay you 50*l.*?—I do not know.

22,590. That is really no answer at all?—I did not.

22,591. It won't do; at least it won't do for me?—Very good, sir. I went and volunteered my services towards Mr. Monson for the simple reason that I considered Mr. Gower had no right to be in the field.

22,592. When the work was over, why did Nichols pay you such a sum as 50*l.* without your showing any account or anything?—I do not know. The 50*l.*, you understand, was not given all at once.

22,593. It was given, as you told us, 20*l.*, and 10*l.*, and 20*l.*?—Quite right. Mr. Nichols' instructions were then that I was to go and do the best I could.

22,594. I know that, but I am not talking upon that subject at all. You may as well tell me about the weather?—If I understand you upon any subject I shall be pleased to answer you.

22,595. When a man runs on to another subject I think it shows he dislikes the subject I am on?—I do not dislike the subject.

22,596. He paid you 20*l.*; was that when you came to him and said you had been disbursing money, and wanted some money?—No.

22,597. Why did he pay you the first 20*l.*?—I went to James Nichols, and I was going to state just now, only you would not hear me.

22,598. I beg your pardon. we wish to hear what you have to say?—I was going to say that when I volunteered my services towards Mr. Monson he told me to do the best I could, and he said in the course of the election he had no doubt I should expend money in the way of being about amongst them, and he gave me 20*l.*

22,599. What for? to pay amongst them?—He did not say what for.

22,600. Did you walk into a room, and did Mr. Nichols say, "Here is 20*l.* for you, Mr. Read"?—No, certainly not.

22,601. Did you go and say, "I should be glad to "have 20*l.*"?—No.

22,602. Did you go and say, "My expenses amount "to something like that"?—I told him if I gave up my time from my business my expenses would be something considerable.

22,603. That is not volunteering?—Not volunteering exactly, but I volunteered my services.

22,604. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You volunteered your services, and were to be paid for your time. That is what you call volunteering?—No, certainly not.

22,605. What do you mean then?—I meant to say that if I spent five and twenty shillings or a pound a day in being about canvassing it is not my services, nor yet my time, because there is not one penny of it which is any benefit to me.

22,606. Do attend to me, and not look about?—I am not looking about.

22,607. Pray attend. When you got 20*l.* from Mr. Nichols on the first occasion, I want to know why he gave it; for what?—To go about and do the best I could.

22,608. At that time; was it the commencement?—Yes; at least not exactly the commencement that I know of. I never commenced doing anything till Mr. Gower stepped forward and then I took it up.

22,609. When you went to Mr. Nichols determining to do your best did you ask him for money to go on with?—I went to him and volunteered my services, and told him I would do the best I could, and he gave me 20*l.* then and there.

22,610. What for?—For my expenses.

22,611. But you had not incurred any?—Not then, but for my future expenses.

22,612. Very good; I will take it so. You went on with that. Why did he pay you the next 10*l.* or 20*l.*?—10*l.*

22,613. When was it that he gave you 10*l.*?—I do not know; some weeks before the election.

22,614. I am quite satisfied. How did he come to pay you 10*l.*?—I told him that I had people repeatedly applying to me for colours, and I had spent then over 20*l.*

FOURTEENTH DAY.

J. Read.

6 Sept. 1866.

22,615. So he gave you 10*l.* more?—Yes, he did.

22,616. Do you mean to say you had given ribbons and colours three weeks before the election?—I did.

22,617. Did you have any bill for those colours?—No, I went and bought them.

22,617*a*. Who of?—Some of Mr. Austin, and some I bought in London.

22,618. Did you keep any account of them?—No; I know it was considerably over 20*l.*

22,619. We have got now, you know, to the 10*l.* There was another 20*l.* you got from Nichols. When did you get that?—A week or two before the election.

22,620. How did you get that? What did he give you that for?—To go on with the election.

22,621. And did you tell him or give him to understand that you had been at further expense, and wanted more money?—I told him if I was to go on with the election I should want more money.

22,622. That is exactly what I said in substance. And he gave it to you?—He gave it to me.

22,623. At that time, when you got that last 20*l.* which made up the 50*l.*, you say that after repaying yourself all the expenses you had been put to there would be a small balance over, about 7*l.*, which you thought you deserved, and kept?—No, I did not think I deserved it. I could not think I deserved it, otherwise I should not have gone and offered it back again.

22,624. Mr. Nichols thought so. You said there was a balance of 7*l.*; you went to Mr. Nichols, and Mr. Nichols authorized you to keep it?—I did.

22,625. So that was 7*l.* for your own pay?—Yes.

22,626. That was just before the election?—It was after the election.

22,627. You told me just now that it was before?—It was before that I received the money, but it was after the election that I tendered the balance.

22,628. When was it, the next week?—It might be a week after.

22,629. Now tell me this. You were paid in that way 7*l.* for your services fairly enough?—Well, I was paid 7*l.*

22,630. We will take it in that way?—You may take it for that; I do not consider it was for my services.

22,631. Well, how was it that in the month of October you got ten guineas besides?—I never did get ten guineas in October.

22,632. Look at that (*handing a paper to the witness*)?—I got ten guineas in September.

22,633. I said October on purpose?—On the 29th September I received ten guineas from Mr. Hart.

22,634. I said October on purpose that you might have an opportunity of correcting me?—I am obliged to you.

22,635. Then you received ten guineas on the 29th September. You did not tell me that before?—You have not given me an oportunity of telling you for the future. I have accounted for 50*l.*

22,636. Shall I tell you how?—Yes, I received 20*l.* first, then 10*l.*, and then 20*l.*

22,637. You won't let me tell you?—I have accounted for the 50*l.* that Mr. Nichols gave me.

22,638. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He said you richly deserved it?—Mr. Hart came into my shop on the 29th September, and he said, "We don't know "what to do with you, Mr. Read; you have sent in "no account for your services in the election." I said, "I did not think I was entitled to anything;" and he said, "Here is a cheque for ten guineas, if you "will kindly receive it." I did receive it, and I gave him a receipt for it.

22,639. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that plus the 50*l.* which you had received from Mr. Nichols?—Yes; I am coming to Mr. Hart's ten guineas now.

22,640. But at first, when you were asked the general question, you said you had received 50 guineas?—50*l.* I said for the working expenses.

22,641. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) No; according to your own showing it was only 43*l.*?—How do you make it so?

22,642. The 7*l.* was for yourself?—Yes. I beg your pardon, sir.

22,643. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Well, now, Mr. Read, I understand you to say that you received 50*l.* from Mr. Nichols, and 10*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Hart?—I did.

22,644. And you retained the 7*l.* as the balance from Mr. Nichols, and plus that you have this 10*l.* 10*s.*, which will be 17*l.* 10*s.* for your services?—17*l.* 7*s.*?

22,645. No, 17*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

22,646. I don't know whether you intended it, but you did not state it in the first instance; you left it to be supposed that 7*l.* was all that you received?—No, I do not think so. I understood you to ask what I had during the election, and I told you 50*l.* The ten guineas that I received was some considerable time after the election.

22,647. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I asked you what you had had for the election, not "during?"—I understood you to say "during the election."

22,648. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you know from Mr. Nichols or anybody where Mr. Nichols got the money?—No.

22,649. Have you any reason to believe where he got the money?—No, I have not.

22,650. When was Mr. Hart appointed as expense agent?—I do not know.

22,651. Was not he acting from the first?—I believe he was; I do not know.

22,652. Was Mr. Nichols the person who was distributing all the money?—I do not know.

22,653. How came you to go to Mr. Nichols and ask him if you did not know?—I frequented Mr. Nichols' house every night, and it came up in conversation, and I volunteered my services towards Mr. Monson.

22,654. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Don't talk of volunteering?—I gave them, then.

22,655. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you offer them?—He never asked me.

22,656. Then you offered them?—Yes, I did not consider that I was paid.

22,657. None of them consider they are paid?—Very good, sir. I will explain the reason presently, when you have done with me, why I consider I was not paid.

22,658. Perhaps you will be good enough to explain now?—The wide range that I took, if you might term it so of this borough; having a horse and cart I went all round to see the voters, and did the best I could with them; I consider that my time and the use of my horse and cart was never paid for.

22,659. Not by the 17*l.* 10*s.*?—Certainly not.

22,660. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is to say you consider you were not sufficiently paid?—No.

22,661. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith*) Do you know Henry Francis?—Yes.

22,662. And Page?—I know Page very well.

22,663. Both of them were very active?—Page was; I don't know whether Francis was.

22,664. Did you know Holdsworth?—Yes.

22,665. He was an active man for Monson?—I do not know that he was particularly.

22,666. Were you frequently at his house?—I occasionally go to get a glass of ale.

22,667. Were you there during the election?—I was; but never at a meeting of Monson's or Gower's, or anything of that sort.

22,668. Were you there when people were canvassing?—I never went to Holdsworth's after 7 o'clock in the evening.

22,669. Why do you say "Never at Mr. Holds-"worth's?" I will put a general question; did you ever canvass people and offer them work?—I offered one work.

22,670. Who was that?—A man of the name of Dickinson.

22,671. In what way did you offer him work?—I told him he might have a pound a week to work. I do not know what his Christian name was.

22,672. Where does he live?—Lisburn-lane.

22,673. What is he?—A journeyman shoemaker.

22,674. What was he to do for a pound a week?—Attend meetings, and do as much as he could among those who had votes.

22,675. How much did you pay?—3*l.*

22,676. When did you pay the 3*l.*?—2*l.* before the election, and 1*l.* after the election.

22,677. When; on the night of the polling?—No, more than a fortnight after the election.

22,678. Of course he voted for Monson?—I do not know which way he voted.

22,679. Did not you know?—No, I did not.

22,680. Did not you ascertain which way he voted?—No.

22,681. You said you had canvassed him?—Yes, he never gave me any promise at all which way he was going to vote. He was a man that was working for me at the time, and I offered him a pound a week to canvass all that he knew.

22,682. He worked under you?—He did occasionally work; he was not thoroughly under my employ.

22,683. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he give you a receipt?—No.

22,684. Nothing on paper?—No.

22,685. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You worked actively for Monson and considered yourself under a personal grievance with regard to Mr. Gower. Do you mean to say you never asked that man which way he was going to vote?—No.

22,686. Was that your usual way of canvassing?—Yes.

22,687. Not to ask them which way they were going to vote?—Not which way they had voted. I knew the way the man was going to vote before the election, before ever I offered him any employment.

22,688. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For Monson?—Yes.

22,689. And you knew afterwards that he voted for Monson?—I do not know that he did; I know he told me he was going to vote for Monson; whether he did or not, I do not know.

22,690. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did not you look him up?—No.

22,691. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You saw him after the election?—I have seen him since the election.

22,692. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before you paid him the pound?—No.

22,693. Do you mean to say you had not the curiosity to see which way he voted?—Not the least. The election, after it was over, was so disinteresting to me that I did not trouble anything more about it.

22,694. You knew you had lost?—Yes, and when I have lost I know I generally have to pay as a rule.

22,695. Were you up the night before the polling?—Was I up?

22,696. Yes, about the town?—No.

22,697. You were not up as superintendent of the watchers?—No, I got up at 7 o'clock; I was up at the "White Hart" about 10 minutes past 7.

22,698. Was Henry Francis constantly with you?—I saw him once or twice; once at the "White Hart," and once at the "Greyhound," at Redhill.

22,699. You knew by rumour, did you not, that on the part of Mr. Gower there was a good deal of money flying about?—I heard a good many promises. I did not know about much money.

22,700. You had heard of a good many promises?—Yes.

22,701. Were you struck with the same virtuous inspiration as Francis, to go about to try the purity of the borough?—I do not believe in the purity.

22,702. Did not you ever tempt the voters to see how far they would go?—Never.

22,703. Not if you thought there was a doubtful man?—Never.

22,704. I dare say there were three or four men like Francis, who wished to try the purity of the borough?—I never offered a bribe to a man in my life. If I promised I always paid.

22,705. Well, but did you ever offer anybody else excepting Hodge a handsome sum of money for the use of his room?—No; I never offered Hodge; only for the use of his house.

22,706. Did you ever offer anybody else a handsome sum for the use of a room?—Never.

22,707. Or a handsome sum for anything else? Anything in any shape or form?—Only Hodge.

22,708. That was all?—That was all. I offered Hodge 10*l.* for the use of his house as a committee house.

22,709. Did you ever see Nichols pay money to anybody else besides yourself?—No.

22,710. Did you give Nichols receipts for these moneys?—I have already told you I never did.

22,711. I ask that because I see you are not returned in the election expenses. Did you ever see the election expenses?—No, never on either side.

22,712. Because of course that makes it very much more suspicious, when you receive moneys and those are not returned through the legal channel?—Quite so.

22,713. Therefore you will excuse use for suspecting the application of the 50*l.*, because it is not returned in the legal way as a part of the expenses.

22,714. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I will take it that the 3*l.* you mentioned was paid?—Yes.

22,715. And you got no acknowledgment?—None whatever.

22,716. You got him a pound at a time, I suppose?—Yes, I paid him a pound a week. I won't be sure that it was positively a week. That was the arrangement.

22,717. You paid Dickinson?—Yes, I paid him out of the 50*l.*

22,718. Is this a receipt (*handing a paper to the witness*)?—I do not know whether he gave a receipt. It was Edmund Dickinson. I am not aware whether he has ever given a receipt at all.

22,719. This is William Dickinson?—I believe the one in Lesbourne-lane is Edmund Dickinson; I did not know his Christian name before.

22,720. Are you sure you never gave Nichols any account?—No.

22,721. You said so before, but I wanted to have it beyond all doubt?—I did not.

JOHN RICHARD HANDSCOMB called, sworn, and examined.

J. R. Handscomb.

22,722. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A house painter.

22,723. What rent do you pay for the house you live in?—26*l.* a year.

22,724. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Gower.

22,725. Who put you on his committee? I suppose you were a committee man?—No, I was not.

22,726. Who asked you to vote?—Mr. Mulley.

22,727. When did he speak to you about voting for Gower? How long was it before the election?—Three weeks.

22,728. He asked you, I believe, to exert yourself for Mr. Gower, and you did exert yourself?—Yes.

22,729. In what way?—Well, I asked my friends to vote for Mr. Gower.

22,730. And, I suppose, attended some of the committee meetings?—I believe I did.

22,731. And you were up on the polling and nomination day?—Yes.

22,732. Were you up at all at night?—Yes.

22,733. What did you receive?—I received 1*l.* from Mulley.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

J. R. Handscomb.

6 Sept. 1866.

22,734. Only 1*l.* ?—Only 1*l.*

22,735. Is that all ?—That is all I received.

22,736. Ah, that is all you received; but that is not all you were promised ?—No.

22,737. What were you promised ?—I was promised 3*l.* certain, and if the others got 5*l.* I was to have the same.

22,738. Who promised you that ?—Mulley.

22,739. When did he pay you the 1*l.* ?—I cannot say exactly the time when; some time afterwards.

22,740. Some time after the election ?—Yes. I had been very ill, and I met him in the street, and I asked him if he could let me have some of the money that was promised on the election, and he said, "Well, "I will give you a pound out of my own pocket," and he did so.

22,741. Did you get any more ?—I have not troubled myself about it.

22,742. You never got any more ?—I never got any more.

22,743. Did you apply at all about it ?—No, I never troubled any more about it.

22,744. You took that 1*l.*, and there was an end of it ?—Yes.

22,745. Had you heard at the time that they were getting 5*l.* ?—No, I did not hear what they were getting.

22,746. Had you voted before at the former election ?—In 1863.

22,747. For whom ?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

22,748. And I suppose you exerted yourself, as you did this time for Mr. Gower ?—Yes, and more.

22,749. What did you get that time ?—I got nothing then.

22,750. Who canvassed you ?—Mr. Steer and Mr. Norman Wilkinson.

22,751. Did they ask you to be on their committee ?—No.

22,752. You did not expect anything for that time, did you ?—No.

22,753. You were not promised anything ?—I was not promised anything by Mr. Steer, nor by either of them.

22,754. You did not apply for anything after the election, did you ?—Yes, I did.

22,755. To whom did you apply ?—To Mr. James, the agent.

22,756. You took a bill in ?—Yes, for three weeks' payment.

22,757. How much ?—I forget the sum.

22,758. About ?—I cannot say.

22,759. 5*l.* ?—It was not 5*l.*

22,760. 4*l.* 10*s.*, 30*s.* a week, was it not ?—I think, to the best of my recollection, I won't be certain, it was 3*l.* 10*s.* I cannot say; not to speak the truth.

22,761. You sent it in to Mr. James ?—I took it in myself.

22,762. In your own writing ?—Yes.

22,763. Did you see him ?—Yes.

22,764. What did he say ?—I almost forget the words he said; it is some time ago. I never trouble myself about elections when they are over.

22,765. You took the trouble of making out a bill and giving it in to Mr. James. What did he say ?—I cannot tell.

22,766. Did he say, "It is too much;" or, "I can't pay you so much?" What did he say ?—I really cannot tell.

22,767. What did he pay you ?—He never paid me anything,

22,768. Never paid you anything at all ?—No.

22,769. Did you sue him, or threaten to sue him ?—No, I never troubled myself any more about it after he told me he could not pay me.

22,770. Well, you see, you do recollect now that he said he could not pay you. Why could not he pay you ?—I cannot tell.

22,771. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it in 1863, at the election of 1863, that you had been canvassed by Mr. Gower's party ?—I was canvassed by Mr. Gower's party.

22,772. Who by ?—I cannot tell.

22,773. Oh, dear, your memory fails you very much.—I told them when they came that I had promised Mr. Norman Wilkinson and Mr. Steer my vote, and should not change for any one.

22,774. I want to know who came to your house ?—Mr. Thomas Featherstone.

22,775. And what did he propose to you ? Did he tell you how much you would have if you went on the committee and served ?—No.

22,776. What did he tell you ?—Merely asked if I would vote for Mr. Gower, and I said, no, I had promised Mr. Norman Wilkinson.

22,777. What did he say to you ? Did he say, "Well, I hear you are going for Wilkinson" ?—No; he came to my house as a friend.

22,778. Of course he did.—And the subject was brought up in conversation.

22,779. But did he say, "I hear you are going for "Wilkinson" ?—He might have said that.

22,780. And did you say "Yes, I think I shall" ?—No. I said, "Yes, I am."

22,781. Then did he tell you you might as well come and be on their side ?—Not to my recollection.

22,782. But you have just told me that Featherstone canvassed you to vote for Gower ?—He asked me if I would vote for Gower.

22,783. Had he some further talk with you ?—Yes, as a friend.

22,784. I mean as a friend, after you had told him that you were going to vote for Gower. He came in and went on talking to you in the house ?—He did talk to me.

22,785. Did he say, "If you will come with me on "Mr. Gower's committee you will fare like the others" ?—No.

22,786. Did he ask you to go on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No.

22,787. Did you go on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No.

22,788. Was not your name on it ?—No.

22,789. It is very odd. Was that all the canvassing you had in 1863 on the part of Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

22,790. No terms mentioned at all ?—No terms mentioned whatever.

22,791. You have not been in any other election ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

H. Worsfold.

HENRY WORSFOLD sworn and examined.

22,792. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

22,793. What rent do you pay for the house that you occupy ?—10*l.* a year.

22,794. What are you ?—A labourer.

22,795. You voted for Mr. Gower, I suppose ?—Yes.

22,796. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower ?—No one; no one asked me at all. Mr. Gower called, but I was not at home when he called.

22,797. Just let me ask you a general question then. Did you receive any money ?—Not any; not a farthing.

22,798. Were you on the committee ?—Yes.

22,799. Who put you on the committee ?—Mr. Durrant. I don't know.

22,800. Did Durrant ask you to be on the committee ?—No; no one asked me.

22,801. Did you see Mr. Durrant about voting ?—No.

22,802. Did he ask you to vote?—No, he never spoke a word to me.

22,803. Who was it that asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—No one asked me. Mr. Gower called at the house where I lived and left a card, and said he wished me to vote for him, but I never saw Mr. Gower.

22,804. Did you attend any of the meetings?—No.

22,805. Did you do nothing at the election except voting?—No.

22,806. Were you at the nomination?—No.

22,807. Who brought you up to the poll to vote?—I cannot say who it was brought me.

22,808. You did not come alone?—No, I rode up.

22,809. Somebody brought a carriage for you?—Yes; but who it was I do not know.

22,810. Well, if you did not tell anybody how you were going to vote, how did they know that you wanted a carriage?—They all knew that I had voted for Mr. Gower before.

22,811. You do not know who it was that was with you in the carriage?—No, I do not know who was with me.

22,812. Did anybody come to you after the election and offer you anything?—No.

28,813. Was this the only election you voted at?—I voted before.

22,814. You voted in 1863?—Yes.

22,815. Do you know Mr. Groom?—I do know him, sir.

22,816. Were you at his house at the time of the election?—I was at his house one night.

22,817. Which night was that?—I cannot tell you which night it was.

22,818. Was it the night before the polling?—I think it was; I cannot tell.

22,819. It was that night?—I cannot tell the night.

22,820. There were some others there when you were there?—There were two or three more.

22,821. Half a dozen?—I cannot tell how many; I was not there but a very little while myself.

22,822. Well then, on the night that you were there what time did you get away?—I should say between 9 and 10 o'clock.

22,823. You went home to your own bed?—I went to my own home.

22,824. And you left some others at Groom's?—Yes.

22,825. Do you know Groom very well?—Yes.

22,826. Are you often at Groom's?—No.

22,827. That is a private house?—Yes.

22,828. It is not a beer house?—No.

22,829. Who asked you to go to Groom's just before the election?—He asked me to go.

22,830. You asked yourself?—He asked me to go.

22,831. Did he tell you what he wanted you for?—No.

22,832. Just recollect yourself, and see whether you cannot remember that it was the night before the polling; the night before the election?—No, I don't recollect scarcely anything.

22,833. Was it not the night before the election that you were there?—It was within a night or two of the election.

22,834. Mr. Groom asked you to go up to his house; did not he speak to you about the election?—No.

22,835. Are you quite sure of that?—No one spoke to me at all about it.

22,836. Did anybody speak to you on the part of Mr. Monson?—No.

22,837. How very odd that must have been?—Not one.

22,838. It is very odd that they should have missed you?—They did.

22,839. They must have been very bad canvassers. Where was your work? Out in the fields?—Yes.

22,840. And you came home of a night, and very soon went to bed?—Yes, I had not much company.

22,841. Then if that was your ordinary practice of very soon going to bed I do not understand why you went to Groom's a little before the election?—I went to sit awhile.

22,842. What did you have at Groom's? Anything to drink?—I cannot say what we had.

22,843. Had you anything to drink?—A glass of beer, or something of that.

22,844. Were they all drinking beer?—I cannot tell.

22,845. There was beer supplied round was not there?—I cannot tell.

22,846. Did not you see that the others were having refreshment?—Yes, having refreshment; but what it was I cannot say.

22,847. Now we know as a fact that there was a meeting of men at Groom's the night before, was not the occasion when you were there the night before?—It was either the night before or the night before that.

22,848. Very well, that is near enough for us?—It is a thing I cannot recollect.

22,849. Then having gone there a night or two nights before the election, just try and recollect was not the election the subject matter of conversation?—No, I did not hear a word of it; not any that I am aware of.

28,850. Did you see Rose there? Do you know Alec Rose?—No, I did not.

22,851. Where did you breakfast on the morning of the election?—At the "Barley Mow."

22,852. How far is the "Barley Mow" from your house?—Why, not above a hundred yards.

22,853. What time did you go to the "Barley Mow" for breakfast?—About 7 o'clock or after.

22,854. How came you to know there would be breakfast there?—I was going by the place at the time.

22,855. Did not Groom tell you there would be a breakfast at the "Barley Mow"?—No.

22,856. Because Groom knew all about it you know?—He never told me.

22,857. Did you meet at breakfast at the "Barley Mow" any of the persons you had seen at Groom's the night before?—Not that I know of.

22,858. Well, you had your breakfast there; did you go from the "Barley Mow" to poll?—Yes.

22,859. You remained at the "Barley Mow" till you were fetched?—No, I was handy there. I cannot say that I remained there, but I was there at the time when they came after me.

22,860. There were several voters at the "Barley Mow" at breakfast that morning?—I cannot tell whether they were voters.

22,861. There were several people there?—There were several people there.

22,862. They were all breakfasting?—I cannot say as to that.

22,863. Did you pay for your breakfast?—No.

22,864. Were you at the "Angel" at Woodhatch?—No.

22,865. You know it?—Yes.

22,866. You have been there?—At no meetings.

22,867. Was the "Barley Mow" the only place where you took refreshment during the two or three weeks before the election?—Only there; there was no other place I went to.

22,868. You are quite sure that Durrant never made any terms with you?—Not any at all, and no one else.

22,869. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you live in a house under Thomas Clutton?—Robert Clutton.

22,870. Did you live in his house at the time of the election?—No, I do not live in his house.

22,871. Whose house do you live in?—Williams'.

22,872. You worked for Mr. Clutton?—Yes.

22,873. Did you work for him during the election?—Yes.

22,874. You had some conversation with Clutton

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about the election?—Clutton has never spoken to me about the election.

22,875. I did not say "has," but did he before the election speak to you about it?—No.

22,876. Do you know that he was chairman for Mr. Gower; one of his chairmen?—Yes.

22,877. Where at? Where was he sitting as chairman?—I cannot tell.

22,878. How did you know he was chairman?—I was told so.

22,879. Who by?—I cannot tell who by.

22,880. Did he tell you himself?—No.

22,881. At the time that you voted were you behindhand with your rent a little?—No.

22,882. Are you quite sure of that?—Yes.

22,883. Was the rent all right?—Yes.

22,884. Up to when?—I was not behindhand.

22,885. Not with anybody?—No.

22,886. Did you go to Mr. Clutton before the election?—Oh, yes.

22,887. About what? About the election?—No, Mr. Clutton never spoke to me about the election.

22,888. He did not?—No.

22,889. How long have you been in his service?—Nearly eight years.

22,890. Williams is your landlord; what is his name?—I cannot tell his Christian name. I do not know it.

22,891. Where does he live? Is it Thomas Williams, of Cockshot-hill?—He has a son at Cockshot-hill.

22,892. Thomas Williams, senior, is your landlord?—Yes.

22,893. Did not Thomas Williams, junior, come and ask you?—No.

22,894. Are you certain?—Yes.

22,895. Had you seen him before the election?—Yes, very often.

22,896. Do you mean to say Williams had not spoken to you about voting?—No.

22,897. Never asked which way you were going to vote?—I cannot say "never asked." I don't know as he ever asked or not; I don't remember.

22,898. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did not you know that Thomas Williams, junior, was taking a very active part for Mr. Gower?—No, I do not remember anything about it.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN VIGAR sworn and examined.

J. Vigar.

22,899. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Vigar?—A bellhanger and gasfitter.

22,900. What rent are you paying for your house?—I have not got a house.

22,901. What rent were you paying at the election? 5*s.* a week.

22,902. That is the house you voted for?—Yes.

22,903. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

22,904. Who canvassed you for your vote?—Thomas Jordan.

22,905. You were to receive 15*s.* a week, I suppose, and the back money to make up 5*l.* You were to get 5*l.*?—Yes.

22,906. And did get 5*l.*?—Yes.

22,907. Who paid you?—Thomas Jordan.

22,908. Oh, Jordan himself paid you?—Yes.

22,909. Did he pay you two 15*s.*?—Yes.

22,910. Where did he pay you the balance, 3*l.* 10*s.*?—At his own house.

22,911. Was that the night after the election?—The polling day.

22,912. The night of the polling day?—Yes.

22,913. After you had polled?—Yes.

22,914. Did you go to his house for it?—Yes.

22,915. Did he tell you to go to his house?—Yes.

22,216. Did you know the others were paid at the "Plough"?—No, I did not know that.

22,917. Had you been canvassed before?—For Mr. Wilkinson?

22,918. In 1863; were you employed on that occasion?—Yes.

22,919. Who canvassed you?—No one canvassed me. Mr. John Simmons asked me if I would vote.

22,920. That is the man that keeps the "Thimble and Nutcracker"?—"The Thimble and Nutmeg "Grater."

22,921. You got a pound on that occasion?—Yes; a night and two days.

22,922. You were not running about all night. What do you mean by a night?—Very nearly.

22,923. Did you know how many Jordan had under him?—He gave me money for two more, and I paid it.

22,924. Who were they?—Abraham White and William Bilcliffe.

22,925. What is White?—A bellhanger and gasfitter.

22,926. What is the other?—A sawyer.

22,927. Did you receive the 15*s.* for them, the two 15*s.*, as well as the 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, the same time I got the other, and I gave it to them.

12,928. Used you to go to Jordan's house for it?—Yes.

22,929. You only received 1*l.* in 1863?—Yes.

22,930. Now is that all the money you have told us of that you received in 1865?—That is all.

22,931. Of course you had the public houses and beer shops open while you were busy at work?

22,232. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did White and Bilcliffe vote for Monson?—Yes.

22,933. Who paid you the 1*l.* in 1863?—Joyes.

22,934. Were you satisfied with it?—I thought it was very good pay.

22,935. But 5*l.* was better. Was that the only time you voted?—Yes.

22,936. Did any one go to Jordan with you for the money? You went for the three?—White did not go because he lived at a distance. I took his money and paid him on the following morning.

22,937. Did you see any strangers on the polling day when you went back for your money?—There were strangers there.

22,938. At Mr. Jordan's?—At Mr. Jordan's.

22,939. How many that you did notknow? Half a dozen?—Five or six that I did not know.

22,940. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I do not think you have said how much you paid White?—5*l.* each.

22,941. Did you pay them the same way, 15*s.* a week?—Yes,

22,942. And then you got the 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, that was after the polling.

22,943. Is that William Bilcliffe, the man you mean, of West-street?—Yes.

W. R. Warren.

WILLIAM ROBERT WARREN sworn and examined.

22,944. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Whom did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

22,945. To whom did you promise your vote?—To Mr. Gower.

22,946. Were you at any time paid any money?—Yes.

22,947. Who paid you money?—James Apted, for Mr. Monson.

22,948. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

22,949. What are you?—A labourer.

22,950. What rent do you pay?—I was paying 4*s.* 6*d.* a week. I am now paying 4*s.*

22,951. You say James Apted paid you money for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

22,952. How much did he pay you?—5*l.*

22,953. When did he pay you that?—On the nomination day.

22,954. Did he tell you what the 5*l.* was for?—Yes, it was to get me a new suit of clothes.

22,955. At the same time did he speak about your voting for Mr. Monson?—No.

22,956. Whereabouts was it that he gave you this 5*l.*?—30*s.* at the "Castle," and the rest at Mr. Holdsworth's stables.

22,957. Was anybody else with you when you were at Mr. Holdsworth's stables?—Yes.

22,958. Whom?—Thomas Goddard.

22,959. (*Mr. Commissioner OBrien.*) Is the "Castle" a public house?—Yes.

22,960. Who keeps the "Castle"?—John Green.

22,961. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you were at Mr. Holdsworth's stables was anything said about voting?—No.

22,962. Did you understand what you were to do with your vote when you got the 5*l.*?—There was nothing said to me about it.

22,963. You understood what you were to do?—I promised my vote to Mr. Gower.

22,964. You did not tell them so?—I had told some of them before.

22,965. Do you recollect telling Mr. James Apted?—I do not remember speaking to him; he was speaking to Mr. Goddard all the time.

22,966. How came he to give you this 5*l.* for a new suit of clothes?—He said he had heard that our clothes had been torn off our backs, and he had come down to give us some new ones.

22,967. Had your clothes been torn off your backs?—No.

22,968. Do you mean to say nothing was said about the election?—Nothing was said to me.

22,969. You knew James Apted well?—Yes.

22,970. You knew him to be an active man for Mr. Monson?—He told us he was an agent for Mr. Richardson.

22,971. Were you to vote for Mr. Richardson for the 5*l.*?—No.

22,972. Did Mr. Holdsworth say anything to you about your vote?—No.

22,973. Or did you hear him say anything to the other men?—No.

22,974. You knew him to be an active man on the part of Mr. Monson?—No, I did not know anything about him.

22,975. Did you not think it very odd that they should volunteer to give you 5*l.* for a new suit of clothes?—I did not ask them for it.

22,976. You knew very well that the 5*l.* was for yur vote?—No.

22,977. What did you believe?—I did not believe anything at all about it.

22,978. No, I do not suppose you believe anything; what did you think the 5*l.* was for?—For a new suit of clothes.

22,979. No it was not for a new suit of clothes, because you had then told him you had not torn your coat; come, tell us at once?—I do not know what it was for.

22,980. Do you mean to say you did not know what the 5*l.* was given you for?—I did not.

22,981. It was just before the election, on nomination day?—I do not know what it was for.

22,982. You connect the two together, the nomination and the election and then the 5*l.*, and do you mean to tell me point blank that you thought the 5*l.* was for a new suit of clothes, or that you did not know what it was for?—I did not.

22,983. Why did you vote for Mr. Gower?—Because I promised Mr. Gower himself.

22,984. Did you promise anybody else?—No.

22,985. Did you ever get anything for voting for Mr. Gower?—No, excepting working one week for wages for Mr. Durrant and one week for Thomas Williams.

22,986. Thomas Williams, junior?—Yes, digging his garden.

22,987. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did Mr. Durrant pay you for the work?—1*l.* each week; 1*l.* a week for two weeks.

22,988. Was that during the election?—Just before. I had nothing else to do.

22,989. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was not that the week before the election?—The fortnight.

22,990. Where were you working the Monday before the nomination; were you working with Mr. Williams?—No.

22,991. For Mr. Durrant?—For Mr. Durrant.

22,992. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The 1*l.* included the polling day and nomination day; you did not work the polling day?—Not on the polling day.

22,993. Nor the nomination day?—No.

22,994. And the Monday before you did nothing?—No.

22,995. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you at Green's house the night before the election?—Yes.

22,996. Had you told anybody that you had received 5*l.* from James Apted and Holdsworth?—Thomas Goddard knew it.

22,997. He knew it because he was there; Goddard had 5*l.* too, had he not?—Yes.

22,998. Was Goddard working with you at Mr. Durrant's?—No.

22,999. You went to Mr. Groom's the night before the election; how came you to go there?—He asked me to come up for an hour or two.

23,000. Who asked you, Mr. Groom?—I do not know whether it was Mr. Groom or Mr. Durrant.

23,001. Had you been to Mr. Groom's before?—No.

23,002. Never?—Never.

23,003. You had some beer to drink?—I had some cider and ginger beer.

23,004. Did the cider and ginger beer make you sleepy?—No, not it.

23,005. Where did you sleep; did not you sleep at home?—I slept there a little while.

23,006. We know all about that; you slept there all the night?—It was 11 o'clock when I went.

23,007. When did you come away?—About 5 in the morning.

23,008. And then you went to the "Barley Mow" to breakfast?—I went home.

23,009. It was close by, was it not?—Yes.

23,010. Why did you not go home before?—I laid down and went to sleep.

23,011. Did not they take away your boots and shoes?—No.

23,012. Did you find them when you got up in the morning?—Yes.

23,013. Where?—In the room where I left them.

23,014. That was not the room in which you were sleeping?—No, I pulled them off before I went in the room where I was sleeping.

23,015. There were three or four sleeping in the room together?—Yes.

23,016. All voters?—Yes.

23,017. Was Goddard drunk?—No.

23,018. Were any of you drunk?—No.

23,019. Because you ought to know, as you only took ginger beer?—I had cider and ginger beer.

23,020. In the morning I suppose you went to the "Barley Mow" and had breakfast?—I had a cup of coffee there and a bit of bread and butter.

23,021. When did you poll?—At 8 o'clock.

23,022. Who took you to the poll?—Thomas Williams.

23,023. Was Worsell there?—I do not remember his being there.

23,024. You saw him at the "Barley Mow"?—I do not recollect his being there.

23,025. Who was it took you to the poll; was it Thomas Williams?—Thomas Williams.

23,026. Thomas Williams, junior?—Young Thomas Williams.

23,027. And he kept near you all the time till you had polled?—Yes.

23,028. Williams knew then, did he not, that you had been in the stable with Mr. Apted and Mr. Holdsworth, and had been locked up at Mr. Groom's?—I do not know whether he knew it or not.

23,029. When you were at Mr. Groom's did they tell you that you must not go out that night; you must sleep there?—No.

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23,030. Something of the sort was said?—Not to me.

23,031. It was said; if not said to you it was said to somebody else?—I do not remember it being said at all.

23,032. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a married man, of course?—Yes.

23,033. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

23,034. Who asked you to go on Mr. Gower's committee?—No one; I believe it was Mr. Gower.

23,035. Mr. Gower did not ask you to go on his committee; Mr. Gower did not want labouring men on his committee?—I heard him ask William Snelling to go on his committee, and I was along with him at the same time.

23,036. Who is William Snelling; is he a working man?—Yes, a gardener.

23,037. You never saw any of the others; James Apted, or Joyes, or Alec Rose?—No.

23,038. What was your real motive for voting for Mr. Gower?—Because I pledged my word to him.

23,039. Was that because you liked his political principles?—That was one reason.

23,040. James Apted and Holdsworth knew that you had promised Mr. Gower, I suppose?—I do not know whether they did or not; I was on the committee.

23,041. When they gave you the 5*l.*, and did not say anything about voting, did they say anything about your not voting?—They did not say anything about voting at all; at least Apted said, "I shall "vote for Mr. Richardson and you will vote for Mr. "Monson" when we got outside the town.

23,042. When James Apted said that did you not believe that the 5*l.* was given you to vote for Mr. Monson?—I did not take any notice.

23,043. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You recollect the time you got the money; when did you get the 1*l.* from Mr. Durrant?—He paid me weekly.

23,044. I am talking of the 1*l.*?—I got 2*l.*

23,045. When did you get 1*l.* from Mr. Durrant?—He paid me both at the end of the first week and at the end of the other.

23,046. When did he pay you the last pound?—Just before the election.

23,047. On the polling day?—Before the polling day.

23,048. On the nomination day?—The Saturday night before.

23,049. That was for the next week's wage, was it?—No, the week I had been at work for him.

23,050. How many weeks had you worked for him?—Two weeks.

23,051. For Mr. Durrant?—For Mr. Durrant and Mr. Williams.

23,052. How many weeks had you worked for Mr. Durrant?—Two; Mr. Durrant set me to work.

23,053. Mr. Durrant set you to work?—Yes.

23,054. Where did you work?—One week he set me to work at Mr. Tom Williams'.

23,055. What, did Mr. Durrant set you to work at Mr. Thomas Williams'; did he ever set you to work before?—No.

23,056. Now be cautious; Mr. Williams will be here, and we shall know all about that. Do you mean to say you went to Mr. Williams' and worked, and Mr. Williams did not pay you?—Yes.

23,057. Where does Mr. Williams live?—Cockshot hill.

23,058. Where do you live?—On the freehold.

23,059. Be very cautious; do you mean to say you went up to work in his garden without his speaking to you?—No, I saw Mr. William and Mr. Durrant, both of them.

23,060. What did Mr. Williams say?—He asked me to work.

23,061. Why do you say Mr. Durrant set you to work if Mr. Williams asked you himself to work?—Mr. Williams asked me.

23,062. When did you go to work?—On the Monday.

23,063. How long did you remain at work there?—The week; all the week.

23,064. Every day?—Yes.

23,065. Were you ever employed by him before?—No.

23,066. Or since?—No.

23,067. Were you ever employed by Mr. Durrant before?—No.

23,068. Or since?—No.

23,069. How is it he came to employ you?—Because I had nothing else to do.

23,070. You were then, as you are at all times, looking out for a job; they never came after you. You told me you were working for Mr. Durrant the week the election took place?—A fortnight before.

23,071. Then you had only work the time of the election?—No.

23,072. You were only paid the 2*l.*?—That was all.

23,073. Where did you go to work next?—I went to Earlswood next.

23,074. You are not a regular gardener, are you?—No.

23,075. What do you get when employed?—Sometimes 3*s.* and sometimes 3*s.* 6*d.* a day.

23,076. Are you much employed as a gardener?—No.

23,077. Where did you work before?—I had a day's work sometimes.

J. Jordan.

JAMES JORDAN sworn and examined.

23,078. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A working gardener.

23,079. What rent do you pay?—I have a freehold.

23,080. What is the value of your freehold by the year?—It is rated at 13*l.*

23,081. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

23,082. Were you employed at the last election yourself, Mr. Jordan?—Not much I was not.

23,083. A little bit?—Yes.

23,084. Enough, I suppose?—Oh, yes, enough.

23,085. Was any agreement made that you were to get 5*l.* for your vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes, John Cook paid me 15*s.* a week a fortnight before the polling day.

23,086. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who canvassed you?—John Cook canvassed me, and Thomas Jordan.

23,087. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Cook paid you in the usual way 15*s.* a week?—Yes, a fortnight before the polling day.

23,088. And he afterwards paid you 3*l.* 10*s.* further on the polling day?—Yes.

23,089. Have you voted before?—Yes.

23,090. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who paid you the 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Thomas Jordan.

23,091. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I thought you told me Cook paid all?—No, not all.

23,092. How much did Cook pay you?—Two 10*s.*

23,093. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you the 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Thomas Jordan.

23,094. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) At his own house?—Yes.

23,095. You went there for it?—Yes.

23,096. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote on any of the elections between Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

23,097. Did you vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—For Mr. Gower.

23,098. Who canvassed you then?—Mr. Durrant.

23,099. What arrangement was made in 1863?—No arrangement at all.

23,100 Did he ask you to work?—Yes, I did a little.

23,101. What at?—Oh, running about a little.

23,102. Were you on the committee?—Yes, I was on the committee then.

23,103. What were you to have?—He never told me.

23,104. He did not tell you any sum, but what were you to have for your services?—He did not tell me.

23,105. I did not say he did; what were you to have?—I received 1*l.*

23,106. What were you to have; if you will not tell me, never mind?—I received 1*l.*, that was all.

23,107. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid it?—Mark Wicks, of the freehold.

23,108. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You will not answer the question I put to you?—I cannot answer it. 1*l.* was all I received.

23,109. Did you apply to anybody else for money?—No.

23,110. Did that satisfy you?—Yes, the 1*l.* satisfied me.

23,111. You may not have expressed any dissatisfaction about it, but did it give you satisfaction, that is what I mean?—Yes.

23,112. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He gave you 1*l.* for all the running about you did?—Yes.

23,113. Was there anything for polling day?—No, not a ——

23,114. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Not a what?—Not a shilling.

23,115. Was that the first election at which you voted?—Yes.

23,116. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why should Mr. Wicks pay you?—I do not know; that is for you to find out.

23,117. Did you apply to him?—I never applied to any one.

23,118. Did Mr. Wicks come to you and say, "Here "is 1*l.* for you"?—Yes, he did; he said I could have a pound if I liked.

23,119. And you did like?—Yes, I took it; if he had given me another I should have taken it.

23,120. And you told him that you thought you ought to get another, or something of that sort?—No, I did not.

23,121. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not tell him that you should like another?—No.

23,122. Perhaps you lost it by not doing so?—Perhaps I did.

23,123. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you not go to Mr. Durrant about it?—No, I did not.

23,124. Did Mr. Durrant tell you you might be paid?—No, he never told me anything.

23,125. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Let me put a general question to you, and put the *onus* upon you. Have you anything to tell the Commissioners with reference to the election of '65 which ought to be told them?—No, nothing else that I know of.

23,126. Do you know anything more than you have told us with reference to the bribery and corruption at the election of '65?—No, I will take my oath I do not.

23,127. Do you know of any money which Mr. Cook paid?—No; he paid me by myself, and I am sure I do not know who paid me afterwards.

The witness withdrew.

EDWARD LAMBERT sworn and examined.

E. Lambert.

23,128. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you follow any business?—Yes.

23,129. What business?—I am a miller, corn dealer, and baker.

23,130. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you Edward Lambert senior or junior?—Junior.

23,131. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower at the last election.

23,132. By that you mean that you voted against him on the first occasion?—Yes.

23,133. What was your rent?—I had two or three properties; 50*l.* or 60*l.* My house is 30*l.*

23,134. You voted for that?—Yes, for the house.

23,135. Of course you were on Mr. Gower's committee?—Oh no committee, not that I am aware of; I never authorized my name to be put on the committee.

23,136. A respectable man like you would like to be on the committee?—No; I do not think respectable men were on the committee.

23,137. The candidates would like it, that is all I say. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower this time?—I do not know that I was canvassed. I suppose Mr. Gower called on me once. I did not promise Mr. Gower. He called first, and he never troubled me afterwards. It is very seldom that I am canvassed much.

23,138. You took an active part for Mr. Gower this time?—I do not know; I think not a very active part.

23,139. Did you not attend several of the meetings?—I attended the public meetings.

23,140. Was there speaking then?—Yes. I attended at this hall and at the hall at Redhill to hear both candidates, both Mr. Gower and Mr. Monson.

23,141. Did you not canvass some men for Mr. Gower?—I do not know what you call canvassing. In the course of conversation I might, of course, ask men who they were going to vote for.

23,142. And recommended Mr. Gower?—Yes.

23,143. Do you know a man named Stevens?—I do.

23,144. You canvassed him?—No.

23,145. For whom did he vote?—For Mr. Gower, I believe.

23,146. You know that he voted for Mr. Gower, do you not?—I know from report that he did. I did not see him.

23,147. You saw him after he had voted, did you not?—I have seen him several times.

23,148. But to speak to?—Not probably for a week or two; not about the election.

23,149. He was considerably in your debt at the election?—Yes, he was in my debt a little.

23,150. It might have been a great deal to him and a little to you who are a man of means. It was from 6*l.* to 7*l.*?—I have seen the report in the papers and what is stated. He has never been indebted to me so much as 50*s.* for the last two years.

23,151. Did you strike off any balance?—Not a farthing. I never received a farthing or anything at all for my services, and I never gave anything to anybody. As to the report which has got abroad about my striking off anything, it is all a fallacy and farce; any one can look at my ledger and see it.

23,152. I would sooner look at your face. You say that you never struck off a farthing for the election?—Never anything.

23,153. Did you ever strike off anything?—Never to him or to any one else. I never thought of such a thing.

23,154. It was right, I thought, that you should be called to contradict it?—I am very pleased to be able to do so. It appears to have gone about from a man named William Wesley. He is a man who likes to make himself very forward, and I think he thought there was something to be got. He volunteered a certain amount of information which he said Stevens told him. I do not believe he told him any such thing, and if he did it would be a mere balance. He never owed me to the amount of 6*l.* or 7*l.*

The witness withdrew.

CHARLES WESLEY sworn and examined.

C. Wesley.

23,155. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A tinman and brazier.

23,156. What rent do you pay for your house?—18*l.*

23,157. What did you pay at the election? Was it the same house and the same rent?—No, not the same house.

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C. Wesley.

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23,158. What rent did you pay at the time of the election of '65 ?—15*l.*

23,159. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

23,160. Why did you vote for Mr. Gower ?—Because Mr. Mulley canvassed me.

23,161. You had a great opinion of Mr. Mulley ?—Yes.

23,162. What is Mr. Mulley ?—A cowkeeper.

23,163. Did he put you on the committee ?—Not that I am aware of.

23,164. Did he tell you that he would ?—I do not recollect the words that he used to me. I never looked to see whether it was on the committee, and therefore I cannot say that I was on.

23,165. Did Mr. Mulley promise that you should be on the committee ?—I do not think he did.

23,166. Did any one afterwards tell you that you were on the committee ?—No.

23,167. You do not know whether you were or not ?—I never asked.

23,168. What arrangement did Mr. Mulley make with you ?—Mr. Mulley said, "Wesley, which way "are you going." I said, "I do not know which "way I am going." He said, "Please yourself, "Wesley, but which way will you go ?" I said, "I "have no interest in anything at all whatever, and it "does not matter to me which way I go, not in the "shape of anything at all." He said, "Shall I put "your name down on the committee ?" I said, "Yes, "you can," and he did so I suppose.

23,169. Then he put your name on the committee ?—Yes.

23,170. What had Mr. Mulley to do with you ; is he your landlord ?—No not at all ; I have worked for Mr. Mulley ; I have done several little jobs for him from first to last.

23,171. So you were to be put on the committee ; what were you to do ? were you to take messages, and go about ?—Yes.

23,172. Did you do what work was wanted ?—I did what I could.

23,173. What sort of work ? Did you attend meetings ?—I did attend two or three public meetings.

23,174. Was that the work you did ?—I took several letters.

23,175. I dare say Mr. Mulley wrote often to Mr. Apted and some of the committee rooms ?—I do not know.

23,176. Did you take them to the committee rooms ?—Yes.

23,177. Were you on your own work all the time as a brazier ?—No.

23,178. Were you out of work at that time ?—I have no regular work, I only get a job where I can.

23,179. Have you any other work besides being a brazier ?—Yes.

23,180. Regular work ?—Yes.

23,181. What is it ?—I am a gasfitter sometimes.

23,182. You are a brazier and gasfitter. Tell me when it was over what you got for the election ?—1*l.*

23,183. No more ?—Mr. Mulley gave me the 1*l.*

23,184. When did he give you the 1*l.* ?—About two months after the election.

23,185. That does not seem much. How long before the election was it that he called upon you and proposed putting your name down ?—A full fortnight.

23,186. Were you not looking for more than 1*l.* ?—That was all I received.

23,187. Were you not expecting more ?—He said he would do all he could for me.

23,188. He said that at the first ?—Yes ; but he never made me any promise in any shape or way whatever.

23,189. Did he intimate that it was just possible that you might get a fiver ?—I never knew what I was going to have.

23,190. Did you expect to get 5*l.* ?—No.

23,191. What was the highest amount that you went to in your dreams ?—I never dreamed anything.

23,192. That shows you did work hard ?—Well, I did work very hard sometimes.

23,193. Was this your first election ?—Yes, in this part of the country.

23,194. You have been voting in other places ?—No, I have not.

23,195. Then I do not quite understand you, you said this was your first election in this part of the country ; what do you mean ?—I have been at two or three other elections.

23,196. Without having voted ?—Yes.

23,197. I must not ask you about other elections ; but as far as your experience goes did you ever see anywhere else refreshments more ready ?—I never had any refreshments at all.

23,198. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you been canvassed for Mr. Monson's side ?—Yes.

23,199. Who canvassed you for Mr. Monson ?—Mr. Nichols.

23,200. What did Mr. Nichols say on behalf of Mr. Monson ?—He asked me if I would vote when I took a lot of cans there ; I took 30*s.* from Mr. Nichols ; I did not know Mr. Nichols then.

23,201. What did he say to you ?—I was going to tell you. When I took the cans in Mr. Butler stood at the bar ; he said, "Wesley, how are you to-day ;" I said, "Thank you, much better than I have been," for I had not been very well. After I received the 30*s.* from Mr. Nichols,—I do not know whether it was 30*s.* or 29*s.* 6*d.*, but 30*s.* is near enough,—I went into the parlour. He asked me if I would give my vote for Mr. Monson ; I said I did not know ; no more I did then. He said, "Well, shall I put your name down for "it." I said, "Yes if you like," and so he did, and I came away.

23,202. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that after you had talked with Mr. Mulley ?—It was after that, because I had not received the order at the "Grapes."

23,203. You were at the "Grapes" with Mr. Nichols after you had been talking with Mr. Mulley ?—I cannot say whether it was before or after.

23,204. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Nichols close the bargain about your vote for Mr. Monson with any promise ?—He put my name down in his book.

23,205. Did Mr. Nichols give you anything at the time ?—No.

23,206. No money ?—No.

23,207. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you understand you were to have by his putting your name down in his book ?—He said if I voted for him I should have 5*l.* ; but I did not.

23,208. You did not get any of the 5*l* ?—Yes, I did.

23,209. How much of the 5*l.* had you ?—2*l.* 10*s.*

23,210. *Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid it to you ?—Mr. Nichols.

23,211. When ?—About a week before the election, as near as I can tell.

23,212. Was it paid at the "Grapes" ?—Yes, I had to go there again.

23,213. To take in another order ?—To take another 10*s.* off.

23,214. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 2*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Nichols ?—Yes.

23,215. What did he say when he paid you ?—That he would pay the other 2*l.* 10*s.* when I had voted.

23,216. "Here is this now, and you are to have "the other 2*l.* 10*s.* when you have voted" ?—Yes.

23,217. Of course you had not done anything for Mr. Nichols ; you had not been employed by Mr. Nichols to do anything on behalf of Mr. Monson ?—No.

23,218. You worked for the Gower party ?—Yes, I received 1*l.*

23,219. At that time you were sure of getting 2*l.* 10*s.* if you voted for Mr. Monson ; I apprehend you expected more for voting for Mr. Gower ?—I had no promise.

23,220. But you expected more ?—I do not know whether I did.

23,221. You were sure of 2*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Nichols if you voted for Mr. Monson, and you gave a kind of promise to vote for Mr. Monson ?—No, I promised Mr. Mulley to vote for Mr. Gower.

23,222. You promised Mr. Nichols also, because, though you did not say so in words, yet the act of taking the 2*l.* 10*s.* would be a promise ?—I did not take the 2*l.* 10*s.* then.

23,223. But you took it before the election ?—I think it was a week before.

23,224. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had promised Mr. Mulley before you got the 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—I do not know that I had seen Mr. Nichols then.

23,225. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You must have got more than the 2*l.* 10*s.* when you voted for Mr. Gower ?—I did not expect to receive anything.

23,226. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you not heard that 5*l.* was about Mr. Gower's price ?—No.

23,227. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You showed yourself to be a man who would vote for money ; they took you for that ; therefore you expected to get more by the Gower side than you did by the other, did you not ?—I do not see that.

23,228. You did not see it in that light ?—No.

23,229. Do you wish it to be put in the other light, that you took 2*l.* 10*s.* intending to deceive him, and cheated him out of it ; do you wish it to be put in that light ? do you mean to say that you intended to cheat him after you took the 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—I do not know that there was any cheating about it.

23,230. Did you mean to vote ?—Yes, I did intend to vote at one time for Mr. Monson, but I did not.

23,231. It was in reality because you expected more from the Gower party ; that is what you expected, and you were deceived ?—No, it was not.

23,232. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You heard, in fact, that the Gower party were expecting 5*l.* ?—I had not heard anything at all about it.

The witness withdrew.

ROBERT ALLEN sworn and examined.

R. Allen.

23,233. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For whom did you vote ?—For Mr. Monson.

23,234. What are you ?—A labourer.

23,235. What rent do you pay for your house ?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

23,236. And you voted for Mr. Monson on the last election ?—Yes.

23,237. Who spoke to you about voting for Mr. Monson ?—Thomas Jordan.

23,238. The arrangement was, you were to receive 15*s.* a week, and to receive the rest by the close of the election, making it up in all 5*l.* ?—Yes.

23,239. You were canvassed by Jordan ?—Yes.

23,240. Did you see anybody else besides Jordan ?—No.

23,241. He came to you ?—I saw him in the room.

23,242. Did he pay you ?—Richard Peat paid me the two 15*s.*

23,243. And who paid you the 3*l.* 10*s.* ?—Jordan.

23,244. On the night of the poll ?—Yes.

23,245. You were one of the men who went to his house on the night of the poll ?—Yes.

23,246. Do you know who were the other men who were in the arrangement ?—No ; I saw one or two more there that day.

23,247. You never saw them there till that day ?—No.

23,248. And then you knew what they were about ?—No.

23,249. Had you ever voted before ?—No.

23,250. Did you not vote in 1863 ?—No.

23,251. You had not a vote then ?—No.

23,252. Did you do anything at all ?—I attended the meetings.

23,253. Anything else ?—No, sir.

23,254. How many meetings might you have attended ?—Several.

23,255. I mean in the neighbourhood ?—I attended several meetings.

23,256. Had you attended and had beer and refreshments ?—At some of the meetings I had a glass or two, but at some I had not.

23,257. And on the day of the nomination you had refreshments which you did not pay for ?—Yes, I had.

23,258. And on the day of the polling you had refreshments which you did not pay for ?—I had.

23,259. Both before and after you polled ?—Not after I polled.

23,260. They did not give you any refreshments after polling ?—No.

23,261. What time in the evening did you go for the 3*l.* 10*s.* ?—About 5 o'clock.

23,262. As soon as the poll was closed ?—Yes.

EDWIN STEVENS sworn and examined.

E. Stevens.

23,263. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you, Mr. Stevens ?—A house decorator and paperhanger.

23,264. What rent do you pay ?—18*l.* rent, and 14*l.* in rateable value.

23,265. Did you take an active part in canvassing ?—No, not in particular, only in ordinary canvassing, anybody I knew.

23,266. And that was only in ordinary canvassing ?—Yes.

23,267. That is in distinction to active canvassing ?—Quite so.

23,268. Did you not go into some of the houses, and in ordinary conversation ask them for a vote over some little refreshment ?—No, I never visited any house in particular.

23,269. But generally ?—Not generally ; if I met any person I knew that I thought I could talk to about election matters I did so, only to know which way they were interested.

23,270. You only tested their intentions, and did not care for their promises ?—Yes.

23,271. Do you mean to say so ?—I do.

23,272. And did not test their principles ?—I had no authority to test their principles, neither did I exercise it.

23,273. Can you give me the name of any person you canvassed in that way ?—I dare say I have spoken to a great many of my friends, but as to telling you who they were would be a moral impossibility.

23,274. You were on the committee, of course ?—Yes.

23,275. And voted ?—Yes.

23,276. In 1863 and 1865 ?—Yes.

23,277. I suppose you were very much interested for Mr. Gower and wished him to succeed ?—Yes.

23,278. Did you attend meetings ?—I attended here, and one at Mead-vale, and behind the park ; those are the only actual meetings I attended.

23,279. There were a great many meetings which were not committee meetings ?—There were some, and perhaps one or two I attended.

23,280. Tell me one ?—Well, the first night we met here we adjourned over to the "Rose and Crown."

23,281. Were there many adjourned to the "Rose and Crown" ?—Five and twenty, perhaps.

23,282. Of the leading men ?—They were all leading men.

23,283. You know they were all leading men on the committee ?—I am aware of that.

23,284. You are the most leading man we have had yet, for the committee men we have had before us have been chiefly gardeners ?—But I am not a gardener.

23,285. They are all respectable men, but not possessed of the influence you have ?—You are very much mistaken, for I do not take upon myself to suppose I have any influence at all.

23,286. When you first came there what was the little amusement going on at the place ?—A general conversation I should imagine, and what were the prospects of Mr. Gower.

23,287. Why did you adjourn ?—I was not one of

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those leading characters to know why we adjourned.

23,288. Who asked you?—Mr. Apted, Mr. Joyes, and Mr. Buckland; in fact, it was a general invitation.

23,289. I suppose there was a great deal of refreshment going on?—There was nothing I considered unusual under the circumstances; there was some refreshment going on; there was some I paid for myself, and some I did not pay for; some might ask me to have a glass, and I might ask others.

23,290. Was it a mutual treating? Did you pay for what you had?—I paid for a portion of it.

23,291. Who paid for the remainder?—Mr. Apted asked me what I was going to have, and I said, "A "glass of grog."

23,292. You said you did not treat anybody there?—No.

23,293. Who did you treat?—I treated a man of the name of Jupp; you have had it in evidence.

23,294. Was that so?—It was.

23,295. Under what circumstances did you treat him?—Simply because I knew him as having worked at the establishment at Fuller's, in Bell-street, but I did not ask him about his promise.

23,296. Monk; did you know him?—I knew him.

23,297. Did you treat him?—No.

23,298. Did you canvass him?—No.

23,299. Or ask him for his vote?—No; he was brought into the "White Hart" tap to me because nobody else would have him. He said he wanted to poll for Mr. Gower; and he said, "You know what I "want." I said, "What do you mean?" and he made the sign (*holding up five fingers*). I said, "All right." I shoved him out and took him to the poll.

23,300. That was on the day of polling?—Yes.

23,301. As soon as you shoved him out I suppose you went with him?—Yes.

23,302. What was his name?—George Monk.

23,303. Was he paid anything?—Not to my knowledge.

23,304. Then he did put up his five fingers?—Yes.

23,305. You said, "All right;" you pushed him out, and went with him to the poll?—Yes; but whether he meant 5*l.*, 5*s.*, or 5*d.*, I do not know.

23,306. Do not speak of five pence. Did he apply to you afterwards?—He applied to me afterwards.

23,307. When he asked you to pay him what did you say?—I had nothing to do with it. I had none myself.

23,308. Did you send him to Apted?—No, I understood he went to Mr. Smith, but from no authority from me.

23,309. I am referring now to what Monk said, and it is right, therefore, I should put the question to you. "Stevens asked me what I wanted. I put up my "hand and said *five*. Then Stevens said, 'All right, "'I will give it you out of my own pocket'"?—I never said I would pay him out of my own pocket, or asked what he wanted.

23,310. When he put up his five fingers everybody there, I suppose, knew it was 5*l.*?—It was the first time I ever had a signal of that sort made to me.

23,311. You had a very shrewd suspicion, had you not? Then Stevens said, "All right, I will give it "you out of my own pocket." Is that true?—That is true; but I never asked him what he wanted.

23,312. Whatever the *five* was to be you did say, "I will pay it out of my own pocket"?—Yes; but I never meant to pay it, and he knew that I never meant, too.

23,313. Well, that is for us to form our own conclusion upon. "I said, I must go to Redhill first," and you said, "You must vote first." Your story confirms that, because you pushed him out and took him to the poll?—I said, "Go on."

23,314. Did Monk say he must go to Redhill first? You did follow him and saw that he voted?—I did. It might be he said he would go to Redhill first.

23,315. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Monk said, "I made up my mind to vote because of the 5*l.* pro-"mised by Mr. Stevens"?—I do assure you, gentlemen, and I am on my oath, there was nothing of that sort. He never could have thought so, because he had been on the other side; he came to us when he was not wanted; he came to us when he was not worth buying.

23,316. What other side?—He had Monson's colours in the morning, and Gower's in the afternoon.

23,317. Then you knew he was a shaky vote?—Yes.

23,318. That was no reason why he should not go to Redhill?—It was of no use his going to Redhill.

23,319. He might have stayed out of the way?—I wish he had.

23,320. Did Jupp at any time make any of those signs to you?—No.

23,321. Do you know a man of the name of Bobbins?—I never did till the polling day.

23,322. Who introduced you to one another?—He was brought into the "White Hart" tap.

23,323. Was the "White Hart" tap your head-quarters for votes?—It was a house I had been using; I went there for a little rest.

23,324. They would not let you rest. Tell us what took place between you and Bobbins?—He and Jupp wished to go to the poll; they were brought into the "White Hart" tap.

23,325. Who brought them into the "White Hart" tap?—A young man. He said they wanted to go to the poll at Redhill.

23,326. He was an active party in the election?—They did not like to go without riding, and I said, "You may have a fly from the 'White Hart.'" They had a fly, and I went with them.

23,327. To see they were all right, I suppose?—Yes.

23,328. Were they doubtful or shaky voters?—Not that I know of; I never put a question to them at all.

23,329. Was anything said to you by the young man as to any money?—Not the slightest about money matters.

23,330. Do you know the "Red Cross" inn, Holdsworth?—Yes.

23,331. Have you ever been there?—Very frequently.

23,332. But at this time of the election?—Well, yes, I dare say I have more than once or twice, but not at any meetings.

23,333. Probably there were some little incidents you have seen at this house you might tell us?—That I do not know; I know they had a private room.

23,334. Who?—The Monson party; but what they did in that room I do not know, for I never was admitted into it.

23,335. Then you were only at the public entrance to it?—No, I was only at the public entrance, though I am more like one of the family, knowing them so well, that I should not feel any difficulty in going into any part of the house.

23,336. Did you supply colours to any of the voters?—Not to voters, to my knowledge. I certainly purchased a certain amount of ribbons for rosettes, favours, and neck-ties; I gave them away *ad libitum*.

23,337. You gave them away?—Yes, to children and women, or anybody else who chose to apply for a little bit of ribbon.

23,338. They were all made up?—No, loose ribbons; there were some few rosettes.

23,339. You supplied them to the children to make up for the voters?—It could not interest them at all. Children run about asking for ribbons, and I gave it to them, thinking no harm of it at all.

23,340. Do you know Mr. Morrison?—Yes.

23,341. I believe he took an active part in the election?—Yes, he took an active part.

23,342. Did he and you work much together?—Not much.

23,343. Did he and you canvass together?—I never decidedly canvassed anybody; I knew my influence was of no use.

23,344. You only worked on the day of polling?—

I worked on the nomination day and on the day of polling, and worked very hard too.

23,345. I do not know whether I ought to ask you this question. Were you to be remunerated for your services or loss of time?—I was not promised anything.

23,346. Did you receive anything?—No. I have been given to understand Mr. Frederick Joyes has said something of 2*l.*, which I borrowed of him. I understand he is about to say something of that kind.

23,347. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you borrow it?—I should think three weeks before the election.

23,348. How much?—2*l.*

23,349. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Three weeks?—It might be a fortnight.

23,350. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you repay it?—I have not repaid it. We have cross accounts; I have an account against him.

23,351. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is there any dispute between you and Joyes on the cross accounts?—No, we have never spoken about it.

23,352. When you come to balance the two accounts, on which side will the balance be?—I should say Joyes. I should owe Joyes a little money, but not 2*l.*

23,353. Taking away the 2*l.*, what are your business accounts?—Then, I think, he would owe me 15*s.* or 16*s.*

23,354. Taking the 2*l.* into account, it would be a little in his favour, about 25*s.*?—Yes.

23,355. You were a great deal about on the nomination day and polling day?—Yes.

23,356. I will put it to you, and no doubt you will answer me fairly. Is there anything you can inform the Commissioners of in reference to the conduct of the election, either on Mr. Gower's side or Mr. Monson's side, which ought to be brought before this Inquiry?—You have put a straightforward question to me, and I will give a straightforward answer. I was not in a position to know what was going on. It was commonly reported money was going on both sides, but as to my own knowledge I never saw a farthing.

23,357. Either before the election or after?—Either before the election or after.

23,358. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Monk has told us you said you would pay it out of your own pocket; was that so?—I did say so; I thought it was a matter of joke.

23,359. He believed you?—He had been bandying about from one side to the other.

23,360. But he believed it; he has said so?—Then I am very sorry; I am sure he said the other day he did not believe it.

23,361. Now, Mr. Stevens, I wish to give you every credit for sincerity and truth, but you had a shaky voter, a man whom you knew was liable to be bribed; you said Monk was a man liable to be bribed?—Yes, and had been waiting for that.

23,362. And knowing he had put up his five fingers you said, "It is all right, and if you are not paid I "will pay you out of my own pocket"?—Yes, I said that.

23,363. Do you mean to say you did not think that would operate on Monk's mind?—To the best of my belief, I do not think it would.

23,364. Do you mean to say you did not think at the time it would operate on his mind?—I did not think it would.

23,365. Why did you say you would pay it out of your own pocket; you knew he was a bribeable man?—I thought he would take it in joke.

23,366. And in order to teach him you told him if he would come to the poll you would "pay him out of "your own pocket"?—Perhaps I made a serious mistake.

23,367. You made a serious mistake in doing that, and in my judgment I think you are making a very serious mistake now. On your oath did you not intend that should operate on his mind, and secure him as a voter?—On my oath I did not.

23,368. Did you not intend it should operate on his mind and make him vote for Mr. Gower?—I did not think it would operate on his mind; I did not think it was any inducement whatever.

23,369. Do you not think it *did* operate on his mind?—I cannot answer that question.

23,370. Do you think he would have gone on so friendly with you, and would not have gone to Redhill?—I do not know.

23,371. He said, "Stevens ought to have paid me;" I have a note of that?—I do not know what I ought ta have done.

23,372. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say that Monk, when he came in, had the Monson colours on?—No, he had the Gower colours.

23,373. How do you know he had Monson colours on at all?—The man who brought him in told me.

23,374. Who was that?—Edward Nice.

23,375. And he told you he had been wearing Monson's colours?—Yes, he came in and said, "Here is "Monk, who wants to vote for Gower; he has had "Monson's colors all the morning, and he wishes now "to vote for Gower."

23,376. How did they know you were a good man to bring him to?—I can't understand.

23,377. It is pretty clear they did consider you a good man to bring him to from the fact of bringing the man; shown also by the fact that you took it on yourself to order a fly?—It was one of the flys with the bills on.

23,378. Who were you authorized to do it by?—I took it on my own responsibility.

23,379. Had you no authority given you by any of Mr. Gower's committee?—Not any.

23,380. Had you no conversation with anyone on Mr. Gower's committee to take people to the poll, and to do what you did?—I was asked to fetch voters in the morning.

23,381. Who by?—I believe by the orders of the acting committee. I had my list written out of the route I was to take to fetch voters.

23,382. Who handed you the list?—I believe it emanated from Mr. Smith.

23,383. Somebody or other on behalf of Mr. Smith or the committee brought you a list which would contain all the men you were expected to bring to the poll?—Yes.

23,384. That is right, is it?—That is quite right.

23,385. Then you cannot say after that you took no part in the proceedings?—I did not say I took no part; I was not authorized to do what I did for Mr. Monk, for instance.

23,386. I am speaking of the general part you took, and I only illustrate it by the fact that Monk was brought in and you took him to the poll; you were acting at that time?—It was a misunderstanding that I was really engaged to act.

23,387. You were really engaged, as you had received an authorized list from the Gower committee with the names on of those gentlemen you were expected to bring to the poll?—Yes, that would be an authority.

23,388. Now do answer me a very plain question, for all things come at last to pounds, shillings, and pence; why were you not paid for your services?—I do not know; simply because I never made an application.

23,389. Why did you not send in your account, "To services rendered on the polling day, &c."; it was evident you worked very hard from your own statement. Tell me why you did not doit?—Neglect.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

E. Stevens.

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23,390. I do not like the word; do tell me candidly why you did not apply?—It is, as I said before, negligence to a great extent, and I had so much respect for Mr. Gower I thought I could work a day for him for nothing.

Adjourned until 11 o'clock the following morning.

FIFTEENTH DAY.

Friday, 7th September 1866.

FIFTEENTH DAY.

J. Atkinson.

7 Sept. 1866.

JOHN ATKINSON sworn and examined.

23,391. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A tailor.

23,392. What rent do you pay?—*5s. 6d.* a week.

23,393. Was that what you paid at the time of the election?—Yes.

23,394. Are you a master tailor or a journeyman tailor?—A journeyman tailor.

23,395. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

23,396. Did you promise Mr. Gower from the beginning?—Not Mr. Gower, but I promised my vote for Mr. Gower.

23,397. Who did you promise?—Mr. Mulley.

23,398. You were canvassed by him?—I was canvassed by Mr. Mulley.

23,399. Were you put on the committee?—My name never appeared in print.

23,400. Did he tell you you might be on the committee?—Yes.

23,401. What were you to do; you were to do some work for him?—He told me if there was anything I should get it.

23,402. Get it to do?—Yes.

23,403. What were you to get for doing it?—He did not tell me any sum at all, he told me if I did any work I should be paid.

23,404. He did not pay you anything down, I suppose?—No.

23,405. Nothing before the election?—No, not till three months after.

23,406. Three months after the election what did he pay you?—*2l.*

23,407. Mr. Mulley paid you?—He gave me *2l.* on the first or the second of October.

23,408. That was all you received from him?—That was all I received from him.

23,409. Did you receive any other sum from any one on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No.

23,410. I believe you were canvassed by the other side?—Not canvassed.

23,411. You were asked for your vote?—No.

23,412. Something was said to you, just say what it was; who spoke to you on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Mr. James Nichols.

23,413. What, shall I put it down that he canvassed you?—He asked me what I wanted.

23,414. Was that after Mr. Mulley had canvassed you?—Yes.

23,415. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What you wanted for what, for your vote?—He did not mention anything at all.

23,416. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you say you did want?—"A tenner;" that was the answer I made him.

23,417. What did he say to that?—He put *8l.* on the table and said, "You can have that if you like."

23,418. When he put down the sovereigns on the table, and said you could have them if you liked, did you like?—I took them up and put them in my pocket.

23,419. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose you returned them again?—I told him he could have them back again after the election, but he told me he did not want them.

23,420. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What were you to do for the eight sovereigns?—I was only to do the best I could for the return of Mr. Monson.

23,421. Did he say, "Mind, you are to do what you "can"?—He said, "Go and do the best you can for 'the return of Mr. Monson."

23,422. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was it in his counting-house, or where?—In the "White Hart."

23,423. In the committee room?—I do not know whether it was in the committee room or not.

23,424. It was in the room at the "White Hart"?—Yes.

23,425. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Alone?—Yes.

23,426. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that all he said?—Yes.

23,427. Not quite?—At last he told me to sign a piece of paper, and I made a cross.

23,428. What was on the paper, "I hereby agree "to canvass and work for the election of Mr. Monson "at this next election and to do all I can to promote "his return"?—I believe those were the words he said to me.

23,429. And, moreover, that is the paper (*handing a paper to witness*)?—Yes, I believe that is it.

23,430. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you read it?—Yes.

23,431. You can read it, but not write; you put a cross to it?—Yes.

23,432. Who wrote it?—I cannot tell.

23,433. Was it written before you saw it?—Yes, before I saw it.

23,434. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had he spoken to you before?—Yes.

23,435. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How long before?—About three months before.

23,436. He asked you to do what you could for Mr. Monson?—He called to me and said, "I will give you "*2l. 10s.* now and the other when it is over." I said I would not have anything to do with it.

23,437. What other?—I suppose he meant the other *2l. 10s.* to make up *5l.*

23,438. Did you say that you would have nothing to do with it because you did not think a fiver enough?—It was quite enough for me.

23,439. You did get more. It comes to our mind that you refused the fiver because it was not enough; you refused the fiver first, and you took eight sovereigns. To our ordinary minds that looks as if you refused a fiver because it was not enough?—Had he asked me whether I had pledged my word, I should have told him I had, but he did not ask me; he said, "What do you want?"

23,440. Is not that pledging your word, receiving the money from him? He said, "Do all you can to "promote Mr. Monson's return." You voted for him, of course?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

23,441. Was that the only time when you had seen Mr. Nichols, the time when you got *2l. 10s.*, and he promised you *2l. 10s.* more?—That is the only time that ever Mr. Nichols spoke to me at all.

23,442. Did you tell him at that time that you had been canvassed by Mr. Mulley, and that Mr. Mulley did not appear to be inclined to be very liberal ?—No.

23,443. Did you say anything about Mr. Mulley ?—No.

23,444. Did you say you had been canvassed and had promised to vote for Mr. Gower ?—No, he did not ask me.

23,445. And you did not tell him. Did you receive any more from Mr. Mulley than the 2*l.* ?—No.

23,446. Not any more from Mr. Mulley ?—No.

23,447. Then, you see, your price was a "tenner," and you got it ?—But I did not expect any from the other side.

23,448. What is the other side ?—Mr. Gower's side.

23,449. And therefore you voted for him ?—I voted for him.

23,450. Because you did not expect anything from him ?—I was not told I should get anything, only if I worked, and then I should be paid.

23,451. You had a vote in 1863 ?—No.

23,452. This was your first vote ?—Yes, and I do not care if I never have another. I do not want to be tampered with.

23,453. Not tampered with ? Do you mean the 8*l.* ?—Yes.

23,454. Did you yourself get votes for Mr. Monson ?—I cannot say.

23,455. Did you try ?—Yes.

23,456. You tried to get votes for him ?—I asked several persons.

23,457. For Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

23,458. Did they ask you which way you were going to vote ?—No.

23,459. Do you pay 5*s.* 6*d.* a week still for your house ?—Yes.

23,460. You have got a vote now ?—Yes.

23,461. You are upon the register ?—Yes.

23,462. Did you also at the same time canvass to some extent for Mr. Gower ?—No.

23,463. Did you not canvass a little for Mr. Gower, exactly in the same proportion which 2*l.* bears to 8*l.*'s worth for Mr. Monson ? As my friend says, canvass every fourth man for Mr. Gower ?—No.

23,464. Did not Mr. Mulley, when you asked him for money, say anything about the Monson party ?—No.

23,465. Did you tell him, "Well, 2*l.* is not much, "but to be sure as I do not do all for you it is not so "bad," or anything like that ?—No.

23,466. Did Mr. Mulley throw it in your face that you had been working for the Monson party ?—No.

23,467. Do you not think you would have got more money from Mulley if you had not worked for Mr. Monson ?—I do not know. I am sure I did not expect anything from him.

23,468. Did he tell you to do work if anything was going ?—I did not work for him at all, and I did not expect anything.

23,469. You know that other people did not do work and got something; you know that ?—Yes.

23,470. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did Mr. Mulley come to you, or did you go to Mr. Mulley, when the 2*l.* was given ?—I went out in the street.

23,471. But you went to Mr. Mulley ?—He told me I could have 1*l.* or 2*l.* if I wanted.

23,472. After the election was over, about three months after, did you go to Mr. Mulley for the money, or did Mr. Mulley come to you ?—Neither. I neither went to Mr. Mulley nor did he come to me. I met him in the street, and he said if I wanted 1*l.* or 2*l.* I could have it. He gave one of my neighbours 2*l.*

23,473. What name ?—Jim Smith.

23,474. Did Mr. Mulley come up to you in the street, or did you go up to him ? You saw Mr. Mulley coming down the street ?—Mr. Mulley told me that if I wanted 1*l.* I could have it, and I told him I did not want it.

23,475. Who accosted the other first ?—He accosted me.

23,476. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not want any ?—I did not want anything just then.

23,477. You say "just then" ?—Yes, that was a month or six weeks after the election.

23,478. Who spoke first ?—Mr. Mulley did, and I told him I did not want anything.

23,479. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you working for Mr. Bonny at that time ?—Yes.

23,480. As a workman ?—Yes.

23,481. Is he a master tailor ?—Yes.

23,482. Did you ever have any conversation with Mr. Bonny about the election before you saw Mr. Nichols ?—No, I never had any conversation with him at all.

23,483. Had you before you spoke to Mr. Nichols a conversation with Mr. Bonny ?—No.

23,484. Do you remember Mr. Bonny talking to you; I was wrong in calling it a conversation, but he told you you might do yourself some good ?—No.

23,485. Do you remember Mr. Bonny talking to you ?—He said nothing to me about the election.

23,486. I will ask you in plain English, was not Mr. Bonny aware that you were going to talk to Mr. Nichols ?—No.

23,487. Was not Mr. Bonny aware after you had talked to Mr. Nichols ?—Yes.

23,488. That you got the 8*l.* ?—Yes.

23,489. You told him ?—Certainly I did.

23,490. What time in the day was it you saw Mr. Nichols; in the evening ?—No, the afternoon.

23,491. After work ?—I was not working at all.

23,492. Do you remember whether you worked the next day ?—No, I do not.

23,493. The next time when you saw Mr. Bonny did you tell him what happened ?—Yes, I told him I had got 8*l.* from Mr. Nichols, and he laughed.

23,494. Did he say that makes 10*l.* ?—No.

23,495. He knew you had been canvassed by Mr. Mulley ?—No.

23,496. Then you only told him half the story ?—That was all I told him.

23,497. Which way did Mr. Bonny vote ?—I am sure I do not know, but I believe he voted for Mr. Gower.

23,498. There is a Frederick Bonny ?—Yes.

23,499. He has not been called; is he a voter ?—Yes.

23,500. Have you anything else to tell me ?—No.

23,501. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said you voted for Mr. Gower out of fun; would you wish that to be recorded ?—I did not vote for Mr. Gower from fun at all.

23,502. You said so ?—If I said so, I beg to recall it.

23,503. What did you vote for Mr. Gower for ?—Because I thought he was the best man of the two, and I considered he was an illused man.

23,504. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you consider Mr. Gower was an ill used man while you were canvassing for Mr. Monson ?—Yes, and other people told me so.

23,505. Did you know that Mr. Gower had been an illused man when you received the 8*l.* from Mr. Nichols; just answer that, please ?—I did not know that he had been an illused man, not just then.

23,506. Was it because you considered Mr. Gower an illused man that you therefore received 8*l.* to go

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J. Atkinson.

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against him?—I worked for him till I was insulted.

23,507. You canvassed for Mr. Monson, do you call that working for Mr. Gower? You do not like to answer the question, or give an explanation.—I do not understand it.

The witness withdrew.

William Henry Smith sworn and examined.

W. H. Smith.

23,508. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—An engine driver.

23,509. On the South-eastern railway?—Yes.

23,510. Are your wages 7*s.* a day?—Yes.

23,511. What rent do you pay?—6*s.* 6*d.* now.

23,512. You say now you pay 6*s.* 6*d.*; now what did you pay for rent at the time of the election?—I paid 6*s.* a week when I voted.

23,513. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You voted at the last election for Mr. Monson I suppose?—Yes.

23,514. Were you asked to vote for Mr. Monson by Mr. Shepherd?—Yes.

23,515. Was he the first who asked you?—No, I do not think he was, there was an arrangement I think.

23,516. There was an arrangement between all you men upon the line?—Between most of them.

23,517. Was Mr. Shepherd the first person who spoke to you about the arrangement?—I cannot recollect that he was, it was a topic that was talked of.

23,518. What was Mr. Shepherd's engagement?—That we should have 30*s.* a week.

23,519. All the men had agreed together to have 30*s.* a week, had they not?—Yes, most of them.

23,520. And you wanted to be paid, afterwards, for polling and nomination day?—Not that I know of.

23,521. But it was talked about?—Yes, but I think it was not decided.

23,522. You did get the 30*s.* a week up to the Saturday before the election?—Yes, for three weeks.

23,523. You got paid 4*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

23,524. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you?—Mr. Shepherd.

23,525. What was Mr. Shepherd?—He was a gas-fitter at the station; he had charge of the gas and signals.

23,526. How lately has he been at work there?—He left a short time after the election, but I cannot say exactly when.

23,527. Do you know where he went to?—He has been working at Redhill.

23,528. Have you seen him lately?—No.

23,529. Have you seen him within this last fortnight?—No.

23,530. Has he any relations here?—Not that I am aware of.

23,531. Is he a married man?—Yes.

23,532. With a family?—Yes, he has got a family.

23,533. Do you know where he went to work after he left Redhill?—No, I do not know, I do not know that he has removed from Redhill; I think his wife and family are at Redhill now.

23,534. Did you vote in 1863?—No.

23,535. Did you vote at any previous election?—No.

23,536. This is your first election?—Yes.

23,537. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you mean to say you do not know where Shepherd is now?—No, I do not know where he is.

23,538. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did he leave the company's service?—I do not know.

23,539. When did you see him last?—I do not think I have seen him above twice or three times since the election.

23,540. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you heard it said where he is?—I have heard people say that he is at work somewhere.

23,541. Who did you hear mention he was at work somewhere?—I cannot recollect.

23,542. Who is it that told you that he was at work somewhere?—I cannot say.

23,543. Was it one of your fellow workmen?—It must have been.

23,544. Who was it?—I do not know, I talk to so many of them that I really cannot say.

23,545. Did they tell you where he was?—I heard somebody say that he was out at work every week.

23,546. Where did you hear he went to work?—I did not hear where it was, I heard that he was away every week.

23,547. Away from where?—From Redhill.

23,548. Then does he return every week?—I suppose so.

23,549. He returns to his wife?—Yes.

23,550. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is Mr. Shepherd a voter?—Yes.

23,551. Have you heard within this last week or fortnight that he has changed his work?—No.

23,552. You said that you did not know where he is; do you mean that you know somebody who does?—No, I cannot say that; perhaps his wife might know where he is.

23,553. Do you know whether he has sons here?—No; they are very small if they are here.

23,554. That is what I was going to ask you?—He has but a young family.

23,555. Was he in the employ of the South-eastern railway?—He was at the time of the election.

23,556. Is he now?—I do not know.

23,557. You do not know whether he is on the railway?—No.

23,558. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose he is only a labouring man?—He is a mechanic.

23,559. He is not working on his own account as a master man?—He was not at the time of the election.

23,560. Do you know whether he was at Messrs. Maynard and Wilkinson's some time after the election?—Yes.

23,561. Have you heard whether he was at work for them lately?—No.

The witness withdrew.

George Isard sworn and examined.

G. Isard.

23,562. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—An engine driver.

23,563. Your wages are 7*s.* a day I suppose?—No, 5*s.* 6*d.* now.

23,564. What was your rent?—13*l.* a year for the house I was living in then.

23,565. I did not catch what you received for wages [illegible]y at the time of the election, 5*s.* 6*d.* n[illegible]

[illegible]you aware of the arrangement Mr. [illegible]with the railway men?—No.

23,567. Who spoke to you about voting?—Nobody.

23,568. Did you vote?—Yes.

23,569. For whom?—Mr. Richardson.

23,570. I suppose you had made up your mind to vote for Mr. Monson?—I had till I was away at Reading that morning.

23,571. Who spoke to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—Nobody.

23,572. Somebody did?—No.

23,573. Who canvassed you?—Both Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower; but I never saw them.

23,574. Did you not know Mr. Shepherd?—Know him?

23,575. Did you not have any conversation with him about voting for Mr. Monson?—None whatever.

23,576. What money did you receive?—From whom?

23,577. From Mr. Shepherd, or anybody?—Why, none at all with regard to the election.

23,578. You say you received no money at all?—No.

23,579. Who paid you to vote for Mr. Richardson instead of Mr. Monson?—Nobody.

23,580. You had made up your mind at once for Mr. Monson?—Yes; but when I saw the state of the poll, I thought I would vote for Mr. Richardson.

23,581. Was that because he had none at all, or scarcely any voters?—No; it was because I knew Mr. Richardson. I had known him many years.

23,582. You knew that he was not going to be returned?—Yes, I knew that.

23,583. Why did you vote for him when you had promised to vote for Mr. Monson?—I had no particular reason.

23,584. Who asked you to vote?—Nobody.

23,585. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who told you to vote?—Nobody.

23,586. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were with your engine that day at Reading?—Yes.

23,587. What time did you get back to Redhill?—Two o'clock.

23,588. You voted at Redhill, I suppose?—Yes.

23,589. Do you mean to tell me that you voted for Mr. Richardson without anybody speaking to you about it?—Yes, I do.

23,590. Did you go from Redhill in the morning?—Yes.

23,591. Then you thought it was only Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower?—No, I knew over night that Mr. Richardson was nominated.

23,592. You knew over night, did you?—Yes.

23,593. Were you at the nomination?—No.

23,594. Who told you over night that Mr. Richardson was nominated?—I could see the bills about, and some of the workmen told me.

23,595. Did you not know that several of the men were to receive money for voting for Mr. Monson?—No, I did not.

23,596. You never heard of it?—No.

23,597. Do you mean to say that?—I am upon my oath.

23,598. It was disclosed here two or three days ago; do you mean to say that you never heard it up to this week?—No, I did not.

23,599. You never heard amongst the men that they had received 4*l.* 10*s.*?—No.

23,600. You had no suspicion that any of them received money?—I had no suspicion whatever.

23,601. You intended to vote for Mr. Monson up to the time that Mr. Richardson was nominated?—Yes.

23,602. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who was the man who works with you on your engine?—I have had so many since then.

23,603. I mean at the time of the election?—I was a fireman then.

23,604. Who was the man you were working with?—Wilson Bates, who was examined yesterday.

23,605. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were a fireman at that time, receiving 1*l.* per week, and Bates was the engine driver?—Yes.

23,606. When did you ascertain that Mr. Richardson was to be put up as a candidate, a kind of sham candidate?—I did not know that he was to be nominated until after he was nominated.

23,607. And then you came and voted for him?—Yes.

23,608. Did you tell any one on the morning you went away that you would be back in time enough to vote?—No, it was uncertain; it is always uncertain whether we can be back again when we once go away.

23,609. You intended to vote for Mr. Monson?—I intended to vote for Mr. Monson.

23,610. How was it that Bates was not back in time?—He was back in time. He did not vote. I suppose he had his own reason, I do not know.

23,611. Bates, the engine driver, did not vote at all?—No.

23,612. Did you apply for any money?—No.

23,613. I have no right to doubt your word; I take it that you did not receive anything at all?—No money whatever.

23,614. You were not a party to that arrangement that was made?—No.

23,615. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you know Shepherd?—Yes, I knew him.

23,616. Have you seen him lately?—I have not seen him for a month or more I should say.

23,617. Do you know where he is?—No.

23,618. Have you heard?—No.

23,619. Has it ever been mentioned to you about where he is?—No.

23,620. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you know Bates was not going to vote just before the election?—Yes, he told me he would not vote at all.

23,621. Did he give you any advice about it?—None whatever.

23,622. I do not mean whom to vote for; but did he say that it was best not to vote?—No.

23,623. How did he come to tell you that he would not vote?—We were talking about it, and he said that he would not vote at all.

23,624. Did he ask you how you would vote?—No, he is a man who says very little about those things.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM WALKER sworn and examined. *W. Walker.*

23,625. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A ticket inspector; I was a ticket collector at the time of the election.

23,626. What rent do you pay?—5*s.* a week.

23,627. At the last election, in 1865, who did you vote for?—I had not got a vote then, through the negligence of the overseers I suppose, though I was entitled, and had been for two years, but I find now my name is on the register.

23,628. Then in '65 you did not vote for any one?—No.

23,629. Nor in '63?—No, I have never voted at all.

23,630. You knew the railway men?—Yes, I knew the principal of them.

23,631. You knew Shepherd?—Yes, I knew him very well before; in fact before he came to Redhill.

23,632. Where did you know him before?—I knew him at Folkestone; at Redhill he was the foreman of the gasfitters and plumbers, at the Redhill station I mean, they have a district to go over.

23,633. He was exclusively in the railway employ?—Yes.

23,634. How long did he remain in their employ after the election?—I cannot tell exactly.

23,635. Was it a twelvemonth?—I do not know exactly, but I think I might say 12 months.

23,636. You think he continued about 12 months?—Yes, I think I might say 12 months.

23,637. Did he leave the service of the railway, or proceed to another station?—I believe he left the railway with the intention of going into business with a person of the name of Clarke.

23,638. Perhaps you can tell whether he did or no?—I have no information, but from what I heard I think he did.

23,639. Where did he set up in business first,

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Clarke, where did you hear that, whether correctly or not?—I should say at Mr. Clarke's house.

23,640. Where is that?—Brighton-road, they call it, Redhill.

23,641. How long did he continue with Clarke?—I do not know, sir.

23,642. How long did the partnership with Clarke continue?—I do not know.

23,643. Do you know whether it still continues?—I believe not.

23,644. What makes you think the partnership is now over?—From a remark I heard Mr. Clarke make.

23,645. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was it recently, a day or two ago?—No; I should say it was two months ago.

23,646. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And you really think from what you heard it is so?—Yes, for I know he has been working for Maynard and Wilkinson.

23,647. Down in Sussex?—Yes, sir, it was on the Mid-Sussex line. I could almost call it to mind, for I one day wrote a letter in order to pass some luggage they wanted there; the superintendent of the station sent it down; there were three or four parcels, and I saw he went with them; I think they were for Maynard and Wilkinson.

23,648. Have you heard he has left their firm?—I should think he is still in the employ of Maynard and Wilkinson.

23,649. About how long ago was that matter of the luggage?—Six or eight weeks, perhaps more, but I am not sure; say two months.

23,650. Have you heard he was there the last week?—No, but to the best of my knowledge I saw him a month ago in the High-street at Redhill, and I said "John, how are you going on," and he said, "Very well."

23,651. I suppose that was on Sunday, when he was coming home to his wife?—I think it was on a Saturday evening.

23,652. He may, perhaps, have been coming home to his wife; can you give us any information where he is now?—I have not heard, but for anything I know, I should say he was in Redhill still, when he is at home and not in work.

23,653. Have you seen his wife there?—I do not know his wife.

J. Nye.

JAMES NYE sworn and examined.

23,654. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you, Nye?—A labourer.

23,655. On the railway?—Yes.

23,656. As a platelayer?—Yes.

23,657. What wages do you get?—3*s.* a day.

23,658. What rented house did you occupy at the time of the election?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

23,659. Did you receive any money from Shepherd?—Yes.

23,660. How much?—I had 30*s.* a week for three weeks.

23,661. Then you received the 4*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

23,662. Was that the Saturday before the election?—Yes.

23,663. Do you know of its having been talked about, the asking for more money?—No, I do not.

23,664. You were not one of the party?—No.

23,665. I suppose you voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

23,666. Was it Shepherd who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Nobody ever asked me.

23,667. How then did you come to be acquainted with this arrangement, that you were to have 30*s.* a week?—Shepherd asked me to have my name put down, and he gave me 30*s.* a week, but he did not ask me to vote for Mr. Monson.

23,668. You knew the 30*s.* a week was that you should vote for Mr. Monson?—I supposed so.

22,669. I don't suppose you know this person Shepherd?—I know him, but I have not seen him lately.

23,670. Or heard where he is?—No.

23,671. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you told to attend the committees by Shepherd?—No.

23,672. Did you do anything, or told to do anything?—No.

23,673. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You went somewhere and got some refreshment?—I cannot say I did not.

23,674. With Shepherd?—No.

23,675. Or where Shepherd was?—No.

23,676. Where did you go?—I went once to Mr. Langridge's.

23,677. Only once?—Yes.

23,678. You did not pay for it?—Somebody gave me some, but I do not know who it was.

23,679. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was this your first election?—Yes.

J. Lane.

JOHN LANE sworn and examined.

23,680. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

23,681. What rent do you pay for your house?—I live in my own.

23,682. What is the value of it if you were to rent it?—I do not know the value of it, but I suppose I should have 5*s.* or 6*s.* a week to pay if I rented one like it.

23,683. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

23,684. Who spoke to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Monson himself.

23,685. Who else?—Richardson came with him.

23,686. Who else?—There was not any one else came with him.

23,687. Who was it came after Mr. Monson and Mr. Richardson came to you?—There was no one came on Mr. Monson's part.

23,688. Were you not put on the committee?—Not that I am aware of, I never saw my name on it.

23,689. Did you attend any committees?—Yes, I attended one.

23,690. Where?—At the "White Hart."

23,691. Who took you there?—Joseph Hewett, he told me there would be a meeting at the "White Hart."

23,692. He is not a railway man?—No, he is not a railway man.

23,693. What time did you poll for Mr. Monson?—In the forenoon.

23,694. Did you receive anything?—I received 30*s.* from Joseph Hewett.

23,695. He gave you 30*s.*?—Yes, I was to have 30*s.* a week.

23,696. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He said he would give you 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

23,697. Joseph Hewett said so?—Yes, I suppose that was the arrangement between them.

23,698. Who with?—Hewett and those who promised him.

29,699. What did he pay you?—15*s.* the first week and 15*s.* the next.

23,700. That is all he paid you altogether?—Yes.

23,701. Did you apply to him before you voted for the remainder?—No.

23,702. Why did you not apply?—I did not apply to him.

23,703. To whom did you apply?—I had my orders to go to the "Plough" at the Redhill, the night of the election and it would be paid.

23,704. You got your 3*l.* 10*s.* there ?—Yes.

23,705. Who from ?—Richard Peat.

23,706. You say you were canvassed on the part of Mr. Gower ; at least I think so ?—Mr. Gower came himself and Mr. Smith.

23,707. Never mind those ; did anybody else come ? Yes, Buckland and Apted.

23,708. Did they ask you to vote for Mr. Gower ? —Yes.

23,709. What did they say when they asked you to vote for Mr. Gower ?—I do not know what they said, but they asked me to vote for Mr. Gower.

23,710. What did they say they would give you ?— They did not say they would give me anything.

23,711. Was that after you had arranged with Hewett that they came to you, or before ?—It was before.

23,712. I suppose you told them you would vote for Mr. Monson ?—No, I did not tell them who I should vote for.

23,713. You told them you had not made up your mind ?—I had made up my mind to vote for Mr. Monson, but I had not made up my mind to satisfy them. I told th em I had not.

23,714. Did they tell you that your name would be placed on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No, not that I am aware of.

23,715. Just recollect, you had not made up your mind ?—No, I do not know that they said anything about my name being on the committee.

23,716. Did you never get any money at all on the Gower side ?—No, none at all ; I was not promised any.

23,717. Did you apply for any ?—No.

23,718. Had you voted at the last election for 1863 ?—No.

23,719. Was this the first time you ever had a vote ?—Yes.

23,720. I suppose you saw a good many people at the "Plough" when Mr. Read was paying out the money ?—I saw eight, or nine, or a dozen ; I never counted them.

23,721. You all received your money ?—I received my money, and I was very well satisfied.

23,722. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And I suppose you are quite ready to do the same again ?—Well, I do not think I should.

23,723. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) A higher fee perhaps ?—No, I would have no more of it.

RICHARD ASHDOWN sworn and examined. *R. Ashdown.*

23,724. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ? —A bricklayer.

23,725. What rent do you pay ?—4*s.* 6*d.*

23,726. A week ? Are you a journeyman bricklayer or a master ?—Journeyman.

23,727. Whom did you vote for at the last election ? —Monson.

23,728. Who asked you to vote for Monson ?—Holdsworth.

23,729. Where was he when he asked you to vote for Monson ?—At his own residence.

23,730. At his home ?—Yes.

23,731. And when was this, do you recollect; about what time before the election ?—About five or six weeks before the election.

23,732. Oh, as much as that ?—Yes.

23,733. A good while then. What did he say to you ; perhaps you will tell me what passed between you, will you. Did he send for you to the house ?—Oh, no, he did not send for me.

23,734. Are you often there ?—I am often there. I was working for him.

23,735. Be so good as to tell me what passed ?— He asked me which way I was going to vote, whether I was going to vote for Mr. Monson or Mr. Gower, and I told him I was going to vote for Mr. Monson.

23,736. Well, but that was not much ?—No, it was not.

23,737. What else passed ? — That is all that passed ; I decided at once upon it.

23,738. Decided, you mean, whom would you vote for ?—Yes.

23,739. Well, what reason had you for deciding so soon ?—Well, I soon decided which way ; which I would do.

23,740. Yes, I know you did ; but what made you decide so quick, I am aware you did it, but what made you decide so quick ?—Well, I had no particular reason for it.

23,741. Had you no reason at all ?—No.

23,742. Then why didn't you vote for Gower ?—I did not vote for him the election before.

23,743. Who else asked you, besides Holdsworth, to vote for Monson ?—No one.

23,744. Did nobody talk to you about it afterwards ? —No.

23,745. About voting for Monson ?—No.

23,746. Did you know what some people were getting for voting for Mr. Monson ?—No, I did not.

23,747. Well, you didn't know, but you heard ?— I heard so many tales.

23,748. Did you hear, among the tales, what was going for the Monson men ?—I did not.

23,749. Well, you heard there was something going for the Monson party ?—No, I did not.

23,750. Well now, you know this was five or six weeks before the election, it was a long time, did you hear afterwards what was going for the Monson party ?—No, I did not.

23,751. Surely before the election came on you recollect having some conversation about doing some work, or something like that, or going on the committee ?—I did not unite with the Gower party at all.

23,752. No, no, Mr. Monson's party ; I will come to Gower's afterwards ; but Mr. Monson's party. Were you put on the committee ?—My name was on the list.

23,753. Well, did you act ?—Certainly, I took a part, encouraged people to go the same way as I did myself.

23,754. Whom did you talk to about it, who told you to do that, Mr. Holdsworth ?—No, no one.

23,755. You said to Holdsworth you would vote for Monson. Did you go to him afterwards and tell him what you were doing ?—No.

23,756. Then you won't agree to that ?—No.

23,757. I must ask you a little more plainly what you were to get for voting for Monson ?—I was to receive a pound a week.

23,758. And this was five weeks before ?—Yes.

23,759. Then you were to receive at least 5*l.* ?— That was it.

23,760. Did you receive the 5*l.* ?—Yes.

23,761. The Saturday before the election, was it ?— No, a week after.

23,762. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did receive it ?—Yes.

23,763. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you? —Holdsworth.

23,764. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received it from Holdsworth. I want now to come to the Gower party. You said you never did anything for the Gower party, did they ask you to do something for them ?— No.

23,765. Nobody ?—No.

23,766. What, none of the people who were acting for Mr. Gower ?—No.

23,767. Didn't they come and talk to you about your vote ?—No ; not to lead me to think that they

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were going to encourage me to come over that side, because I was determined to vote for Monson.

23,768. No, there was no chance, I dare say; but did they come and ask you to vote for them?—No.

23,769. Didn't they say, "Will you come and work "for us"?—No.

23,770. Did they make you no offer?—No.

23,771. They found you were staunch?—They never made me any offer on that side at all.

23,772. In 1863 you voted for Wilkinson?—Yes.

23,773. Who canvassed then, do you recollect?—Yes.

23,774. Then tell me?—Norman Wilkinson.

22,775. And did you go on the committee that time?—I did not.

23,776. Did you work and canvass? Did you do what you could, I mean for that side?—I did nothing at all.

23,777. What did you get that year?—2*l.*

23,778. Not more?—A pound for nomination day and a pound for polling day.

23,779. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid it?—Frederick Joyes.

23,780. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Frederick Joyes paid it. Well, was that all you got?—That is all.

22781. Was there any attempt made on you by the Gower party that election?—None at all.

23,782. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who told you you would be paid for the nomination day and the polling day?—Who told me I was to be paid for it?

23,783. Yes?—Mr. Joyes himself.

23,784. Before you voted?—Yes; two days' work.

23,785. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before you voted?—Yes.

23,786. Had you asked him?—I had not.

23,787. You had not asked him whether you soould be paid?—No.

23,788. But he volunteered payment?—Yes.

23,789. He volunteered the promise without your asking?—He did.

23,790. Was that the only election you had voted at?—That was the only one.

The witness withdrew.

C. Bennett.

CHARLES BENNETT sworn and examined.

23,791. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A house painter.

23,792. What rent did you pay at the time of the election?—11*l.* per year.

23,793. Whom did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

23,794. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

23,795. Who placed you on his committee?—Well, I gave my name in myself voluntarily to go on his committee at one of his meetings.

23,796. Just so; at one of his meetings. Then that was, I suppose, at one of the early meetings?—Some five weeks previous to the election.

23,797. Was Mr. Nichols at the meeting?—I think he was.

23,798. Where was the meeting held?—It was at a house in Mead-vale.

23,799. In Mead-vale?—Yes.

23,800. Do you recollect the name?—I do not.

23,801. Who was acting there for Mr. Monson, to whom you gave your name?—Mr. Hart, the agent.

23,802. Oh, Mr. Hart?—Yes.

23,803. Then did you give your name to Mr. Hart?—Yes, I believe he took it down. I volunteered to go on his committee.

23,804. Just so. Then did you work for Mr. Monson?—Yes, I did.

23,805. Did you work much?—I canvassed part of the borough with Mr. Monson himself.

23,806. To whom did you report progress of your exertions?—At the general committee meetings whenever they were held.

23,807. Yes, to whom?—Sometimes Mr. Richardson.

23,808. Yes. Mr. Hart?—Mr. Hart.

23,809. Mr. Nichols?—Not Mr. Nichols generally.

23,810. But you had reported to Mr. Nichols at times?—Well, yes, we had reported some of our canvassing to Mr. Nichols.

23,811. Then when you reported to Mr. Nichols did you report to him at the "Grapes"?—No, if he happened to be at the committee meetings; there were circulars sent out.

23,812. I suppose you had spoken to Mr. Nichols when he was at the "Grapes"?—Oh, yes.

23,813. You had been there?—Yes.

23,814. And received monies from Mr. Nichols to work with?—No.

23,815. What?—No.

23,816. Not any?—Not one halfpenny.

23,817. Did you receive monies from anybody to work with, or for work?—No, not till after the election.

23,818. Ah, just so. Then what did you receive after the election?—I received 2*l.* from Mr. James Nichols as compensation for my services.

23,819. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When?—Some six weeks after the election.

23,820. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ask him for it?—No.

23,821. Then you volunteered your services, and he volunteered the 2*l.*?—Entirely, I did.

23,822. And he volunteered the 2*l.* entirely?—Yes. I canvassed part of the borough with Mr. Monson, and attended committee meetings; and for my services he gave me 2*l.* I consider my services fully worth it.

23,823. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) More, I dare say?—Well, I think they were for two or three weeks.

23,824. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was anything said before the election about remuneration?—No.

23,825. In your canvassing did you never offer any person in the borough money?—No.

23,826. Not one?—Not one.

23,827. Were you successful?—We canvassed part of the borough a good way from home. Some had promised, and some had not; some were out, and some were going to vote for Mr. Gower.

23,828. Did you get any promise for Mr. Monson?—Not decided promises. It was before the election some time, and they would not promise.

23,829. You found them all very coy; they would not promise?—Yes.

23,830. Perhaps they did not promise because you did not offer anything?—I cannot say how that might be. I offered nothing.

23,831. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you a canvassing book?—I had a register; a printed register.

23,832. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then you marked on that printed register the result of your——?—Of our canvass.

23,833. And you handed it into the committee I suppose?—Yes. I went through the register with Mr. Nichols.

23,834. You have not got a copy of it?—No, I think it is destroyed. He told me he pulled it all to pieces. He did not consider it of much value.

23,835. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you talked

to by Mr. Gower's party before the election come on?—I was canvassed by Mr. Gower and Mr. Dann for my vote.

23,836. No doubt. I meant more than that. That was early, I suppose?—Yes, some five or six weeks before the election.

23,837. He called on everybody pretty nearly, but after that were you asked by some of Mr. Gower's party to help them?—No.

23,838. I am not asking you whether you did it?—No, I did not.

23,839. It is no imputation on a man to say that he is asked?—No, I promised my vote some four or five weeks before the election.

23,840. But did he come to you? Do you recollect anybody coming to you?—No. Nobody induced me to vote for him.

23,841. During the progress of the election, before it came on, didn't you get asked by somebody to give your services to Mr. Gower's side?—No, they did not in any direct manner at all.

23,842. No, I never said in any direct manner; but I mean in an indirect manner. There are plenty of ways. You understand these things as well as I do?—No, I was only canvassed once by Mr. Gower and Mr. Dann.

23,843. But then, I observe that canvassing has a particular meaning. I mean asked for your services, your assistance. You say, "not in any direct manner," but I want to know in what indirect manner were you asked. I wish you would tell me?—Well, I was not asked for my services.

23,844. In what way were you not asked for your services? I want to know how it was done. Whom did you see belonging to the Gower party?—I saw many of the voters.

23,845. Well, and who talked to you about it?—There was no one talked to me about it, only the canvassing by Mr. Gower and Mr. Dann.

23,846. Never mind the canvassing by Mr. Gower and Mr. Dann; but who talked to you about the election on the Gower side?—Well, I do not know. Hardly any one talked to me about it. Mr. Joyes spoke to me about it.

23,847. Frederick Joyes?—No, William Joyes.

23,848. Is William a brother of Frederick Joyes?—Yes.

23,849. What did he say?—He asked me if I had promised my vote; and as near as I can recollect I told him I had, and I should vote for Monson; and there was no more passed between him and me.

23,850. You went round canvassing. Were you given money to pay some of the voters?—No.

23,851. Did any money pass through your hands?—No, not one halfpenny.

23,852. None from Nichols, or Mr. Hart, or anybody?—No.

23,853. You are sure of that?—I am certain of it, on my oath.

23,854. Were you requested to pay any money to any person mentioned?—I was not.

23,855. When you found anybody were you told to come and report about them, and get money for them?—No, I was not.

23,856. Now, had you voted in 1863?—No, I was not on the register.

23,857. Never voted before?—No.

23,858. Now, do you consider you have told us everything that I am likely to wish to know about the election?—Everything as far as I was connected with it.

23,859–60. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is there anything which you can tell the Commissioners generally about the election which you know?—Nothing.

23,861. About the mode in which it was conducted on either side?—No, I took no further part in it.

23,862. I don't mean to say as to your part; but as you moved about?—No, nothing in particular. Nothing more than what occurs upon an election.

23,863. Nothing in your mind out of the common way?—No.

23,864. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understood you to say, Mr. Bennett, that you did not expect anything at all?—No, I did not say I did not expect anything.

23,865. Oh, I beg your pardon. I understood you to say that. You said you volunteered, did you not?—Yes, I did.

23,866. Then you did expect something?—Well, I volunteered my services in Mr. Monson's cause, and after I had been engaged I canvassed part of the borough with him. I spent three or four weeks, and I did expect there would be some remuneration for it.

23,867. Then you did it for remuneration? I do not say there is any harm in it; but you did expect to be paid for it?—Yes, I did expect some remuneration for my services three or four weeks.

23,868. And Mr. Nichols paid you some time after?—Yes.

23,869. Did you apply to anybody for payment?—No. In conversation with Mr. Nichols I told him I had spent a good many shillings out of my pocket for the cause; but if there was nothing to come for it I would be content.

23,870. Then he gave you the 2*l.*?—No, he did not give it to me then; two weeks after. He said, "I "dare say there will be some compensation for you for "your services." These were the words that passed between him and me.

The witness withdrew.

EDWARD ANSCOMBE sworn and examined.

E. Anscombe.

23,871. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A painter and glazier.

23,872. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you vote?—13*l.* a year.

23,873. You voted at the last election, did you?—Yes.

23,874. For whom?—Mr. Monson.

28,875. To whom did you promise to vote for Mr. Monson?—I did not promise any one particularly.

23,876. But I mean who spoke to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Nichols spoke to me; asked me if I would have my name on the committee.

23,877. How soon before the election?—Why, it was quite the beginning of the election; very early.

23,878. About five or six weeks before the election?—Yes, quite that.

23,879. And you told him you would, I suppose?—I denied having my name down.

23,880. You refused him?—Yes.

23,881. Did he speak to you again?—No, he never said another word to me about it.

23,882. But your name was down on the committee?—I believe not, I never saw it.

23,883. Did you ever attend any meeting?—Yes

23,884. A committee meeting?—Yes.

23,885. And did you work for Mr. Monson?—I canvassed with him.

23,886. And of course canvassed for him?—Yes, for him; only with Mr. Monson.

23,887. How many days were you canvassing with Mr. Monson?—One day. Once I went with Mr. Monson.

FIFTEENTH DAY.

E. Anscombe.

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23,888. Did you go more than one day?—Not with Mr. Monson.

23,889. But you went with others canvassing, did you?—No.

23,890. How many days altogether did you lose?—Never lost any time. This was a Saturday afternoon. We leave off at 4 o'clock, and I was to meet Mr. Monson at the "White Hart" soon after 4; as soon as I could after 4; between 4 and 5.

23,891. Who told you to go and meet him?—I was at a meeting at Mr. Toplis's at Redhill, and I was standing on the landing at the top of the stairs, and it was rather late. I should think it was 10 o'clock in the evening; and Mr. Monson, he was standing there too; he was just about to leave the room, and Mr. Richardson stepped back to speak to some one in the room; and I said to Mr. Monson, I says, "Do you think you "think you have canvassed sufficient"? and he says to me, "Is there some one you think that I have not "seen"? I says, "I can't find any one in our neigh-"bourhood that you have seen." "Well," he says, "I should be very glad to see them if some one would "go with me," and I said I would go with him, and Mr. Bennett said he would go with him. So we two went in the afternoon on the Saturday with Mr. Monson.

23,892. And were, I dare say, very successful in getting?—Not very; we were rather too late.

23,893. Oh, they were taken up, were they?—Yes. We should have had a promise or two if we had been a little earlier, but we were just too late.

23,894. You got no promise at all then?—Well, "favourable;" stood favourable some did, and some had partly promised; did not know whether they should vote for us or not.

23,895. What did you do besides for Mr. Monson? That was associating with him. Did you canvass besides; your friends?—No.

23,896. Didn't you speak to your friends about him?—No.

23,897. Did you get anything before the election at all?—Not at all.

23,898. Not at all?—No.

23,899. Not anything before the election?—No.

23,900. Anything after the election?—Yes.

23,901. From whom?—From Mr. Corderoy.

23,902. Where?—At his house.

23,903. Corderoy's house?—Yes.

23,904. Was he canvassing?—He was canvassing, I believe.

23,905. Did he send for you?—No.

23,906. How did you go there?—I was walking down the road some few days after the election. He lives by the side of the road. I was not going a mile round to go past his house.

23,907. He called you in, I suppose? He saw you?—He saw me, and he called me in, and he asked me what would satisfy me for my services. I said, "I "will leave it to you; I will make no price at all." I said, "I don't particular want anything;" and he says, "Will 10*s.* satisfy you?" I says, "Yes;" and he gave me 10*s.*

23,908. Only 10*s.*?—That is all.

23,909. That, you say, you did not expect, even?—I did not expect it. It was some few days after the election. I did not care a pin whether I had it or not.

23,910. Just a compliment like, the 10*s*?—Yes.

23,911. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He did not tell you there would be any more coming, did he?—I said I did not lose any time. I did lose, at my own pleasure, nomination and polling day.

23,912. Did you apply to him again, or did you make any further application?—Not at all.

23,913. To anybody else?—No.

23,914. Was this your first election?—Yes.

23,915. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I do not see your name among the voters?—It is there. It begins with "A," not "H." It is Lisburn-lane.

23,916. Is that your brother, "John R. Hanscombe"?—No.

23,917. He spells it with an "H."?—Yes, he does. He is no relation of mine.

The witness withdrew.

W. Cook.

William Cook sworn and examined.

23,918. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A builder.

23,919. What rent do you pay?—26*l.* a year.

23,920. You paid that at the time of the election, did you?—Yes.

23,921. Whom did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

23,922. Who canvassed you? Did Mr. Gower himself?—I believe he did.

23,923. Perhaps you had not made up your mind when he called?—When Mr. Gower called?

23,924. Yes?—I had not.

23,925. Well, you made up your mind. Who canvassed you afterwards on his behalf?—I cannot tell you, I do not know who.

23,926. Who was it induced you to vote for Gower?—Myself.

23,927. What induced you to make up your mind? You were in doubt at first and you made up your mind afterwards?—What induced me?

23,928. To vote for Gower?—Nothing at all.

23,929. You were uncertain at first, and at last you made up your mind to vote for Gower. What made you make up your mind?—I cannot say why I did make up my mind.

23,930. I will take that answer. You mean that?—I do. I cannot say what induced me.

29,931. It is rather unusual. When a man makes up his mind for a candidate he generally has some some reason. You say you have none?—Well, I thought Gower was a very good man.

23,932. Whom did you tell you were going to vote for Gower?—Nobody, till I polled.

23,933. Did anybody know whether you were going to vote for Gower?—I do not know.

23,934. They could not have known it unless you told them?—I did not tell them.

23,935. Were you canvassed by the Monson party?—Yes.

23,936. Did Mr. Monson call upon you?—Yes.

23,937. Did you tell him you had not made up your mind?—I did. I told them both the same.

23,938. Did you afterwards get canvassed by somebody belonging to the Monson party?—I may have been. There were many called.

23,939. Who called?—I cannot say who.

23,940. Did you get any money at all before the election?—No.

23,941. Did you receive anything afterwards?—No.

23,942. Not a farthing?—Not a farthing, nor yet a farthing's worth.

23,943. Very well. Did you never receive anything?—Not for elections.

23,944. Well, what was it you received something for then?—Nothing whatever, only in the way of business.

23,945. Never received anything?—Not for the election.

23,946. You mean me to understand that in the fullest sense?—I do; not one farthing, nor a farthing's worth.

23,947. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did any money pass through your hands?—No, only in the way of business.

23,948. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What do you mean by "in the way of business"?—Why, in the way of trade. I received money and paid my men.

23,949. What, you mean as a builder?—As a builder. Nothing to do with the election whatever.

23,950. When had you made up your mind to support Mr. Gower did you work a little for him?—No, I did not.

23,951. Did you do any work at all for Mr. Monson?—No.

23,952. Do you recollect receiving a sum of money, not for yourself, but to hand over to another person?—No.

23,953. Not at all?—No.

23,954. Oh, well, I will ask you, do you remember receiving a sum of 5*l.* from somebody?—No.

23,955. Not from any one?—No.

23,956. There must be some mistake about it. Perhaps we have made a mistake about you?—I never had anything to do with the election.

23,957. You never had anything to do with the election?—Not the slightest; only went and polled; and that is all I had to do with it.

23,958. Then I may take that in the strictest sense?

23,959. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then you are not William Cook, of Mead-vale?—No. You don't want me any more?

23,960. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Unless you have got anything to inform us?—No, nothing at all. I took no interest in the election, only went and voted.

23,961. You yourself were conducting the election fairly, but perhaps you may have noticed something which struck you as not quite right?—Nothing at all. I never went to any of the meetings; only went on the morning of the polling and polled.

23,962. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You live in Station-road?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS PAVIS sworn and examined. *T. Pavis.*

23,963. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A boot and shoe maker.

23,964. What rent?—Ten guineas a year.

23,965. Are you a master or a journeyman?—A master.

23,966. Having men under your own employ?—Only occasionally; one now and then.

23,967. Then you have got a shop and you work yourself?—Yes.

23,968. And when you have got extra work you employ?—Yes, I employ a man or two.

23,969. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Richardson.

23,970. It was not your intention to vote for Richardson in the first instance?—Oh, no.

23,971. Had you promised to Monson?—No.

23,972. Not promised anybody for Monson?—I promised neither party, and I did not wish to have anything to do with the election, and I did not intend to vote.

23,973. Well, you had just as little to do with the election as you possibly could by voting for Richardson?—Well, it was by mere accident that I voted for Richardson.

23,974. Will you tell me what the accident was?—I was at work till about a quarter to 4 on the day of the polling, and I came down in the town and saw a friend of mine.

23,975. Who was that?—Mr. Burrell, of the "Yew Tree."

23,976. Now, what took place between you and your friend Burrell?—Oh, we were talking about the election and enjoying the sport that was going on, and he asked me whether I had voted, and I told him, "No;" and he asked me who I was going to vote for and I said, "Nobody;" and he said he should. He asked me if I would vote for Mr. Richardson. I said, "No," at first. Then he said, "Will you go and vote "for Mr. Monson"? and after consideration I said, "Yes;" but when I got to the hall, the public hall, I saw that Mr. Richardson's numbers were so low, that I thought——

23,977. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That you would give him a lift?—I thought the vote would help the figures up a little higher, as the vote would be no good to Mr. Monson.

23,978. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Well, it would be no use to Mr. Richardson?—Not a bit, but it would make the numbers higher.

23,979. Now, is that really your only reason for voting?—That is the reason, nothing else.

23,980. Then you are a most valuable member of the constituency. Now, did you get paid for that?—No.

23,981. Have you received anything?—No, there was no promise.

23,982. Did nobody pay you after the election?—No, nothing at all.

23,983. Eh?—I tell you I received nothing at all.

23,984. Didn't you apply to Burrell, or Burrell say something to you about being paid for your loss of time?—No, nothing whatever.

23,985. You lost a great deal of valuable time in polling?—Yes, about five minutes, I suppose.

23,986. Well, that was worth something?—Very likely.

23,987. You say you did not get remunerated in any shape or way?—Nothing whatever.

The witness withdrew.

FREDERICK FRANCIS FULLER sworn and examined. *F. F. Fuller.*

23,988. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A well sinker.

23,989. And what rent do you pay?—I pay 7*l.* a year, but I am rated at 10*l.* 15*s.*

23,990. Then you have a good bargain. How are you rated at 10*l.* 15*s.*? That would be about 12*l.* rental?—Yes, I suppose.

23,991. 13*l.* rental; rated at 10*l.* 15*s.* For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

23,992. Now, who canvassed you, Mr. Fuller?—Mr. Monson and Mr. Nichols.

23,993. Of course they canvassed you, no doubt; but who put you on the committee?—No one. My name was not on the committee.

23,994. But you worked for Mr. Monson, I suppose?—I did.

23,995. And worked hard for him?—I do not know about working hard. I did the best I could.

23,996. You attended meetings?—Yes, I did attend one meeting.

23,997. And you talked to people about him?—Yes.

23,998. What else did you do?—I was out at nights watching, and helped bring voters to the poll.

23,999. How much did you receive?—I had 5*l.* I had no promise. Mr. Nichols made me a present of it the next day. I had no agreement.

24,000. No agreement?—It was only paying me for my labour, what I had done.

24,001. Did you apply to him?—No, he called me into the "White Hart."

24,002. He saw you at the "White Hart"?—He called me in as I passed.

FIFTEENTH DAY.

F. F. Fuller.

7 Sept. 1866.

24,003. He was at the "White Hart" paying his men?—He paid me.

24,004. He paid you five sovereigns?—Yes.

24,005. That was a good pay?—It paid me very well.

24,006. You did nothing but watching?—Yes, I was out several nights watching. I consider I earned what I got.

24,007. How many nights were you out watching?—I was out four or five nights.

24,008. Watching? What were you watching, the stars, or what?—I was looking after the rabbits.

24,009. Looking after the rabbits?—I was looking after the other party.

24,010. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then there was some poaching going on?—I do not know whether it was poaching or what it was.

24,011. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Oh, you were not paid separately for loss of rest?—No.

24,012. We had loss of time; we will put this down as loss of rest. Nichols told you you would be paid for your loss of time?—For my services, what I had done.

24,013. He didn't say any amount?—No; he said he would satisfy me.

24,014. That is a much better word, to be satisfied. How long before the election did he say that?—A fortnight before the election, I believe.

24,015. And were you satisfied?—Yes.

24,016. I believe you have been a voter some time in the borough?—No, this is the first election I voted.

24,017. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you the same person as given on the register as "Frederick Fuller"?—Frederick Francis Fuller.

24,018. Yes, that is your real name; but are you of High-street?—Yes.

24,019. Then you are on the register as "Frederick Fuller" only.

24,020. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But, Mr. Fuller, the other side, I think, had a nibble at you, hadn't they?—Well, they asked me.

24,021. Of course. I knew they would. Who came to you on the other side?—William Joyes came to me.

24,022. I mean before you were landed by Nichols. Nichols landed you, but before that?—No one came to me before that.

24,023. But afterwards?—Yes.

24,024. It was too late then?—Yes.

24,025. What bait did he throw out?—He said he would give me the same as the rest if I would go to work for them. I told them I had promised Mr. Nichols.

24,026. Did he tell you how much the others had?—No.

24,027. But you would be treated as the others were if you went to work?—I suppose so.

24,028. He said so?—Yes.

24,029. Did you know what the figure was?—No.

24,030. But I take it that having promised Mr. Nichols you would not alter?—No, I would not.

24,031. Did you ask him how much was going?—Who?

24,032. Did you ask Joyes?—No, I did not ask him.

24,033. You were friendly with him?—Oh, yes, we always are.

24,034. You did not ask him?—No.

24,035. Did he give you any intimation at all of what was going on the other side?—I had no intimation whatever of what was going on the other side.

24,036. You did not from anybody?—No.

24,037. You did not inquire at all?—I did not inquire.

24,038. And up to the day after the polling you did not know what was going?—I did not know.

24,039. I suppose you thought 5*l.* would be about the thing?—I did not.

24,040. But you had an idea?—No, I had no idea, for I had no agreement with Nichols. He said it would be all straightforward.

24,041. Did you hear at all about a "fiver;" that 5*l.* was going; I do not mean from Joyes?—I did hear that. Mr. Joyes told me 5*l.*, if I recollect.

24,042. That is when he spoke to you about voting?—If I would work for them for a fortnight. He said he did not wish to give it to me without working for it.

24,043. I suppose that, of course, would include the labour of going to the poll?—I suppose so.

24,044. And that was, I suppose, when he canvassed you?—When he canvassed me.

24,045. Did you tell Nichols that at all?—No, I did not. I told Mr. Nichols Mr. Joyes had been to me.

24,046. And spoke of the 5*l.*?—I won't be certain whether I spoke about it or not.

24,047. Oh, yes, you did?—Well, I won't be certain.

24,048. But you might?—Yes.

24,049. I think you did. That accounts for his giving you 5*l.*?—I told Mr. Nichols that Mr. Joyes had been to me, but I am not certain about the 5*l.* He said, "I shall not promise you anything; you "know I have always acted right in what you have "done for me, and if you work for me I will satisfy "you."

24,050. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But you had not voted before at any other election?—No.

24,051. Had you voted in municipal elections?—No. I was not on the list.

24,052. How was that, that he had acted to you before?—For my work.

24,053. He always paid you liberally?—Yes.

24,054. Never quarrelled with your accounts?—No.

24,055. Always paid you what you asked?—He paid me what was fair.

24,056. At all events he said he would satisfy you?—Yes.

24,057. You did not mention the 5*l.*?—No.

24,058. You are very likely to have done so?—I might have done so.

24,059. Then he gave you 5*l.*?—Yes.

24,060. And were you satisfied?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

R. Breeden, jun.

RICHARD BREEDEN, jun., sworn and examined.

24,061. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A plasterer.

24,062. What is your father?—A bricklayer.

24,063. What rent do you pay?—None at all.

24,064. Are you a voter?—Yes.

24,065. What do you vote for?—The house I live in of my own.

24,066. Oh, you are a freeholder. And what is the value by the year?—About 15*l.*

24,067. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

24,068. Did he canvass you?—Yes.

24,069. Did you promise him your vote, or take some time to consider about it?—I considered about it.

24,070. And whom did you tell when you had made up your mind that you would vote for Monson?—No one.

24,071. Well, I suppose people found it out somehow?—Well, I suppose they did by seeing me with the Monson party.

24,072. Whom did you go to of the party to make the confession to in the first instance?—Nobody.

24,073. But before you went about with them they would be rather suspicious of you?—No doubt they

were suspicious, because I never promised any party.

24,074. Then you were fair play for both sides?—I never took any interest in it.

24,075. But you went about with the Monson party?—No, I did not.

24,076. You said you went about with them?—I said that? No, I did not.

24,077. Well, I do not want to bind you to that. Whom did you talk to, of the Monson party, about the election?—Mr. Monson I talked to.

24,078. Where was it?—In Bell-street.

24,079. How long was this before the election?—Three or four weeks.

24,080. Now go on in your own way, if you please. What did you say to him? What did he say to you? "'Well,' says I to Corderoy"?—No, I did not say any such thing. If you are going to make a laugh of me——

24,081. Don't be angry with me?—Ask me proper questions and I will answer you. I don't want to be laughed at by all the people here.

24,082. I dare say it was my fault for not asking it properly. I beg your pardon. You saw Corderoy; did he first speak to you, or did you speak to him?—I do not know.

24,083. What was the first thing you recollect being said?—He asked me how I was getting on about the election.

24,084. Did you say "Pretty well," or something like that?—Well, I said, "I don't know. I have not thought much about it at present." That was three or four weeks before the election.

24,085. Was that all that passed?—He said, "You "had better come along with us."

24,086. And did you say, "Very well, I think I "will"?—No, I said, "I rather prefer Monson than "Gower, as I don't like the way he acted at the last "election," because of course he came to the public hall and said he would not come forward to represent Reigate again; and I considered he would not come; and when a man forfeited his word I think——

24,087. That was a very good argument. Did Corderoy agree with it?—Yes. He asked me if I would assist him in canvassing for Monson.

24,088. What did you say?—I said I had hardly made up my mind whether I should vote or not. Well, I saw him afterwards, and we talked it over again then. Of course he asked me again if I would assist him. I said I thought I should. I should not vote for Mr. Gower.

24,089. Then when you said that you should not vote for Mr. Gower, and when you had made up your mind to assist him, and told him so, what did he say to you then?—Well, he said if I assisted him, whatever I did he would see that I should be paid for my services.

24,090. What did you say to that, "Very well," or something like that?—I said, "All right."

24,091. And did you then go and give your services to Mr. Monson?—After that I did.

24,092. Well, and what did you do? What services did you perform?—Oh, I used to get about in the evening. In the daytime I used to try all I could. Of course I have got a great many mates of my own working in the firm, and I used to go about in the evening late at night getting people to vote for him, and said he was the best gentleman, I thought.

24,093. Were you to have so much by the week, or be paid for your services?—No, I was to be paid for my services.

24,094. Not so much a week?—No.

24,095. Did you receive anything before the election?—I did receive something.

24,096. How much?—About a pound.

24,097. From Corderoy?—Yes.

24,098. Do you recollect the exact sum?—I think that was it.

24,099. You say you received 1*l.* before. Did you receive more than one before the election?—No, not more than one.

24,100. And after the election what did you receive?—9*l.* 10*s.*

24,101. Now, just tell me, if you please, who paid you the 9*l.* 10*l.*?—Mr. Corderoy.

24,102. How long after the election?—About a week.

24,103. Well, how was that? Did you meet him, or send in a note for it, or something of that sort?—Well, I met him.

24,104. Did you send him on paper a claim for services or something?—No.

24,105. On no paper at all, no writing?—No.

24,106. Did you go to him and say "When are you going to pay me?" or did he come to you?—He met me in the street.

24,107. What did he say?—Well, he said "The "election is over; I suppose you would like to be paid "for your services now the election is over?" "Yes," I said, "as soon as convenient."

24,108. And who mentioned the sum?—He gave me that sum, and asked if I should be satisfied. I said "Yes."

24,109. Did you know Corderoy well before?—Oh, yes.

24,110. Is he a relation of yours?—None at all.

24,111. Or connexion?—None at all.

24,112. Did he tell you that he had received the money for you, or something of that sort?—No.

24,113. Did it make you open your eyes rather wide when you saw 9*l.* 10*s.*?—No.

24,114. Oh, you were expecting as much as that?—Yes and then was not paid, I don't consider, for the time I was about.

24,115. Very likely; but that was about the sum you were expecting?—Well, as regards expecting, I didn't know what to expect, as far as that goes. He said he would pay me for my services; I received it, and of course I was satisfied. It was no use for me to make any claim upon them.

24,116. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were satisfied, and did not grumble?—No.

24,617. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Wasn't it rather more money than you expected?—No.

24,618. In the course of your services did you pay any money away for them?—Afterwards I did.

24,119. Not out of this 9*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, I did.

24,120. Out of that money?—Yes.

24,121. Weren't you repaid it?—No, of course not.

24,122. Whom did you pay money to for the election?—Mr. Geer and Mr. Coleman.

24,123. Geer and Coleman. How much?—3*l.* each.

24,124. Where did you get the money from to pay them?—Mr. Corderoy.

24,125. Did he pay you another sum, then, besides the 9*l.* 10*s.*?—No.

24,126. Then this 6*l.*, did that come out of the 9*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

24,127. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that George Geer?—Yes.

24,128. What is Coleman's address, James Coleman, of Nutley-lane?—Yes.

24,129. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But you certainly gave us to understand that you received the 9*l.* 10*s.* for yourself, because you said you were satisfied with that?—I received that for my services, as I said, for trying all I could for Mr. Monson.

24,130. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you mean you paid 6*l.* away out of that for Geer and Coleman?—Yes.

24,131. How can you say that you received it for your services?—Mr. Corderoy knew nothing about that. He knew I polled these gentlemen.

24,132. Did Corderoy know that you had succeeded

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in bringing a couple of men to the poll?—Of course he did.

24,133. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You brought these two men?—Yes.

24,134. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When did you pay these two men, Geer and Coleman?—The next day after I received my money.

24,135. Did they give you a receipt?—No.

24,136. Did you go to their houses?—No, I met them in the street, of course. I am acquainted with them.

24,137. Did you give it to them in money, or how?—In money.

24,138. And they gave you no account of it at all?—No.

24,139. Did you send in their names to any person at all as persons paid by you?—No.

24,140. You are sure?—Yes.

24,141. Did Corderoy know the names of the two men that you had brought to the poll?—Yes.

24,142. Oh, he did?—Yes.

24,143. When did you tell him?—Polling day.

24,144. You saw Corderoy at the poll?—Yes, I was about with him some part of the day.

24,145. Did you say to him, "Those two men I have brought up, you know," something like that?—Of course he knew that.

24,146. How did he know it?—Because he asked me how I got on with regard to the canvassing, trying to get all I could.

24,147. And you told him that you had succeeded in bringing up Geer and Coleman?—Yes.

24,148. Did he ask you on what promise you had brought them up?—I told him that I had guaranteed that they should be paid for their services, as myself; if we could get anything so much the better.

24,149. Did you tell Corderoy how much they were to get?—No, of course not, because I did not know myself.

24,150. Did Corderoy tell you what they ought to be paid?—No.

24,151. Well, who did then?—No one.

24,152. What made you fix upon 3*l.*?—Well, because I thought it would be a fair thing; because I thought it was right I ought to have something more than they did, because I had the most trouble.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had 4*l.* 10*s.*?

24,153. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were these two the only two men that you brought up to the poll?—The only ones I brought to the poll what promised me. I came with other people, but not as regards polling them; I had no conversation with them.

24,154. You looked upon Geer and Coleman as your own property?—I looked upon them as men who were going to work for Mr. Monson. I never mentioned a word about voting. It was known which way they were going to vote.

24,155. What work did they do?—They were about with me in the evening very late at one place and another canvassing, and trying to persuade their fellow workmen to go on the same side with them.

24,156. They were both labourers, working men?—Yes, mechanics.

24,157. Where did you go with Geer and Coleman canvassing, to public meetings?—We went to two or three; but they were about at Redhill and Mead-vale and the town a good many times.

24,158. These were public houses were the meetings were held?—Yes.

24,159. Where there was drinking going on?—Oh, yes, there always is.

24,160. Did you pay for what you had?—Sometimes we did, sometimes we were asked to drink by other people there.

24,161. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You told Geer and Coleman they should be paid what they were?—No, how could I? I told them that they should be paid for assisting me.

24,162. As you were yourself?—No; I could not tell them that. I did not know the amount. I told them that they should be paid for their services.

24,163. You did not tell them they were to be paid 6*l.*?—No.

24,164. That would have diminished your influence?—It might with some.

24,165. They did not know what you were to be paid?—No.

24,166. They thought you were working for nothing?—I do not know what they thought.

24,167. How did you know these men?—I have known them ever since I have been in Reigate. I have worked with them. Geer has been a partner of mine.

24,168. Had you voted before?—No.

24,169. Did not the Gower party speak to you?—Mr. Gower came to me.

24,170. I don't mean Mr. Gower himself.—Mr. Gower and Mr. Buckland came to me, and I was asked in the street. Mr. Ede and Mr. Rose asked me whether I would vote for Mr. Gower. I said, no, I had not made up my mind.

24,171. What were you to do? You were to be on the committee and work for them?—No, they never asked me.

24,172. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were no overtures made to you by Rose, or any of those people who canvassed you for Gower, to go on the committee and work for Mr. Gower?—They asked me to come on their side.

24,173. And work for them?—To work for them, but they did not say I was to be paid.

24,174. Did they say if you would come on and work you should have anything?—No.

24,175. No inducement held out to you?—No, they did not trouble themselves about me much. I suppose they thought it was no good. I had promised Mr. Monson, and I stuck to him.

24,176. Had you voted at the municipal elections?—No.

The witness withdrew.

G. Geer.

GEORGE GEER sworn and examined.

24,177. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

24,178. What rent do you pay?—13*l.* 10*s.*

24,179. What are you?—Plasterer.

24,180. You were canvassed by the last witness, Breeden?—Yes.

24,181. Did you receive 3*l.*?—Yes.

24,182. How long before the election were you asked to vote?—Three or four weeks.

24,183. What were you to do for your 3*l.*?—Why to assist him in canvassing all I could.

24,184. Was 3*l.* the exact sum that you received?—Yes.

24,185. You got no more?—No.

24,186. Now the witness told us that he got your and Coleman's votes?—Yes, he did.

24,187. Did you get any?—Not that I know of, although I asked a great many.

24,188. What is Coleman?—A carpenter.

24,189. Did he work for you?—No.

24,190. Did he at the time?—No.

24,191. Were you canvassed by the Gower party?—Yes, I was.

24,192. Were you asked to go on the committee?—By Mr. Gower?

24,193. By any of that party?—I was asked by Mr. Pullen.

24,194. What Pullen is that?—A carpenter, I believe.

24,195. Is he a voter?—Yes.

24,196. George Pullen, of Lisburn-road?—Yes.

24,197. Did he tell you you would get paid for that work?—He did.

24,198. What did he say?—Well, I went to the "Crown."

24,199. Tell us in your own way what took place between you and Pullen when he offered you payment, you know, for your work?—Well, he took me to the "Crown." I went to the "Crown" with him, and saw Mr. Apted there.

24,200. Job?—Yes; and he says, "Well," he says, "that young man, if he works with you, "Pullen," he says, "I will see he's paid, and well paid, "if he will work with you."

24,201. What did you say to that?—I says, "All right."

24,202. Don't wait for any questions whilst you are telling a story. Tell us all that took place at that interview?—I says, "All right."

24,203. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you say, "Put me down on your committee"?—I don't know.

24,204. At any rate you said "All right." Well, go on, please, what did they say further?

24,205. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Tell us all that took place between you?—Well, Pullen says, "I'll see that you are paid."

24,206. Was that all that passed?—I believe it was.

24,207. Did you work?—Did I work?

24,208. Did you work for them?—No, I did not.

24,209. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You attended the meetings?—Yes, I went to one meeting.

24,210. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where was that meeting?—At the "Bell."

24,211. Was that the only meeting you attended?—I cannot say I ever went to any other on Gower's side.

24,212. Well, how long was it before Breeden made the engagement with you for the 3*l.*?—Three or four weeks, I believe.

24,213. Which was first?—Why, Gower.

24,214. Did Pullen say anything as to what you might expect?—No he did not, he only said, "You "will be well paid."

24,215. Were you paid anything on the part of Mr. Gower?—No.

24,216. Nothing?—Nothing.

24,217. At any time?—No.

24,218. Why not? Because you voted for Monson, I suppose?—I voted for Mr. Monson.

24,219. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Why did not you get paid before the election? You attended the committee meeting, why did not you get paid by Gower's party before the election?—Because I did not think anything about it.

24,220. Did you ask Pullen?—No.

24,221. Nor Job Apted?—No, I did not.

24,222. Tell us why you did not.—Why didn't I?

24,223. Yes.—Because I did not think anything about it.

24,224. Do you mean you forgot the circumstance of being at the "Bell," or what was it?—No; I do not say I forgot anything about it. I took their word as the wind. I did not place any confidence in it.

24,225. But you went to the meeting?—Of course I did.

24,226. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not rely upon their promises?

24,227. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not let the thing pass by, you know, because you went to the meeting. Are you quite sure you did not apply to anybody before you agreed with Breeden?—No.

24,228. Nor after?—Nor after.

24,229. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Breeden canvassed you, did not he?—Yes.

24,230. Did anybody else canvass you?—Mr. Monson.

24,231. Anybody else on the part of Mr. Monson?—Corderoy asked me if I would come and work their side.

24,232. On Gower's side?—No, Monson's side.

24,333. Did he make any offer to you?—No, he did not.

24,234. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Breeden was the only person who offered you money to work?—He never offered me anything. He said I should be paid for my services.

24,235. You rendered no services, and got 3*l.*?—I received 3*l.*

24,236. And did nothing for it?—I was about late. I had to attend Mr. Monson's committee a meeting or two.

24,237. Just so. That was all you did. You brought no voters up to the poll?—Only asked several that I knew.

24,238. As they fell in your way?—Yes.

24,239. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you know that Breeden was to receive any money?—No, I did not.

24,240. You thought he was working for nothing?—Of course, I knew that he was right on for Monson.

24,241. You did not know that he was to get any money?—No.

24,242. Did you think he was to get money?—No, I thought he was not.

24,243. You thought he was not to get any money?—No.

24,244. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not quite understand, and I cannot get an explanation either, how it was you agreed, you know, with Apted and Pullen, and after that went to the meeting, and yet got nothing from the Gower party; because most people that went to the meetings had an understanding with one of the agents, and got something, if it was only a couple of pounds?—Well, I will go anywhere where any one asks me, especially where I think there is any singing going on.

24,245. Did you hear any singing at these meetings?—I did, and Pullen named it to me before I went.

24,246. What, did he say "You had better go to "the meeting; because, among other things, you will "have good singing"?—That's it. I am very partial to a good song.

24,247. Did you sing yourself?—Oh, yes. I never care about going out anywhere without there is some singing.

24,248. Was it an object with the Gower party to have a man at their meetings who could sing?—I do not know, I am sure.

24,249. We shall see. You went to the meeting at any rate, and you sung?—Yes, I did so.

24,250. I thought so. Now was there no compliment paid you for your song?—I cannot say, it is so long ago.

24,251. I meant a tangible compliment?—With who?

24,252. What?—I beg your pardon, I did not quite understand you.

24,253. Oh, I see. Were you paid nothing like a substantial compliment for your song?—I cannot say that I was.

24,254. That you were not?—No.

24,255. But you were paid a compliment for your singing, were not you?—I cannot say.

24,256. Oh, I understand it now. Well, you made a very good song, and you were very well paid for it?—Yes, I generally do sing a song.

24,257. You were paid 5*l.* for it?—No, I did not get 5*l.*

24,258. Not from anybody?—No.

24,259. During the whole of the election did not you get 5*l.*, before or after?—No.

24,260. Then what compliment did you get for your song?—I cannot say; it is so long ago.

24,261. Yes, you can say. I mean a substantial compliment?—No, I cannot.

24,262. What did you get for your song?—Nothing. I never sung at any of Mr. Monson's meetings.

24,263. I am not talking of Mr. Monson's meetings; I am talking of Mr. Gower's meetings, and I wish you would attend more than you do. Does not it occur to you as an odd thing that you should go and

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sing at Gower's meeting for nothing at all? What were you expecting to get for it?—Nothing.

24,264. I thought you told us just now that for your services Job Apted and Pullen promised to pay you?—Of course they did.

24,265. Well, you performed some services, and very good ones too; namely, you sang a good song at their meeting. That was a service performed, was not it?—Yes.

24,266. They both promised you?—I never received anything.

24,267. How was it?—I do not know, except that I suppose I did not apply.

24,268. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You got 3*l.* for your services for Monson's party?—Yes.

24,269. It is perfectly right you should know what I think; it was for your vote.—No; there was never a word mentioned about my vote.

The witness withdrew.

T. Barham.

TILDEN BARHAM recalled and examined.

24,270. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have been already sworn, you know?—Yes.

24,271. You told me at your last examination that you were canvassed and did not vote?—No, I did not vote.

24,272. How was it that you did not vote? That though you were canvassed on behalf of Mr. Gower, and offered money, you did not vote?—I did not make up my mind at all to vote.

24,273. You did not make up your mind to vote?—No.

24,274. You were one of the railway men?—Yes.

24,275. What are you?—An engine driver.

24,276. Where?—The South-eastern railway.

24,277. But where?—Redhill.

24,278. Where were you on the day of the polling?—I was on duty.

24,279. So I thought. You could not have voted, then?—I could have done if I had chosen.

24,280. Without asking leave, I mean?—I should have been obliged to ask leave.

24,281. That is what I mean; you did not tell me before that you had received anything?—No.

24,282. Why did not you tell me?—I believe the question was not put to me.

24,283. Now there is no use in saying that. You were exceedingly glib in telling me the offer that was made to you, but you did not tell me what you received. What did you receive?—From whose party?

24,284. Never mind; what did you receive?—I received 4*l.* 10*s.*

24,285. Why did not you tell me that when you were examined before?—I beg your pardon; I do not think I was asked.

24,286. I took it for granted, as you did not vote, that you did not receive anything from anybody else?—I did not say that.

24,287. Your answers led me to believe, and what is more, you intended to lead me to believe that you did not receive anything.

24,288. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was from Mr. Shepherd, was not it?—Yes.

24,289. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You know we have ascertained it from information we have received elsewhere, not from you. Shepherd paid you?—Yes.

24,290. Not the entire, did he? 30*s.* a week was not it, for three weeks?—Three weeks.

24,291. That was to vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

24,292. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did Shepherd ask you to vote for Mr. Monson?—I do not know exactly whether he asked me to vote for Mr. Monson. This 30*s.* a week was to be on the committee.

24,293. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*). Don't lead us astray again. What would you, an engine driver, do on the committee? Were not you asked to vote for Mr. Monson?—I cannot say exactly that I was asked to vote for Mr. Monson. It is very likely he might ask me to vote for Mr. Monson; but I cannot say for certain whether he did.

24,294. Was not it understood?—I have not the least doubt that it was understood to be to vote for Mr. Monson.

24,295. Understood by the men at the railway, and understood by you, that you were to vote for Monson?—Yes; but I do not think the word was mentioned to vote for Monson.

24,296. I no not care about "mentioned;" you received the money for that purpose, voting for Monson?—I did.

24,297. What did you mean by saying that you had not made up your mind to vote? You told me just now that you had not made up your mind to vote?—I told one man I had not made up my mind. I did not tell Shepherd so.

24,298. Had you made up your mind to vote for Monson?—I had made up my mind not to vote for Monson.

24,299. But why, when you had received the money, did you not vote?—I thought better of it.

24,300. After you received all the money?—I returned the 4*l.* 10*s.* back again to Shepherd.

24,301. You did?—Yes.

24,302. When?—On the polling morning.

24,303. That is another new feature. I beg your pardon if that be so?—I made up my mind, as I said, not to vote at all, and I returned the money to Shepherd, 4*l.* 10*s.*, on the polling morning.

24,304. Why did not you tell me that before?—I beg your pardon; I was not asked the question.

24,305. You know you were asked to tell the truth?—I am sorry if I made a mistake.

24,306. You are here to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?—I did speak the truth.

24,307. I do not question that at all, but you are here to tell everything?—I was not asked to tell everything, I only answer the questions that are put.

24,308. Do I understand you to say that you received 4*l.* 10*s.* from Shepherd, and that on the morning of the polling day you returned it?—I did.

24,309. And told him you would not vote?—I do not think I told him I should not vote; I told him I should do exactly as I liked. I said, "Now I return "you the money, the 4*l.* 10*s.*, and I shall do as I like."

24,310. That was very fair?—It was, and I did not vote at all.

24,311. You told him that in the morning?—I told him that, and I gave him back the money that I had received.

24,312. Having received the 4*l.* 10*s.*, what did he say when you returned it?—He took it back.

24,313. When have you seen Shepherd again?—The last time?

24,314. Yes?—It might be a month. I do not know that I have seen him since that.

24,315. Did you know the men were asking for more?—Yes.

24,316. You did?—Yes.

24,317. You knew that the railway people were asking for more?—Yes.

24,318. Now, I ask you on that morning did not you say to Shepherd that you would not vote for 4*l.* 10*s.*, but that you wanted more?—No.

24,319. Nothing of the sort?—Never a word.

24,320. You know they were asking for more, and you know they were refused. Had that any influence on you on that morning when you returned the 4*l.* 10*s.*, that you knew you would get no more?—Not the least.

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24,321. Were you amongst those who expected to receive another 30*s.*?—I think I was.

24,322. Your name was down with the rest?—Yes, I think it was.

24,323. By your own consent?—Yes.

24,324. Did you write it yourself?—I really cannot say whether I did or not.

24,325. Did you get the railway clerk to write it?—I could not say; I believe the clerk wrote it himself.

24,326. Then I may take it if you had got the 6*l.* or 6*l.* 10*s.* you would have voted?—I do not think I should then.

24,327. That was only a day or two before the polling?—Yes, only a day or so before the polling.

24,328. You are not certain whether you would?—No, I think I should have done the same as I did, return the money again.

24,329. Why? Because you thought it was not right to receive it?—I thought so.

24,330. You thought it was not right?

24,331. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was not the question asked you. You were asked whether you returned it because you thought it was not right?—That is the reason I did return it.

24,332. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know the "Warwick Arms"?—The "Warwick Arms"? Yes.

24,333. Had you been there that morning?—No.

24,334. The morning you returned the money?—No.

24,335. Were you there the evening before?—No.

24,336. What time of the morning did you return the money?—I should think this was about 10 o'clock.

24,337. Had not you been at the "Warwick Arms" a little before?—No.

24,338. Who keeps the "Warwick Arms"?—I really do not know who it is, not the name. It is a house I seldom go into.

24,339. Then am I to take it that it was because you considered it was doing wrong you returned the money, to enable yourself to vote freely?—If I chose to do so.

24,340. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You got something from the Gower party, did you not, Barham?—No.

24,341. Nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

24,342. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you were here before, you know, you were asked whether you had been canvassed upon the other side?—I believe I was asked that question.

24,343. And you said you were not canvassed?—I said I was not. I think I said so.

24,344. You did?—I know I did, but my meaning was, neither by Mr. Monson nor by Mr. Gower. I did not know at the time exactly what the question meant.

24,345. That was the way in which you fenced with the question?—Well, I did not know but what you meant Mr. Gower or Mr. Monson.

24,346, Oh yes you did?—No, I did not.

24,347. What could you have thought it meant. After you had been asked about one party, you were asked whether you had been canvassed by the other side?—I believe I said "No."

24,348. Yes, you did say so.—I did.

24,349. But you had actually allowed your name to be put down on a list of men who voted for Monson?—I did, but I said so without a thought. I have thought of it since.

24,350. Don't let it be understood that you have volunteered to correct that mistake; because you were sent for and you would have allowed that mistake to remain. I have a note here to ask you the question, and I was looking at the short-hand writer's notes to see whether I did not ask the question, because I knew as a fact that you had received the 4*l.* 10*s.*, and that you had returned it. I do not recollect whether I put that question to you?—No, if you had I should have answered it. If you had asked me the question I should have told you at once.

24,351. But when you were asked the question as to whether you were canvassed on the other side you ought to have told us?—I was not canvassed by more than Shepherd, but I quite forgot it at the time.

24,352. You have honestly confessed that you fenced with the question; because when you were asked whether you were canvassed on the other side, you ought to have said "Yes; and by Shepherd;" and you ought to have told us that you had promised Shepherd you would vote for Monson, and received the 4*l.* 10*s.* from Shepherd. If that is not canvassing, I do not know what is?—That is plain enough, but I misunderstood the question.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have had the trouble of being brought here again, you know; you may thank yourself for it.

24,353. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote in 1863?—No.

24,354. This was your first election?—Yes.

24,355. Let me ask you the general question. Is there anything else that you know of in reference to the election of 1865 which you ought to inform the Commissioners of?—Nothing at all.

24,356. Now I ask you a very wide question to enable you to answer without any fencing?—Nothing at all, sir.

The witness withdrew.

W. Bilcliffe.

William Bilcliffe sworn and examined.

24,357. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A sawyer.

24,358. What do you pay for your house?—5*s.* a week.

24,359. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

24,360. Was that your first election?—Yes.

24,361. Have you been examined before?—No.

24,362. Is there another William Bilcliffe?—No, sir, George Bilcliffe.

24,363. You received 5*l.*, did not you, for giving your vote for Mr. Monson?—I did not receive 5*l.* in the whole, at once, but I received it weekly. I received two 15*s.* when I was put on the work, and the remainder after the poll.

24,364. I believe you were paid that money by Jordan, were not you?—I believe it came from Jordan. Jordan set me on as working, but Mr. Vigar, a neighbour of mine, received the money.

24,365. He received the money to pay you and White?—Yes.

24,366. In the first instance, when was it promised you by Jordan? Can you tell me how long before the election?—Three weeks I was working on behalf of Mr. Monson; 30*s.* a week.

24,367. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 30*s.* a week, or 15*s.*?—30*s.* We received only half each week, and the remainder after the polling.

24,368. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The remainder of the 5*l.* was made up on the night of the polling day?—Yes.

24,369. Have you ever voted before?—No.

The witness withdrew.

A. White.

Arraham White sworn and examined.

24,370. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A whitesmith.

24,371. What rent do you pay for your house?—6*s.* a week.

24,372. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson, at the last election.

24,373. You had arranged with Mr. Jordan to do so?—Yes.

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A. White.

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24,374. What time before the election?—Three weeks before the election.

24,375. Did he speak to you first?—No, I cannot say he did.

24,376. Who brought you to Jordan?—Vigar. He was a shopmate.

24,377. He told you what you were to have, 5*l.*, for voting for Mr. Monson?—Yes, I was to receive two 15*s.*, and 3*l.* 10*s.*, on the night of the polling.

24,378. I take it that was for voting. I do not want to trouble you with unnecessary questions. That was it?—Yes.

24,379. That is the honest way to say it.

24,380. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that your first election?—Yes.

24,381. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you voted at any of the municipal elections?—No.

The witness withdrew.

G. Buck.

George Buck sworn and examined.

24,382. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

24,383. What rent do you pay for your house? What is it worth?—I pay about 12*l.*

24,384. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

24,385. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

24,386. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How came you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Because I thought he was an upright and honest man.

24,387. That was the only reason?—Yes.

24,388. What were you paid for it?—Well, I went to Mr. Nichols' for a job. I was short of work rather at the time, and he sent me out.

24,389. What job did you get?—Canvassing, carrying circulars, one thing and another; going about to see if I could get any votes in.

24,390. How long before the election did Mr. Nichols give you the circulars to carry?—I was on about the first of anybody; I had six weeks of it.

24,391. Did they begin sending the circulars six weeks before the election?—Yes, they began with me almost the first.

24,392. Did they send many?—A great many, I believe. I went to Mr. Hart to get the names of voters, and he asked me how far I could go to take my turns, and I went round Earlswood and Meadvale and Woodhatch.

24,393. You went round there as a canvasser?—Yes, I do not think I missed about one or two days in all the time; one day or night or so in all the time.

24,394. Did you succeed in getting many voters to promise?—Well, they got promising, but I had got no money to sport to draw them on.

24,395. Did you feel that if you had got your pocket full of money it would have been useful in your canvass?—I thought it seemed successful.

24,396. What, to those who had money?—Yes.

24,397. Will you be good enough to explain more particularly what you mean by that?—Well, they asked me what I meant to give.

24,398. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did they all ask you?—A great many; I do not say all.

24,399. Most of them?—Yes, most of them, I think.

24,400. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you asked for money more in one district than in another?—No.

24,401. It was the same pretty generally over the borough?—Yes.

24,402. I suppose you canvassed mostly those of your own class of life?—No, I do not mean by canvassing that I brought them to the poll.

24,403. No, I do not mean that; I mean, you asked them to vote?—I asked them.

24,404. You asked mostly those of your own class of life?—I asked them just as they came, where I see them on the register.

24,405. Did you go to a gentleman's front door and send in your card?—No, I had got no card of my own. I went to Mr. Nichols every Saturday night for my money.

24,406. What did you get every Saturday night?—1*l.* a week.

24,407. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That continued for about six weeks?—Yes, that was about it. I received 7*l.* 10*s.* for the whole.

24,408. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid you that?—Mr. Nichols. I believe Mr. Corderoy paid me 1*l.* when Mr. Nichols was not within.

24,409. Where did Mr. Corderoy pay you at?—At Mr. Nichols. I believe he got it off him that night.

24,410. Do you mean to say you were engaged every day?—Nearly every day the whole of the time.

24,411. The whole six weeks?—The whole six weeks I went out, and I do not think there were but one or two days that I was not out all day.

24,412. If you were so active, did not they tell you you might make some sort of promise to them?—No.

24,413. You got no authority to make a promise?—Not at all.

24,414. That was not treating you fairly, because the others had the best chance?—Most all of them asked me what I were going to stand; whether I could give them a drop of beer. I had no money to give them for beer. I said, "You can make up your "mind to vote for which you like; I have got no "authority to give you anything at all."

24,415. And you found you could get no promises without money?—Unless I had got something to draw them on.

24,416. Did you get a single promise?—No more than if I could give them a trifle perhaps they might.

24,417. So far as you asked for votes did you always get the answer, "I will vote for you if you will pay "me"?—Not all.

24,418. Did you ever get one single vote promised you without offering payment?—No, not one. They said they had not made up their minds, and they should not say how they would vote till near the polling day.

24,419. Did you report to Mr. Nichols or to anybody else the result of your canvass?—Yes, that is what I told them every Saturday night. I said, "I "have not got one that I can bring in."

24,420. They still paid you the 1*l.* a week?—Yes.

24,421. That was paying you for nothing?—I worked all the time.

24,422. But you did not do anything?—If a horse won't eat I can't make him.

24,423. That is quite true. And you had not the power of persuasion with these men?—No; I told Mr. Nichols so every time I went to him.

24,424. You told him that they all wanted to be paid?—I said they would have to be paid if I was to get them.

24,425. If you could pay you thought you could succeed?—I thought I might have done better. You see they are all for money at such times.

24,426. I am very much obliged to you for your evidence, for you have given me your evidence very fairly and properly?—You see at election times they are all looking out for No. 1.

24,427. That you found was the general feeling?—That was the general rule all through the place wherever I went, and I searched them to try it.

24,428. You were out six weeks canvassing every day, and had a good opportunity of knowing?—I had.

24,429. Were you canvassed at all by the Gower party?—No one at all. Mr. Gower came to me at the first onset, down to my shop. He was opposite to my shop talking to Mr. Penfold, the same man I work for now, and he was mentioning names. I saw Mr. Penfold point down to my shop, and then Mr. Gower came down to my door where I was standing;

"Well," he says, "Mr. Buck, have you made up your "mind who you will vote for at this election?" "No," I says, "I haven't, sir." "Let me see" says he "did you vote for me last time." "No," I said, "sir, I don't think I did; I voted for Mr. Wil- "kinson." "Oh, very well," he says, "you had "better make up your mind to vote for me." Just them words. I says, "Well, I shan't as yet, for I have not "made up my mind at all. I have not thought any- "thing about voting yet, the election being so far "forward." "Well," he says, "I hope you will next "time I come round. I hope you will make up your "mind to vote for me." I said perhaps I might. He walked away and had no more to say. Then a few days after that I had orders to go to Mr. Jem Nichols.

24,430. You had orders to go there from whom?—I asked some of the parties at the same time, and they said, "He'll give you a job directly." So I went there. "Oh," he says at once, "you can go on now, "if you like."

24,431. Just tell me who sent you to Nichols?—I I think the man's name was Cook. He was at work for him at the time. He says, "You can get a job "there if you like to go, I know." So I went there, and Mr. Nichols said I could go on.

24,432. What Cook was that? — John Cook, a carpenter.

24,433. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told Nichols what Cook had said?—I believe I did.

24,434. (*Mr. Commisioner Smith.*) Did Cook tell you he was working under Nichols?—He was working under Nichols at the same time. It was only above a day or two before the first advances.

24,435. Now is that all you know about it?—That is all I know about it.

24,436. Were you much with Nichols?—Well, I went down every Saturday night.

24,437. Only on Saturday nights?—Well, I did attend a meeting now and then, not many.

24,438. Did you attend the beer meetings, where there was refreshment?—There was always beer to be had. I do not know what you call "beer meetings;" but wherever you see a public house in elections there is always beer going forward. I went in and had a glass or two.

24,439. Only a glass or two?—Oh, several.

24,440. That is, whenever you were on your rounds you went into houses that you knew to be for Monson, and got refreshment and did not pay for it?—Yes.

24,441. And was that the same at the meetings?—That was just the same in the evening. I went to several meetings where Mr. Monson and Mr. Nichols where, and there was always something to drink.

24,442. And any singing?—I never heard any singing. I went away before the singing was over, for I never stopped at all.

24,443. Before it began?—Before it begun.

24,444. In your canvassing round about and moving round the town did you see what was going on amongst the Gower party?—I never tried nowhere in the town.

24,445. Round about the borough did you see what was going on amongst the Gower side?—I do not believe I did.

24,446. Did you ever go into their houses?—No, not at all.

24,447. You kept to your own side?—Yes, and I don't believe there was one on their side that asked me to turn over to them at all.

24,448. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You voted for Wilkinson in 1863, were you at work for him at that time in the borough?—No, I was not at work at all for him. He came and asked me, and I promised him.

24,449. You were not at work at all?—And never had a copper.

24,450. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you do any of your own work at the time you were canvassing?—Of course I did. I could not live without.

24,451. Did you pursue your ordinary work as a bricklayer?—Yes, but very slack indeed. Now and then a day I was out, you know.

24,452. Now and then a day out at work as bricklayer?—Yes, and then at night I used to go along with the other party and see if I could pick up one.

24,453. I am afraid we misunderstand each other. What did you do most of, your own work at bricklaying or canvassing?—Oh, canvassing, because I was very short of employment at the time.

24,454. How many days did you work at bricklaying?—How many days a week?

24,455. Yes?—A day and a half some weeks; sometimes two days; some weeks ne'er a day at all.

24,456. Your work was very short at bricklaying?—Very short.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE COMBER sworn and examined.

G. Comber.

24,457. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

24,458. And what rent do you pay for your house?—25*l.* a year.

24,459. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

24,460. Another brother of yours, I believe, voted for Mr. Monson also; what was his name?—William.

24,461. And two other brothers, I believe, voted for Gower?—I believe so.

24,462. Well, we may take it so?—Yes. I ain't in the house now; I have just come out of it. I came out of it a fortnight ago.

24,463. I mean that is the rent you paid at the time of the election?—Yes.

24,464. That is what we are inquiring for. Had you been canvassed for Mr. Gower before you promised Mr. Monson?—No; Mr. Gower never come nigh me.

24,465. Did any one on his behalf; just recollect?—No, they did not come near me, not to ask for my vote.

24,466. They sent to your brother, to ask, did they not?—Not that I know of.

24,467. Did not your brothers ask you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Not that I know of.

24,468. Who asked you to vote for Monson?—Mr Monson came and asked me himself, when I was at home.

24,469. At that time you had not made up your mind?—I did not satisfy him exactly. I said, "I "dare say you will find me there at the polling day." Those were the words I used to him.

24,470. You had not made up your mind at the time?—No, I said, "You will find me, I dare say."

24,471. What I want to know is, had you made up your mind at that time for whom you would vote?—I had not made up my mind.

24,472. Who came to you afterwards on behalf of Mr. Monson?—No one.

24,473. Did you see nobody from that time?—No; only Mr. Monson called upon me once or twice; and I see Mr. Jordan, he called upon me.

24,474. That is the man I mean; Mr. Thomas Jordan?—Thomas Jordan? No. Oh yes, yes.

24,475. And I suppose he put you on Mr. Monson's committee?—No, he did not put me on no committee. I was not on no committee. My name was not seen there, I know.

24,476. You were working for Monson?—No, I never worked at all.

24,477. Did not Thomas Jordan tell you you would be paid?—I was paid for what I drawed in the house. I was keeping a beer shop at the time. I never went out of the door. I was on no committee, nor nothing of the sort.

24,478. You put me out, because you said you were a bricklayer. You also keep a beer shop?—I did.

FIFTEENTH DAY.

G. Comber.

7 Sept. 1866.

24,479. What was it?—The "White Horse." Mr. Monson gave me one meeting, that was all, and I got paid for my liquor.

24,480. How much did you get paid for your liquor?—2*l.* or 3*l.*, I don't know what it was exactly.

24,481. You were paid more than that for your liquor and one meeting. Don't tell me that?—That is all I received; and likewise I was paid 5*l.* for my room.

24,482. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said Mr. Monson gave you a meeting at your house. Did you ask him for it?—No.

24,483. Why did he give it?—I don't know, I'm sure.

24,484. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were 2*l.* or 3*l.* for beer; only one night's drinking?—That is all.

24,485. More than that, was it not?—What?

24,486. More than 3*l.*?—Not to the best of my knowledge. I have not got it in my head exactly. That is within it, to a few shillings.

24,487. Who kept the account of it?—My wife.

24,488. Who paid you?—Jordan.

24,489. When did he pay you, the night after or the day after?—The day after.

24,490. You made out a bill, did not you?—Yes, I believe so.

24,491. Did you give Jordan a bill?—No. I don't know that I made a list even.

24,492. How could a man draw beer and charge for it if he did not know how much had been drunk?—I knew what I had on the engine.

24,493. You exhausted it?—No; I could tell by gauging the barrel what I had drawed.

24,494. That is how you did tell?—That is all.

24,495. They were not particular as to the measurement of a quart or a pint?—No.

24,496. Besides 2*l.* or 3*l.* for the beer you got 5*l.* for the room that night, I suppose?—Yes.

24,497. Who paid you?—Mr. Jordan.

24,498. Did Mr. Monson agree with you himself to pay you 5*l.* for the use of the house?—No, he never agreed with me at all.

24,499. Who did?—Mr. Jordan.

24,500. He said you would have 5*l.*?—He came round and paid me that. I did not ask him. He did not make no agreement with me.

24,501. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You made no charge?—No; he came round and gave me that.

24,502. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not expect to be paid 5*l.*?—I took what he chucked me down.

24,503. How long before the polling day was that?—I think it was about three weeks.

24,504. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you voted before?—No, it was the first vote as ever I give, and it will be the last I hope.

24,505. What I want to know is this, were you asked to vote for Mr. Gower?—No, I was never asked the question to vote for Mr. Gower.

24,506. Did not anybody come to you?—There was a few come one evening, and they asked me whether I had made up my mind, and I said yes, I had made up my mind to vote for Monson. That was all.

24,507. Did they ask you to go on Mr. Gower's committee?—No.

24,508. Nobody?—No.

24,509. Were not you told that if you went on the committee you would not lose anything by it?—No.

24,510. Nothing of the sort?—No.

24,511. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Why, your brother canvassed you for Mr. Gower, you know?—Not as I am aware of. He done it when I was asleep if he did. I ain't aware of it.

24,512. Are you on good terms with your brother?—Yes, I saw him the other day. He said nothing about it. I am on as good terms with him as other people; to pass the time of day. We never had no words, only we don't live handy, so we don't see each other a great deal.

24,513. Did not your brother ask you about the election, which way you were going?—No. I never saw him all the election.

24,514. Your brother Charles?—Charles?

24,515. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Which of your brothers voted for Monson?—William.

24,516. What is William?—A carrier.

24,517. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is 5*l.* a usual price for a room in your house for an evening?—I do not know, I am sure. I never asked for anything. They gave me that.

24,518. Supposing I wanted to hire your room for a night for a little meeting, would you charge me 5*l.*?—I should not charge you anything. I did not charge them anything. They gave me what they thought proper.

24,519. Was that paid before you voted?—Yes.

24,520. Did Green canvass you?—No, he never came nigh me, never spoke to me.

24,521. When Jordan paid you this 5*l.* as you say, he came in and chucked it down and you took it up, did not he speak to you about your vote for Monson?—Oh, yes. He says, "I can depend on you George." I said, "Yes, I shall be there on the polling day."

24,522. Was that before he chucked the 5*l.* down or after?—After.

24,523. And then he said, "I can trust you for "your vote"?—Yes.

24,524. Did not you believe the 5*l.* was given to you to secure your vote for Mr. Monson, and not for your room?—I do not know, I am sure.

24,525. You felt yourself a little bound in conscience to vote for Mr. Monson after receiving the 5*l.*—If he had not given me anything I should have voted for him.

24,526. Did not that fix you?—No, I was not drawed up for 5*l.*, not at all, not the least. That did not fix me.

24,527. But you told us that you had not spoken to anybody about your vote?—Only Mr. Monson. He was the gentleman that called upon me, and spoke to me, and asked me for my vote, and I said, "I dare "say I shall be there on the polling day, Mr. Monson."

24,528. How long before the polling day was it that Mr. Jordan gave you the 5*l.*?—The same morning as the polling day.

24,529. Then the meeting at your house was on the nomination day?—No, a fortnight or three weeks before that.

24,530. Then he came and gave you the money on the polling morning?—Yes.

24,531. Had you voted?—No, I had not voted.

24,532. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I understood you to say he paid you three weeks before?—That was for the beer.

24,533. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) As I understand, he paid for the beer the morning after the supply?—He did.

24,534. It was very strange that he did not pay for the room at the same time?—I never asked him for the money for the room.

24,535. You never thought of making a charge?—No.

24,536. You would not have made a charge?—No.

24,537. You would have considered yourself very well paid by the profit you had on the sale of the beer?—I was not paid any more for that than I ought to have had, I am sure, for the amount of beer that I drawed.

24,538. You had got 2*l.* or 3*l.*, which was a fair price for the beer you had drawn, and of course you got a profit out of it?—Me, sir? I don't know that I did.

24,539. I mean the trade profit. Would not you have thought that the trade profit on the sale of the beer would have satisfied you for the use of the room?—I never asked them for anything for the use of the room.

24,540. Then you were perfectly satisfied with the 2*l.* or 3*l.* for the sale of the beer?—I should have been satisfied. I should not have asked him or anybody else.

24,541. Then the 5*l.* given on the polling day was quite an afterthought altogether on the part of Jordan ?—I don't know anything about that.

24,542. He never said anything to you about the 5*l.* on the night of the meeting ?—No. I did not know whether I was going to have anything.

24,543. Did he tell you when to poll; to poll early ?—No, he never said a word about the poll.

24,544. How soon after you got the 5*l.* did you go to the poll ?

24,545. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He said, "Now, can I depend upon you" ?—No, he did not say that; he said, "You won't deceive me, George, "will you ?" That was the words, something like that. I said, "I shall go by-and-by."

24,546. Then he relied on your promise and left ?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

EDMUND DICKINSON sworn and examined.

E. Dickinson.

24,547. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A shoemaker.

24,548. What rent do you pay for your house ?—13*l.* a year.

24,549. How many elections have you voted at ?—Only this one, sir.

24,550. Who did you vote for this time ?—Mr. Monson.

24,551. To whom did you promise that you would vote for him ?—I promsed Mr. Monson.

24,552. Oh ! did you ? What, when he canvassed you ?—I promised Mr. Monson ; yes.

24,553. Did he send somebody else ? Did some of the agents come to you afterwards ?—Yes, Mr. Read called upon me.

24,554. What did he say to you ? What did he come about ?—Well, he asked me if I was going to vote for Mr. Monson, and I told him "Yes."

24,555. Did he ask you to be on the committee, or something of that sort ?—No, he never asked me to be on the committee.

24,556. What was it he said to you ? He made some arrangement ?—He asked me if I would like to be employed like the rest.

24,557. Yes, go on ?—He was often at my house, and I promised him that I would.

24,558. What did he say to you ? "If you come "you shall be paid for your services" ?—He told me I should be paid for my services, and I received 2*l.* before the election.

24,559. And one after ?—And one after.

24,560. What Read was that ?—The bootmaker, John Read.

24,561. Who paid you that ?—Mr. Read.

24,562. You gave a receipt for it, did not you ?—No, I did not give a receipt.

24,563. I think you did; was not there some paper, and did not you write it down ?—No, I never wrote nothing down.

24,564. Then I made a mistake; I thought you wrote down on a paper, "Received for services during "the election, 3*l.*" ?—I received 2*l.* before the election "and 1*l.* after.

24,565. Did not you afterwards sign a receipt for 3*l.* ?—No, I never signed any receipt.

24,566. Oh, very well, it is my mistake; I thought you had. Did you receive any cheque on the bank?—No.

24,567. How did he pay you, two sovereigns and one sovereign ?—He paid me in cash.

24,568. Tell me, about how long before the election was it that Mr. Read came to you ?—I believe it was three weeks; I do not know.

24,569. And how long after the election was it that he paid you the 1*l.* ?—I cannot say ; I know it was not long after ; what time it was I do not know.

24,570. He came three weeks before the election, and you at once agreed to go with him ?—I did the second time I saw him.

24,571. Oh, the first time he came and asked you you did not agree ?—He was frequently at my house ; I did not give him my word at the time.

24,572. Why did not you give your word ?—My mind was made up to vote for Mr. Monson all through.

24,573. But you won't mind telling me why you did not tell Read so ?—I did not tell him because I thought there was plenty of time, because it was three weeks before the election.

24,574. To be sure ; I quite understand.

24,575. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not know what offers might turn up ?—I was not offered anything at the time.

24,576. You were waiting for it ?—No, I was not.

24,577. Or else you would have told Read at first, if you had made up your mind to vote for Monson ?—He did not ask that at first; when he asked me who I was going to vote for I told him I was going to vote for Monson.

24,578. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) After Read's first visit were you applied to by Gower's party ?—After Read's first visit ?

24,579. At the first visit of Read you know you did not pledge your word, but you waited a bit ?—No, I did not pledge my word.

24,580. Now, after that first visit did you get some application made to you by one of Gower's people ?—No.

24,581. Did not you ?—Not an agent of Mr. Gower's never canvassed me; Mr. Gower did himself.

24,582. Was that before Read had come ?—Yes, before I knew that Read was for Monson.

24,583. Did Mr. Gower get you to promise your vote ?—No.

24,584. You refused him at first ?—I refused him.

24,585. Were not you asked by somebody else ?—No, not of Gower's party.

24,586. I do not mean that you promised ; only that you were asked for it ?—No.

24,587. Were not you ?—No.

24,588. Don't you recollect being asked for it by somebody for Mr. Gower after you had told Read you would go with him ?—No.

24,589. You were canvassed by Gower's party, I think ?—I was canvassed by Mr. Gower; not by his agents.

24,590. Throw that over; never mind that. I thought you were canvassed by somebody else ?—I was not.

24,591. I mean by "canvassed" asked for your vote ?—I know what you mean; I was not.

24,592. And did not you go on further than that, and make some arrangement with somebody that offered you on behalf of Mr. Gower.?—No.

24,593. Was not there some arrangement ?—No arrangement whatever.

24,594. That is very odd. Then do you mean to say that you saw nothing whatever of the Gower party except Mr. Gower himself ?—No, I knew nothing about them ; I never was asked from the party.

24,595. You were not ?—No.

24,596. Did any money pass through your hands for anybody else ?—No.

24,597. None at all ?—None at all.

24,598. What made you hesitate, then, when Read asked you the first time ?—Well, he did not ask me to promise him then ; he was only merely talking it over, and when he came again I promised him.

24,599. How long was that after ?—About a week, sir ; just a week ; eight days ; it was on the Monday.

24,600. In that interval had you made up your mind, then ?—I had made it up when he spoke to me the first time ; my mind was settled in voting for Mr. Monson at the first onset. He merely asked me in the first conversation he had with me, which way I was going ; he did not tell me he was going to be employed, or anything of the kind.

FIFTEENTH DAY.

T. Burrell.

7 Sept. 1866.

THOMAS BURRELL sworn and examined.

24,601. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A publican.

24,602. What rent do you pay?—45*l.* a year

24,603. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

24,604. Was your house one of Mr. Monson's houses?—No, it was not engaged at all.

24,605. Were no meetings held there?—One meeting.

24,606. Where there were refreshments?—Yes.

24,607. How long before the election was it that meeting was held?—I really cannot tell you; it might be 10 days or a fortnight, but I did not take any notice of it.

24,608. I suppose that was a large crowded meeting?—Not very large; there might be between 30 and 40.

24,609. Who ordered that meeting to be held there?—I cannot say.

24,610. Who told you it would be held there?—I cannot say; I saw three or four who told me a meeting would be held there.

24,611. How much beer was drank?—I cannot tell.

24,612. How much were you paid for?—I do not know, for I did not make any bill; I had the money when it was brought, except some few who paid me when they came out.

24,613. How much did you receive that evening?—I cannot tell.

24,614. Was it 5*l.*?—No, I am certain not that.

24,615. 4*l.*?—No.

22,616. 3*l.*?—I might in the day.

24,617. In the evening might it be 3*l.*?—No, I think not.

24,618. What were you paid for the room?—I was not paid anything at all for the room, but only for the liquors.

24,619. You heard the last witness say he was paid 5*l.* for his room?—Yes, but that did not fall to my bid.

21,620. What did you receive from the Monson party about the election?—All the money I received was one sovereign from Mr. Nichols.

24,621. When did you receive that?—The first time he came to see me; I cannot tell what time it was, but it was some time after the election.

21,622. It was a singular thing that Mr. Nichols should hand a man like you a sovereign?—He came and inquired which way the men were going, and so on.

21,623. "How much do you think so and so"?—No; "Which way do you think they are going"? I said, "I do not know." He said, "Well, you see "about them, and see what you can do." I said, "What is the use; if I call on them they will want "something to drink, and I will have no score." I cannot tell you every word, but the meaning of it I can.

(*The Chief Commssioner.*) That is enough.

(*The Witness.*) When he went away he put a sovereign down and asked me to do what I could. First he asked me for my vote, and I said, "I do not think I shall vote at all." He said, "You will not vote against us, if not for "us." I said, "If I do not vote for you I will "not vote at all."

21,624. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He asked what you thought of them, the voters?—Yes.

24,625. And what did you tell him; was it to know what their figure was; how much they would require?—No, not a word about that.

24,626. Did you inquire at all what they would want?—No, I did not inquire what they would want.

24,627. What did you inquire?—Which way they were going.

24,628. That would be of very little consequence, unless you could say something else to them?—Certainly.

24,629. You knew some money was going?—It did not come to me.

24,630. I am not saying anything about you; you knew money was going?—I heard so.

24,631. Mr. Nichols gave you to understand money was going?—He did not give me to understand any such thing.

24,632. Not by his manner?—No, we had very few words.

24,633. When did you vote?—Near 4 o'clock.

24,634. You had not made up your mind?—I did not intend voting at all, but I came down the town polling day.

24,635. Had you been canvassed on the part of Mr. Richardson?—No.

24,636. Were you canvassed on behalf of Mr. Gower?—Canvassed?

24,637. Yes?—I was spoken to several times, but they did not at all expect I should vote for Mr. Gower.

23,638. Who spoke to you about it?—Rose spoke to me several times in a joking way, in a bit of chaff, about it.

24,639. He spoke to you about voting?—No.

24,640. Not in a joking way?—No, he said, "You "will find our side quite as good as the other for "which you are going to give a vote."

24,641. You knew what that meant in election language?—I am quite a young beginner in election matters; I do not know much about it.

24,642. That is very easily translated, "Our side "is as good as another"?—Perhaps so.

24,643. Am I to understand that sovereign was the only money you received?—That was all the money I received, besides any of the liquors I supplied.

24,644. Either before or after the election?—That is right.

24,645. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you for what was ordered?—There were a good many in the room.

24,646. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They did not all pay?—No, perhaps some paid for some part, and another for another; one party might have treated a dozen for what I knew.

24,647. Who paid the biggest score that night?—I really do not know; I did not care but very little about the election, and I took little notice of it.

24,648. But you cared about your beer?—Yes.

24,649. And as you cared about that it is the reason why I ask you?—I cannot tell.

24,650. Did you send in any account for the beer that was not paid for?—It was all paid for, because what was not settled for in the room was paid for when they came out, then and there.

24,651. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You mean the different people in the room paid separately?—Yes.

24,652. Nobody gave you a sort of *carte blanche*?—There was not much beer drank; there was a drop of brandy and water.

24,653. Did anybody come to you and say, "Bur-"rell, you supply the brandy and water and I will "pay for it"?—No, there was no such order as that given.

24,654. As far as you knew did the people who had the brandy and water pay for it out of their own pockets?—I cannot say that, for there was a kind of a gathering.

24,655. Who took the money?—I did the most part, for that evening.

24,656. Who was in the chair?—Mr. Henry Francis some time.

24,657. Did he pay for the greater lot?—No, he was gone early that evening.

24,658. Whoever was in the chair did they pay a lump sum?—I do not know what Francis did, whether he left any money towards paying for it when he went away, but I noticed they got the money some times two or three from different ones.

24,659. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You saw they

referred to one or two particular persons, and then they put down the money you demanded. ?—Yes.

24,660. Then there were some in the room that did not pay at all?—Yes, and some were in the room that sat and drank on their own account.

24,661. When Mr. Nichols gave you the one *l.* did he say that was to give a sort of free treat?—No, I was to do as well as I could for him.

24,662. To lay it out in beer?—No, I was to do the best I could for it.

24,663. After you got the 1*l.* did you give any one a glass of brandy and water?—If I did they did not know how it came; sometimes I told them that the brewer had made them a present of a glass, and sometimes that it was the spirit merchant.

24,664. Was Mr. Nichols a spirit merchant?—No.

24,665. Did you supply to the voters more than the pound's worth?—I gave them that as near as I could.

24,666. In fact Mr. Nichols gave you the 1*l.* to treat the voters?—I was to do as well as I could for them.

24,667. And you did treat some few of them to brandy and water?—I did not treat them exactly; perhaps if you came in and asked for a glass of brandy and water, and I thought you were going to vote for Mr. Monson, I would sit down and have a wet with you and fill your glass again.

24,668. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I ask you who paid for most of the beer; you said it was paid for by different people?—Yes, but it was not many who took beer, but brandy and water.

24669. You do not mean that was paid for differently?—No.

24,670. Do you recollect whether James Apted was there that night?—I do not know whether he was there or not.

24,671. Do you remember his coming there after the meeting?—Afterwards he often came.

24,672. Did not James Apted pay for a good part of what was drank?—No.

24,673. Are you sure?—He did not pass the money to me; he might have paid the money back, but not through this hand; I would not say he did not, for he might have done.

24,674. Do you not remember his coming there at all?—I do not remember seeing him there at all.

24,675. Are you a married man?—Yes.

24,676. Would your wife receive money?—Yes.

24,677. Perhaps he went and paid afterwards for what was not paid that night?—It was all paid for that night.

The witness then withdrew.

GEORGE GRUTCHFIELD sworn and examined. *G. Grutchfield.*

24,678. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

24,679. What rented house?—I paid 13*l.* a year, and rates and taxes.

24,680. At the time of the election?—Yes.

24,681. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

24,682. Were you engaged on the part of Mr. Monson to work?—I set myself to work in the first place; in fact I was rather anxious for Mr. Monson.

24,683. You say you set yourself to work in the first place, and did anybody set you to work afterwards?—I told Mr. Nichols I would do what I could.

24,684. Did he encourage you to go any further?—I said previously I would vote for Mr. Monson.

24,685. In what way did Mr. Nichols encourage you to press your endeavours?—He gave me some money when I wanted it.

24,686. Did Mr. Nichols give you money when you saw him the first time?—No.

24,687. When did Mr. Nichols first give you money?—One night I asked him if he could give me some money to go on with.

24,688. How much did he give you?—A sovereign.

24,689. From time to time did he supply you with money?—Yes, a pound or two at a time; I think all the time before the election I took 8*l.* or 10*l.*; I only took it in small sums.

24,690. In canvassing did you confine yourself to any particular district?—I did not come beyond the South park, that is what they call the Holmesdale freehold.

24,691. Among whom did you canvass, was it your own fellow workmen?—Yes, I think I asked most of them in the freehold that I knew to be voters.

24,692. Had you been asked by any of your own fellow workmen to vote for Mr. Monson?—Not that I recollect.

24,693. They might have spoken to you by accident?—Yes.

24,694. Saying, "Will you vote for Mr. Monson," not knowing you were acting for Mr. Monson?—Yes, they might have done that.

24,695. How much in all did you receive before the election?—About 8*l.* or 10*l.* as near as I can recollect.

24,696. In what way did you expend the 8*l.* or 10*l.*?—I paid some of it away, and some I spent in public houses.

24,697. First of all, what did you pay away quite independently of public houses?—There were three men I gave something to.

24,698. Will you give us their names?—Henry Mitchell.

24,699. How much did you give Henry Mitchell?—2*l.*

24,700. Another?—Richard Ashdown.

24,701. What did he have?—The same, 2*l.*

24,702. Another?—Alfred Belcher, the same, 2*l.*

24,703. Was that all that you paid?—I paid 1*l.* to a man named Tullett; I believe that is all the money I paid away.

24,704. You have given these answers very properly, and I have no doubt will answer my next question equally well. What were these monies paid for?—It was for their votes.

24,705. What was Tullett's Christian name?—James.

24,706. That very nearly gets rid of the money you got from Nichols, 8*l.* or 10*l.*; are you certain of the amount you got?—No.

24,707. Did you give receipts for the money?—No, not for that.

24,708. Did you take receipts from Mitchell, Ashdown, and Belcher?—No.

24,709. Did they each of them vote for Monson?—No, Belcher laughed at me afterwards, and said he was going to vote for Mr. Gower.

24,710. Did he tell you he got more money from Mr. Gower?—No.

24,711. Or that he would get anything?—No; in the first place he told me he had not promised his vote; he asked me if I could do anything to make him turn our way, and I said, "I dare say I could;" he said his wife was very bad and a little bit would help him.

24,712. Did the others vote for Monson?—I believe Ashdown did.

24,713. And Mitchell, did he keep to his faith?—He voted for Mr. Gower; I saw him in the morning when he asked me if there would be any more; I said it would be of no use for Mr. Monson, I knew he had lost the day; and he said he would go and see whether he could get anything from the Gower party.

24,714. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who said that?—Mitchell.

24,715. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you learn from Mitchell what he received from the Gower side?—No.

24,716. As for Belcher he only told you he would go and see what he could get?—He would have voted for Mr. Monson I dare say but I told him we had lost the day, it was of no use.

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24,717. Now Ashdown, did he vote for Gower?—No, I believe he voted for Monson.

24,718. He got 2*l.* from you, and he told us yesterday or the day before he got 5*l.* from Holdsworth for Mr. Monson?—I was not aware of that.

The Chief Commissioner stated that what Ashdown had said was he voted for Mr. Monson, Holdsworth asked him to his house five or six weeks before the election, and the week after the election he had 5*l.* from Holdsworth; Ashdown also said he got 2*l.* in '63 from Joyes.

24,719. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You laid out the other money in beer and refreshments, you said? Yes; within a few shillings.

24,720. Was this in the ordinary business of canvassing?—I hardly know where to draw the line between what was legal or what was not.

24,721. Was it in this way, that when you met with a voter and thought you could get on better with him with a glass of brandy and water, you did it?—Certainly; they would not listen to me without something to drink.

24,722. Was it in this way directly you asked a man for his vote, "What are you going to stand?"—No; the greater part said the Gower party had been beforehand and made it all right, and when they said they had given a promise to Mr. Gower I did not proceed.

24,723. And when you found they had not given a promise to Mr. Gower?—Then I tried what I could do.

24,724. How was it you tried to work on their good feelings?—I asked if they wanted anything, and so on.

24,725. You did not talk to them about their political principles?—No; some one said they thought Gower was the best man, and I said I considered Monson was the best.

24,726. Nothing further than that?—No,

24,727. And then came brandy and water?—I tried them very fair.

24,728. Was it only when it was just at the house, and in your way?—No; not particularly.

24,729. Did you pay any more than those four men you have mentioned?—No; those are the only men I paid.

24,730. Did Tullett vote?—He voted for Gower; I saw him the morning of the election, and I saw some of Mr. Gower's people talking to him. I was in the "White Hart" looking through the window, and I saw one or two of Mr. Gower's supporters talking to him, and one or two in the place said, "They are "taking our man away."

24,731. Did you go out of the room?—I walked till I came to the town hall, and met him as if by accident He told me he wished to speak to me, I asked him what it was about, he said he had altered his mind, that he had given me a promise but had altered his mind, and that he thought it quite right he should give me the money back again.

24,732. And he gave you the 1*l.*?—Yes; I asked him the reason, and he said, all his other mates were going for Mr. Gower, and he was afraid they would chaff him.

24,733. Did you know any of those people who were talking to Tullett in that suspicious way?—I saw Mr. Austin talking to him, I do not know whether it was suspicious.

24,734. The gentleman who was supposed to supply new hats for old ones?—I don't know.

24,735. I do not say he did, it was only supposed. Did Tullett say he had received any promise from the other side?—I asked him to give a reason, he said all his mates were going for Mr. Gower and he was afraid they would chaff him; I told him I did not consider that was a strong reason.

24,736. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And he gave you the 1*l.* back?—Yes.

24,737. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he say he had received anything from the other side?—No; he said he had not received anything.

24,738. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long before had you paid him the sovereign?—Two or three weeks.

24,739. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is Tullett a working man?—Yes, he is a gardener.

24,740. This was on the Wednesday?—No, it was on the Saturday before the polling.

24,741. Did you receive the 1*l.* from him?—Yes, sir.

24,742. What time in the day was it?—In the morning, somewhere about 12, I should think.

24,743. Was he a gardener working on job work, or a regular gardener?—A working gardener.

24,744. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tullett said it was 2*l.*?—He must have made a mistake if he said two.

24,745. He said, "It was the same 2*l.* I received, "and I wished to return it;" he said he did not like to tell his wife. How do you explain the difference between the one and two pounds?—I cannot explain that, I can tell positively I gave him 1*l.*, and received 1*l.* back.

24,746. Did you say you promised him another pound?—When I went canvassing he asked me what I could do for him, I said I dare say I could get him another 1*l.*; he said he understood the other side were promising 4*l.* or 5*l.*, and I told him he had better not take a promise; he said if I could give it him he would go with me, and I said if you come over in a day or two I will give you 1*l.*, and the other another time.

24,747. (*Mr Commissioner Smith.*) Did you receive anything after the election?—I did.

24,748. How much?—I told Mr. Nichols I had expended all my money and I had nothing for myself; he said I ought to have something for myself, as he knew I worked hard; he said I was to leave it to him; and I received 5*l.* a month or two afterwards, and gave him a stamped receipt for it.

24,749. And this is your receipt (*showing a paper writing to the witness*)?—Yes.

24,750. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that all you received for yourself?—I might have had a shilling or two.

24,751. I do not mean that?—Certainly that was all I received for myself.

24,752. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And that is all you expect?—Yes.

24,753. When you moved about in the election did you see what was going on with the Gower party?—I did not go much about there.

24,754. Did you see much difference so far as you could observe between the Gower and the Monson party as to treating?—Not a great deal.

24,755. Much about alike?—Yes.

24,756. Did you vote in 1863?—I did.

24,757. Who did you vote for in 1863?—I voted with Mr. Wilkinson.

24,758. Did you get anything in 1863?—Yes, I received a couple of pounds.

24,759. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) From whom? Mr. Frederick Joyes.

24,760. Did you take an active part then?—Rather, but not very; I felt rather interested, and promised Mr. Wilkinson when he first asked me.

24,761. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you voted before?—No, that was the first time I was entitled to vote.

24,762. Have you voted at the municipal elections?—Yes.

24,763. Have you ever received any money for those votes?—No.

24,764. Have you known of money being paid for votes at municipal elections?—No.

24,765. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson, when you got 2*l.*; perhaps you cannot remember whether you gave a receipt to Joyes for that 2*l.*?—I believe I did put it down on a piece of paper, but I am not sure.

24,766. Had you voted at an earlier election?—No.

24,767. That was your first election?—Yes.

24,768. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you think

there was as much treating in '63 as '65?—I did not see a great deal of treating in 1863, for I did not attend public houses much.

24,769. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you sat as a sub-chairman or something of that sort?—Yes.

24,770. Did you notice what went on amongst the Gower people as well as your own people?—No, I did not.

24,771. Were you at any of the Gower meetings?—I was for a few minutes, when Mr. Gower held a meeting at the freehold hall.

24,772. There was no great treating there?—Not just there, I saw a great many of them at the "Barley Mow."

24,773. Are you aware, and do not answer me hastily, are you aware of a single vote given at the last election by any person you canvassed or had anything to do with that was given quite honestly without any money or money's worth; can you tell me of any man who you think voted from his conscience?—Several told me they did.

24,774. I ask you as a man of experience?—I am afraid I cannot tell.

24,775. If anything of consequence depended upon it do you think you could put your hand on a single independent voter among the class of men you dealt with?—No, I should be afraid to say I could.

24,776. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You do not think you could mention a single independent man among the class we have been speaking of?—Not to be sure.

24,777. Do you yourself believe you could put your hand on any man that gave an independent vote at the last election among those persons whom you were daily with?—There are some I have no reason to think different.

24,778. You gave me an answer that you did not think you could, I do not wish to take that answer if you want to qualify it at all; it is the first time I have ventured the question, and I wish you to give me your true and candid answer?—There were one or two who told me they went on principle, and I have no reason to think otherwise.

24,779. Do you believe you could put your hand on one or two men who gave an independent vote?—I think it possible.

24,780. You quite understand me?—Yes.

24,781. I am going on with this the least little bit in the world more. Do you think there were more than one or two or three, as far as you can judge?—Not amongst those I had business with.

24,782. You worked in the Holmesdale district, and got a great deal of experience about the last election?—Yes.

24,783. There were a great many voters came under your notice?—A large part of the constituency.

24,784. Now I do not say a large proportion to the whole, but were not a great number of the constituents within your duty also?—Yes.

24,785. Taking it in that district, amongst the persons, the class of persons, you have mentioned, should you say there may be one, two, or three persons who have given an independent vote? Do you think you could fix on any one in the Holmesdale district? I mention no names, and every one therefore may believe himself to be the one, but in the Holmesdale district do you think you could put your hand on any man who has given an independent vote?—I should think it possible.

24,786. That is of the one, two, or three?—Yes.

24,787. You think one, two, or three may have given an independent vote within the Holmesdale district?—Yes.

24,788. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) About how many voters are there in the freehold of the class of voters you are speaking of, the working classes?—I really forget now, possibly 40 or 50, but I cannot speak from certainty.

24,789. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you get any promise for Mr. Monson and the voter voted for Mr. Monson without payment?—Yes.

24,790. Are those the two or three you spoke of?—I do not know.

The witness withdrew.

PETER WORNHAM sworn and examined.

24,791. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A fly driver.

24,792. Where do you carry on your business?—At Redhill.

24,793. What rent do you pay for your house?—6*s.* 6*d.* a week.

24,794. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

24,795. Who canvassed and spoke to you about the last election?—Mr. Gower spoke to me himself, and I did not promise him or anyone else.

24,796. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

24,797. Who spoke to you after?—Mr Green; I was out of employment at the time, and I had to carry out circulars.

24,798. It was upon Mr. Green's suggestion that you were engaged?—Yes, I carried out some circulars and he paid me 5*s.* to carry them out for a day.

24,799. 5*s.* a day?—I only worked one day for Mr. Gower.

24,800. How long before the election was that?—About a month, or five weeks perhaps.

24,801. Did you not promise any person at all that you would vote for Mr. Gower?—No, I never promised anyone; Mr. Gower came, but I never promised him.

24,802. Were you spoken to at all on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Yes.

24,803. Who spoke to you?—Mr. Shepherd.

28,804. Mr. Shepherd, the railway man?—Yes.

24,805. Do you know where he is now?—No.

24,806. I suppose he told you what they were doing at the railway?—He said that I could have 30*s.* a week if I liked to have my name put on the committee.

23,807. I suppose you agreed to that?—Yes.

24,808. And received the 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

24,809. Did he pay yourself every week?—Yes.

24,810. I suppose you used to ply about the railway, you used to drive amongst the railway people?—Yes.

24,811. Did you attend their meetings amongst themselves?—Never but once, and that was for a very short time.

24,812. Did you attend any of their meetings amongst themselves?—No, not amongst themselves.

24,813. You knew that they were expecting to get more from Mr. Shepherd?—I heard so.

24,814. Did you authorize your name to be put down amongst those who were applying for more?—Yes, I told Mr. Shepherd that he could put down my name on those terms.

24,815. You expected 30*s.* more?—I expected 30*s.* a week for the month, and there was something said about the polling and nomination days.

24,816. You could not get the balance?—I did not put any trust in the polling and nomination days. I wanted the 30*s.* up to the end of the month.

24,817. You thought it was of no use?—I saw that it was all up before that.

24,818. You mean after the polling day?—I did not care for the polling day. I wanted 30*s.* a week to the end of the month.

24,819. You intended to vote for Mr. Monson up to the polling day?—I did intend up to the polling day, when I saw Mr. Shepherd in the morning.

24,820–1. Not from the beginning of everything you did not?—Yes I did, if they had liked to come to the scratch according to their promise.

24,822. You saw Mr. Shepherd on the morning of the polling day and then you told him that you must

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have a little more money?—I told him that if he did not come up to the scratch my contract was broken.

24,823. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the scratch?—I was to have a month's pay.

24,824. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then you wanted 30*s.*, and you would put the polling day in for nothing?—I did not say anything about that.

24,825. You told Mr. Shepherd that you would throw that in?—I did.

24,826. I dare say he was vexed at it?—He made no answer.

24,827. And then you in a fit of anger voted for Mr. Gower?—I did.

24,828. Did you not see any of the Gower people in the meantime?—No, I voluntarily voted for Mr. Gower after that.

24,829. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had had 5*s.* from him?—Yes, I had.

24,830. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Never mind about the 5*s.*, you worked for that. I suppose you were angry with the Monson party for not keeping up to the agreement with you?—I was not very well pleased.

24,831. Then you voted the other way out of spite and anger?—Yes.

24,832. You did not get any money from the Gower party?—None at all, excepting the 5*s.* I had from Mr. Green.

24,833. You worked for that, you did not do anything for the 4*l.* 10*s.*?—No.

24,834. You are a man who are not a railway man, can you tell me any more, besides railway men, whom you knew who was in the Shepherd party; you knew David Boscawen?—Yes.

24,835. He was in the Shepherd party and bolted like yourself; do you know anybody else except the railway men?—I do not.

24,836. Did you take any of the Gower men to the poll in your fly?—No.

24,837. Had you not a fly that day, and did you not drive them to the poll?—Yes; I drove several people to the poll.

24,838. The Gower people?—The Gower people.

24,839. You were engaged all day in conveying the Gower people up to the poll?—Yes.

24,840. You drove for Mr. Laker, did you not?—I was out of employment, and I drove them; I was not a servant.

24,841. Were you a servant to Mr. Laker that day?—Yes.

24,842. You drove for Mr. Laker?—Yes.

24,843. You drove the Gowerites, did you not?—Yes.

24,844. You could not look a Monsonite in the face; what did you get for conveying all these Gowerites that day?—We worked hard from morning to night.

24,845. What were you paid?—7*s.* for polling day and 4*s.* for nomination day.

24,846. You were paid more than that?—That was all that I was paid.

29,847. One person we had here was to have had 1*l.*; you got more than 7*s.* for driving?—That is what we were paid, 7*s.* for polling day and 4*s.* for nomination day.

24,848. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not know what Mr. Laker arranged with the Gower party, you are only speaking for yourself?—That is all.

24,849. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When you voted did you drive yourself, or were you driven by somebody? Did you not have a coachman then?—Yes.

24,850. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What coachman were you driven by?—One of our men, of course.

24,851. You were a fare then?—He picked me up in the street and drove me about 20 yards.

24,852. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You would not walk the 20 yards?—No.

24,853. What day was it that you made up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower?—On the polling day.

24,854. Did you see Boscawen that morning?—No.

24,855. Had you any talk with him?—No.

24,856. Try and recollect?—I am certain of it, Boscawen is a man I scarcely ever spoke to; Boscawen never mentioned the election to me, nor did I.

24,857. When was it you first made up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower?—On the polling morning.

24,858. I want to know when you got up what were you, a Monsonite or a Gowerite, when you got out of bed?—Oh, a Monsonite.

24,859. Where did you breakfast?—I breakfasted at home.

24,860. We have got you now till after breakfast; when did you turn Gowerite?—After I had seen Mr. Shepherd as I was walking down the street.

24,861. You only threatened him and said, "If you "do not do better I shall consider the contract at an "end." I want to know when it was that you turned to Mr. Gower?—After I spoke to Mr. Shepherd.

24,862. How soon after?—Directly; I waited for an hour.

24,863. You saw Mr. Shepherd, and left him because he would not come up to the scratch; what time of the day was that?—About 9 o'clock.

24,864. About what o'clock do you suppose you decided for Mr. Gower?—About 11.

24,865. I wish you would candidly tell me what happened in those two hours?—I cannot recollect; I do not know that there was anything particular happened.

24,866. Did you see any of the Gower people between 9 o'clock and 11?—I do not recollect.

24,867. At that time were you engaged to drive for Mr. Laker?—I had been months before that.

24,868. For that day?—Yes, and months before that.

24,869. Were you in Mr. Laker's employ the day before?—Yes, and all last summer.

24,870. At the time of the polling day had you been in Mr. Laker's employ some little time?—Yes.

24,871. Had you been receiving wages day by day from Mr. Laker?—No, only what I got for driving gentlemen about the country; no wages at all.

24,872. When they wanted a driver they asked you to get on the box. Had you any engagement for the polling day?—Yes, I had an engagement to drive for Mr. Laker.

24,873. Had you that engagement before 9 o'clock?—No.

24,874. About what time in the day did you see Mr. Laker and were engaged by him to drive; was it about 10 o'clock?—Between 11 and 12 o'clock.

24,875. You had only made up your mind at 11 o'clock to go for Mr. Gower?—No, that was all.

24,876. Was it not that job which turned you?—No.

24,877. You had nothing to do that day till 11 o'clock, when you saw Mr. Laker and he told you to get up on the box, or something like that; Mr. Laker was a Gowerite and you drove for him the Gower voters to the poll?—I had driven Mr. Monson's before that.

24,878. On the day you drove Gower voters it was that, was it not, that turned you?—No.

24,879. Why not?—It was not that at all.

24,880. Do tell me what it was?—I told you I considered my contract was broken if I was not paid my month up, and then I turned round and voted directly for Mr. Gower.

24,881. You did not do it out of spite to Mr. Shepherd?—I did not do it for anything else.

24,882. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know a man named Bonny?—He called upon me more than once and asked me.

24,883. Is he at all connected with you?—He married my daughter.

24,884. He was very active for Mr. Gower, he was a leading man on Mr. Gower's side?—I had not been in Bonny's house for many months; he was a leading man for Mr. Gower, I believe, but he did not lead me.

24,885. What I want to know is, at the time he was a very able and active man for Mr. Gower, was he aware of the arrangement between you and Shepherd?—Yes, I think that he was.

24,886. When did you make him aware of the arrangement between you and Shepherd?—I never said anything to Bonny about it.

24,887. You say he was aware of it?—He knew very well.

24,888. How did he know it?—I cannot tell.

24,889. How did you know that he knew it?—He told me of it.

24,890. When did he tell you of it?—In the street, he told me that he was quite surprised.

24,891. That he was quite surprised that you should enter into any arrangement with Shepherd?—Yes.

24,892. How soon before the polling day did he tell you that?—I am sure I cannot recollect; it may have been a week or ten days.

24,893. You saw Bonny on the polling day?—Yes, I did.

29,894. Did you see him the morning before you saw Shepherd?—No.

24,895. The evening before you saw him?—I did not.

24,896. You saw him that morning, then?—I saw him after.

24,897. And told him it was all up with Shepherd?—No, I never mentioned Shepherd's name to him.

24,898. But you told him you were no longer a Monsonite?—No, I never said anything to him about it.

24,899. He was a leading man and your son-in-law, and you knew it would be great glory to him if he got you over; you knew he would pride himself in getting a voter for Mr. Gower?—He did not get me, neither Bonny, or anybody else.

24,900. Tell me what conversation you had with Bonny after you had seen Shepherd?—I told Bonny I should not vote for Mr. Monson; he said, "Well, will "you make up your mind and vote for Mr. Gower:" I said I should not say anything at all about it. Half an hour afterwards I made up my mind to vote for Mr. Gower.

24,901. You had a conversation with Bonny?—No conversation no more than that.

24,902. Does he live near you?—Not far from me.

24,903. He lived at Redhill?—Yes.

24,904. You had been at Bonny's house that morning, had you not?—No.

24,905. Did he come to you?—I met him in the street.

24,906. Where in the street, you were not walking about?—He was coming towards the town hall and I was going up towards the post office.

24,907. Then you told him you were a free man, and half an hour afterwards you told him you should vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

24,908. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You told me some time ago you were put in a carriage and went and voted like a gentleman for Mr. Gower. Was that before you were engaged by Mr. Laker to drive for the day?—I believe it was.

24,909. After you had voted for Mr. Gower you went to Mr. Laker?—Yes.

24,910. You did not drive his carriage the whole day, only for part of the day, and then you got 7*s.*?—Yes.

24,911. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) All that time, then, Mr. Gower was the person you wanted to vote for, only you had been flirting with Mr. Monson, and voted as you wished at last?—I did.

24,912. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you do any work at all for the 4*l.* 10*s.* you got from Shepherd?—Nothing.

24,913. If you did nothing for the 4*l.* 10*s.* and you were not going to vote for Mr. Monson, would it not have been more honest to have returned the 4*l.* 10*s.*?—I expect it would.

24,914. You never dreamt of returning it?—No.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS BARKER sworn and examined. *T. Barker.*

24,915. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A tailor.

24,916. How much rent do you pay for your tenement?—20*l.* a year.

24,917. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

24,918. Did you serve on the committee or anything?—I was a canvasser.

24,919. Were you returned as a canvasser?—Yes, I had a canvassing book.

24,920. Who gave it you?—It was a common register.

24,921. Who gave it you?—I had it from the committee room.

24,922. Who gave it you?—There were several laying on the table.

24,923. You do not remember any one coming up and saying, "Here, Barker, here is a book for you"?—No.

24,924. Who was it put your on the committee?—Mr. Monson asked me to go on.

24,925. Who was it put you on the committee? Some of his agents did, I suppose?—I do not know.

24,926. You had some conversation with somebody besides Mr. Monson himself about voting for him?—I promised Mr. Monson my vote three or four months before the election, after Mr. Wilkinson died.

24,927. When the election came on it was renewed again, and who asked you for your vote then?—Mr. Monson called on me.

24,928. Did one of his agents talk to you?—Mr. Nichols.

24,929. Did Mr. Nichols ask you if you would go on his committee?—Yes.

24,930. On what terms?—There was nothing mentioned about terms.

24,931. What was said?—There was nothing said about terms.

24,932. No, not exactly about terms, but he said will you go on his committee; and what was said?—He said, "Go on and work for me."

24,933. Well, and if you did go on, what then?—I should be paid for it.

24,934. You did go to work and were a canvasser; did you do much for him then, or did your own business keep you at your own work principally?—I did so in the evening after. I could attend to my own business and that as well.

24,935. Did you get many votes for Mr. Monson?—You might as well ask a man for his life as ask him for his vote.

24,936. Why?—If you had not got money to give him.

24,237. You did not ask them?—Oh, yes, I asked many.

24,938. Did you have money passing through your hands?—No, I did not carry any election money.

24,939. When did you come to definite terms about the pay?—I cannot say, but I sent in my canvassing bill when Mr. Hart advertised in the paper.

24,940. I understand, after the election?—Yes; then I sent my bill in for canvassing services.

24,941. For how much?—15*l.*

24,942. You did not get it did you?—I did not.

24,943. You only got 10*l.* I think?—Mr. Hart called on me and gave me 10*l.*, and I accepted it.

24,944. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In full?—Yes, as he could not give any more.

24,945. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And you gave him a stamped receipt, I think?—I did, I believe, on my counter.

24,946. That is it, is it not (*handing paper to witness*)?—That is it.

24,947. I see the 15*l.* was altered into 10*l.* While you were a canvasser did Mr. Gower's party apply to you at all?—They did not.

24,948. Knowing that you were a canvasser and that the Monson party thought well of you, did not the Gower party try to gain your assistance?—Not at all.

24,949. Had you any application from anybody?—Not any.

24,950. You were not offered any money?—I was not offered any money.

24,951. Now in 1863 be kind enough to tell me who you voted for?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

24,952. What were you on that election?—A canvasser.

24,953. Did you do much the same sort of duties?—The same, I took the same district.

24,954. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And with the same success?—With pretty nearly the same success.

24,955. You did not get any one in 1865?—No.

24,956. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What was the arrangement made with you then; who engaged you?—Mr. James.

24,957. He engaged your services himself?—Yes, I stood at the crossway on the first Christmas holiday, the day after Christmas day; I never knew Mr. James before.

24,958. But he heard of you?—Very likely he knew me, though he had not seen me; he pulled up his carriage and said, "Is your name Barker"? I said "Yes, it is, how do you know my name is "Barker." He said "Because I got it."

24,959. On what terms did Mr. James engage your services?—He asked me whether I would go round as far as Holden's with him. I jumped into the fly. After he asked me to go to Mr. Laker's hotel with him, and he asked me if I would go and canvass this election as I had done previously. I said yes, I would, on the same terms.

24,960. On the same terms as the previous election?—On the terms of the previous election for Mr. Wilkinson. He then gave me a written agreement for the same money I had at the previous election.

24,961. What were you to have?—15*l.*

24,962. Did you receive it?—I did, directly after the election was over.

24,963. You voted that time?—No, I had no vote in 1863.

24,964. Never before 1865?—Oh, yes, at several elections, but not in 1863.

24,965. You had an opportunity of seeing what was going on in 1863; will you be kind enough to tell us was there much difference between the election of 1863 and 1865?—A good deal.

24,966. There was?—Yes.

24,967. Be kind enough to tell me how?—There was more drinking, considerably more.

24,968. When?—In 1863.

24,969. There was more drinking in 1863?—Yes.

24,970. Now I wish your opinion about money; was money as easy?—Quite as easy as it was before, and rather more plentiful.

24,971. Not before, but between 1863 and 1865, is what I want?—More plentiful in 1863, I think, than in 1865.

24,972. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On both sides, I suppose you will say?—More on Mr. Gower's side I think than on Mr. Wilkinson's, if there was any difference, but there was very little difference.

24,973. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Does anything strike you about those two elections that is worth telling me beyond what I ask you, was treating much the same?—Yes, plenty of drinking everywhere; I do not believe there was a place in the parish, a small beer shop or large hotel, but what was engaged as a committee house.

24,974. In 1863 you had no vote; at the general election of 1859 you had a vote, I suppose?—Yes.

24,975. Who did you vote for in 1859?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

24,976. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*) Were you a canvasser?—I was a canvasser then.

24,977. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. James paid you 15*l.* on that occasion?—Mr. Cape in 1859.

24,978. He was the conducting agent, I suppose?—Mr. Cape was the head agent.

24,979. Mr. Cape then asked you to do the same thing as Mr. James did in the election of 1863; that was the same business?—I went on canvassing for them about 12 or 14 days before the election for Mr. Cape.

24,980. How long had you canvassed in 1863?—I went on the day after Christmas day till when the election came off, it was eight or nine weeks.

24,981. In 1859 it was only 12 or 13 days?—Only 12 or 13 days.

24,982. You got 15*l.*?—I had a written agreement for 12*l.*, and then they paid me 15*l.*

24,983. You had a vote that time?—I had a vote.

24,984. You gave it for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

24,985. You had nothing to do that time with paying money?—Not the least whatever.

24,986. You never had?—I never kept the purse.

24,987. Had you a good canvass, did you get voters that time?—Not many.

24,988. About the same sort of difficulty about it?—Yes.

24,989. Just the same as when you told us just now about asking a man for his life?—Yes.

24,990. In 1859, in comparison with the other elections, was that much about the same as to money and treating?—There was not quite so much money going then as in 1863.

24,991. You mean not quite so much?—Not quite so much money.

24,992. Now about the treating and refreshment, or whatever you like to call it, that was much the same?—About the same.

24,993. If anybody wanted anything to drink was it just as easy to get without paying?—Wherever there was a meeting, whether at Earlswood-common or in Reigate-town, there was plenty of drinking going on.

24,994. There was not much difference between 1859 and 1863?—Not a great deal.

24,995. Had you anything to do with the elections of 1858?—I had with Mr. Doulton's.

24,996. Nothing to do with the other election in 1858?—I was over on the nomination day when they proposed Mr. Wilkinson; he was proposed by Mr. Apted and seconded by Mr. Joyes, but I believe it was unbeknown to him, and merely to give Mr. Monson a bit of a run.

24,997. Were you here on Mr. Doulton's election?—Yes, that was the first time I went on as a canvasser.

24,998. You were a canvasser then?—Yes.

24,999. For whom?—For Mr. Doulton.

25,000. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you a vote then?—Yes.

25,001. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who engaged you?—Mr. Trueman and Mr. Murphy were the head agents.

25,002. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Whom did you give your vote to?—Mr. Doulton.

25,003. Who was the head agent who put you on

then, if it was the head agent?—Mr. Murphy and Mr. Trueman.

25,004. Both together ?—Yes, they were the head agents ; they agreed with me in the market square.

25,005. They agreed with you in the market square ?—Yes. Previous to that Mr. Featherstone had applied to me for Mr. Doulton, and said I should have 12*s.* a day.

25,006. How long was that before the election ?—23 days ; I know that by the amount I received.

25,007. 12*s.* a day ?—No, that was Mr. Featherstone said he would agree with me for 12*s.* a day, but understand I did not take that.

25,008. I quite understand you?—I came over to Reigate and promiscuously ran across Mr. Doulton, and I then went over to the "White Hart" and agreed with Mr. Murphy and Mr. Trueman.

25,009. What was the arrangement there ?—They agreed to give me a guinea a day.

25,010. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did Mr. Doulton say to you ?—Mr. Doulton asked me to tell him where Job Apted lived ; I did so, and went across the square and showed him where Job Apted lived.

25,011. Did Mr. Doulton tell you to see Mr. Murphy and Mr. Trueman ?—No.

25,012. Did he speak to you about coming on his committee ?—No, and he never asked me for my vote.

25,013. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How many days were you to have the guineas ?—23.

25,014. Were you paid the 23 guineas ?—Yes.

25,015. Who paid you ?—Mr. Trueman.

25,016. When were you paid ? How soon after the election ?—A very few days ; they paid every week, but I took the whole.

25,017. Was there much canvassing at the time when you were engaged for Mr. Doulton ? Was there much canvassing of you by Mr. Rawlinson and Mr. Monson ?—I believe Mr. Monson called on me.

25,018. Were they teasing you to go over to them ?—No.

25,019. Were they trying to bribe you over ?—No, no one offered to bribe me on any terms.

25,020. I want you to tell me about the election ; in your opinion, in the election of Mr. Doulton, what do you think about that as compared with the other elections ?—That was the first bribed election that ever was had in this place.

25,021. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have seen other elections ?—Yes, I attended on several occasions.

25,022. And took an active part in other elections ?—Yes.

25,023. That was the first election at which you saw any treating ?—The first election at which I knew the men were paid for their time and bribed.

25,024. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said, I think, that that was the first bribed election ?—Yes, the first election that men were ever paid money.

25,025. Was there plenty of treating going on at Mr. Doulton's election ?—Every man paid his own, I believe, in Mr. Doulton's election.

25,026. How was that ?—They paid so much, and then they were paid by others ; some men had votes, and perhaps two or three boys carried boards and had 2*s.* 6*d.* a day ; they were paid every Friday night at 4 o'clock ; every man was paid.

25,027. Could not they go into public houses ?—No ; if there was any meeting of a night, why then it was paid by the committee.

25,028. Then there was plenty given away ?—Yes.

25,029. There were plenty of refreshments of an evening ?—Yes, whenever there was a meeting.

25,030. Were houses open ?—No, only a short time, while the meeting was on.

25,031. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was there a night without a meeting ?—No.

25,032. Was there ever a night without some three or four meetings ?—Sometimes three or four. I have attended three or four in a night myself.

25,033. And the same thing happening ?—Yes, you could have whatever you liked.

25,034. That would be in the various districts ?—Yes, all the different districts ; Reigate-heath more perhaps than anywhere else ; wherever there was a meeting called.

25,035. And that meeting was very frequent ?—Yes.

25,036. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to get some more out of you. What was your opinion as to the Doulton election, because you say it was the first bribery election you had ever had ; was there plenty of money going then ?—There was plenty of money going to everybody.

25,037. So far as you can recollect, was there money going for the other people as well as Mr. Doulton ?—No doubt of it. I do not know for certain, and therefore perhaps I ought not to say so, but I have no doubt of it.

25,038. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are speaking of your own opinion ?—Quite so.

25,039. You are speaking of what you know of Mr. Doulton ?—Quite so.

25,040. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you tell me, in Mr. Doulton's election, do you know what was the highest figure that you have ever known paid to a man ?—Oh, 10*s.* a day and 12*s.* a day, all manner of prices.

25 041. You know of men more than that ; did you ever know of any lump sum given for a man's vote with nominal services ?—No.

25,042. You do not ?—No.

25,043. Do you know of any lump sum given to any one at all ?—No, it was all paid for what we call labour ; it was like a little factory every Friday night, every man was taking his money.

25,044. All the voters ?—Yes, for election pay, every Friday night, at the "Royal Oak," Redhill.

25,045. That is all I am going to ask you. If you have anything to tell me I should be glad to hear about anything with respect to the elections ?—I have only a little to say about one election, so far as I know ; that was the election of 1863, for which I was concerned.

25,046. What is that ?—About the last day before polling day there were several voters stood out, and Mr. James asked me to go and see them. I went to see them, and they told me they would not vote under a certain price. I took their names on a piece of paper, and brought it to Swan in Reigate and gave it to William Langridge to take it to Mr. James, who was in the committee room, and he sent out the money.

25,047. Will you be kind enough to tell me, so far as you can remember, how many voters there were, how many names you took down ?—I can give you the names.

25,048. Never mind the names at present ; tell me, if you please, how many of the voters were there ?—Five.

25,049. And what was their price ?—Two of them 8*l.* each, one 7*l.*, and the other two 4*l.*

25,050. Have you any objection to tell me their names ?—Not in the least. Edward Langton, 7*l.* ; Richard Bennett, 4*l.* ; Davey, 4*l.*, I do not know his Christian name ; Edward Dale, 8*l.* ; and Thomas Dale, 8*l.*

25,051. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What time in the day was that ?—About 5 in the afternoon, I think.

25,052. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are they all living ?—Most of them.

25,053. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is there anything else you can tell me ?—I do not know of anything else. I think that is all I know.

25,054. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is Davey living now ?—Yes, at Redhill. Langton gave his evidence, and said that Westley dealt with him. Westley did deal with him, I think, but he would not take the money unless it came through me.

25,055. Davey of Brighton-road, is it ?—Yes.

25,056. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that

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about the price at the election?—There were all prices, but that was their price.

25,057. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was not on the day of polling?—No, the evening before; I gave the two Dales the money the night before the polling, and the other three I paid in the morning.

25,058. Did they vote true?—Yes, all true.

25,059. They kept to their word?—Yes.

25,060. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you ever hear that after these voters had received money they separated, and voted some one way and some another?—Which men?

25,061. Langton, Bennett, Davey, and the two Dales?—They voted all for Mr. Wilkinson, all together but they had been on Mr. Gower's previous to that.

25,062. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know of any people who voted twice on the same election, and pretended that they had not voted before, and voted twice?—I do not know anything about that.

25,063. I understand you that that is the only money you actually laid out?—That was all.

The Commissioners said that they were very much obliged to the witness for the manner in which he had given his evidence, and the information he had given them.

The witness withdrew.

J. Butler.

JAMES BUTLER sworn and examined.

25,064. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—I kept a beer shop.

25,065. What are you?—I go to work at a saw mill now.

25,066. What rent do you pay?—25*l.* a year.

25,067. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

25,068. Were you on his committee?—No.

25,069. What did you get for it?—Nothing.

25,070. You received no money at all?—No money at all.

25,071. From anybody?—No.

25,072. Who did you promise your vote for Mr. Monson to?—Mr. Monson.

25,073. Did not you promise anybody else?—No, I promised him in the first place. Mr. Gower asked me, attended by Mr. Smith, and Mr. Smith said, "Oh, he is for Mr. Monson."

25,074. May I take it that you did not receive anything?—I did not receive anything.

25,075. In any shape or or form?—No.

25,076. Neither promise or money?—No, I never asked for it.

25,077. Neither promise, or money, or any other consideration?—No.

25,078. Had you voted at the former election of 1863?—Yes.

25,079. For whom?—Mr. Wilkinson.

25,080. Were you on his committee?—No.

25,081. Did you receive anything at the election?—Yes, what I worked for.

25,082. How much?—Six weeks.

25,083. How much did you receive?—5*s.* a day.

25,084. How much did you receive? Was it 9*l.*?—Yes, I took at work 20*s.* a week.

25,085. For whom?—Mr. James.

25,086. Had you voted at a former election?—No, I had no vote before.

25,087. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. James paid you?—Yes.

25,088. When?—Every Saturday night.

25,089. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I must inquire more particularly about the last election in 1863. You were paid 9*l.* that time?—Yes, I was working from 9 o'clock in the morning till sometimes 9 or 10 at night.

25,090. Did not your name appear on Mr. Monson's committee?—No.

25,091. You know he had a great number of men got for him?—No.

25,092. Did you canvass at all for him?—No.

25,093. Were you asked to canvass?—No.

25,094. You lost your days polling day and nomination day?—Yes.

25,095. You lost your time?—Yes.

25,096. What were you paid for that?—The same right through.

25,097. I am speaking of the last time, 1865. What were you paid for nomination and polling day?—10*s.* each day.

25,098. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was the last election?—The last election but one.

25,099. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am speaking of 1865; you were paid for the nomination day and polling day?—Oh, at the last election I had nothing at all. I thought you were speaking of 1863. I had nothing at all in 1865.

25,100. But you lost your time on polling day and nomination day; how was it you lost your time?—That was my own pleasure. I was not promised anything.

25,101. Did you not get anything afterwards?—No.

25,102. Who asked you to go on the committee?—No one that I know of.

25,103. Were you on the committee?—No.

25,104. Who took you to the poll?—I went by myself.

25,105. Did you not ride there, or were you not driven there?—No, I was in the town all the day.

25,106. You knew some very intimate friend of Mr. Monson, did you?—I know pretty nearly every one.

25,107. How is it you are such a staunch friend to Mr. Monson?—He saw me, as I said; he came to my house.

25,108. Where did you live?—Lesbourne-lane.

25,109. You had not received any money?—No.

25,110. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you a freeholder, or do you pay rent?—I pay rent.

25,111. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not charge anything either for the polling day or for nomination?—No, I wanted to vote for Mr. Monson, as he had called on me and I had promised him in the first place.

25,112. Why did you vote for him?—I never had voted for Mr. Gower. I voted for Mr. Wilkinson before that time. Mr. Monson came to me first, and I promised him first.

25,113. Did you see much of what was going on this last election?—No, I was at work every day, and weeks before I was.

The witness withdrew.

The Inquiry was here adjourned till 11 o'clock the following morning.

SIXTEENTH DAY.

Saturday, 8th September 1866.

JOHN THOMAS WHITEAR sworn and examined.

25,114. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A ticket collector.

25,115. What rent do you pay for your house?—4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

25,116. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

25,117. Did you talk to Shepherd about it?—No.

25,118. Did he talk to you then?—Yes, he talked to me once respecting it.

25,119. Did you make an arrangement with Shepherd the same as most of the other railway men had made?—No.

25,120. Did Shepherd propose it to you?—No.

25,121. Did you hear of any arrangement being made?—No. I was asked.

25,122. By whom?—Mr. McMillan, the driver, if I would mind being on the committee.

25,123. What did you say?—I said, as I lived in London, if I could be of any use I would do so.

25,124. Were you put on the committee?—Yes.

25,125. Did you work?—No.

25,126. You went on doing your work as ticket collector as regular as usual?—Yes.

25,127. Did you afterwards receive from Shepherd notice of what terms you would be on?—No, from McMillan.

25,128. Did Mr. McMillan tell you what the terms were?—Yes; 30*s.* a week.

25,129. And the remainder afterwards?—Nothing.

25,130. Tell me, if you please, what you received afterwards?—Nothing after.

25,131. I mean after the conversation with McMullan?—4*l.* 10*s.*

25,132. You did not receive it weekly, did you?—No.

25,133. It is a curious thing, but it is exactly the same sum as the other men had, and yet you say you knew nothing of their arrangement?—I am employed in London.

25,134. Did you know anything of their arrangement; you received exactly the same sum as all the other men received who made the arrangement?—I made no arrangement with Mr. Shepherd.

25,135. Did you hear anything about the arrangements that others made? Be particular what you say.—I heard that several others were on the same terms.

25,136. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are your duties altogether in London?—Yes.

25,137. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were your duties in London at the time of the election?—Yes.

25,138. And before the election?—Yes.

25,139. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you asked at all to vote for Mr. Gower in London or down here?—I was asked in London.

25,140. By whom?—Mr. Rees.

25,141. What is his Christian name?—He is the builder at Redhill. I do not know his Christian name.

25,142. Is his name John?—I do not know, I am sure.

25,143. He came to you in London, did he?—He was in London at the station.

25,144. What did he offer you?—He offered me my expenses down to the voting place, and no more.

25,145. What did you say?—I said I was undecided.

25,146. And then did he come again?—No.

25,147. Was that all that was important that passed; tell me, if you please, if there was anything else?—Nothing that I can recollect at all.

25,148. Did nobody ever ask you to vote for Mr. Gower?—No.

25,149. Was that your first election?—No.

25,150. Who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

25,151. Were you on the railway then?—Yes.

25,152. Did you vote in the same way as the other railway men did then?—Yes.

25,153. What arrangement had you, be kind enough to tell me shortly.—None whatever.

25,154. You voted without receiving anything in 1863?—Yes.

25,155. You mean that quite literally; you received nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

25,156. Neither money nor money's worth?—No.

25,157. You quite understand my question. I ask you in the fullest sense of the word whether you received either money or money's worth?—No.

25,158. Did you vote in 1859, at the general election?—No, I had nothing to do with it.

25,159. Nor any previous election?—No.

25,160. 1863 was your first election?—Yes.

25,161. How was it in 1863 some of the railway people voted for Mr. Wilkinson without getting anything for it?—He was reported as being a worthy man for the membership and that he had worked hard, I do not mean in the House of Commons, but out of it.

25,162. I want you to tell me this quite candidly; do you really believe that the votes in 1863 given by the railway men were given by the railway men conscientiously?—So far as myself was concerned.

25,163. Do you believe it of the others?—I cannot say.

25,164. Yours was?—Mine was.

25,165. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You reside at Redhill?—I reside in London now.

25,166. Your duties were in London when you voted?—Yes, I have been up to London eighteen months.

25,167. Then you have left the house?—I left the house, but I was still on the register.

25,168. How long had you left your house?—I was shifted away last March twelvemonth.

25,169. You had given up your house in March had you?—Yes.

25,170. Did you not know that you had no right to vote? Did you vote out of the house and you had given it up the March before? It is very bad, you had no right to vote?—I have been away 18 months now; it was March, 1865.

25,171. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The Commissioner asked you whether you did not know at the time that you voted that you had no proper vote?—I had a proper vote, because the revision was not made till August.

25,172. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had not a proper vote, because you had left your house, though your name might be on the register.—I did not know that.

25,173. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you not to have 5*l.*, which was 10*s.* more than the others?—No.

25,174. Was there any arrangement made that you were to have 10*s.* in addition for your expenses in coming down?—None whatever.

25,175. Were not you to be paid for your expenses to come down; you know they got 4*l.* 10*s.* on the spot?—No, that included it.

The witness withdrew.

SIXTEENTH DAY

C. Chandler.

8 Sept. 1866.

CHARLES CHANDLER sworn and examined.

25,176. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was your qualification for voting at the last election ?—A house.

25,177. What is the value ?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week I was then paying, but I am now paying 7*s.* 6*d.*

25,178. What are you ?—A gardener.

25,179. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Monson.

25,180. I will ask you shortly how came you to vote for Mr. Monson ?—Well, I had fixed my mind upon him.

25,181. What caused you to fix your mind upon Mr. Monson ?—I had no particular cause for it.

25,182. Who asked you ?—Corderoy.

25,183. What inducement did Corderoy hold out to you to fix your mind upon Mr. Monson ?—He asked me which way I was going, and I told him I was undecided then.

25,184. What was it that fixed your mind ?—He said "Will you come our way ?" and I said "Which way are you ?" He said "Mr. Monson, and I can do a fiver for you;" that was all.

25,185. Did you say it would do ?—No, I did not make up my mind then.

25,186. Why did you not make up your mind, because you wanted a little more, or did you think that Mr. Gower's party would give a little more ?—No, I did not think that they would, for they made an offer before that.

25,187. What was offered to you on the part of Mr. Gower ?—3*l.*

25,188. Who offered you that ?—William Joyes offered me three weeks' work at 1*l.* a week.

25,189. I suppose this work was to go on the committee ?—He asked me if I would go on the committee, and I did not consent to it.

25,190. He did not tell you what the other work was ?—No, I was to try and get votes for him.

25,191. If you could get a vote for him so much the better; but if not you would still have your 3*l.* ?—Yes, but I told him I would not promise my vote.

25,192. How long before the election was that ?—Six or seven weeks.

25,193. Corderoy threw out the bait of 5*l.* afterwards ?—Yes.

25,194. Was that all you were offered by the Gower party, the 3*l.* ?—Yes.

25,195. They did not tease you again, or come to you and press you with the 3*l.* ?—No.

25,196. The next instance was Corderoy coming to you and offering you the 5*l.* ?—Yes, he offered me 5*l.*

25,197. Were you to do anything for the 5*l.*, or only to vote ?—Only to vote.

25,198. Why did you not take the 5*l.* then ?—I had it promised me on the day of the election.

25,199. About three weeks before the election you said Corderoy came to you and said he would stand a fiver, and you had not quite made up your mind ?—I made it up afterwards.

25,200. Did you afterwards see him ?—He asked me which way I was, and I told him I should go their way.

25,201. When you told him that you should go that way, did Corderoy repeat the offer of 5*l.* ? Tell us what took place between you and Corderoy when you did promise to go with him ?—I do not know.

25,202. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you tell him you would go with him ?—I did not tell him at all. I saw another gentleman authorized by Mr. Nichols.

25,203. Who was the other gentleman ?—Mr. Heather.

25,204. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When was that ?—About three weeks before the election.

25,205. Did he say he came from Mr. Nichols ?—Yes, that Mr. Nichols had authorized him to offer the 5*l.*

25,206. Did you promise Henry Heather that you would vote for Mr. Monson ?—I told him I should vote.

25,207. Was that because you thought you could trust Mr. Heather better than Corderoy ?—It was getting near the time then.

25,208. Then you wanted to make a little sure of it. Was not that the reason why you would not fix your mind at first, because you wanted to make a little more sure nearer the election? You did not care two straws about political principles; you understand the question ?—Yes.

25,209. Did you care two straws about the political principles of either party ? You were looking at the fiver, were you not ?—Not particularly.

25,210. You were looking at that more than looking at the political principles of either candidate ?—Perhaps I was.

25,211. There are a good many other of your fellow workmen who have said so before in that box. It was so, was it not ? You wanted to get what you could for your vote ?—Perhaps I did.

25,212. Did you see Mr. Nichols, or Mr. Heather, or any of Mr. Monson's supporters before you voted ?—Yes, I saw one or two.

25,213. Did they come to you and ask you whether you were going to vote for them ?—Yes; whether I was going to vote their way.

25,214. What time in the day ?—Eleven o'clock.

25,215. Who was it who came to you at first to press you to vote ?—Mr. Heather.

25,216. Did he bring the 5*l.* with him ?—No.

25,217. You got the 5*l.*, did you not ?—No.

25,218. Never ?—No.

25,219. Or any part of it ?—No.

25,220. Did you go with Mr. Heather to vote ?—I did not go with him, I went by myself.

25,221. But Mr. Heather brought you from where he found you nearer to the poll ?—No, I came down by myself.

25,222. Did you ask Mr. Heather again about this money on the polling day, when you were to have it ?—I did ask him, and he said there was no money at present, and he did not know when there would be.

25,223. Did Mr. Heather tell you that as soon as they got the money you should be paid ?—He did not seem to think there was much chance then.

25,224. Then you voted ?—Yes.

25,225. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What time did you vote ?—About 2.

25,226. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You told Mr. Heather you were going to vote at 11 o'clock ?—I told him I should vote their way, and would not change my mind.

25,227. Did anybody else come to you before you voted ?—No.

25,228. Nobody, either of Mr. Gower's or Mr. Monson's party ?—No.

25,229. And the last person you saw before you voted was Mr. Heather in respect of your voting ?—Yes.

25,230. Then you went to vote at 2 o'clock ?—Yes.

25,231. Did you apply for the payment of this 5*l.* to anybody ?—No, I never troubled about it.

25,232. You expected to get it ?—No, I did not expect it then.

25,233. Did you hear that some of the other men were getting their money ?—I heard that some of them were, but it did not come to my lot.

25,234. But that raised your expectation to get it ?—I did not much expect it after the day of voting.

25,235. Do you know of any of your acquaintances who were offered money, your fellow workmen ?—No, I do not.

25,236. What district did you work in ?—Towards Redhill, beyond the station.

25,237. Do you know the celebrated man, Mr. Shepherd ?—No, I do not know anything of him.

25,238. He never came to you?—I do not know anything of him.

25,239. Is that all you know about this last election?—That is all I know.

25,240. Did you vote in 1863?—No.

25,241. Were you in the town in 1863?—I have been in Reigate 10 or 12 years.

25,242. Have you ever voted at the municipal elections?—No; this was my first vote.

The witness withdrew.

HARRY TAYLOR sworn and examined.

H. Taylor.

25,243. (*Mr Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A guard.

25,244. On the railway?—Yes.

25,245. What rent do you pay?—I pay now 5*s.* a week.

25,246. I mean for the house for which you voted?—4*s.* 6*d.* when I voted.

25,247. What were your wages on the railway?—1*l.* 10*s.* a week.

25,248. You know of the arrangement with Mr. Shepherd amongst your fellow workmen?—I formed a body with the men with Shepherd.

25,249. He asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—He asked me to go on the committee with him.

25,250. To vote for Mr. Monson, and receive 30*s.* a week?—Yes, 4*l.* 10*s.*

25,251. You received it weekly, I believe?—Yes.

25,252. Did you form one of the body when they went to Mr. Nichols for more money?—Yes.

25,253. Did you go there yourself?—I did.

25,254. You were one of the men who waited?—I did.

25,255. Was that before the election or after the election?—Before the election.

25,256. How soon before the election? Do you recollect what day it was?—I do not recollect the day; it would be a week perhaps before the election.

25,257. Not so much as that; it could not be a week, because you were paid up to the Saturday before the election?—I think it was on the Monday.

25,258. Just so, when things were pressing. How many of you waited?—Three.

25,259. You and who else?—England and Hayward.

25,260. Was Hayward the spokesman, or were you? I think you were the spokesman?—No.

25,261. Who was?—I do not know which of the other two.

25,262. You three went as commissioners to inquire what was to be had, did you so?—I saw Mr. Nichols himself.

25,263. Where did you see him?—In the back parlour.

25,264. Did you tell him that Shepherd had made an arrangement with you, or how was it introduced to Mr. Nichols, he was a stranger to you?—Mr. Nichols was no stranger.

25,265. He had known you before, had he?—He knew me very well.

25,266. And did he know the arrangement that was made?—I do not know.

25,267. What did he say when you were introduced to him?—He said he could not give any distinct answer about it.

25,268. What did you say to Mr. Nichols?—He was asked if there was any more money allowed, and he said no, he could not give any distinct answer, and walked away.

25,269. You said, "We come on the part of Mr. "Monson, to know whether we can get more money." That is what you or the others said?—Yes.

25,270. Did you tell him how much?—I did not tell him.

25,271. I mean the other two; I take you three to be one?—I believe 8*l.* was what was mentioned.

25,272. I will calculate it for you. Four weeks at 30*s.* a week, 6*l.*, and the nomination day 1*l.*, making 7*l.*, and then 1*l.* for polling day would be 8*l.*?—Yes.

25,273. That did not seem to please Mr. Nichols?—No; he walked out of the room, and I never saw him after.

25,274. He walked out in resentment?—Yes, he did; he walked out of the room.

25,275. What did he say?—He said he could do nothing for us in that way.

25,276. Had you anything to drink? Besides the 30*s.* were you not supplied with beer?—Yes; I attended one or two meetings at the South-eastern hotel, and there I certainly had something I did not pay for.

25,277. All the railway men who liked had beer there?—I believe so.

25,578. Did you vote?—I voted for Mr. Monson.

25,279. Was that the first time you voted?—No, I voted in 1863.

25,280. Who for?—Mr. Monson.

25,281. Now I wish to give you the opportunity that was given the other men. Did you vote upon that occasion upon principle, with no reference to other matters?—Yes.

25,282. And do you believe that most of the railway men voted for Mr. Wilkinson on that account?—I believe they did.

25,283. I suppose the Gower party came to you?—No.

The witness withdrew.

JABEZ TYRRELL sworn and examined.

J. Tyrrell.

25,284. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you the elder or the younger?—The younger.

25,285. Where is your father?—Living at Redhill.

25,286. He is a voter too, is he not?—Yes, my father is ill in bed, he could not come; I saw him this morning.

25,287. What are you?—I was with the coal waggons.

25,288. What shall I call you; shall I call you a waggoner?—Yes.

25,289. What rent do you pay?—I do not live in any house at all; I am in lodgings now.

25,290. What were you doing at the time of the election?—I was living at Redhill, at the "Prince of Wales."

25,291. Who kept the "Prince of Wales"; did you not?—Yes; but I did not get a vote for that house.

25,292. Had you at the time of the election a vote for the "Prince of Wales"?—No, it was in a house in Holliss Row.

25,293. Was that a beer house?—No.

25,294. What did you pay for your rent?—4*s.* 8*d.* a week.

25,295. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

25,296. Do you know Jordan?—Yes.

25,297. Did he come to you about the election before it came on?—Yes, I saw him.

25,298. Did he ask you for your vote?—He asked me who I was going to vote for, and I told him I did not know.

25,299. And then the conversation went on, I suppose?—Yes.

25,300. It was Thomas Jordan, was it not?—Yes.

25,301. What did he say then?—I saw him again a little while after, and he asked me to go on to work.

25,302. On what terms?—To see what I could get on his side.

SIXTEENTH DAY.

J. Tyrrell.

8 Sept. 1866.

25,303. On what terms did Jordan ask you to work?—He did not tell me.

25,304. How did he tell you to work?—He told me that he would pay me, but how much he did not say.

25,305. You went on to work?—Yes.

25,306. Did he say he would pay you like the others?—He said he would pay me and satisfy me.

25,307. Did you go on to work?—Yes.

25,308. About how long before the election?—Three or four weeks, I should think; perhaps it was a little more.

25,309. Did you go on the committee?—Yes.

25,310. And you attended committee meetings?—Yes.

25,311. Did you get a good deal of refreshment at those meetings?—I do not know.

25,312. As much as you wanted?—Yes.

25,313. I suppose you did not know who paid for them?—No.

25,314. Were you paid by the week?—No.

25,315. When were you paid?—Just a little while after the election.

25,316. How much were you paid?—*5l.*

25,317. Then you were satisfied, as he promised you?—Yes.

25,318. Did you go to the "Plough" to receive it, or where did you get it?—It was left with my father at the "Prince of Wales," Redhill; I did not receive it from Mr. Jordan at all.

25,319. Did they tell you who had left it for you?—I cannot say that.

25,320. Did they tell you?—No.

25,321. You do not know who did leave it for you?—I do not.

25,322. Was Mr. Jordan in the habit of coming to your father's house?—I believe he used to call there.

25,323. Did he know your father sufficiently well to know where he lived, and would he be likely to call at the house?—Yes, he did. The fact is, he had worked at the house, and had done the house up at some time. He is a builder.

25,324. Was this your first election?—Yes.

25,325. Will you tell me before the election came on, and after you had been set to work by Mr. Jordan, did you have any offer from Mr. Gower's side?—I did not.

25,326. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was the money left with your father? You said it was left at your father's; was it left with your father, or was anybody else in the house?—It was left with my father for my work.

25,327. Was the "Prince of Wales" an open house?—No.

25,328. Open on the Monson side?—No, not anything on Mr. Monson's side at all.

25,329. On the other side?—No, not either side.

25,330. Neither engaged the house?—Neither of them engaged the house, not a room, or anything of the kind.

25,331. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you mean to say they never engaged a room in the house?—I was there.

25,332. You know that as a fact?—Yes, they never engaged anything of the sort.

25,333. You were at the "Prince of Wales," and you know as a fact that they never had a room there?—Neither party had.

25,334. If they paid anything for the "Prince of Wales" it was not for a room?—No.

25,335. Do you know of any money ever being paid to your father?—No.

25,336. Do you know whether your father had received any money from Jordan?—No, I do not.

25,337. Do you know of any people having been paid by Jordan there?—No.

25,338. Or of a meeting there?—No.

25,339. Were there any voters supplied at the "Prince of Wales"?—No.

25,340. You were so much in the house that you are enabled to say that as a fact?—I am.

25,341. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You keep the "Prince of Wales," do you not?—Yes.

25,342. What place did your father keep?—The "Queen Victoria."

25,343. Was that an open house?—I am sure I cannot say.

25,344. Yes you can. We are asking about your father's house; you can say whether it was open to either party, whether any party engaged the house and committee rooms were there?—I cannot say whether they used the house or not.

25,345. Had they meetings there; you know it quite well?—I believe there was a meeting there.

25,346. At your father's?—Yes, I think there was a meeting there by both parties. Of course I do not know whether they had engaged the house.

25,347. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did your father then have two houses?—No.

25,348. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The Monson party had to pay your father?—I believe they did.

25,349. Did you attend at his house when you were on the committee?—Yes, I was there when there were some of the parties there.

25,350. How many of you were there?—I do not know, I am sure.

25,351. Was there a room full of people?—There were about 20 or 30 present.

25,352. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And refreshments were had there?—Of course we had some refreshments.

25,353. You did not pay for it, of course?—No.

25,354. Do you not know your father had 10*l.* for the room?—I am sure I cannot say.

25,355. Do you not know he had money for it?—I have not the least doubt but what he did, but I do not know anything about it.

25,356. Did you not learn from your father that he had 10*l.* for the use of the room?—No.

25,357. What did he tell you he had for it?—He never told me at all. I received the 5*l.*, I know that.

25,358. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Jordan has told us he paid your father 10*l.* for a room. I thought he might have told you?—No, my father never told me.

25,359. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He was able to walk at the time of the election; you say he is ill now?—Yes, but he is not able to get about always.

The witness withdrew.

J. Tyrrell.

JAMES TYRRELL sworn and examined.

25,360. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are brother to the last witness?—I am.

25,361. You voted at the last election?—Yes.

25,362. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

25,363. What are you?—I am taking work of any kind now.

25,364. Are you a labourer?—Yes.

25,365. What rent do you pay? What is your qualification for voting?—4*s.* a week.

25,366. You are not living with your father?—Not at all.

25,367. How came you to vote for Mr. Monson at this last election?—I always go where my opinions lie best.

25,368. Did your opinions lie best with Mr. Monson?—Yes, no one would turn me away from him.

25,369. What were your opinions to lie by Mr. Monson?—A great many asked me, but I did not give any distinct answer.

25,370. Did any of the Gower party ask you?—Yes.

25,371. Tell us all about it?—Well, Mr. Mulley asked me.

25,372. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that to

vote for Mr. Gower or for Mr. Monson?—To vote for Mr. Gower.

25,373. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was he the first that asked you?—I do not know that he was, but he was the only one who asked me in particular; there were a good many asked me about it, but is no use taking notice of what everybody says.

25,374. Just give the particularity?—He asked me which way I had made up my mind. I did not give any distinct answer. I do not think everybody should know one's matters.

25,375. I want to know what Mr. Mulley said at that time?—He wished me to go his side.

25,376. He held out some inducement to you to vote for Mr. Gower?—He asked me whether I would.

25,377. He said a little more than that; he offered something?—He did not offer me anything.

25,378. Now, I am sure that he did?—I am sure he did not offer me anything; he asked me what I wanted, and I did not give any answer.

25,379. Did he suggest to you anything that you might possibly get?—He did not.

25,380. Or hope for?—No.

25,381. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you say to him when he said, "Tell me what you "want"?—I never gave him any answer.

25,382. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he walk away?—He walked away and came back again.

25,383. What took place when he came back?—He walked up again and asked me whether I would have anything to drink, and I told him "No."

25,384. Did he tell you if you came to work for Mr. Gower you would be likely to get something?—No.

25,385. Did he ask you to be on the committee?—No, he did not; that was only a day or two before the election.

25,386. Who asked you?—Mr. Mulley.

25,387. A day or two before the election did Mr. Mulley make any offer to you?—He did no more than I have told you.

25,388. That was not the way Mr. Mulley canvassed you; we know Mr. Mulley very well?—I know Mr. Mulley very well too.

25,389. We know the way in which he canvassed; that was not the way he canvassed?—That was the way he canvassed me.

25,390. He simply asked you what you wanted?—Yes; and I never gave him any answer.

25,391. Upon your oath did not anything further take place between you and Mr. Mulley with reference to your vote?—Not another word that I know of.

25,392. Did you see anybody else on Mr. Gower's side who made any offer at all?—No, not any to make an offer to me.

25,393. You are fencing with the questions as much as you can. Was anything said to you by anybody on the part of Mr. Gower that you should vote for Mr. Gower?—Not any more than what I tell you. Of course in such times ever so many say one thing or another, but not to give any offer.

25,394. Was anything suggested so as to induce you to give your vote?—No.

25,395. I am guarded in the way in which I put the question. I do not say offer; but was any suggestion made to you by any of the Gower party?—No.

25,396. You are sure of that?—Yes.

25,397. Was any suggestion made to you?—I never had any one ask me except Mr. Mulley.

25,398. Did he suggest that it might be beneficial to you in some possible way?—He spoke as though he thought it would; but that was all the offer he made.

25,399. In what way did he so speak?—He spoke in rather a persuadable manner.

25,400. We have heard of Mr. Mulley's persuadable manner before. What was his persuadable manner to you?—Nothing particular. I suppose he wished to have my vote; that was about it.

25,401. How was it that he expressed that wish?—I cannot tell you that.

25,402. You are upon your oath to tell the truth, and the whole truth?—I am telling you the truth.

25,403. I strongly doubt it?—I do not.

25,404. You will tell me nothing more about Mr. Mulley?—I have got nothing more to tell.

25,405. Who canvassed you on the part of Mr. Monson?—Mr. Jordan.

25,406. What took place between you and Mr. Jordan?—He told me he would see me satisfied if I would canvass for Mr. Monson and give my vote.

25,407. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that Thomas Jordan?—Yes.

25,408. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long before the election was that?—That was the first commencement of it; but I cannot tell you how long it was before the election.

25,409. Was it before or after you had seen Mr. Mulley?—I should say it was more than three weeks before I saw Mr. Mulley.

25,410. Did Mr. Jordan tell you in what way he would see you satisfied?—He did not.

25,411. You voted for Mr. Monson?—I did.

25,412. Were you satisfied?—I was.

25,413. By Mr. Jordan?—Yes; it was left for me. I believe that Mr. Jordan left it, but I cannot swear it.

25,414. How much was left for you?—5*l.*

25,415. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it left at your father's house?—Yes.

25,416. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you hear from your father that Jordan had left it?—Every few days I was over there.

25,417. Did you hear from your father, or from somebody in the house, that Mr. Jordan had left you 5*l.*?—He did not tell me who had left it; he said it was left for me.

25,418. Did your father tell you he had received something from Mr. Jordan?—My father did not tell me. I know very little more about my father's business than I do of yours.

25,419. He might have told you?—He did not.

25,420. Some of the family might have told you?—No.

25,421. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What day did you receive the 5*l.*?—I believe it was on the Sunday night.

25,422. Before you polled?—No; after.

25,423. How long after you had polled?—It was not many days after. I cannot say to a day or two.

25,424. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Your brother Jabez has told us he had 5*l.* in the same way?—Yes.

25,425. Were you in the house when your brother received the money?—No.

25,426. Did you know of your brother receiving the money before you got yours?—I received mine before he did his.

25,427. Did you tell your brother you had got your money?—Yes; we were working together at that time.

25,428. Did you hear at your father's house that 5*l.* was also left for your brother?—Yes.

25,429. Then, you told your brother and he went went up and got it?—Yes.

25,430. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where had you been at work?—I had been living at Norwood for about 11 months then.

25,431. But where were you at work then?—At Mr. Charlwood's, coal merchant, and before that for Mr. Halls.

25,432. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you voted in any other election?—Yes, for Mr. Wilkinson.

25,433. Was it in '63?—It was the election between Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower.

25,434. Who got your vote then. Who was the Jordan of that day? Was it Mr. Jordan himself?—Mr. Church was the head man of our committee then.

25,435. Who talked to you about the subject of your vote?—I promised Mr. Wilkinson myself down at the asylum.

25,436. Who talked to you about it, and put you on

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J. Tyrrell.

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the committee?—He was the first man I talked to. Mr. Rose told him my name and he came to me and I promised him my vote, and I told him I would give my vote free if any one else did not give him one.

25,437. Who was the next person who talked to you about voting for him?—I do not know that I can tell you.

25,438. Were you put on the committee?—Yes.

25,439. And set to work?—Yes.

25,440. And did work?—Yes; I used to do the best I could.

25,441. What did you get for the work?—I received a guinea.

25,442. Was that for polling and nomination days, or for what?—It was for nomination and polling days, and for one night's watching, and for working during the time of the election.

25,443. Did you put that account down on paper and send it in?—No.

25,444. Who paid it you?—I received it from Mr. Church; I should say about five or six weeks after the election.

25,445. Mr. Church was the leader of your district at that time?—Of our committee.

25,446. Did Mr. Church arrange with you that you should be paid for the work you did?—No.

25,447. Did anybody?—No; I did not make any agreement or arrangement at all.

25,448. Was that your first election?—That was my first election.

25,449. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said that when Mr, Mulley asked you what you wanted you made no answer?—Yes.

25,450. You said nothing?—When Mr. Mulley asked me I did not give him any answer.

25,451. Did you do anything else? Did you make any sign to him, or anything of that kind?—No.

H. Heather.

HENRY HEATHER sworn and examined.

25,452. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

25,453. What rent do you pay?—I live in my own house now.

25,454. Did you live in your own house at the last election?—Yes.

25,455. What is the yearly value?—12*l.* a year it is worth.

25,456. You took an active part in the last election for Mr. Monson?—Yes, I did.

25,457. You voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

25,458. Before going further let me know what you yourself received for the work you did?—About two months after the election was over I received a cheque for 5*l.* from Mr. Hart for my services.

25,459. That was not the only money you touched, during the election time some money passed through your hands?—No.

25,460. You know Chandler?—Yes.

25,461. Did you canvass him?—I did.

25,462. You offered him a "fiver"?—I was authorized.

25,463. I will ask you that by-and-by; you offered him 5*l.*?—I did.

25,464. What did you say to him, "I can do you a "fiver"?—I told him if he voted he should be well paid.

25,465. You offered him a fiver?—Yes.

25,466. What did he say?—He did not give me any decided answer.

25,467. Tell me this, who else did you offer anything else besides your friend Chandler?—Not anything to my recollection to any one.

25,468. Now be very cautious; you offered him a fiver; did you not offer others fivers; who did you canvass?—I canvassed several in the freehold district.

25,469. Who were those?—Chiefly voters.

25,470. Did you not offer them fivers?—I told them they would be paid for their loss of time.

25,471. And a fiver; who authorized you to offer Chandler a fiver?—Mr. James Nichols.

25,472. You were a canvasser; did you not offer other men fivers?—To men for their work; I did to men for their work.

25,473. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You offered Chandler to work?—Yes.

25,474. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many men did you canvass; I do not want their names?—There might have been half a dozen, and perhaps there might have been more.

25,475. You did not get 5*l.* for canvassing those?—The chief of them in my district had already promised.

25,476. How many did you canvass?—I may have canvassed about a dozen in the district.

25,477. Did you canvass more than a dozen?—I think not.

25,478. Did you not offer work to all the voters you canvassed; did you not tell them, on behalf of Mr. Nichols, if they went on the committee they would be paid for it?—If they wanted work.

25,479. You were authorized to do that?—Yes.

25,480. What was the rate of paying, 30*s.* a week?—1*l.*

25,481. And how long was this before the election—I should think about a month.

25,482. That would be 4*l.*; and were they to be paid for nomination and polling day?—Nothing yet; we did not name anything to them.

25,483. You did not name the pound to them?—No.

25,484. Was the pound named to them?—Yes.

25,485. Who by?—George Grutchfield.

25,486. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was Grutchfield always with you?—Yes, at least mostly.

25,487. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you canvass in couples?—In the evening.

25,488. Did any other monies pass through your hands? Did you not bring any voters to Mr. Nichols?—No, sir.

25,489. You had Chandler?—I believe he voted for Mr. Monson.

25,490. And he voted when he was of no use?—Yes.

25,491. Was that the reason you did not pay the 5*l.* for him?—I was authorized to offer him 5*l.*

25,492. Why did you not get the 5*l.* for him?—I could not; I asked Mr. Nichols, and he could not.

25,493. Why?—He had not got it.

25,494. When did you ask Nichols for it?—After the election was over.

25,495. Was it not because he did not vote in time was not that the reason?—I saw Chandler on the polling morning, and I told him I had not got the money for him.

25,496. That was at 2 o'clock?—No, it was at 11.

25,497. Did he not refuse to vote at 11?—I saw him, but he did not come with me.

25,498. Did you canvass any one at all of that class of working men that you did not offer work to?—No, I do not know that I did.

25,499. Did you get a promise from any man you did not offer work to?—Not any.

25,500. How many did you get a promise from you offered work to?—Only four.

25,501. How many in the other districts?—Not one.

25,502. You had voted before?—Yes.

25,503. For whom?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

25,504. Who canvassed you then?—I was canvassed by Mr. Norman Wilkinson on the behalf of his brother.

25,505. Were you a canvasser yourself?—No.

25,506. Were you on the committee?—I was on the committee.

25,507. How long had you been on the committee?—Several weeks.

25,508. And worked hard for him, no doubt?—I did.

25,509. And what did you receive for your remuneration?—I received 2*l.* for my services, but I did not receive it until after the election.

25,510. From whom?—From Mr. Frederick Joyes.

25,511. Was that all you received for that?—That was all.

25,512. Had you voted before, in 1858?—Yes.

25,513. For whom?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

25,514. Were you on his committee then?—Yes.

25,515. And worked hard for him?—Yes.

25,516. What did you receive?—A pound.

25,517. From whom?—From Mr. Joyes.

25,518. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The same man, Frederick Joyes?—Yes.

25,519. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you vote in the October of 1858, when Sir Henry Rawlinson put up?—Yes, I did.

25,520. And who did you vote for, was it for Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Yes.

25,521. Were you on his committee?—No.

25,522. I am afraid you got nothing for that?—Oh yes, I did; I only worked two days, the nomination day and polling day, and I received 1*l.*

25,523. From whom?—I am not quite certain, but I believe it was from Mr. Thomas Holbrook after the election.

25,524. Do you remember giving your vote in the January of 1858, when Doulton came down?—That is the time when I voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

25,525. That was in October; there were two elections in 1858?—Yes.

25,526. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The other was in February?—I voted for Wilkinson then.

25,527. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you get then?—A pound for two day's work.

25,528. That was another one?—Yes.

25,529. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And in the year 1857 did you vote for Mr. Hackblock?—I did.

25,530. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you the 1*l.* when you voted for Mr. Wilkinson, in 1858?—Frederick Joyes, I think.

25,531. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now the first election of 1857 you voted for Mr. Hachblock, and what did you receive?—I worked the polling day to bring in the voters, and I received 10*s.*

25,532. Who did you work for?—Mr. Hackblock; I received 10*s.* afterwards.

25,533. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) For working on the polling day?—Yes, sir.

25,534. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that the earliest election, or are these all the elections you voted at?—Yes.

25,535. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have got brothers?—Yes.

25,536. Was Charles one?—Yes.

25,537. James and Ambrose?—Yes.

25,538. Did they vote as you wanted?—No.

25,539. All different ways?—Yes.

25,540. All voted differently from you?—Yes.

25,541-2. You having voted for Mr. Monson, was not some money handed to you to pay other people?—No.

25,543. Did no other money go through your hands?—No.

25,544. Your hands were not those through which money went to pay other people?—No.

25,545. And you wish me to understand the only money you received was 5*l.* for your own services?—Yes.

25,546. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You received no more to distribute?—No.

25,547. But you went in company with Grutchfield?—Yes.

25,548. Did you canvass with him in 1863?—No, sir.

25,549. And did he receive 2*l.* then, the same as you?—I was not acquainted with Grutchfield at that time.

25,550. You were not acquainted with him?—No.

25,551. Did you canvass Mitchell, Ashdown, and Batchelor?—I did not at once, but several times.

25,552. If you did not have the money Grutchfield had?—Yes.

25,553. Grutchfield had the money and you went with him?—Yes, when he paid the money at his house.

The witness withdrew.

JOSHUA PIERCE sworn and examined.

J. Pierce.

25,554. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you a gardener?—Yes.

25,555. What rent do you pay?—4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

25,556. Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Mr. Monson.

25,557. Did you go on his committee?—No.

25,558. Who asked you to go and vote for Mr. Monson?—There were several who asked me for my vote, but I do not know who they were in particular.

25,559. Did anybody ask you to go on Mr. Monson's committee?—No.

25,560. Did you go on it?—No.

25,561. Did you do any work in the way of canvassing, or carrying circulars, or taking messages?—No.

25,562. What did you receive after the election was over?—I never received any money at all.

25,563. What did you receive before the election?—I never received any on the election account.

25,564. I did not say on the election account?—When my week's work was over I received my wages from my master, I have been working for him two or three years.

25,565. You received your usual pay from him while the election was going on?—Yes.

25,566. Did you not receive any money besides that before the election?—No.

25,567. Or after?—No.

25,568. Did you not get any offer?—No, not from the Monson party or any other, for as soon as they asked me I said I should vote at five minutes to 4. Nobody came after me; I fixed my time and I stuck to it, five minutes to 4.

25,569. Why did you say that?—That was my proposal at starting.

25,570. What was the reason you fixed that? (*A pause.*) You will not tell me?—I fixed it at first.

25,571. Why did you fix that time; if you do not like to answer me I will not press it?—I had no particular cause; I thought that I would walk up.

25,572. You did not think you would walk up when the election came for some days before; you made up your mind when you walked?—I had to do my work, and I thought when I came out here I might stop to see a little bit of the goings on.

25,573. You say you talked to several as to Mr. Monson; who was the principal Monsonite?—No one in particular.

25,574. Who was the most principal one?—Neither one of them that I know of.

25,575. Do you not remember talking to a man belonging to the Monson party just before the election; I would rather you should mention his name?—I did to many of them.

25,576. If you talked to many I dare say you could mention the name of one, if not of some?—I do not know that I can.

25,577. I would rather you should mention it than I, it is rather more fair?—To no one in particular.

25,578. Mention any one?—So I would if I knew in particular, I told you the first time.

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25,579. Tell me any one in particular, belonging to any one in particular?—I did speak to Heather about it two or three days before the election.

25,580. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And Grutchfield talked to you?—Yes, they both talked to me.

25,581. Did he not talk rather more than Heather?—They did not go on a great deal, for I did say as soon as they asked me to vote for Mr. Monson or Mr. Gower I should not vote till five minutes to 4.

25,582. What did they say?—I told them I should vote at five minutes to 4, and I would make up my mind when I got there.

25,583. You had not made up your mind when you talked to Grutchfield and Heather?—No.

25,584. Do you not remember Grutchfield saying anything?—No.

25,585. Grutchfield was a canvasser, what offer did he make?—None at all.

25,586. Did he not say, "Come and arrange with "us."?—He might, it was not an offer.

25,587. Tell us what he said, I will decide whether it was an offer or not?—He may have said, "If you "will come with us we will make it all right."

25,588. He may have said that?—He may, but I do not recollect it.

25,589. Do you remember his saying, "If you "will come with us we will satisfy you"?—He did not say that.

25,590. Were you not rather watching for the word?—I don't say that I was not.

25,591. You had heard the word had been said?—Yes.

25,592. But you did not catch it?—I walked away.

25,593. Tell us how near they came up to the mark?—To tell the truth he did not say that; he asked me which way I was going, and he said, "You had better come with us."

25,594. "And if you do," what?—He never said nothing of the kind.

25,595. Of what kind?—Not "coming along with us."

25,596. He asked which way you were going, you said that, and he went on to say, "You had better come with us"?—No, he said ——

25,597. What?—I could not tell his mind.

25,598. If he simply said, "You had better come "with us," and then turned round and gave you no reason for it, that was rather singular was it not?—I walked away, I did not mean to be canvassed by none of them.

25,599. What did you mean?—To come up and do as I ought to do; I did not mean to be bothered about it.

25,600. Then you were in the street, and you knew perfectly well when you showed yourself there would be a thousand eyes upon you, and it would be said, "Here is an unpledged voter;" at all events there would be these two men upon you in a moment?—I never took no notice of them.

25,601. Did you say they ought to have come up and canvassed you as they had others?—I said I would come up here and give my vote as I ought to do.

25,602. Let me try a little back a bit; you saw Mr. Gower, he canvassed you?—I saw him in the latter part of May here in the market place.

25,603. Did you not promise him your vote?—No, he said to me, "I hope you will not forget me in "July," and I said, "I don't know, I may not "perhaps."

25,604. Did you tell people when they came up teasing you that you had seen Mr. Gower and were going to vote for him?—No.

25,605. If you wished to avoid being teased the best thing for you to have done would have been to say you were engaged?—I did not intend to say that.

25,606. When you saw Mr. Gower in May, and he talked to you about remembering him in July, you did not intend to vote for him?—I did not say whether I would or not.

25,607. Which way were you inclined when he spoke to you?—It must have been an inward smile, for I did not see it.

25,608. Did you not think what you said might be interpreted by him into a promise?—No.

25,609. Did you not think he would send your name to his agent as a likely man?—He might, perhaps.

25,610. You think he might have done that from what you said, and yet after that you voted for Mr. Monson; can you explain to us how that came about?—I don't know, I am sure.

25,611. What time was it that you voted?—Five minutes to 4.

25,612. Do you think that will give us a clue at all?—It ought to.

25,613. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You think it ought to give us a clue?—Yes.

25,614. Why?—Because I stuck to my word.

25,615. I should consider, though I don't know whether you will, that a man who said he would not vote till five minutes to 4 meant this, "Here I am, "ready to be bought, and as the market price may "rise I intend to get the highest price for my vote"?—I did not intend to have anything to do with it.

25,616. Why did you say we ought to know the clue, is not that what is meant?—No, I never intended to have anything to do with it.

25,617. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Never intended to have anything to do with what?—Not with any one coming to offer me money.

25,618. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you mean?—Don't you see when the poll was closed there might be something moving, and I wished to see it well out.

25,619. What would be moving, money?—No, holloing about and shouting.

25,620. What would be moving?—There is a great deal of moving and holloing about when the poll is closed, and I wished to see it.

25,621. You were in the town before 4?—No, not till late, I walked up from the freehold.

25,622. Then you lost all the fun of the day?—There is generally most fun about 4.

25,623. Do you think that was the only motive you had?—Yes.

25,624. Then you gave it out you were a five minutes to 4 voter?—Yes.

25,625. If you did not mean to sell your vote you did yourself a great injustice, for every man from your conduct would suppose you intended to sell it?—They might, but I did not.

25,626. Every man of sense would take it so, and and you are by far too intelligent and clever a man not to know that whatever your intent might be?—Some might, and some might not.

25,627. Don't you think those who did not know you would suppose so?—I dare say a good many who did not know me would.

25,628. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It would give them a clue for your voting?—Yes.

25,629. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why would you lay yourself under that suspicion if it was unjust? Why would a clever intelligent man like yourself give a colour to any such suspicion?—The only reason was I kept my word, and when I got that hour over I went home. I thought I would have an hour to myself.

25,630. Why should you not have said five minutes to 10 or five minutes to 12?—I did not mean to be bought.

25,631. Do you know a man of the name of P ?—I do.

25,632. Do you know of anything that took place between Thomas Thomas and yourself?—I do not know that his name is Thomas.

25,633. What is his Christian name?—William.

25,634. What took place between you?—He asked me for my vote, and I told him I had not regularly made up my mind.

25,635. When?—I saw him just before the election, I think it was a day or two before the election, and he said, "You will vote for Mr. Gower," I said, "One "man may lead a man to the water, but twenty "cannot make him drink," and I walked away from him.

25,636, Did he know you?—Yes, and had done for some years.

25,637. Why did he say that?—I do not know, I cannot say.

25,638. "You will vote for Mr. Gower," did he use any other threat, or any threat?—No, I do not know that he did; he was rather the worse for beer.

25,639. When was the last time that day any application was made to you about voting?—Nobody ever came near me at all.

25,640. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where were you at work?—At the Priory; I went there in the morning, but was knocked up and went home, and then came out as I said.

26,641. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have had regular work, and been employed by your master for years?—Yes.

25,642. Who did you work for?—For Mrs. Soch, as I do now.

25,643. Did you work for anybody else, did you work for Mr. Apted a little time in gardening, a little of your overtime?—I have at times.

25,644. Did you in that summer?—I did a little.

25,645. Now don't be angry with me?—I am not angry.

25,646. For which of the Apted's did you work?—Mr. James Apted.

25,647. Has he a garden?—Yes.

25,648. Have you done so lately for him?—Not this summer, for I have more work than I can well do.

25,649. Did you last summer?—Yes.

25,650. I believe nearly all the canvassers wished you would do their gardens for them that summer?—Not more then than at other times.

25,651. Were you at work for him the day of the election?—I was not; I told you I came to my work on that day, but I was knocked up and went home again.

25,652. Then I misunderstood you; you had not been at work for a week?—I had not been at work for eight or nine days. It was after the election when I was unwell.

25,653. Were you at work before the polling day?—I was at work at the Priory before the polling day.

25,654. Were you at work on the polling day?—I went out in the morning to my work, but I was knocked up, and then I left off and went home.

25,655. Why?—Because I was not well.

25,656. You say you were unwell after the election?—I went to work on the polling day, but I knocked up, and did not work for eight or nine days afterwards.

25,657. I suppose you worked up to that time a little for Mr. Apted?—I had seen him.

25,658. He spoke to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—No, never.

25,659. You knew he took an active part in the election?—He did not speak to me at all about it.

25,660. You knew he was a strong Monson man, did you not?—Certainly, I knew he was a strong Monson man.

25,661. And you yourself made up your mind to vote for Mr. Monson?—I did when I got into the hall.

25,662. What time was that?—Five minutes to 4.

25,663. Then you knew it was of no use?—I did not want it to be of any use.

25,664. Why did you not want it to be of any use?—I did not intend to have been there that morning.

25,665. I do not understand you; when you polled did you not know your vote would be of no use to Mr. Monson?—No, I did not know how it stood. I did not know who had the most votes.

25,666. Not when you went up?—No, I did after; I was back again 10 minutes after. I said I intended to stop here an hour, and then I shifted my quarters and went home.

JULIUS WELLS called, sworn, and examined.

J. Wells.

25,667. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A draper.

25,668. Where do you live?—In Redhill.

25,669. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

25,670. For whom?—For Mr. Gower.

25,671. What rent do you pay for the house for which you vote?—44*l.* a year.

25,672. You are one of the principal drapers of Redhill?—One of them.

25,673. Were you on the committee?—No, I did not take any active part in the election.

25,674. I believe they patronized you by buying a few ribbons?—Yes.

25,675. Who bought them?—Mr. Nichols bought some ribbons.

25,676. Were they bought in a large or in a small way?—Merely a couple of pieces. I am not certain whether it was on the nomination or on the polling day. I think the polling day.

25,677. Let me ask you generally, being about the town did you notice as an independent man how the election was being carried on?—No, I did not take any particular notice; I never attended any of the meetings; in fact I took very little interest in the matter.

25,678. Not on either side?—Not on either side.

25,679. Did you sell ribbons to the other side?—I sold to both parties.

25,680. Were those ribbons sent to the committee rooms?—No, Mr. Nichols called as he was passing, he took them himself; about two pieces, I think.

25,681. That would not be any very great quantity?—No, the bill was about 33*s.* I think.

25,682. Whose bill?—Mr. Nichols.

25,683. How many yards of ribbons would that represent?—Two pieces, 36 yards each.

25,684. Whole pieces?—Yes, and I made up about eight or ten rosettes for the horses.

25,685. For whom?—For Mr. Robinson. Mr. Nichols' account.

25,686. Is that all you are aware of?—Yes.

25,687. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is Alfred Wells your brother?—My father.

25,688. Which way did your father vote?—For Mr. Gower.

25,689. The same as you did?—Yes.

25,690. My friend addressed you as an independent elector. Were you an independent elector when you gave your vote?—Quite so.

25,691. Did you receive any consideration?—Not the slightest whatever.

25,692. Not of any kind?—No, nor any promise.

25,693. You gave quite an independent vote?—Yes.

25,694. That is what you wish me to take?—Yes.

25,695. Did your father attend the committee?—He was not on the committee, and I do not think he ever took any part in the election.

SIXTEENTH DAY.

P. Burtenshaw.

8 Sept. 1866.

PETER BURTENSHAW called, sworn, and examined.

25,696. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A bricklayer's labourer.

25,697. What rent do you pay for your house?—14*l.*

25,698. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Richardson.

25,699. That was at the last election?—At the last election.

25,700. Who canvassed you?—No one.

25,701. You had promised, I believe, to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

25,702. Had you not?—No.

25,703. Mr. Richardson was not a candidate?—I never promised no one; no one come nigh me.

25,704. Who first spoke to you about voting?—Well, sir, I cannot say; neither candidate.

25,705. Who spoke to you about voting for Monson? Not no one; not one more than another.

25,706. Did anybody call upon you and ask you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

25,707. Nobody at all?—No.

25,708. Did anybody call upon you and ask you to vote for Mr. Gower?—No.

25,709. Where do you live?—In Nutley-lane.

25,710. Did nobody call upon you on behalf of either of the candidates, Mr. Gower or Mr. Monson?—No.

25,711. Were you at the nomination?—No, not before I came home from my work.

25,712. What time did you get home from work?—I leave off at half-past 5, about 20 minutes or a quarter to 6.

25,713. It was all over then?—Yes; I was not there.

25,714. What time did you come up to the polling?—I cannot say; not within an hour.

25,715. Who came up with you?—No one.

25,716. Who spoke to you that morning?—I know no one that did.

25,717. Who spoke to you about coming up?—No one; not one.

25,718. Who did you see when you came up to vote?—I cannot tell, I did not know them; I voted for Richardson.

25,719. Who told you that Mr. Richardson was a candidate?—I had no one to tell me.

25,720. Who told you that he was up?—I shall not answer the question.

25,721. You had better?—No; I am true and 'stantial.

25,722. You had better, because we have power to make you answer?—There was not one.

25,723. You may answer as you will, but you must answer. Who told you that Mr. Richardson was a candidate?—I do not know that any one particular did.

25,724. Who did?—Not particular any one that I know of.

25,725. How did you know that he was a candidate?—No one told me.

25,726. Up to the nomination day did you know who were the candidates?—No; neither of them came to me.

25,727. Did you know that Mr. Monson was a candidate?—Yes. Mr. Monson never came nigh me.

25,728. I did not ask that. Did you know that Mr. Monson was a candidate?—I do not know; I cannot say; they never came nigh me.

25,729. Did you know that he was a candidate?—No.

25,730. Did you know that Mr. Gower was a candidate?—No; he never came nigh to me.

25,731. You did not receive any money at all?—No.

25,732. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Not before or after?—Not before or after; I gave my vote free for Mr. Richardson.

J. Nye.

JOHN NYE called, sworn, and examined.

25,733 (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where do you belong?—To Reigate.

25,734. What are you?—A confectioner.

25,735. What rent do you pay for your house?—20*l.* a year.

25,736. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

25,737. Did you promise him in the first instance? Yes.

25,738. Who asked you to vote for him?—He asked me himself.

25,739. Did you promise him straight of?—Straight off. I lived on the estate about two and a half years; Lady Warwick's.

25,740. On the Monson estate?—Yes.

25,741. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you put on the committee then?—No.

25,742. Did you not canvass and do what you could for the family?—No; I was in business at the time, and I had no time.

25,743. As a confectioner?—Yes.

25,744. Did anybody else ask you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No one.

25,745. Did anybody ask you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Well, I saw Mr. Smith, and Mr. Gower, and Mr. Apted; they came to me one day, all three together.

25,746. What did Mr. Apted say to you?—He did not say anything, Mr. Gower came and spoke to me.

25,747. He asked you for your vote?—Yes.

25,748. What did you say?—I said I could not promise.

25,749. Did you say you were going to vote for Monson?—I did not tell him.

25,750. After that did Mr. Apted come?—No.

25,751. Who was with him?—They were all together.

25,752. Did you see nobody from Mr. Gower's side after that?—I spoke to Mr. Rose, that is all.

25,753. What did Mr. Rose say to you?—He only asked me if I would like to vote the other side, I said I had not made up my mind; which I had made up my mind on the other side.

25,754. Did he offer any inducement?—He offered me work, but I had no time.

25,755. Who offered you work?—Mr. Rose said I could go on.

25,756. What did he offer you?—He said he would pay me so much per week.

25,757. How much?—He did not say.

25,758. Did he mention how much?—He did not mention how much.

25,759. Did you agree to do it?—No, I could not; I had not got time.

25,760. That was your reason, because you had not got time?—I had not time.

25,761. That was your reason?—Yes.

25,762. If you had time I suppose you would have taken his offer?—Yes, I dare say I should.

25,763. You would have gone to work for Rose on those terms if you had not had too much business?—Certainly.

25,764. You told him so, did you?—Yes.

25,765. Was that the end of that?—Yes.

25,766. Do you recollect being asked another time by somebody else?—No, I do not recollect.

25,767. Was that about three weeks before the election?—It might have been a month.

25,768. Did not any of the Monson people come to you again?—There may have been some come.

25,769. Then be so good as to tell me about it?—Mr. Nichols spoke to me, and I said I had promised Mr. Monson.

25,770. He spoke to you afterwards?—Afterwards.

25,771. He asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—I said I had promised my vote to Mr. Monson.

25,772. But you had not, had you?—Yes, I had promised.

25,773. You did not tell Apted so?—I did not tell any of them.

25,774. You told Rose the other way, that you had not promised?—I did not satisfy them. When Mr. Monson called upon me I promised him there and then.

25,775. You said you had promised to Mr. Monson; did he say anything more?—No.

25,776. Did he not ask you to go to work?—He came and saw me after that again. He asked me if I would keep to my word, and I said, "Yes." That is all I ever saw of him.

25,777. That was before the election?—Yes.

25,778. What did you tell him?—I told him I would keep to my word.

25,779. Do you recollect his saying to you "Well, "there is no reason why you should not have what "the rest have," or something like that?—No, he did not say anything like that.

25,780. Not at that time?—No.

25,781. Did he come again?—No.

25,782. Who went with you to vote?—Fred Fuller. I said to him over night, "If you will come and fetch "me I shall be ready at 8 o'clock," because I was going out with my bread.

25,783. You went up to vote?—Yes.

25,784. After the election do you remember Nichols coming to you?—No.

25,785. Do you remember somebody coming from Nichols?—No, no one ever came afterwards.

25,786. Not from Nichols?—No, nor from anyone else.

25,787. Did not anyone call upon you after the election?—No.

25,788. Did you not see somebody after the election?—I saw Mr. Nichols after the election.

25,789. Then you recollect what passed, I have no doubt?—I do not know that there was anything.

25,790. You spoke to him, I suppose?—Of course.

25,791. What did he say?—He was pleased to think I had stuck to my word; I do not think there was anything else passed at the time.

25,792, Do you not recollect his saying something about "You might as well have what the others had"?—No, he never said a word about it.

25,793. About what?—About money or anything else; he knew my business took all my time.

25,794. But inasmuch as you had been staunch, and he was pleased at it, did he not say "You may as well "have like the rest"?—No, he did not.

25,795. Did you not receive something about that time?—No.

25,796. Did you not receive it afterwards?—No.

25,797. Did you receive nothing?—Nothing.

25,798. Nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

25,799. Neither before nor after the electoin?—No.

25,800. You voted at 8 o'clock in the morning?—Yes.

25,801. Have you sent in a little account?—No.

25,802. Have you sent in a claim?—I asked Mr. Nichols for a little recompence, but he has not satisfied me.

25,803. Was that at the time when you had the conversation, and he said he was glad you had stuck to your word?—No, it was after that.

25,804. You asked Nichols for some satisfaction?—Yes.

25,805. But you received nothing?—Nothing.

25,806. What did he say?—He said he should see me another day.

25,807. When did the other day come?—I never thought any more about it.

25,808. Did you tell him what you were expecting?—No, I did not tell him; I thought perhaps I should get a few shillings for my trouble.

25,809. You would not have taken a few shillings; if you were paid anything at all it would have been for your vote, because you had done nothing besides?—I was not paid anything.

25,810. Did you give him to understand what you were looking for; you will not say that you were looking for a few shillings?—I did not tell him anything.

25,811. What were you looking for?—I should have expected a sovereign, that is all.

25,812. You knew what other people were getting?—No, I did not interfere about it.

25,813. You heard?—I heard.

25,814. Then what were you hoping for?—I only heard what others were getting.

25,815. You know what they were getting?—I did not expect to get it.

25,816. But what were you rather hoping for?—I was not hoping for anything.

25,817. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had heard that others were getting as much as 5*l.*?—Yes, but that did not trouble me. I promised my vote and I kept my word.

25,818. You had plenty of work of your own, and you have done nothing in the election except vote?—That is all.

25,819. Now answer me this question; do you think 1*l.* a fair price for a vote?—Well, I should have been very well satisfied with it.

25,820. I know that, because you could not get more; but I want to know whether you consider 1*l.* a fair price for a vote?—Well, I should think so.

25,821. You would take more if you could get it?—That I do not say.

25,822. I want you to say?—I have never been offered any more.

25,823. If you had been offered 5*l.* would you have been happy to take it?—I dare say I should take it as well as the rest.

25,824. Have you voted before?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

25,825. In 1863?—Yes.

25,826. Tell us what you got that time?—I got nothing at all; I was in business then.

25,827. Did you send in anything?—No, I did not send in any account.

25,828. Were you looking for something then?—Me?

25,829. Yes?—I got half a sovereign on the polling day for my morning's work.

25,830. When did you get it, after you had polled?—Yes, about a week afterwards.

25,831. Who from?—From one of the secretaries of the name of John Knight.

25,832. Then you did get 10*s.*?—Yes.

25,833. Was that all you got?—That was all.

25,834. Did you think 10*s.* in those days a fair price for a vote?—I did not expect to get anything.

25,835. Did you think 10*s.* in those days a fair price for a vote?—I am sure I do not know, I was a young beginner then; I do not know much about it.

25,836. Was that the first time?—Yes.

25,837. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose you were so young that you did not know the value of a vote?—No, I did not.

25,838. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did not Mr. Nichols advance some money to you?—Some time before.

25,839. How soon before?—It might be three months.

25,840. How much did he advance to you?—That I am paying back by instalments.

25,841. How much did he advance?—10*l.*

25,842. I think it was not quite so much as three months before the election?—Yes it was.

25,843. Have you any memorandum of it?—I have at home.

25,844. You borrowed the money?—Yes. I did borrow it, I hired it for a time; it is the same as borrowing.

25,845. You have not paid much of it off?—Not much.

25,846. How much have you paid back?—Well, I have not paid any back; we have never come to no statement yet.

25,847. You have paid no interest?—No.

25,848. When did Mr. Nichols apply to you for it?—He has not applied at all.

SIXTEENTH DAY.

J. Nye.

8 Sept. 1866.

25,849. Do you know that Mr. Nichols sent in that 10*l.* as having been paid to you in his account?—I do not know.

25,850. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith,*) You told us that you had got 10*l.*, and that you were paying it by instalments?—I said I was going to pay it back by instalments.

25,851. Nichols is an officer of the county court, is he not?—I do not know.

25,852. He knows perfectly well how to collect his own debts?—That is very true.

25,853. He has not applied to you?—No.

25,854. When you were with Nichols, and were asking for satisfaction, did you say anything about that 10*l.*?—No, not a word.

25,855. Did he not say that you owed him 10*l.*?—He said there would be a settlement some day.

25,856. About the satisfaction?—Yes.

25,857. He did not say anything about the 10*l.*?—Not a word.

25,858. Did you not think it rather odd?—He never asked for the money, or I might have paid him by instalments.

25,859. You asked him for the money?—That was to do me good.

25,860. I mean the satisfaction, had you asked him for the money?—Of course.

25,861. That was when you owed him 10*l.*?—I only wanted to have an understanding what I was to have, that is all.

T. Elliott.

THOMAS ELLIOTT called, sworn, and examined.

25,862. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A labourer; I work in a chalk pit.

25,863. What do you pay a year for your house in which you live?—I live in my own house.

25,864. What would be the rent?—12*l.* a year.

25,865. Rental or rating?—That would be the rent.

25,866. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

25,867. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No one.

25,868. Did nobody call upon you?—No.

25,869. How is it you voted for Mr. Monson?—I thought he was the best man of the two, and I went and offered myself to him.

25,870. To whom did you go to offer yourself?—To Mr. Monson himself.

25,871. How did you go?—I told him I should vote for him.

25,872. Of course you were then put on his committee?—Yes.

25,873. Where did the committee that you were on sit?—Sometimes at the "White Hart," and sometimes at different places.

25,874. You live at Reigate?—In Nutley-lane.

25,875. You saw Mr. Nichols, did you not, on Mr. Monson's behalf?—I saw him at the committee room.

25,876. He was a very active man on Mr. Monson's part?—I do not know about that.

25,877. Who else did you see besides Nichols?—A good many people.

25,878. Mr. Holdsworth?—I saw him when he came down into the town.

25,879. I mean on the committee?—No one in particular.

25,880. Who did you see on the committee besides Nichols?—Sometimes ever so many, and sometimes only a few.

25,881. How many meetings did you attend?—Very likely 30.

25,882. You were a very active man?—Yes.

25,883. Were you canvassing?—No.

25,884. Did you do anything except attend the committee meetings?—I was a messenger too.

25,885. What did you get for what you did?—2*l.*

25,886. 2*l.* a week?—2*l.* in all.

25,887. Were you paid before the election or after?—After.

25,888. Who paid you?—Mr. Nichols 1*l.*, and James Apted 1*l.*

25,889. How came Nichols not to pay you the 2*l.*?—I do not know particularly how that was.

25,890. Who paid you first?—Mr. Nichols.

25,891. Then you went to Apted?—I did, because he employed me as a messenger sometimes.

25,892. You voted, I suppose, in the election of 1863?—Yes.

25,893. For Mr. Monson?—No, for Mr. Wilkinson.

25,894. Were you on Mr. Wilkinson's committee?—Yes.

25,895. What did you get at that election?—2*l.*

25,896. Who paid you?—Frederick Joyes.

25,897. And you voted also at the election of 1859, did you not?—Yes.

25,898. It was Wilkinson and Monson then?—Yes.

25,899. You voted for Wilkinson against Monson?—Yes.

25,900. Were you on Mr. Wilkinson's committee?—Yes, I was.

25,901. What did you get for that election?—2*l.*

25,902. It was always 2*l.*—Yes.

25,903. Who gave it to you for Mr. Wilkinson?—Frederick Joyes.

25,904. Did you vote in October 1858, the year before, when Sir Henry Rawlinson was candidate?—Yes.

25,905. For whom did you vote?—Sir Henry.

25,906. Had you 2*l.* then?—No, I was a regular messenger then at 5*s.* a day.

25,907. What did you get then?—30*s.*

25,908. Who paid you the 30*s.*?—I do not know. I was paid in the committee room. Who it was that paid me I do not know.

25,909. Did you vote at the election in the early part of that year, when Doulton, Wilkinson, Monson, and Rawlinson, were candidates?—Yes, for Sir Henry Rawlinson, I think.

25,910. I thought you voted for Doulton?—No.

25,911. What did you get?—I was employed a good while for Mr. Doulton, but I did not vote for him.

25,912. What money did you receive from Mr. Doulton?—I was paid 3*s.* a day.

25,913. How much money did you get?—I do not know. We were carrying boards about with papers on them.

25,914. You were paid a guinea a week were you?—18*s.* a week; it was paid every night.

25,915. You got 30*s.*, did you not, for voting for Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I got 30*s.* for being messenger for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

25,916. Then you were employed by Mr. Doulton; can you tell me how long you were employed?—No, I cannot.

25,917. Six or seven weeks?—Very likely; I did not keep an account.

25,918. It was a long time?—I do not know, I did not keep an account.

25,919. Can you tell me how many other voters there were carrying about boards?—No, I am sure I cannot.

25,920. A great many?—Some were voters and some were not.

25,921. Did you receive anything from Sir Henry Rawlinson's committee upon that occasion?—I was employed as a messenger, and had 30*s.*; 5*s.* a day.

25,922. You did not vote for Mr. Doulton, though you were employed for him?—No.

25,923. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Wilkinson that time, when Mr. Doulton went up.

25,924. What did you get from the Wilkinson people?—I told you once; 2*l.*

THOMAS ISTED called, sworn, and examined.

25,925. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A fishmonger.

25,926. You live at Reigate?—Yes.

25,927. What rent do you pay for your house?—16*l.* a year.

25,928. You voted at the last election?—Yes, for Mr. Monson.

25,929. Have you been here during several elections?—This is my first election.

25,930. Did Mr. Monson ask you for your vote?—He did.

25,931. Did you promise him at once?—At once.

25,932. How was that? Did you know him before?—I understood that he was a Reigate person.

25,933. That was your reason?—That was the reason.

25,934. And you told him so?—I do not know that I told him so; my head is very much affected, and I have very little recollection about the election.

25,935. You think you promised Mr. Monson when he first asked you?—Yes.

25,936. I suppose you were canvassed and talked to by some other person belonging to his party?—No other party at all; only Mr. Monson; not that I have any recollection of whatever.

25,937. Do you recollect any one in particular having a talk about the election?—No; no one else has ever mentioned anything to me about the election.

25,938. I suppose you knew several persons who were backers of Mr. Monson?—No, I do not know that I did.

25,939. Who do you recollect was a backer of Mr. Monson?—I do not recollect any one; I do not have anything to do with backers; I am not about amongst the voters.

25,940. I suppose you know that Nichols was a backer of Mr. Monson?—I do not know.

25,941. You know the people in the town very well?—I do not know them; I hear their names sometimes.

25,942. Did you not hear sometimes that Mr. Nichols was a man who was very active about the election?—I have heard it since the election, since you have been here, but I have never heard it before. I have heard the newspapers, if I had not I never should have remembered it so long.

25,943. Do you recollect who were among your friends among the Monson party, your more immediate friends?—I have no friends at all.

25,944. I hope we have all friends?—I do not think so; there are more enemies.

25,945. Who do you know best among the Monson party?—No one best at all.

25,946. You used to meet them, I suppose, occasionally. I suppose of an evening you would go out and get a glass of beer?—Yes, so I should of a morning, for I like beer.

25,947. Then do you not remember, when you went for your beer, talking to people whom you remember as taking an active part in the election?—No.

25,948. Perhaps I can remind you. Do you know James Apted?—No.

25,949. You know him by name?—I believe he is a brother fishmonger; I know him by name.

25,950. He belongs to the same guild as you do?—Yes.

25,951. You knew a man of the name of Henry Francis?—No.

25,952. Do you not remember Francis at the election?—No.

25,953. He took a very active part in the election?—I do not know him.

25,954. Do you remember having a conversation with James Apted?—No.

25,955. Not at all?—No, I could not tell you what year the election was.

25,956. You remember there was an election?—Well, I am told there was an election, but I really cannot remember. I do not know when it was.

25,957. Do you remember being paid some money about that time?—No.

25,958. Do you not recollect a man paying you some money?—No.

25,959. I suppose, being a fishmonger, people owe you money sometimes?—Yes; but very likely they would not pay me.

25,960. You could not go on long in that way?—I do not trust much.

25,961. Do you recollect money being paid you over the counter?—No money is ever paid me over the counter.

25,962. Then you do trust a little?—It is never more than 1*s.* or 1*s.* 6*d.* I trust people.

25,963. Are you married?—I am married.

25,964. Your wife attends the shop?—No.

25,965. Who attends to the business?—A person that I hire.

25,966. A servant of yours?—Yes.

25,967. A man or woman?—A woman.

25,968. What is her name?—Elizabeth Sawyers.

25,969. She is married too, is she not?—She is not; I do not think she is.

25,970. She attends to the business more than your wife?—At home, yes.

25,971. Does she receive money for you?—If she sells the goods.

25,972. If I owed you 5*l.* or 1*l.* for fish might I not very well pay it to Elizabeth Sawyers?—Certainly, if I was not at home.

25,973. Do you recollect Elizabeth Sawyers receiving some money about the time of the election?—What for.

25,974. A man came in and paid her, and told her it was for you?—No, no more than what she has bills to show for; there are ladies and gentlemen that run little bills.

23,975. Do you not recollect Elizabeth Sawyers about the time of the election receiving money and telling you about it?—No.

25,976. You say you do not recollect receiving it yourself?—I do not recollect receiving anything more than what I have got bills to show.

25,977. You have not the bills here?—My books are at home of what people have had. I cannot tell what she has taken.

25,978. I dare say you know a man named Frederick Fuller?—I do.

25,979. When I mention his name, will you remember receiving some money about the time of the election?—I shall never recollect that.

25,980. You would not?—No.

25,981. I thought that might recall it?—No.

25,982. I does not?—Not in the least.

25,983. Was Fuller at your house about that time?—No, not that I know of. He might come in for a penny herring or anything of that sort. I do not know whether he was at my house or whether he was not. I cannot answer such a question as that.

25,984. He might come in and give you a little order?—No.

25,985. Do you not recollect Fuller being there, and your receiving money, not from him, but from somebody else?—No.

25,986. I thought that would remind you. You say I am wrong?—I am sure you are.

25,987. I am wrong in that?—I am sure you are wrong in this; that I do not know nor recollect anything of the kind at all; not the least.

25,988. Just wait one moment. Tell me this, will you. Did you hear much about money being given away at the last election?—I heard nothing about money whatever.

25,989. I do not mean to you?—I never saw anyone.

25,990. Not in talking to anybody?—No, because

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I did not associate with no one; only my own business; therefore I never could hear these things.

25,991. Did Mr. Gower call upon you?—I believe he called.

25,992. Can you tell me at all, was that after you had promised Mr. Monson or before?—I could not tell you for the world.

25,993. You could not?—No, not for the world.

25,994. Do you remember who called with Mr. Gower?—I do not.

25,995. What did you say to him? Did you say you would consider about it?—I do not know; I do not recollect.

25,996. You do not recollect that?—No.

25,997. Do you remember his asking you to go on the committee because he thought you had some influence?—I do not recollect. I do not recollect a word that was said; not one word; more than that, I cannot recollect the election even. My head is so very much affected that I shall not know anything to-morrow of what I am talking about to-day.

The witness withdrew.

C. Kemp.

CHARLES KEMP sworn and examined.

25,998. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You voted at the last election?—Yes.

25,999. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

26,000. What rent do you pay for your house?—At that time I paid 10*l.* 8*s.*

26,001. Did you pay it by the quarter?—By the month.

26,002. What are you?—A bricklayer.

26,003. You paid so much a month, and it came to 10*l.* 8*s.* a year?—Yes.

26,004. Were you canvassed by the Gower party?—Well, I was, sir.

26,005. Who canvassed you on the part of Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower himself.

26,006. Anybody else?—No.

26,007. Nobody?—No, not of the Gower party.

26,008. Did you tell him you would vote for him?—I told him I had promised Mr. Monson.

26,009. Nobody troubled you on the part of Mr. Gower at all?—Not at all.

26,010. For whom did you promise on the part of Mr. Monson?—Corderoy.

26,011. What was the nature of your little interview with Corderoy?—He passed along as I was working on the building.

26,012. On the what?—On the building.

26,013. Where you were working?—Yes, near where I am now living. I told him I had not promised to give my vote; I had no one to ask me anything of it. He then asked me if I would have my name put on Mr. Monson's committee, and I said no, I would not. He asked me if I would promise to vote for Mr. Monson, and I said yes, I would. That is all that he asked.

26,014. It did not quite end there, did it?—Yes, it ended there completely.

26,015. Were you to do any work for Mr. Monson?—No.

26,016. Canvassing for him?—No, I was busy on my own account and had no time.

26,017. Corderoy held out some little inducement, did not he, that it might lead to something satisfactory?—No, not at all. He asked me if I would promise my vote and I said I would.

26,018. Then you voted for him?—Yes.

26,019. What did you get?—Well, sir, about a week or ten days after the election I met Corderoy, and he asked me what I was indebted for the expenses or loss of time I had been put to. I told him I was not aware that he was indebted at all, for I was not promised anything and did not expect anything.

26,020. And so?—"Well," he said, "I don't wish "you to lose your time." "Well," I said, "all the "time I have lost is the polling day and the nomi- "nation day. I did not expect," I said, "to have "anything for that." "Well," he says, "we will "pay you for all your loss of time. If you will tell "me what the amount of the two days you lost is I "will pay you." I said, "If you wish to pay me, I "don't expect it, I shall say 6*s.* a day, that is 12*s.* "for the two days."

26,021. What did he pay you?—He paid me 12*s.* It was what I did not expect. I told him I did not engage to have anything, and did not wish to have anything, but he wished to pay me, and I told him I should expect to earn that if I had been at work for the two days and he paid me.

26,022. Then, in point of fact, the 12*s.* was forced upon you?—No, he wished to pay it. That was the only time I had lost. I did not take part in canvassing, for I was working on my own account. I said, "If "you wish to pay me, I don't expect it, but it would "be 6*s.* a day for two days."

26,023. Were you at the nomination?—Yes.

26,024. And went back to work afterwards?—No, I did not do anything on either day, more than go to the poll and attend the nomination.

26,025. It was a sort of general holiday, I suppose?—Well, I was not at work at my own trade.

26,026. Or anybody else? And the same on the polling day as the nomination?—Well, I suppose I spent the day in the polling, and all through the nomination day.

26,027. The 12*s.* was forced upon you, and you took it?—He said he wished to satisfy me for my loss of time, and as he wished to do so I accepted of it.

26,028. I presume this was your first election—My first election.

The witness withdrew.

W. Stuchberry.

WILLIAM STUCHBERRY sworn and examined.

26,029. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

26,030. And what rent do you pay for your house?—10*l.* 10*s.* a year.

26,031. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

26,032. Were you on his committee?—No, I was not on his committee.

26,033. Who spoke to you about voting?—One of my mates what was for him.

26,034. What was his name?—Fuller.

26,035. Frederick Fuller?—No, sir, Richard.

26,036. He told you what was going, did he not?—He asked me if I would promise to vote and I said "No." He said "I can get you 30*s.* a week."

26,037. How long before the election?—I do not know how long before.

26,038. Three or four weeks?—I had two pays.

26,039. Two 30*s.*?—Yes.

26,040. You were not on the committee at all?—No.

26,041. Who paid you the two 30*s.*?—Richard Fuller.

26,042. From whom did he receive the money?—I do not know.

26,043. Did not he tell you?—No.

26,044. He was one of your fellow workmen?—Yes.

26,045. How many of you were there that had votes?—Only him and me.

26,046. None of the others had votes?—No.

26,047. What was the last time he paid? A week before the election?—Before the election.

26,048. How long before?—The Saturday night before the election.

26,049. The night before the election?—The Saturday night.

26,050. How was it you were not to get 30*s.* during the election week?—I do not know.

26,051. You expected it?—I expected it.

26,052. Just so, and a little more?—No, that is always the sum.

26,053. And did you apply to him afterwards?—He said, "I don't think we can get our money."

26,054. Did not he tell you that, and then you inquired who was to pay it?—I said, "How are we "going on, then?" and he says, "I don't know I am "sure." I never had any more to do with it. I did not interfere more about it.

26,055. You inquired?—No; that was all as canvassed me, and that is all I did.

26,056. Where did he go to get the money, do you know?—I do not know. He brought it to me at my house.

26,057. I suppose he came in to town, to the committee, to get it?—I do not know.

26,058. You do not know that he gave you all he received?—I don't know about that.

26,059. Of course you did nothing but give your vote?—Oh yes, I ran about.

26,060. You said you were not on the committee. Your name was not on the committee?—No.

26,061. What running about was there?—Several places I went to.

26,062. And had some refreshments?—Yes.

26,063. I mean refreshments which you did not pay for?—Some I did pay for.

26,064. But I am speaking of those you did not?—Well, I did not have much but what I did pay for.

26,065. When you went about you did not pay for refreshments?—I did not go about, only to Langridge's.

26,066. Well, just so. I only took your own words. You said you ran about?—Not to public meetings.

26,067. You had some beer at Langridge's?—Ginger beer.

26,068. I mean that you did not pay for?—Yes, I did, sir.

26,069. You had nothing there but what you paid for?—Nothing but what I paid for.

26,070. Had you been in no other public house?—No, no other public house, not on the election.

26,071. Was this the first time you voted?—Yes.

26,072. Who took you to the poll?—No one.

26,073. I mean, with whom did you go?—Nobody; I went by myself.

26,074. You went alone?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

HENRY GRAY sworn and examined.

H. Gray.

26,075. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A labourer.

26,076. What rent do you pay for your house?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week during the election.

26,077. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

26,078. Was that your first election?—The first election.

26,079. Whom did you promise your vote to?—Nobody.

26,080. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No one.

26,081. Before the election came on, when did you make up your mind to vote for Mr. Monson?—I never made up my mind at all.

26,082. You did vote at last?—I voted for Monson at last.

26,083. Be so good as to tell me why?—Because I thought we ought to vote for him, because he belonged to our place.

26,084. What is your place?—Reigate.

26,085. Does Mr. Monson belong to Reigate?—He belongs to the neighbourhood of Reigate.

26,086. Well, you did make up your mind some time before you gave your vote?—Yes, about the night before.

26,087. Before the election?—Yes. If I had told you the truth I should have told you Monday night. The election was on the Wednesday; it is not far out. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Really the election was the nomination, so that is quite near enough.

26,088. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are quite right. Tell me who talked to you about it about that time?—I will answer you all questions you put to me.

26,089. Well, who talked to you?—I cannot recollect, it is so long ago.

26,090. Where were you when you made up your mind on the Monday night?—At home.

26,091. Are you married?—Yes.

26,092. And live in Reigate?—I live in Reigate.

26,093. Was it all of a sudden that you made up your mind to vote for Mr. Monson?—All of a sudden.

26,094. Was it done quite suddenly, or what decided you on that Monday night?—It was pretty near done of a sudden.

26,095. Somebody came and called on you?—No, they did not.

26,096. Had you seen somebody?—Seen somebody? I had seen my wife.

26,097. I mean by "somebody" somebody who came to talk to you about the election?—No.

26,098. Did you and your wife talk it over?—No, me and my wife did not talk over them matters. That's the worst person in the world to talk to about such things. Never let a woman know your mind about electioneering.

26,099. Now you have let that matter out, tell me, previous to that time had you been on one of the committees?—No, I believe not.

26,100. You are not sure?—I am quite sure.

26,101. You were doing work, I see, for Gower's people before that?—Most decidedly I was.

26,102. Who asked you to do work for Mr. Gower?—I believe Job Apted and another man.

26,103. What was it you had done?—Circulars and so on.

26,104. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And work about the election?—Yes.

26,105. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The work was, as my friend said, about the election?—I hope we shall be as good friends another twelvemonth, sir.

26,106. What?—You said "my friend."

26,107. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What were the terms upon which you were to get paid?—For carrying circulars, 5*s.* a day.

26,108. And how much was paid?—That is what I received when I did carry them out.

26,109. How much did it come to altogether?—Well, it was at such odd times that I could not count it. The last week was very fairly equalled, that was six days, the other weeks were odd, and I could not tell how much it was altogether.

26,110. Cannot you tell how much you received altogether?—No, that is what I could not tell, because it was such odd times.

26,111. Cannot you put the odd times together?—I could not.

26,112. Did you receive as much as 5*l.*? My notion was, but may be I am wrong, I have not had full information, my notion was that it was 5*l.*?—Well, I believe you know as much about it as I do.

26,113. May I take it about 5*l.*; I won't do it without your permission?—Well, I won't say.

26,114. Well, will you permit me to say it was about 5*l.* that you received? I won't do it without

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your leave?—Well, it is a wrong thing to say if you don't know.

26,115. Well, but *about* 5*l.* You received 30*s.* one week, and my notion was that you got about 5*l.* altogether?—I received 30*s.* for the last week, that was the 8th of July; the election came on the next week. I believe Saturday was July the 8th, and the election came on the next week. I received 30*s.* that night, and then there were two odd weeks. I won't be sure what I received.

26,116. Well, supposing that was 30*s.* it would be 4*l.* 10*s.*?—I did not make four weeks.

26,117. You might have counted other back odd days. I wish you would help me. I don't want to bind you to a particular sum?—I would just as lief help you as you help me.

26,118. Do you suppose you received 5*l.*, more or less?—I think I received less, but I cannot say altogether.

26,119. Wait a moment, and then you will see what I say; I will take it out if you do not like it,—"I "think I received less than 5*l.*" Is not that fair?—Well, as fair as we can get it now.

26,120. "Less than 5*l.*;" will that be it? You don't think you received more?—Well, I don't know whether I did or not.

26,121. Then I think I am on the safe side?—You ought to be; you are in the middle.

26,122. Why ought I to be?—One of us ought to be on the safe side.

26,123. Very well, we are all right. We shall have no difficulty at all about that?—Oh, we shall find out directly.

26,124. If you should find out exactly by-and-by, perhaps you will think it worth while to come and tell me?—I will go and ask them by-and-by.

26,125. Do exactly as you like about it. After that do you remember going into the "Grapes"?—After when, sir?

26,126. After you had been doing the work. After you were paid or before? I won't be quite sure when you were paid the last 30*s.*?—I cannot be sure.

26,127. Do you recollect going into the "Grapes"?—Oh, bless my soul, I goes in there often!

26,128. But about that time do you recollect being taken into the "Grapes"?—Twelve months ago?

26,129. Just before the election?—That is above twelve months ago.

26,130. I am asking you if you do not recollect it?—No, I do not recollect things, not particular things like that.

26,131. Do you recollect going into the "Grapes," and there being some talk about the election?—Well, I could not misunderstand about going into the "Grapes," and talking about the election, because the election was on then.

26,132. When you went into the "Grapes"?—The election was on.

26,133. Was it on then?—I expect it was.

26,134. Do you recollect something being said when you were in the "Grapes," only a day or two before the election?—It was on quick, was not it?

26,135. I think I am telling you quite right, but you do not seem to help me?—I will let you tell me all about it.

26,136. Will you agree to that?—If you don't go too far.

26,137. Don't let either of us go too far. A day or two before the election do you recollect going into the "Grapes"? Do tell me now?—Talk about a day or two! I very frequently go there.

26,138. You told me that before; but do you recollect going into the "Grapes" when the election was on or going on?—It was on a long while.

26,139. Do you recollect going into the "Grapes" and being talked to about your vote?—Talked to about my vote? Who by, sir?

26,140. And being asked to vote for Monson?—Who by?

26,141. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Anybody.—Oh, he is nobody.

26,142. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have not answered my question yet: do you recollect being taken into the "Grapes"?—My being taken there, sir?

26,143. Going into the "Grapes," and being asked to vote for Monson?—I do not recollect it.

26,144. Do you recollect going into the "Grapes" and being asked by Monson's party?—Monson's party used the "Grapes," I believe, generally.

26,145. You don't behave well to me, and do not answer my question.—Then I will, sir.

26,146. I ask you the third time, do you recollect going into the "Grapes" and being offered something for your vote by the Monson party?—Decidedly not.

26,147. How much of it do you recollect?—Nothing at all about asking for my vote, and nothing else about it—not in Nichols' house. You mean the "Grapes"?

26,148. Yes, that is the place. Was nothing said about your vote there?—No.

26,149. Don't you recollect being asked how you were going to vote?—No.

26,150. Don't you recollect telling them you had been taking out circulars for Mr. Gower?—No.

26,151. Then if anybody comes here and says so, it is a mistake?—I believe so.

26,152. If anybody comes here, and says that you came into the "Grapes," and were talked to about your vote, it is not correct?—You are asking me one question, sir. Do we ask one another questions? If so, who told you that?

26,153. No, that is another matter. Tell me whether you agree. Is that correct?—I do not recollect it.

26,154. You don't recollect it. Very well then, I will take your answer.—I do not.

26,155. Do you remember being also told that if you came and voted for Mr. Monson you would do better?—No.

26,156. Something of that sort?—I do not know anything of that sort at all.

26,157. Do you remember, then, that they said you would have a certain sum, naming it?—A sum of money, sir? No, nobody never promised me nothing on Mr. Monson's side. No one. Ne'er a one of Mr. Monson's party never promised me a farthing.

26,158. Oh, they did not?—They did not.

26,159. Why did you vote for Mr. Monson?—I told you before.

26,160. I did not hear it.—Because he belonged to the town.

26,161. But you had been working for Mr. Gower, you know?—I do work for two or three parties.

26,162. But you had promised Mr. Gower to vote?—I told them I would go with them, but I did not promise my vote.

26,163. You promised Mr. Gower?—No, I never see him to speak to.

26,164. What made you vote for Mr. Monson at last?—Because he belonged to the town.

26,165. That answer won't do.—Well, I have got nothing out of here to come out, sir.

26,166. Before the election did you receive any money from the Monson party?—From the Monson party?

26,167. Yes.—No.

26,168. Well, I will take down your answer.—I say no.

26,169. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) From any one?—No, sir, only what I worked for off of the Gowerites.

26,170. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is before the election?—Before the election.

26,171. Aye or no, did you receive any money after the election ?—Off of who ?

26,172. Never mind from whom.—Ask me who.

26,173. No, I won't do that. Did you receive money from either side after the election ?—I did.

26,174. Who from ?—Mr. William Holdsworth.

26,175. You ought to be ashamed of giving us all this trouble. — You never asked me the question first.

26,176. It is a miserable excuse. — I don't come here and spit it all out, without being asked, like some of them do.

26,177. You appear dull, and it seems you are impertinent as well.—I beg your pardon.

26,178. Those who come here appear as honest witnesses and speak the truth.—I tell you the truth when you ask.

26,179. How much did you receive? — *5l.* from William Holdsworth.

26,180. Had you ever voted before ?—No.

26,181. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you see Holdsworth before the election ?—Yes.

26,182. Where ?—Down at the "Grapes."

26,183. Did he speak to you about your vote ?—No, he asked me nothing about my vote. He says, "Have you got anything to do, Harry ?" I says, "I "have not." He says, "Will you go to work for me ?" He never had no agreement with me, but he gave me *5l.* after the election was over.

26,184. Then you were spoken to at the "Grapes" about the election ?—No, nothing about the election. Nothing was spoken at all when I went to work about the election by Mr. Holdsworth.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM CHILCOTT sworn and examined. *W. Chilcott*

26,185. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A carpenter.

26,186. What rent do you pay for your house ?—*5s. 6d.* a week.

26,187. For whom did you vote at the last election? —For Mr. Gower.

26,188. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

26,189. I need not go through it; who put you on his committee ?—When he canvassed me for my vote I promised him, and he asked me whether I would go on his committee.

26,190. Did you work for him ?—When you say work ——I was to attend meetings, committee meetings.

26,191. That is what I mean. And you interested yourself about his election ?—Well, yes, I did do so.

26,192. What did you receive ?—*2l.*

26,193. Who paid you ? Mr. Apted ?—No.

26,194. Joyes, Rose, or Buckland ?—Buckland.

26,195. Did he pay you after the election was over, or before ?—After the election.

26,196. He gave you *2l.* after the election. You expected more, did not you ?—No.

26,197. Nothing was said as to the terms when you were put on ?—Not at all.

26,198. How did you know you would be paid ?—Well, as regards that, there was something said in the hall, I think, by Mr. Gower, about those who were on the committee.

26,199. What was it Mr. Gower said ?—Something when he was in the hall here down below, that them that worked should be paid. Something to that effect; I cannot say the words, not particular.

26,200. Did that raise an expectation in your mind that you would get something by being on the committee ?—Yes.

26,201. Buckland paid you. You knew that you would be paid before that time, did not you ? You expected to be paid before then ?—Before when ?

26,202. Before you heard Mr. Gower's speech ?—No.

26,203. You did not expect, but you were on his committee before that. Or did you then go on his committee ?—Well, you may say I was on his committee the first of his election, the first part of his canvass.

26,204. But you did nothing ?—I do not know what you call nothing. I spent a good deal of time in coming down here.

26,205. Well, you did not lose a shilling ?—Oh, yes, I did.

26,206. Did you attend any of the meetings in the public houses in the evenings ?—Yes, sometimes.

26,207. And had refreshment ?—Yes.

26,208. Which you did not pay for ?—No.

26,209. That is what I mean. I mean you did not lose a day's work by it ?—Oh, yes, I did; I lost two or three days' work.

26,210. In what way ?—On the polling day I lost work.

26,211. You came to the poll you know; that was your own wish, it was at your option ?—Oh, yes.

26,212. How long after the election did Buckland pay you ?—I cannot say how long it was.

26,213. Did you apply to him ?—I did, I believe.

26,214. Why did you apply to him, when it was Mr. Gower who spoke to you about it ?—Knowing he was one of the agents.

26,215. The agent for the district ? — I do not know.

26,216. Why should not all the committee men be paid ?—Because, perhaps, they did not go and ask for it.

26,217. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you sure it was Buckland ?—I am quite sure of that.

26,218. He was the man ?—He was the man.

26,219. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) A fortnight after the election ?—No, I should think it would be much longer than that; nearer Christmas, I think.

26,220. Did you go to him, or did he come to you ? —I went to him.

26,221. You went to him before Christmas, I should think ?—No.

26,222. Why did you not ?—I cannot say why.

26,223. Because, you know, the election was in July?—I do not know whether it was so long as that; I cannot say; I kept no account of it.

26,224. You had not voted before ?—No.

26,225. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are sure it was Buckland who paid you ?—Yes.

26,226. It was nobody else ?—No.

26,227. Nobody at all ?—Nobody at all.

26,228. Did you get any notice to attend the meetings ?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS LE COURTOIS sworn and examined. *T. Le Courtois.*

26,229. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you? —A photographer and comic vocalist.

26,230. What rent are you paying ?—I live in my own house.

26,231. Is it a freehold house ?—Yes.

26,232. How long has your family been established in this part of the world ?—I understand about 30 years; my own connexions.

26,233. How long have your ancestors been here ? —I can remember my grandfather living here.

26,234. Before the introduction of photography ?— It was never thought of then.

SIXTEENTH DAY.

T. Le Courtois.

8 Sept. 1866.

26,235. What is your freehold worth?—I think it is assessed on the rate book, or valued at about 11*l.*

26,236. Well, tell me, who did you vote for?—At the last election?

26,237. Yes.—For Mr. Monson.

26,238. Who did you arrange with to vote for Mr. Monson?—Oh, arrange! I made no arrangement. I was asked to sign the requisition.

26,239. Tell me shortly, who was the person you looked to principally for money and that?—I did not look to any person for money.

26,240. Were you on the committee?—No.

26,241. Did you do any services?—No.

26,242. Nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

26,243. But you were paid afterwards for them?—No. Oh yes, I beg your pardon; I was paid for the day's —— what d'ye call it?

26,244. The nomination day?—No, no, not the nomination day, the polling day. That is the only payment.

26,245. Is that the only payment?—That is the only payment.

26,246. You got for that a guinea?—Yes.

26,247. Who from?—From Mr. Hart.

26,248. You say you had done nothing?—But that.

26,249. Tell me, had you voted at previous elections?—Yes.

26,250. In 1863 who did you vote for?—I did not vote at all.

26,251. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In 1865 did you do anything on the polling day except voting?—Yes. If you will allow me to make a trifling statement, I won't detain you a minute.

26,252. You received a guinea?—Certainly; I came up in the town in the usual way of an evening, going to smoke a pipe, and there was a little bit of a bustle, and I had a cart or trap, or something of the kind; I rode up into the town, and was asked to walk into the "White Hart." I had never been into a committee room on this occasion, and don't think I had been at any other place of that description, though I had been in the habit some years previous of doing so. I make this statement.

26,253. I want to know what you did on the polling day?—I went to and fro. The only thing I did was to go to and fro with a packet of letters, or something of that kind.

26,254. You went to the place where they were polling and the polling clerks gave you something to take to the committee room?—Something to take every hour.

26,255. The returns?—I think it was so.

26,256. You acted, in fact, as a messenger?—I think they called it messenger; they asked me if I would act in that way.

26,257. Did you have any refreshment?—No, I had no refreshment of any description that day, or no other days or nights.

26,258. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not vote in 1863?—No.

26,259. But you voted in the previous election of 1859?—I believe I voted at four elections during the time I have been at Reigate; if you will give me the dates I can tell you exactly.

26,260. In 1859 there was a general election, when Mr. Wilkinson and the Hon. Mr. Monson put up?—The general election?

26,261. Do you recollect whom you voted for then?—I can tell you the only important bit of business that I took; and it was for Mr. Wilkinson.

26,262. When was that?—I think it was in the year 1858 or 1859; the only engagement that I have ever had of any description in money matters.

26,263. Who opposed Mr. Wilkinson?—Lord Monson.

26,264. That is right. In 1859, then, who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson; the time I mean I did.

26,265. Very well; then I think I may take it 1858, the first time Monson and Wilkinson met?—Met together.

26,266. That is quite right; it was in October 1858?—There were two of them came very close together.

26,267. You voted for Wilkinson; you say on that occasion you did something for them?—I did, sir; I was engaged.

26,268. On the committee?—No, sir; I beg your pardon.

26,269. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) As a vocalist?—As a vocalist.

26,270. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who was the poet?—Before we left off they were all poets and singers; I thought I should have been knocked up with the services.

26,271. You sang a good deal?—More than I agreed on. I can give you plenty of proofs of it.

26,272. You will forgive me, did you sing on both sides?—No, sir, I did not.

26,273. You sang only Wilkinson's songs?—Only Wilkinson's songs.

26,274. And that was the principal work you did?—That was the principal; I was engaged for that and that alone.

26,275. What were you paid for that?—I made an agreement with Job Apted and, I think, Mr. Langridge, to go out and amuse Job Apted's company.

26,276. It was on paper, all written down?—Oh no.

26,277. It sounds like it?—The way I relate it to you, perhaps it does.

26,278. It sounds now as if you were reading a paper, you have got it all so correct?—I will tell you why. The night before I was wondering where you got the information from, and then I found who was doing it, and of course I knew Apted could give you all the information. I was rather surprised, and I was wondering where you gentlemen got the information from, and Apted told me directly.

26,279. You are quite wrong. Apted at this election was not engaged for Mr. Wilkinson, was he?—If he was not he engaged me for him.

26,280. Was it James or Job?—Job Apted. He remembers all about it.

26,281. You engaged with Job Apted; tell us what it was?—The amount I engaged for was 2*l.* 2*s.* a week, and a very small salary too.

26,282. How much a week?—If I was paid by the song, I should have made a tidy bit of it, I can assure you.

26,283. You ought to have been paid well?—I ought to have been paid well, but it was the reverse.

26,284. How much was it?—Only a couple of guineas for the whole week, and I have had outside that door as much as a guinea a night.

26,285. How much did it come to altogether?—That is a little thing I should like to tell you if I could. I cannot find anything to refresh my memory, but I will tell you as near as I can. I think the election lasted for many weeks—from what I can scrape up—on that occasion, when I was engaged as a singer, and I think I was engaged the second or third week in the election.

26,286. Quite right?—You shall have it all. I think I finished up the election, but I cannot tell you how long it was. But I can tell you pretty near the money, within a pound or two; of course, if you know the weeks, at 2*l.* or so a week, you can soon make it, but I think I was eight or nine weeks engaged then, with an extra or two.

26,287. Was it 20*l.*?—The extra was at a private house. I won't say to a week or a fortnight; it is quite near enough; say 20.

26,288. Was it pounds or guineas. If so it will be 21*l.*?—I cannot say whether it was pounds or guineas.

26,289–90. Whichever you like?

26,291. Was that your first election?—That was

the first election when I became popular. Oh, no, the first of my elections when I gained my popularity was Doulton's.

26,292. Let us have it shortly ?—In Doulton's election I received—Oh, about receiving—I think I received about a couple of pounds, but I was not engaged for any purpose of the kind. That was the only engagement I ever had. It was months and months afterwards, and I never expected to receive anything, but we had two or three little meetings, and I think it was all lumped together.

26,293. Who from ?—Mr. James Nichols, I think.

26,294. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Besides singing, did you vote ?—Yes, I did.

26,295. You did not do anything at Doulton's election, except give your vote ?—That is the only thing, if I can make you understand.

26,296. I hope you can ?—That is right.

26,297. You need not take much pains to make us understand ?—That time that I was engaged, it was an *ad libitum* affair. I went where I thought proper, and if any one invited me to sing I sang, or if I liked to sing I sang. I did so without promise of reward. But I have frequently had presents made to me from unknown gentlemen, but they were not amounts like this; such as a sovereign, or half a sovereign.

26,298. On these occasions I suppose, not only was the song *ad libitum*, but the refreshment too ?—I am not going to deny it. I believe it has been so ever since.

26,299. I rather think this gentleman here has got hold of a song; he has got a very curious looking paper here ?—I have got some in my pocket if you require them; evidence of my work which I did not agree for.

26,300. Did you compose a song ?—I compose a song ? I do not think I had talent enough for that. I have altered them.

26,301. You compiled them ?—In some way or other I have put them together. We changed them when it suited our purpose, for a bit of fun. The rest was all fun, but that was serious business.

26,302. You are a photographer; did you find your business lively in the morning ?—I found I was not lively in the morning, and it did not pay me. Though it brought popularity in the way of business in the day time, it did not answer the purpose.

26,303. Did you take any of the agents' likenesses ?—No. Some gentleman up in Wray-park.

26,304. What, Mr. Roslyn ?—A stranger to this place, but perfectly well known in London, in Regent-street.

26,305. Mr. Mayo ?—Mr. Mayo. I thought it was very unkind of them.

26,306. You did not vote in 1863, I think ?—No.

26,307. How was that ?—I was off the register, somehow or other, they gave me the cold shoulder.

The witness withdrew.

W. Wye.

William Wye sworn and examined.

26,308. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A carpenter.

26,309. What rent did you pay ?—35*l.*

26,310. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Monson.

26,311. Were you on the committee ?—No.

26,312. Who asked you ?—Mr. Monson.

26,313. Did anybody else canvass you ?—No.

26,314. Did you receive anything ?—No.

26,315. From no one ?—From no one.

26,316. Tell me, with whom did you go to the poll ?—By myself.

26,317. None of the agents ?—None of the agents.

26,318. Have you voted before at the previous elections ?—Yes.

26,319. For whom have you voted ?—I voted for Lord Monson.

26,320. In 1863 there was no Monson up, I think ? For whom did you vote in 1863 ?—For Mr. Gower.

26,321. Were you on Gower's committee in 1863 ?—Not as I am aware of. I don't think my name was on the committee. I was there.

26,322. You attended on the committee ?—Yes.

26,323. And worked for Mr. Gower in 1863 ?—Yes.

26,324. What were you paid for that ?—4*l.*

26,325. Who paid you ?—Job Apted.

26,326. He canvassed you in 1865, I suppose, or somebody did, for Mr. Gower ?—I saw Mr. Gower.

26,327. And you saw him with the others ?—I saw them both.

26,328. You saw Apted ?—I saw them all.

26,329. Did you promise to vote in 1865 for Mr. Gower ?—No; I told him I should vote.

26,330. But why not for him ?—Because I had promised the other one before, Mr. Monson.

26,331. How is that ? You voted for Gower before ?—Because I altered my mind.

26,332. You told him you would vote. You were a Gowerite in 1863, and you received 4*l.* for what you did and for your vote; then why did you change ?—Well, I thought Monson was the best man. He was a local man, and he had got property round the neighbourhood.

26,333. The reason you have given won't do. What other reason had you ?—None at all; none whatever. Of course I had a right to vote for who I liked and who I chose.

26,334. I wish you men would do that. Now don't you know a Mr. Green ?—Certainly I do.

26,335. For whom did Mr. Green vote ?—I don't know.

26,336. You met him at the "Castle" ?—Oh, I have seen him several times in the street, too.

26,337. You spoke to him, and he to you about the election ?—He might have done; I can't say.

26,338. In fact, he did ?—Yes, all the agents in election times do such things.

26,339. Did not Green induce you to vote for Monson ?—Certainly not.

26,340. Did not he canvass you at all ?—Certainly not.

26,341. When did Mr. Monson call upon you ?—Some three weeks or a month before the election.

26,342. He had known that you had voted for Gower before ?—Very probably he knew it.

26,343. He must have known it. Did not you tell him that you had not made up your mind at that time ?—Certainly not.

26,344. What did you tell him ?—I told I should vote for him.

26,345. Who was with him ?—Mr. Richardson, I believe.

26,346. Did you get on his committee ?—No.

26,347. Did he ask you to go on his committee ?—No.

26,348. And you attended no meetings ?—I attended no meetings.

26,349. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you to canvass for him, or try to get votes ?—No.

26,350. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And do I understand that you received nothing before the election ?—Nothing whatever.

26,351. Or after the election ?—No.

26,352. You did not borrow anything; you did not get any money as a loan ?—No, sir; I had no 10*l.*

26,353. You mean that you had no money in that shape ?—No.

26,354. Now, I will ask you about former elections. You voted for Wilkinson in a previous election ?—I believe I did once.

SIXTEENTH DAY.

W. Wye.

8 Sept. 1866.

26,355. In 1859, the general election; the last election before 1863, when Monson and Wilkinson were up?—In Lord Monson's time?

26,356. Yes?—No; I voted for Monson then.

26,357. I thought you told us you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—I did once. He put up a great many times.

26,358. Were you on his committee?—I think I were.

26,359. What did you receive for being on the committee that year?—A few shillings; it might have been 12 or 14.

26,360. Is that all?—Yes. In fact I never took it; it was left for me. I had it.

26,361. What do you mean?—It was left at my house, you must know, and I was not there to receive it.

26,362. If I pay money into your banker's is it the same thing?—I found it there when I got home.

26,363. You voted for Lord Monson once?—Yes.

26,364. Were you on his committee?—No, I believe not.

26,365. Did you work for him?—No.

26,366. Lord Monson was a man who had local ties about here, had not he? Did you get anything for that?—No.

26,367. You voted for Monson, Wilkinson, and Gower, and then you went back to Monson?—That is it.

26,368. And you received money from each of the other two, more or less?—Just as I told you.

26,369. You received none from Mr. Monson?—No.

26,370. And you were promised nothing?—Nothing.

26,371. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were speaking of the Doulton election?—Then I voted for Doulton. You must have got the wrong dates.

26,372. Never mind. You got something for that?—A fat lot.

26,373. A bad lot; the same as the others?—Nothing at all. You make a fuss about Doulton, don't you.

26,374. We heard that a great deal of money was going in Doulton's time?—I know nothing of his money.

26,375. Were not you employed for him?—No.

26,376. On his behalf?—No.

26,377. And yet you voted?—I voted.

26,378. You knew that a number of men were employed?—There were a number of men employed.

26,379. And paid by him. He had no local ties that I know of?—Any one has a right to vote for the best man.

26,380. Oh, yes. Then you voted freely for him?—Yes.

26,381. Why did you vote for him?—Because I thought he was the best man.

26,382. That is the reason?—I had a reason.

26,383. Was that the real reason?—Certainly.

26,384. Were you canvassed by the others?—I may have been; I have no recollection.

26,385. It may have escaped your recollection; there may have been some other reason why you voted for Doulton?—It might have been one way or the other.

26,386. Did you do anything?—No.

26,387. Did you attend his committee?—No; I believe I helped to get them up to the poll.

26,388. Well, that was doing a good deal. Did not you expect anything at all?—No.

26,389. Perhaps you did not get anything because you did not ask for it?—Very possibly.

26,390. It is a better conclusion to come to than the one you had come to before; don't you think so? Don't be shy at answering questions, because you had better be going on straightforward?—I am not shy.

26,391. You won't say whether there was anything else?—Not that I am aware of. I have told you the exact amount I received.

26,392. Did any one presume to make you an offer?—None whatever.

26,393. Who were Mr. Doulton's agents?—Strangers here.

26,394. Who was the person paying money for him?—I do not know.

J. Peters.

Joseph Peters sworn and examined.

26,395. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A plasterer.

26,396. Do you live with your father?—No.

26,397. Where does he live?—Gatton-corner.

26,398. Is your father in bad health?—Yes, he has not been able to leave his bed since Christmas.

26,399. Do you think he will be able to come here while we are here?—I think not.

26,400. What rent do you pay?—I am living in my own house.

26,401. What may that be worth?—About 5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

26,402. Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Mr. Monson in 1865.

26,403. Did Mr. Monson ask you for your vote?—No, I never saw him.

26,404. Who succeeded in getting you to promise your vote?—Mr. Holdsworth.

26,405. And did you promise him?—I asked him what he could do, and he said, "If you will come on "our committee I will give you 1*l.* a week to do what "you can for us."

26,406. And did you go on the committee?—Yes.

26,407. Did you do anything for them, or were you too busy?—I do not know that I did anything in particular.

26,408. And how much did you afterwards receive?—I think it was about five weeks.

26,409. And how much did you receive?—About 5*l.*

26,410. You voted?—Yes.

26,411. Did you get refreshments as you were going about?—I got very little.

26,412. When you wanted refreshment it was to be had?—Not at all times.

26,413. You did not want it at all times?—No, but sometimes you could not get it.

26,414. Who was it paid you the 5*l.*?—Mr. Holdsworth.

26,415. Was it before or after the election?—After the election.

26,416. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The whole 5*l.*?—Yes.

26,417. The day of the polling?—No, I think it was the day after; I know it was not before.

26,418. Did the Gower party trouble you much?—They never asked me for it; it would have been of no use.

26,419. They did not remember you. Why would it have been of no use?—Because I am opposed to those great landowners being in the House.

26,420. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) They are quits about that?—No, Mr. Monson has no land at all.

26,421. He might come into it?—He might or might not.

26,422. In 1863 who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

26,423. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

26,424. I dare say you will tell me what you received in '63?—I received 1*l.*

26,425. No more?—No.

26,426. Who from?—Wesley.

26,427. Did you do anything at this election?—I did not do anything in particular.

26,428. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was Mr. Wilkinson a landowner?—Not a very large one.

26,429. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know whether he was or not?—I do not know.

26,430. You voted at a previous election; which election was that? Do you recollect what election that was?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson twice; I know that.

26,431. Be so good as to tell me what you received at that election?—One election I did not vote at for him.

26,432. The other election, when you did vote for him?—The first one at which I voted for him was in 1858.

26,433. The second election of 1858 would be Hackblock and Monson?—Yes.

26,434. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes, that was the first time. I received 2*l.* then.

26,435. Then we come back, I suppose, to the Doulton election. Who did you vote for then?—I voted for Mr. Doulton.

26,436. Did you do work for him?—I did work for him.

26,437. How much were you paid for your services; tell me shortly?—I was paid pretty well then.

26,438. How much was it?—I think it was about 10*s.* a day being on the committee.

26,439. For how many days?—I cannot say how many days, but I think it amounted to between seven and eight pounds.

26,440. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) More?—No, I think not; it did not amount to more than that; it did not come to 8*l.*

26,441. Still you voted against the landowners? You stood on the principle of voting against the landowners?—I did not consider Mr. Doulton a great landowner.

26,442. But you voted on the principle of voting against these great landowners?—I thought we had got enough of them in the House.

The witness then withdrew.

JOHN NYE recalled and further examined.

J. Nye.

26,443. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) If you recollect, you voted for Mr. Monson, and you told us you had been living on Mr. Monson's estate for two and a half years?—Yes.

26,444. And I dare say you remember your evidence pretty nearly as well as I do; but in a portion of it you said, when you were canvassed by Nichols, you had promised your vote to Mr. Monson, and Nichols came and asked you whether you were keeping your word, and you said it was all right?—Yes.

26,445. And you would do so?—Yes.

26,446. And after the election he saw you and said he was pleased you had stuck to your word; and after that again you asked Nichols for some satisfaction, but you received nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

26,447. And you said after that, not only from him had you received nothing at all for your vote, but he told you he would see you another day, and I asked you whether that other day had come, and you said it never did come?—I said so.

26,448. You said also, you heard some were receiving 5*l.*, and you thought you might get 1*l.*?—Yes.

26,449. And you said you thought you got one?—I did not.

26,450. Bearing in mind you said you received nothing at all, have you not remembered since you went away you did receive something?—No.

26,451. I have found a piece of paper. Is that your handwriting (*handing a paper writing to the witness*)? Look at that side of it (*pointing out the place*)—Yes.

26,452. Is it not an odd thing you should sign that paper, for it states you received from Mr. Monson's committee 5*l.* for two weeks' canvassing with horse and cart. Did you?—No, sir.

26,453. Now, read the whole paper. You said it was your handwriting?—I received nothing.

The Chief Commissioner (to witness). Do not be in a hurry, there is plenty of time; read it.

26,454. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Read it out to us?—I cannot read writing, except my own handwriting.

26,455. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is somebody else's writing?—Yes.

26,456. That is your signature?—Yes.

26,457. Did you receive anything on the 4th of October 1865?—No, sir.

26,458. From Mr. Hart?—No, sir.

26,459. And you are quite certain about it?—Yes, I am.

26,460. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Listen to me. "Mr. Monson owes to J. Nye, July 1865, two weeks' "canvassing, and with horse and cart, 5*l.* Received, "4th of October 1865, John Nye"?—No, sir.

26,461. You say that is your own handwriting?—Well, I did not receive it.

26,462. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you sign that receipt?—I never received it.

26,463. Why did you sign that receipt?—I am no scholar. I might have signed a bill, but I did not know what it contained. That is my handwriting.

26,464. Why did you sign the receipt?—I do not believe I signed it. All that I ever signed was the one signed for Mr. Nichols for 10*s.*

26,465. That is your signature?—Then I do not believe I ever signed anything else; then I never signed anything else.

26,466. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We will have it proved by-and-by. You had better be cautious?—I did not sign it, not to take the money; if I did sign that bill, I did not take the money it was signed for.

(*Mr Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is imputing to other men they have robbed somebody, so take care what you are about.

26,467. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If you are not speaking the truth now it may be a more serious affair for you hereafter?—I am speaking the truth.

26,468. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you owe any money to Mr. Hart?—No, sir.

26,469. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ever give Mr. Nichols a receipt for the 1*l.* he lent you?—I gave him an I. O. U.

26,470. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien, to witness.*) It will be stamped, and in this Court for the future, and others may be involved in the matter, therefore recollect yourself; do you adhere to the answer that you did not receive this 5*l.*?—Yes.

The witness then withdrew.

WILLIAM RANDALL sworn and examined.

W. Randall.

26,471. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you William Randall, of Brighton-road?—Yes.

26,472. And did you vote at the last election?—I did, sir.

26,473. What are you?—A gentleman's servant.

26,474. A butler in a family?—Yes.

26,475. Mr. Taylor's, of Woodside, in this borough?—Yes, in this district.

26,476. You occupy a house, I suppose?—Yes.

26,477. At what rent?—17*l.* 10*s.* a year.

26,478. Who did your master vote for?—I believe he voted for Mr. Monson. I can say in a few words he did not ask me nor I him.

26,479. Did you vote for Mr. Monson?—I did.

26,480. If your master did not ask you, who did?—Mr. Richardson called and Mr. Monson.

26,481. Anybody else?—No, sir.

26,482. Was that the only reason why you voted

SIXTEENTH DAY.

W. Randall.

8 Sept. 1866.

for Mr. Monson, those two gentlemen having called upon you?—I have been a voter a good many years.

26,483. You have voted at several elections?—Yes, I have.

26,484. And you voted for Mr. Monson before?—Not for Edmund Monson.

26,485. For the Monson family?—Yes, I have.

26,486. Were you on their committee?—No.

26,487. Did you receive anything for your vote?—No.

26,488. Or for anything?—No, I never had a farthing for my vote for all the times I have voted for this borough.

26,489. Were you indebted to anybody?—No, sir.

26,490. I ask whether, being indebted to anybody, the score was scratched off in any way?—No.

26,491. Not at all?—No.

26,492. Then, do I understand that in no way or in any possible shape have you received anything on account of voting at the elections?—No, nothing of the kind.

26,493. In any shape or way?—Not at all; not a farthing.

26,494. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And not only a farthing, but a farthing's worth?—No. I have been a voter for 20 years, I have never received one farthing, I was never offered one farthing, and never asked for it.

The witness then withdrew.

Adjourned until 12 o'clock on Monday morning.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

T. Dale.

10 Sept. 1866.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

Monday, 10th September 1866.

THOMAS DALE sworn and examined.

26,495. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes, sir.

26,496. Who for?—For Mr. Gower.

26,497. What was the rental of your house?—33*l.* a year.

26,498. What are you?—A dust gatherer, a dust collector.

26,499. You pay 33*l.* a year rent?—Yes.

26,500. Had you voted before 1865?—Yes, sir.

26,501. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes, sir.

26,502. Who for?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

26,503. Who was it canvassed you at the last election, the election of 1865?—No one; they called at our house above once or twice; I cannot say how many times; the two gentlemen themselves; but I was not at home; I was out at work.

26,504. Did not some one ask you personally to vote for Mr. Gower?—Not that I recollect at all; they called at our house, but I made up my mind, if ever Mr. Gower put up again, I would vote for him.

26,505. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not vote for him in 1863?—No, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863.

26,506. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you receive anything on account of the election in 1865?—No, sir, not a halfpenny; not any sort of money, and nothing else.

26,507. In 1863 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

26,508. And you received something?—Yes, I did.

26,509. What was it you received?—8*l.*

26,510. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For your vote?—For my vote; I did as others did. I come here to speak the truth.

26,511. When was it you received the 8*l.*, and under what circumstances?—I could not tell you to a day or two; it might be within a fortnight, a day less or a day over. It was brought to my house.

26,512. How much was brought?—I had 4*l.*, to the best of my knowledge, sent to me in a parcel, but I believe it came from Mr. Barker. 4*l.* I received from Thomas Barker himself. I believe it came from him.

26,513. Were you at the "Swan" at the time of the election in 1863?—Yes, I was; I think I voted twice; I know I was here.

26,514. Had you agreed for the sum before he brought you here?—No, he said he would give me 8*l.*, and I said I would go; and he said, "If I should "want you I will send for you."

26,515. That was an agreement?—Yes.

26,516. And it was with Thomas Barker you made the agreement?—Yes.

26,517. Were you with Mr. Barker at the "Swan"?—Yes.

26,518. Did you receive any money at the "Swan"?—No, not a halfpenny.

26,519. Did you see anybody with money at the "Swan"?—No.

26,520. It is some time ago to recollect, but do you recollect Mr. Barker putting some money down at the "Swan"?—No, sir, and he did not do it in my presence.

26,521. You received 8*l.* in all?—I did.

26,522. Did you receive a sum of 3*l.* at the "Swan"?—No, sir, not a halfpenny at the "Swan."

26,523. I only ask you that because I think Mr. Barker on Friday last said he had paid you 3*l.* on the Saturday?—It is false.

26,524. But you had your 8*l.*?—I had.

26,525. In two sums of 4*l.* each?—I did, sir.

26,526. And you did nothing for it?—I only came over here twice. I came here to the poll; in fact, I had more work than I could do myself.

26,527. Had you only voted before in 1863?—No, I think I had not, but I voted then.

26,528. Were you canvassed by the Monson party in 1865, at the last election?—No, I was not canvassed at all; they came to my house once or twice, but I never saw them; I was out at work.

26,529. Though you received no money in 1865, did either party offer you anything?—No, nor promised me anything.

26,530. Were you canvassed by the Gower party in 1863?—Do you mean the last election?

26,531. No, the election before?—They called at my house, but I only was canvassed by Thomas Barker; but I am scarcely ever at home, except on a Sunday.

E. Dale.

EDWARD DALE sworn and examined.

26,532. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—Marine store dealer.

26,533. What rent do you pay?—20*l.* a year.

26,534. For whom did you vote at the last election? I never voted for either party; I told them constantly I would not vote.

26,535. You voted in 1863?—I did.

26,536. Why did you not vote at the last election?—The reason was, I expected to have had something promised me; I was to have had a little something promised me, but I did not.

26,537. Who promised you?—Different persons.

26,538. Who promised you?—I cannot mention any one's name, for I do not know; there were parties paid, as I heard.

26,539. You said you did not vote because people

promised you money and did not pay?—I never had any money promised me at the last election; if there had been I should have taken it.

26,540. I thought you said so?—No.

26,541. Did any one speak to you?—Yes, Mr. Gower.

26,542. Anybody else?—Yes, Mr. Monson.

26,543. Who spoke to you?—Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower.

26,544. Any one else?—Mr. Hart came along with them.

26,545. Any one else?—Not that I know of.

26,546. Did you not see anybody but Mr. Monson, Gower, or Hart?—Several people called, but I was out.

26,547. Did they leave any message for you?—They left a message they had called for my vote, and certainly there were some papers left.

26,548. They made no promises, nor was there any money?—No, I would have taken the money if I could.

26,549. What did you hear was going?—I never heard nothing; I never attended any meeting.

26,550. Did you not hear the amount that was going, 5*l.*?—No; if it had been offered I should have taken it.

26,551. You have fully impressed us with that. In 1863 you voted?—Yes.

26,552. And voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

26,553. What did you receive?—I never received nothing, and that is the reason I did not vote this time.

26,554. What were you promised?—I was not promised anything.

26,555. What did you expect?—I did not expect anything.

26,556. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—Mr. Wilkinson himself.

26,557. Any one else?—No, I did not promise it, but I walked in about half-past 8 in the morning, and then I went to London.

26,558. You were not disappointed?—No.

26,559. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is there not an Edmund Dale?—Not that I know of.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Barker, in giving his evidence on Friday, said he gave money to five persons; two received 4*l.*, one 7*l.*, and two 8*l.* each. Richard Bennett received 4*l.*, Davey 4*l.*, Edward Langton 7*l.*, and Thomas and Edward Dale 8*l.* each.

(*The Witness.*) I never received a farthing from him in my life; I never exchanged half a dozen words in my life with him.

26,560. Do you live in the Brighton-road?—Yes.

26,561. And have a shop?—Yes.

26,562. You heard that your brother received 8*l.*?—No.

26,563. You have heard him now state it?—I heard him confess to it here, but I never heard of it before.

26,564. Do you mean to say you never heard of it?—I did not.

The Commissioner observed Mr. Barker must be sent for.

26,565. Now, I ask you again; did you not receive the sum of 8*l.* at the election of 1863?—No, I never had it offered, not one farthing; if it had been I should have taken it.

26,566. You say you were disappointed in not getting it; do you mean to say you never had the 8*l.*?—I never had so much as a glass of ale. I told Mr. Monson I would not vote for either party, and to Mr. Gower, when he came, I said, "I will give you my "word I will not vote neither for one or other."

26,567. Are you aware Mr. Barker has said you were paid 8*l.* by him in the election for 1863?—I was not aware of it; Mr. Barker is a man I never exchanged half a dozen words with, and if he says it he is a false man.

26,568. Do you know Mr. James, who was the agent of Mr. Wilkinson?—I did not know him.

26,569. Do you know whether any money was left at your house; you know 4*l.* was left at your brother's house?—No; if it had been I should have seen it.

26,570. You are a married man?—Yes.

26,571. And your wife, did she not tell you some money had been left?—No, and if any had been left she would have told me.

26,572. Were you in the town at the last election?—Yes, I was at Redhill at the time of the last election.

26,573. I mean when you did not vote?—I did not vote; I told them candidly I would not vote.

26,574. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you did not receive anything for the election in 1863, and that was the reason why you did not vote in 1865?—I did not receive one farthing.

26,575. Is that your reason? You have said it once; do you mean to adhere to it?—I heard other people had received money, and I did not see why I should not; and I took an oath I would not vote again, and I did not.

26,576. Were you at the "Swan" in 1863?—It is a house I do not go into once in six years.

26,577. That is a good reason for knowing if you were there in 1863?—I had a glass of ale there this morning.

26,578. Do you remember having a few words with Mr. Barker in 1863?—No, never.

26,579. Were you promised anything in 1863?—No, I was not.

26,580. Your only disappointment was, you heard others had been paid and you had not?—I never had anything offered me; I should have been delighted if it had.

26,581. You are of opinion you should not vote without being paid for it?—I think I should go with the others.

The witness withdrew from the box.

THOMAS BARKER recalled and further examined.

T. Barker.

26,582. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In your evidence on Friday last you stated, among others, the sum of 8*l.* was given?—Yes.

26,583. Was there a man named Edward Dale?—Yes.

26,584. Is that the man (*pointing to the last witness*)?—That is the man.

26,585. Did you give it to him?—No, I gave it to Thomas Dale's wife.

EDWARD DALE recalled.

E. Dale.

26,586. Did you not receive the money from Thomas Dale's wife?—I did not one farthing.

MR. THOMAS BARKER further examined.

T. Barker.

26,587. Now, Mr. Barker, did you pay it to Thomas Dale's wife?—Yes, I did.

26,588. How did you pay it to Thomas Dale's wife?—I gave her 16*l.*; they were 8*l.* each. It appears in the newspapers as 3*l.* each, which is a mistake.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Never mind that; it is a misprint.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

T. Barker.

10 Sept. 1866.

26,589. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How did you pay Thomas Dale?—I gave it to his wife in one sum for him, for himself and to give to his brother Edward.

26,590. In two parcels?—No, the full amount.

26,591. I thought you might have put it up in separate parcels for each?—No, sir.

26,592. You told her one part was for Edward Dale and the other for her husband?—Yes.

26,593. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is Mrs. Thomas Dale alive?—Yes. They understood perfectly what it was for; I told them.

(*Edward Dale.*) I never had nothing; I never voted before.

26,594. Had you ever seen that man before (*pointing to Edward Dale*)?—His brother engaged for the two.

(*Edward Dale.*) I never received it.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien to Mr. Barker.*) That exonerates you entirely.

(*Mr. Barker.*) Might I be permitted to say a few words in respect to something I omitted in my last examination?

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Wait a bit; you shall have full opportunity directly.

E. Langton.

EDWARD LANGTON (previously examined on the 24th of August) recalled.

26,595. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have been examined before, have you not?—Yes.

26,596. The oath you then took, remember, is still binding upon you?—Yes.

26,597. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

26,598. For whom did you vote in 1863?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

26,599. Did you receive any money for voting in 1863?—Yes, sir.

26,600. Who paid it you?—Mr. Barker.

26,601. How much did he pay you?—7*l.*

26,602. Before you received the 7*l.* had you promised your vote?—No, only I promised it to Mr. Wilkinson.

26,602*. When you promised your vote were you also promised to be paid?—Yes.

26,603. By Wesley?—No, he would have done; but I wished to be referred, and he said Mr. Barker.

26,604. Then Barker had to give you the money if Wesley gave it to him?—Yes.

26,605. Where were you paid the money; was it at the "Swan"?—No, at Mr. Toplis's.

26,606. By Mr. Barker?—Yes, sir.

The witness withdrew.

T. Dale.

THOMAS DALE recalled and examined.

26,607. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is your wife at home?—Yes, at Redhill.

26,608. What is her name?—Lavinia Anne Dale.

26,609. Did you learn from her that 16*l.* was left at your house with her in 1863?—No, no such thing.

26,610. You did not learn from her that so much was left?—No; 4*l.* was left, I believe, in a parcel for me.

26,611. Did you learn from your wife that 16*l.* was left?—No, sir, I know it was not; I am sure it was not.

26,612. Where do you say Mr. Barker gave you the 4*l.*?—In my house; in my sitting-room one night.

26,613. Who was present?—There was another gentleman, I believe, Mr. Wilkinson; John Wilkinson I think was his name. Yes, it is John Wilkinson; he is a plasterer.

26,614. I wish you to be very cautious; I am expressing no opinion, but I wish you to be very cautious; you say John Wilkinson was present when Mr. Barker paid you 4*l.*?—Yes.

26,615. John Wilkinson, plasterer?—Yes.

26,616. Is that the same man who was partner with Maynard?—Yes; he was along with Barker.

26,617. When he paid you was in 1863?—Yes.

26,618. And 4*l.* more was left?—Yes. I did not see it; I was told some boy had brought it in a parcel.

26,619. You understood it was for yourself?—Yes.

26,620. Did you not tell your brother of it?—No; my brother had the same; he said he had a parcel of 4*l.*, and 4*l.* I gave him; but my brother would know.

26,621. Your brother that is here?—Yes; I have only that brother.

26,622. You gave him 4*l.*?—Yes. Stop a moment; let me have a moment for consideration; do not let me do anything wrong.

(*Edward Dale* was here ordered to be out of hearing, but to remain within call.)

I know I heard my brother say the next morning he had the same, but whether Mr. Barker said he had the same as myself I do not know, but my missis knows; I do not know that I can hardly say.

26,623. Just be cautious.—I am cautious; what I have said is the truth; I'll stick to that.

26,624. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 8*l.*, and you told me your brother had the same, that he received the same?—Yes, that is quite right.

26,625. You told me 4*l.* passed through your hands; is that so?—Yes, it did; I know it did, and I can swear to it.

26,626. You swear to recollecting it now; do you remember where you paid him the 4*l.*?—It was down at his house; but as for saying who were present, I cannot.

26,627. Do you recollect what time of the day?—It was at night; at least, in the evening.

26,628. From whom had you received the 4*l.*?—From Thomas Barker; and I believe as soon as Thomas Barker went out of the house I went down there to my brother. It never was in my pocket, and that is the reason why I recollect it.

26,629. Was it at the time Thomas Barker paid you the 4*l.*?—Yes; it never was put in my pocket in any place.

26,630. Then Barker came and gave you 4*l.* for yourself, and 4*l.* for your brother?—That is proper.

26,631. And then you went down and saw your brother, and handed him the 4*l.* the same evening?—Yes.

26,632. Is there any doubt about it?—No; no doubt whatever.

26,633. And you received 4*l.* in a parcel; how soon after that? How soon after that?—It was before that; and as nearly as I can tell you it was a fortnight before.

26,634. And then you told me your brother told you he had received 4*l.* in a parcel?—He had some money in a parcel.

26,635. You told him you had got 4*l.*?—He said, "I had mine before you had yours, Tom."

26,636. He said he had his before you had yours?—Yes, sir, that is quite right.

26,637. There is no doubt about that?—There is no doubt about it, for it is the truth.

26,638. Would it not surprise you, or does it not surprise you, to hear your brother state he did not receive one farthing?—The truth is the truth; but he may have had something to drink; what you have asked me to tell is the truth. Excuse me,

gentlemen, the man has been hurt in his head, and when he has had a glass it goes to his head, and he does not know what he is saying. There are plenty of people about here, and plenty of doctors, who know that when he has a glass he does not know what he says.

The two Dales and Mrs. Dale were desired to be in attendance at 11 in the morning.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

T. Dale.

10 Sept. 1866.

Mr. Commissioner Smith addressed Mr. Barker, and said, that if he was desirous of making a statement he had better go into the witness-box.

T. Barker.

26,639. You were examined on Friday?—Yes.

26,640. You made a very good statement, but there was something else you say you wished to inform the Commissioners of?—There is one little omission I made.

26,641. Will you be good enough to state what it was?—It was with respect to the election of 1865.

26,642. You wished to add something?—Yes; Mr. Nichols gave me 10*l.* on that election.

26,643. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Gave it you for yourself?—No; independently of myself.

26,644. What was that for?—5*l.* for John Barker, Nutley-lane.

26,645. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is he any relation of yours?—Yes; and 3*l.* I gave to Thomas Mulley, coming from Burwash at this time; he was then living there.

26,646. Do you know where he is now?—Yes; at Station-road, Redhill. That is all I have to add.

26,647. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When was that?—In 1865.

26,648. And you gave the money which you received from Mr. Nichols to them?—Yes.

26,649. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is 8*l.*, but what about the other two?—I kept that for myself.

26,650. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Nichols say you were to keep the other two?—He did not tell me to do it, but I kept that for my own expenses.

26,651. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 10*l.* besides?—Yes, that was some time after from Mr. Hart.

26,652. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is there anything further that you have to state?—No; nothing else.

26,653. Now, in reference to the election of 1863, you said you took the names down at the "Swan"?—Yes.

26,654. Did you go into the room yourself?—I did not.

26,655. Who went in?—Mr. Langridge took the list in, and brought the money out.

26,656. You said that Mr. James was in the room?—Yes.

26,657. Do you know whether he was in the room? Did you see him?—I asked whether Mr. James was in, and they told me he was in the room.

26,658. I suppose there were others in the room?—I did not go in myself.

26,659. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understand you sent in the names to Mr. James?—I did, on a piece of paper.

26,660. And the money came out?—The money came out.

26,661. Do you know Mr. Gilbert, the election agent?—Yes.

26,662. Did you have any conversation with him with reference to the 1865 election?—Not that I am aware of.

26,663. Did you make any application to him with reference to the Inquiry?—No.

26,664. Had he asked you with reference to the Inquiry of 1865?—I was with him several evenings.

26,665. You took part in the Inquiry of 1865?—No, I had no part.

26,666. You did not tender your services?—No; I did not have any services to tender.

26,667. Did you offer your services to Gilbert to investigate the result of the election of 1865?—No; he asked me whether I knew anything about it; I told him, and gave him the information.

Mr. Commissioner Smith told the witness that if anything further occurred to his mind with reference to the payment of money to Thomas Dale and Edward Dale they should be glad to be informed of it.

The Witness stated that he had come over on purpose that morning to inform them of the omission he had made in his evidence previously, but that it was bungled up together.

26,668. Are you quite certain from your recollection now that you took the 16*l.* to Thomas Dale?—Quite certain.

26,669. Did you ever leave or ever send a parcel of 4*l.* to Edward Dale?—Never; if the parcel went, it was done by some one else. I left the money at Thomas Dale's house, and we all adjourned to Mr. Wilkinson's committee room at Mr. Toplis's, and Edward Dale took a bottle of soda water.

26,670. Was anybody present?—I believe Mr. Wilkinson was there, Thomas Wilkinson.

26,671. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is Mulley dead?—No, he is living at Station-road.

26,672. He is a voter now?—I do not think he is now, but he was in 1863.

26,673. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You heard what Thomas Dale said this morning, that 4*l.* was left in a parcel and 4*l.* he received from you; was he paid the whole sum at once?—It was all left on the table in one lump, 16*l.*

26,674. Was only Mrs. Dale present when the money was left?—Mrs. Dale and Thomas Dale and John Wilkinson.

26,675. Who is John Wilkinson?—Of Station-road I think.

26,676. Was he a voter?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS SHRUBSALL examined.

T. Shrubsall.

26,677. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a shoemaker?—A bootmaker.

26,678. You were at work at Croydon at the last election?—Yes.

26,679. When Mr. Elliott went over to canvass you?—Mr. Palmer was his name.

26,680. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it Elliott Palmer?—No, Henry Palmer.

26,681. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On behalf of Mr. Gower I think?—Yes.

26,682. The other side, I think, had some talk with you too?—Previous to that.

26,683. Who had?—Mr. Read of Bell-street, the shoemaker.

26,684. What did he offer you?—Nothing directly.

26,685. But what did he say?—He asked me how I was and how I was getting on, and I told him, "Very well."

26,686. You know what he said?—I understood him. He asked me whether any of the opposite party had been to see me; I said no, I had had no one come to see me.

26,687. I am afraid they neglected you up to that time?—I wondered somebody had not been myself. It was not long before the election he said to me. "If "you get an offer from the opposite party let me know "how much it is, and I will either give you or get you "more."

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

T. Shrubsall.

10 Sept. 1866.

26,688. That is, whatever the other side offered you, you should have it on their side or a little more?—Yes, it was "Either I will give you or will get you it"; it was either one or the other.

26,689. No sum was mentioned between you?—No, no sum.

26,690. Who came first, Palmer or Read?—Mr. Read was the first one.

26,691. Then Mr. Palmer came?—Yes.

26,692. How long after?—A day or two; I cannot say; but it was just before the election.

26,693. He came and said, "Mr. Gower is the best man" I suppose?—No he merely asked me how I was getting on, the same as the other; he wanted me to go the same way as he was going, he was going for Mr. Gower, and I hummed and ha'd about with him. I knew his temper; we have many a chaff with him, and he is a man who is rather irritable.

The witness was here sworn, it having been previously overlooked.

26,694. Is what you have told us true?—It is so.

26,695. When Mr. Palmer came and wanted you to be on his side, and after some chaff, did he tell you what was going on their side?—He said to me, "They "are going on queer at Reigate, and the opposite "party say, 'Let go the painter.'" Those are the words he made use of; I think it was either the last night or the night or two before.

26,696. What did you understand by that?—I took it to be that they were paying for votes.

26,697. Paying freely?—Yes.

26,698. Then he said, of course, he would pay you?—He did not say anything to me about money.

26,699. He said you had better go and see Mr. Joyes, I suppose?—He said, "You had better come to Rei-"gate for yourself."

26,700. And see what was going. And you did come?—Yes, I told him I should come. I told Mr. Read also that I should come.

26,701. Did you see Mr. Joyes?—Yes.

26,702. What message had he for you?—He merely asked me how I was.

26,703. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Frederick Joyes?—Yes; he said, "I suppose you are going our "way," and laughed. I said I did not know; he said, "Oh, but you have always been," and laughed again. I think that was all that was said at that time, till he beckoned me and called me out and promised to give me 4*l.* for my expenses, and I said if I could come I would.

26,704. He called you out and told you you could have 4*l.*?—He told me he would give me 4*l.* for my expenses.

26,705. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that the morning of the polling?—No, some time before.

26,706. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long before the election?—On the Sunday previous to the election.

26,707. What did you receive?—4*l.*

26,708. He gave you the 4*l.*?—He did.

26,709. Then and there?—No.

26,710. Before you voted?—No.

26,711. After you voted?—Yes.

26,712. The same night?—The same day, some part of the afternoon, on the polling day.

26,713. You have voted before, I believe?—Never.

26,714. Was this the first time you had a vote?—Yes.

26,715. I did not ask you what rent you paid?—You did not.

26,716. What rent do you pay?—10*l.*

26,717. Had you your house at that time at Redhill?—At the election I had just moved out of Reigate.

26,718. How long had you been away?—The March previous.

26,719. Then you had no vote at all in reality?—Yes, I had a vote.

26,720. I dare say you did not know that, but in reality you had lost your qualification, as you had left?—I did not know it; my name was on the list.

26,721. Do you know at all what the market price was?—No, I was away; I only came in here on the Sunday and the polling day; I was only here for about an hour, I did not go into any house.

26,722. Did you hear from any one what the figures were?—No, I did not.

26,723. You took the 4*l.*?—I did.

26,724. You did not go to Mr. Read?—No, he wanted me to come, but I did not go.

26,725. How was that?—I did not feel inclined.

26,726. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not go to Mr. Read and tell him you were going to receive 4*l.*?—No, I did not.

26,727. Did you canvass anybody?—No.

26,728. You did nothing for your money only voted?—Having a ride about, that was all.

The witness withdrew.

J. Parsons.

JOHN PARSONS sworn and examined.

26,729. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

26,730. Where do you live?—Ladbrooke-place, Redhill.

26,731. What rent do you pay for your house?—5*s.* a week.

26,732. I want to know this; are they paid by the week?—Yes.

26,733. Whose house is it?—I cannot tell whose house it is, it belongs to a cockney.

26,734. Have you any writing along with it?—Yes, I have got a paper to sign.

26,735. You have not got the paper here, I want to see one?—No, I have not.

26,736. Can you tell me what are the terms on which you take it; for how long does the company or whatever the society is let you have the house?—I have to pay rent every week, and it is a week's notice.

26,737. Is any time mentioned beyond a week. Do they say, "We will let to John Parsons week by week"?—That is all.

26,738. As long as he pleases?—Yes.

26,739. No other mention of any other time?—No, only by the week; Mr. Marriott collects our rent.

26,740. Who did you vote for last election?—Mr. Monson.

26,741. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Joseph Kenward.

26,742. Had you been canvassed before by Mr Monson?—No.

26,743. What did Mr. Kenward say to you; did he make any arrangement with you?—He said I was to have 30*s.* a week.

26,744. Did you say yes to that?—I was to have 30*s.* a week.

26,745. For what?—If I voted for Mr. Monson.

26,746. From when?—A fortnight before the election it was.

26,747. Were you paid by Kenward?—Yes.

26,748. Before the election or after?—Before.

26,749. When was it he paid you, the day of the poll?—No, the Saturday before the election.

26,750. That is twice 30*s.*, is that right?—Yes.

26,751. The exact sum was 3*l.*?—Yes.

26,752. Was that all?—Yes.

26,753. After the election did you receive anything else?—Nothing.

26,754. Did you receive anything for polling day?—No; nothing.

26,755. Neither side?—No.

26,756. Or on the nomination day?—There was nothing said about that.

26,757. Have you been canvassed by the other side?—Mr. Gower called one day.

26,758. Did any of his agents come to you and ask you to vote?—Not one.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

J. Parsons.

10 Sept. 1866.

26,759. Were you offered any money by any of Mr. Gower's party?—No, not by any one.

26,760. Was this your first election, or did you vote in 1863?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863.

26,761. Were you in the same house?—Not in the same house, but in the same place.

26,762. Who canvassed you for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—Mr. Ireland, the grocer, who is dead now.

26,763. Did he make the same terms with you that you made with Mr. Monson this time?—I never got anything for that.

26,764. What terms did he make with you?—Not any at all, he only asked me.

26,765. He did not make you any offer?—I was not to have anything; I was not at home at the time he called, I was working away from home. I was at home on the nomination day.

26,766. Was anything said about going on the committee or your receiving anything?—No.

26,767. Did you receive anything at all?—Nothing.

26,768. Did you vote at the election before that?—No.

26,769. That was your first election?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

J. Davey.

JOHN DAVEY sworn and examined.

26,770. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What rented house do you occupy?—6*s.* a week.

26,771. Do you pay it by the week?—Yes.

26,772. What are you?—A carpenter.

26,773. What are the terms of your holding?—Just the same as John Parsons.

26,774. Determinable upon a week's notice?—A week's notice either way.

26,775. Is that under a written agreement?—Yes.

26,776. What property is it you have; is your house upon a copyhold property?—Copyhold.

26,777. What company is it, the Freehold Land Society?—No.

26,778. To whom do you pay your money?—Mr. Marriott.

26,779. Is the name of the company the Redhill and Reigate Cottage Improvement Society?—Yes, I think it is.

26,780. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

26,781. What did you get for your vote?—I got two weeks' pay, 30*s.* a week.

26,782. When were you paid?—The Saturday night before the election.

26,783. Who paid it?—Mr. Kenward.

26,784. Were you paid it in one sum of 3*l.*?—No, each Saturday night.

26,785. Each Saturday night 30*s.*, and the last pay was the Saturday before the election?—Yes.

26,786. Was that all you received for the election of 1865?—Yes.

26,787. Was it Mr. Kenward to whom you promised your vote?—Yes.

26,788. When you promised your vote was it arranged that you should have 30*s.* a week, and work?—I was to work on the committee.

26,789. I suppose you did nothing on the committee?—No more than try and get a vote, or anything of that sort.

26,790. But you did not get any I suppose?—No.

26,791. Did you attend many of these committee meetings?—Yes.

26,792. Where were they held?—At Langridge's.

26,793. Was it at Langridge's chiefly that you attended?—Yes, nowhere else.

26,794. What was the chief business done there, pipes and beer?—Yes.

26,795. Nothing else much, I suppose?—Nothing that I know of.

26,796. You got three sovereigns for that. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

26,797. Who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

26,798. Were you on his committee?—No.

26,799. You did nothing with the exception of attending at Mr. Langridge's in the evening?—No.

26,800. What were you paid for that?—Barker gave me 4*l.*

26,801. Where were you paid the 4*l.*?—At Mr. Toplis's.

26,802. Were you promised the 4*l.* before the election?—The night before.

26,803. Where were you promised the 4*l.*, at the "Swan" or at Toplis's. Were you promised it by Mr. Barker?—Yes, but I cannot remember where.

26,834. Did you see Wesley?—No.

26,805. You had your arrangement with Mr. Barker?—Yes.

26,806. Was it understood between you that the 4*l.* was to be for your vote?—Yes, I believe so.

26,807. Were you canvassed by the Gower party in 1863?—No.

26,808. Were you canvassed by the Gower party in 1865?—Yes.

26,809. Was any promise made to you by the Gower party in 1865?—Yes.

26,810. Who promised you?—Mr. Clark the painter.

26,811. What is Clark's christian name?—William.

26,812. William Clark promised you on the part of Mr. Gower what?—2*l.* a week.

26,813. For how many weeks?—For two weeks I think it was.

26,814. What were you to do for it?—I was to be on the committee.

26,815. And to vote?—And to vote.

26,816. To vote for whom?—Mr. Gower.

26,817. Was that after you had seen Mr. Kenward?—Nearer the election.

26,818. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are speaking of the election of 1863?—Yes.

26,819. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What I was asking you about was the election of 1865. The evidence you have given in respect of Mr. Kenward has reference to 1863 and not to 1865?—Yes.

26,820. Then Mr. Clark canvassed you on the part of Mr. Gower in 1865?—No, the other way.

26,821. In 1863 that was?—Yes.

26,822. Now tell me about 1865, did you receive anything for your vote in 1865?—Yes, from John Kenward.

26,823. There must be some mistake about it, you did not accept the offer of Mr. Clark?—No.

26,824. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you voted before 1863?—No.

26,825. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then it comes to this, in 1865 you received from Mr. Kenward 3*l.*, and in 1863 you received from Mr. Barker 4*l.*, and in 1863 you were offered by William Clark 2*l.* for two weeks for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

26,826. Were you offered anything in 1865 for Mr. Gower?—No.

26,827. And were canvassed by no one in 1863 for Mr. Gower?—No.

26,828. Do you know George Room?—Yes.

26,829. I believe it was he who introduced you to the committee room in 1865?—No, I had nothing to do with George Room.

26,830. I think you must have forgotten it, is there more than one John Davey?—I do not know that there is.

26,831. It was George Room, as we have said, it was he who took you to Mr. Monson's committee room?—No, it was not so.

26,832. He said he took you and two or three other men?—I do not remember it.

26,833. Perhaps you will remember the names, Thomas Peat, a man named Fuller, March, and John Davey?—No, I do not remember it at all.

The witness withdrew.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

R. Bennett.

10 Sept. 1866.

RICHARD BENNETT sworn and examined.

26,834. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you a voter?—Yes.

26,835. What are you?—A carpenter.

26,836. What rent do you pay for your house?—20*l.* a year.

26,837. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

26,838. And for whom did you vote in '63?—Mr. Wilkinson.

26,839. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower at the last election; who asked you to vote for him?—Mr. Gower did.

26,840. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

26,841. Who put you on his committee?—A man of the name of Stoneman.

26,842. What is Stoneman?—A carpenter.

26,843. Is he a voter?—Yes.

26,844. I suppose he told you if you went on the committee you would be paid, or something of that kind?—Yes; he did not tell me any amount.

26,845. I did not ask you about any amount, but he said you would be paid for what work you did?—Yes.

26,846. How many weeks were you on the committee?—I think it was about three.

26,847. How much did you receive?—Nothing.

26,848. Did you work hard on the committee?—I do not know that I worked hard.

26,849. You were disappointed at not receiving anything, were you not?—I was indeed.

26,850. How much did you expect to be paid?—He told me he would give me whatever he got for me, but he never gave it to me, and I do not know whether he had anything for me or not; he always told me he did not receive anything.

26,851. You do not believe it?—I have got to take his word for it.

26,852. I see you have your doubts about it. Who was to pay Stoneman?—I do not know, but I was to receive whatever he got from him.

26,853. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did Stoneman work under?—He is a master man in a small way.

26,854. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*). Do you know who employed Stoneman on the committee?—No, I do not know.

26,855. Did he introduce you to any of the committee?—No.

26,856. Who did you see him with of the committee?—I have seen him with different committee men.

26,857. Important men?—Yes; I have seen him with Featherstone and Mr. Green, and many different men.

26,858. Then you thought it would be all right?—I thought it would be all right, but it was all wrong.

26,859. I believe you were more lucky in '63, when you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—I was.

26,860. Before I go to that, did any one canvass you on behalf of Mr. Monson in '65?—Yes.

26,861. Who?—Joseph Kenward.

26,862. What did he offer you?—I very often go out of a Saturday night and have half a pint of beer, and I happened to go into Langridge's that night, and he was sitting there: he said, "Hallo, Dick! I want "to see you;" I said, "All right." He said, "How "are you getting on?" I said, "Not much." "Well," he says, "If you will come on our side I will give "you 30*s.* a week." He paid me the 30*s.* that week, and I went the next week and said, "I will not have "any more to do with your money, I shall go and vote "for Mr. Gower." I relied on Stoneman's promise, and was let in a hole.

26,863. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you give the 30*s.* back to Mr. Kenward?—No, I kept that.

26,864. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had Mr. Stoneman been with you before Mr. Kenward?—Yes.

26,865. Having arranged with Stoneman, Mr. Kenward got hold of you, and you received Mr. Kenward's money, and having got Mr. Kenward's money secure, you thought you would rely on Stoneman, and now you complain of being disappointed. What did you receive in '63?—4*l.*

26,866. From Mr. Barker?—Yes.

26,867. I suppose he had arranged to give you the 4*l.*?—Yes.

26,868. Where did you receive it?—I received that at Mr. Toplis's.

26,869. How long before the polling day?—I received it on the polling day.

26,870. Or on the night before?—On the polling day.

26,871. What time?—About half-past 10 o'clock, I think, in the morning.

26,872. According to arrangement?—Yes.

26,873. Had you a vote before 1863?—No.

26,874. Of course you had not told Mr. Kenward when he gave you the 30*s.* that you had promised on the other side?—No; but from my recollection now I think I saw Mr. Kenward before I saw Mr. Stoneman; I will not be certain about it.

H. Francis.

HENRY FRANCIS recalled and examined.

26,875. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Be so good as to answer the questions, and I will try and examine you now. Do you know a man named Isard, a fishmonger?—I do.

26,876. Do you know who he voted for last election?—Mr. Monson.

26,877. Did you talk to him about it before the election?—No.

26,878. Not a word?—Not a word. You ask me if I talked to him; I say I did not, not a great deal.

26,879. What did you say to him?—Nothing at all particular.

26,880. Did you make an offer of money?—Not at all; not a word. I made him no offer, but he received some money from me, at least his wife did.

26,881. When did you leave any money for him with his wife?—Before the election.

26,882. How much?—8*l.*; that was with his wife, not with Isard himself.

26,883. Can you tell me what day that was?—I cannot exactly.

26,884. How long before the election?—I do not know. I know he was hard up, and that was what it was for.

26,885. Then he applied to you?—His wife did.

26,886. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Could you tell me in what money you paid it, in what coin?—In gold; they were hard up for money in business, and I gave it to them.

26,887. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was the wife by herself when you gave it her?—She was not alone, but her husband is a blind man.

26,888. Can you tell me whether he was in the room, do you recollect?—He is such a strange character; I do not know whether he was there or not, he might have been there.

26,889. When you paid it did you hand it over to her in her hand or put it on the table?—I gave it her, after all the time I have spent in order to obtain purity of election. She appealed to me; she wanted to go to London for some fish, and I said, "Look "here, here is some money to get some fish with," and I gave her eight sovereigns; it was to get the fish with. I gave it for the good of the woman. I thought that the woman might as well have eight sovereigns out of the election as anybody else. The

fact of it is, that the woman was hard up, and I thought she might as well have eight sovereigns out of the election as anybody else, and I gave her the money. I do not know whether the man was there or not; perhaps I might have been a little bit top heavy at the time.

JOHN LAMBERT sworn and examined.

26,890. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A labourer.

26,891. And what do you, or did you, pay for your house?—7*s.* a week.

26,892. Who did you vote for the last time?—Mr. Monson.

26,893. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson? Mr. Shepherd.

26,894. Had you anything whatever to do with the railway at that time?—No; only they asked me to come on their side.

26,895. Who did?—Mr. J. Shepherd.

26,896. What arrangement did he make with you?—He was to give me 30*s.* a week.

26,897. Did he pay it you?—He gave me 4*l.* 10*s.*

26,898. You received it on the Saturday night before the elettion?—I was paid weekly for three weeks.

26,899. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are simply a labourer?—I was paid just the same as the railway men were.

26,900. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you aware of what the railway men were receiving?—No, I did not know what anybody else received besides myself; he did not tell me what he was giving other people, and I did not ask him.

26,901. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you asked to vote by Mr. Gower's party?—Featherstone asked me.

26,902. Did he make any terms with you?—No.

26,903. Did he promise any to you?—No; he said Mr. Gower would not pay any one. He asked me to go on the committee, but he said Mr. Gower would not pay any one.

26,904. Was that after you had been asked by Mr. Shepherd?—Yes.

26,905. You declined to vote for Mr. Gower?—I did not intend to vote for him.

26,906. Why did you not intend to vote for him?—He called a meeting at Reigate, and told the electors that he did not intend to contest the borough any more.

26,907. Had you a vote in 1863?—No; I was off the register.

26,908. Had you voted previously?—I voted for Mr. Doulton.

26,809. Had you voted at any other election?—I voted once for Mr. Wilkinson.

26,910. That is just what I am asking you. You did not vote in '63, betwen Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower, Now in 1859 did you vote, when Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson contested the borough?—I voted then.

26,911. Who for?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

26,912. What did you get at that election?—Nothing at all.

26,913. Did you not get anything at all?—No; I never was asked anything by anybody.

26,914. Had you voted before that?—No.

26,915. Was that the first occasion?—That was the first occasion when I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

26,916. How many times have you voted for Mr. Wilkinson in all?—I have only once voted for Mr. Wilkinson and once for Mr. Doulton.

26,917. Never mind anybody else; do you recollect how many times you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Once.

26,918. Did you vote for Mr. Doulton?—Yes, I did.

26,919. What did you get for your vote then?—Mr. Puddey told me he would give me 10*s.* if I voted for Mr. Doulton.

26,920. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long was that before the election?—The night before.

26,921. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you say to that, did that secure your vote?—I do not know that it did.

26,922. You did vote?—I went and voted for Mr. Doulton.

26,923. Was that the only offer you received?—It was the only offer I received.

26,924. Who paid it you?—He never paid it to me at all; he paid it to my wife; he got it one day, and gave it to her.

26,925. Is there any other election that you know anything about?—No, that is all.

26,926. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I see there are two John Lamberts on the register, which are you?—The one in Ladbrooke-road.

26,927. 590 on the register?—Yes.

26,928. John Lambert of Ladbrooke-road?—Yes.

26,929. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You would not vote for Mr. Gower because he came forward when he ought not?—No.

26,930. And because you received 4*l.* from Mr. Monson, that was the reason, was it not?—Yes.

HARVEY HARDING called, sworn, and examined.

H. Harding.

26,931. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was your qualification at the last election? What rent do you pay?—4*s.* a week.

26,932. Were you upon the terms of a week's rent and a week's notice?—Monthly.

26,933. What are you?—A smith.

26,934. In 1865 for whom did you vote?—For Mr. Monson.

26,935. How came you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Because he was my favourite man.

26,936. I dare say there was some other little reason, was there not?—Oh, yes.

26,937. Please tell us shortly what it was?—I came to an arrangement with Mr. Corderoy.

26,938. What was the arrangement with Corderoy?—I was to have 5*l.* for my vote and a fortnight's work, to do what I could.

26,939. What for the work?—Including the work; I was to do the best I could for him.

26,940. Did you get the 5*l.*?—Yes.

26,941. Who paid you?—Mr. Corderoy.

26,942. When?—Two or three days after the election.

26,943. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had he paid you anything before the election?—No.

26,944. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he pay you the 5*l.* in a lump?—Yes.

26,945. Was it in gold?—No.

26,946. When was the arrangement made?—A fortnight before the election.

26,947. Did Corderoy tell you where he got the money from?—No, he did not.

26,948. Were there any others of your fellow workmen that Corderoy paid, to your knowledge?—No.

26,949. Was Corderoy working with you, or what was your acquaintance with him?—Only knowing him, working in the same town here together.

26,950. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He is a blacksmith, is he not?—No, a painter.

26,951. Did you vote in 1863?—No, I had no vote.

26,952. Was this the first election?—No, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson in 1859.

26,953. Was there anything paid for your vote then?—Not the least whatever.

26,954. That was a mere sham election?—Yes, I believe it was.

26,955. Had you voted before 1859?—No.

26,956. Do you know anything more about this last

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

H. Harding.

10 Sept. 1866.

election of 1865 that you can tell the Commissioners?—No.

26,957. I mean as to the mode in which the election was carried on?—I did not trouble but very little about it.

26,958. You did not do any work?—No, I was to be in readiness in case I was sent for.

26,959. Did you attend any of the meetings?—I attended but one meeting of Mr. Gower's in the freehold hall.

26,960. Did you attend any of Mr. Monson's?—No.

26,961. Did you attend any of the houses of refreshment?—Not Mr. Monson's; Mr. Gower's I did three or four times.

26,962. You went into the enemy's camp?—Yes.

26,963. I suppose that was when you made an arrangement with Mr. Corderoy?—Yes, it was.

26,964. Had you been canvassed by any of the agents for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

26,965. In 1865?—Yes.

26,966. Had you been offered anything?—4*l.*; four weeks' work.

26,967. Who offered you that?—David Durrant.

26,968. How long before you had seen Corderoy?—A fortnight previous to that.

26,969. Did you accept the 4*l.*?—No.

26,970. Did you tell Durrant which way you would vote?—I told him I would put my name down with the rest; that was the answer I made him.

26,971. You did not tell him for whom to put it down?—I told him to put it down with the rest. Those were the words.

26,972. Upon that did Durrant say that you would have your 4*l.*?—Well, he said he would pay me 4*l.*

26,973. And afterwards you got your offer for 5*l.* for your favourite candidate?—That is quite right.

26,974. When you put your name down, or gave Durrant authority to put it down——?—I did not put it down, he put it down.

26,975. You gave him authority to put it down?—Yes.

26,976. Did you then intend to vote for Mr. Gower?—On condition.

26,977. On condition of what?—If he acted according to his promise.

26,978. When was it that you thought he would not act up to his promise?—He did not give me a satisfactory answer about the 4*l.*; I did not think I should get it.

26,979. Then you had a second interview with Durrant about the 4*l.*?—Yes, in a day or two.

26,980. What was the unsatisfactory answer Durrant gave you?—He said if he had not got it he should know where it was; that was the unsatisfactory answer.

26,981. You rather doubted whether you would get 4*l.*?—I did.

26,982. Upon that did you go to Corderoy?—No, I accidentally met him in the street.

26,983. Did you tell him what took place between you and Durrant?—Not at that first time.

26,984. Did Corderoy make an overture at once?—He asked me to vote for Mr. Monson. I asked him on what conditions. "The same as the rest, of course." I was to do the best I could.

26,985. "The same as the rest." You understood that 5*l.* was the sum to be given by Mr. Monson?—I heard that one or two had had that; I did not know.

26,986. Did you tell Corderoy so?—I did not tell him anything.

26,987. Who mentioned the 5*l.*, you or Corderoy?—I cannot be certain whether it was Corderoy or myself.

26,988. Had you voted at any of the municipal elections?—One; I should say two.

26,989. Did you receive any money for those?—No.

26,990. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose you attended three or four of Mr. Gower's meetings?—At the beer shop.

26,991. You had plenty of the Gower beer?—I do not know; I had what I wanted.

W. Comber.

WILLIAM COMBER called, sworn, and examined.

26,992. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a voter for this borough?—Yes, I have been so for many years.

26,993. What are you?—I am a cowkeeper and a jobbing carter.

26,994. What rent do you pay for your house?—I live in my own.

26,995. What is the yearly value of your house?—I really do not know; I do not put a rent on myself. I insure for 400*l.*

26,996. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

26,997. Your house is worth about 15*l.* a year, I suppose?—I am possessed of three cottages; I live in one of the three, and let the two others; they are only little cottages.

26,998. Is not the house you live in worth 10*l.* a year?—Yes.

26,999. You voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

27,000. Were you on his committee?—I had nothing to do with no committee. I said, "Do not put "my name on anything of the sort; I am a free able "member when they call for me."

27,001. Who asked you to go on the committee?—Nobody. At least I was asked the question by a neighbour of mine, and I said, "Don't put my name "on any committee at all."

27,002. Who asked you?—My neighbours close by.

27,003. Who was it?—I was asked by several of my neighbours.

27,004. Tell me one?—Mr. Verrall, he asked me to go on to Mr. Gower's committee; and Mr. Church.

27,005. Who asked you to go on Mr. Monson's committee?—I was asked by gentlemen round there.

27,006. By whom?—By Mr. Richardson for one. I was not asked to go on the committee. I said, "I won't."

27,007. Who else besides Mr. Richardson?—Nobody.

27,008. Mr. Richardson is not "a gentleman round "there;" did any one else ask you to be put on the committee?—No. I told them not to make use of my name on any committee.

27,009. Did you act upon the committee in any way?—I said they were not to make use of my name, I was not going to busy myself in the election in any way.

27,010. What time were you at the poll to vote for Mr. Monson, and who took you?—At 9 o'clock in the morning, by his conveyance; it was just by my resldence.

27,011. Who came with the conveyance?—I cannot tell; yes, I can name one or two.

27,012. Name them?—Mr. Tyrrall was one, at the beer shop close by me.

27,013. Was he the man who asked you to be on the committee?—That was another committee.

27,014. It was Mr. Verrall who asked you to be on Mr. Gower's committee?—I never promised Mr. Gower, therefore I had no business to support him.

27,015. For whom did you vote in 1863, the election before the last?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

27,016. For whom did you vote in 1859, when Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson were candidates?—I went for Mr. Wilkinson.

27,017. Do you recollect when Mr. Doulton was a candidate here?—I recollect.

27,018. For whom did you vote on that occasion?—I went for Mr. Doulton.

27,019. Were you employed at all?—Not in any way. I had service offered me, but I would not accept it.

27,020. Who offered you service?—Mr. Green and

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W. Comber.

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Mr. Boult offered me service. I said, "I will have "nothing at all to do with it."

27,021. What Green is that?—Henry Green.

27,022. And who is the other gentleman?—Mr. Henry Boult of London-road.

27,023. What did they offer you?—They offered me, I think, about 5*s.* 6*d.* a day, or 6*s.* I said, "I "will have nothing to do with electioneering, I have "my own business to look after."

27,024. How many weeks?—They did not tell me.

27,025. How many weeks was it before the election?—I could not tell.

27,026. Five or six?—I dare say; I do not know.

27,027. You refused?—I would not have anything to do with it.

27,028. You refused?—I did.

27,029. I suppose you received nothing?—I never did on any election.

27,030. If I was an elector, and I was offered employment or a bribe, I think I should hardly vote for the man who offered it, but you did. Did you know that it was offered you as a kind of bribe?—I expect it was a jolly; I did not know no other. I did not know what it was. In fact, I would not have any of the services.

27,031. Did you vote for Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I did.

27,032. You received nothing for that?—I did not.

27,033. Were you employed on either occasion?—I was never employed under no election, no more than I was fetched for my vote.

27,034. I believe there is one more Comber on the list?—I have three brothers besides me.

27,035. They all voted, I believe?—They did; I believe so, at least.

27,036. Two voted for Mr. Monson, and two voted for Mr. Gower?—I believe they did; I have been told so; I do not know no more.

27,037. I take it that you received nothing at all?—Not one penny for any election, and I have voted for 26 years.

27,038. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Green canvass you at this last election of 1865?—Oh, no; I had nothing at all to do with Green, nor Green with me.

27,039. He might have asked you?—No, it was of no use; I should not go his way.

27,040. He asked you in Mr. Doulton's time?—He did, that is true.

27,041. Then you refused him?—Yes.

27,042. I thought he might have spoken to you again?—No.

27,043. You say that Mr. Church canvassed you and Mr. Verrall?—They wanted to do so, they wanted me to go on Mr. Gower's side. I had my own business to look after, and I did not want to busy myself about the election.

27,044. Did Mr. Church or Mr. Verrall make overtures to you that you would be paid for being on the committee?—They told me that, but I did not feel inclined to go on.

27,045. I want to know whether it was Mr. Church or Mr. Verrall made overtures to you?—They were both neighbours of mine.

27,046. Did they come together?—I cannot say.

27,047. Or did they come separately?—I do not mean to say that they came together. They often used to come, being neighbours, and smoke a pipe. I was busy looking after my cows and horses; I took no interest in it.

27,048. I want to know whether it was Mr. Church or Mr. Verrall who said anything to you about being on the committee, and being paid for it?—No, they never said a word about paying for anything. They asked, "Would you like to go along with us?" Being neighbours, I said, "Don't bother me, I am "looking after my business."

27,049. You said that one of them wanted you to go on the committee?—Yes.

27,050. Which of them?—They did not say they would give me anything.

27,051. Which asked you?—I do not know which.

27,052. One of them did?—I was asked that question, if I would, and I said, "Don't put me on any "committee; I won't busy myself at any election; "I have enough to do with looking after my own "business."

27,053. Did they say, "Come on the committee, "and you will get something for it"?—Yes, but I would not accept their offer.

27,054. I want to know what the offer was that was made to you?—Not any offer particular. I said I would not accept their services; I had my own business to look after.

27,055. I want you to tell me what the offer was?—They did not make me any offer of any sum of money.

27,056. What was said about your going on the committee?—It was certainly hinted to me, "Could "we make use of your name?" I said, "No such "thing."

27,057. What was the hint?—That was the hint—"Could we make use of your name, Mr. Comber, "on the committee? Your name would go a great "way amongst the neighbours round here." I said, "Don't you make any use of my name at all, for I "won't have it."

27,058. Did either of them say to you that if your name was put on the committee you would be paid like the others?—I cannot say that; I do not know that; I never heard it.

27,059. Was anything said about payment?—No, not a bit; I never received a shilling for a vote in my life.

27,060. But was anything said by either of those two gentlemen?—Not that I am aware of.

27,061. That if you went on the committee you might expect something?—Not that I am aware of, I cannot recollect that. I do not know it indeed. I will not tell an untruth if I know it.

G. Pike.

George Pike called, sworn, and examined.

27,062. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A labouring man.

27,063. What rent do you pay for your house?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week at the time of the election.

27,064. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

27,065. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Himself, personally.

27,066. Did you promise him?—Yes.

27,067. Were you asked afterwards by any of his party?—No.

27,068. Were you asked to vote for Mr. Gower?—No.

27,069. Not at all?—No.

27,070. Did you not see Mr. Gower himself?—No,

27,071. How long before the election was it that you promised Mr. Monson to vote for him?—Something like five or six months.

27,072. After that, as the election came on, they canvassed you again, did they not? they came to remind you?—I had two or three papers left at my house by Mr. Gower's party, I believe.

27,073. Who left them there?—I cannot tell; I was not at home; I cannot read nor write.

27,074. I mean by Mr. Monson's party; I suppose somebody came to remind you of your promise?—Yes.

27,075. Who was it?—Mr. Joseph Kenward.

27,076. How long before the election?—Three or four weeks.

27,077. What did he say to you when he came?—He asked me if I would vote for Mr. Monson.

27,078. What did you say?—I had already made up my mind to vote for Mr. Monson.

27,079. You told him so?—Yes.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

G. Pike.

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27,080. What did Kenward say upon that?—He asked me if I would be one upon the committee.

27,081. What did you say?—Yes.

27,082. Did you go on the committee?—Yes.

27,083. Did you do any work?—Very little.

27,084. I suppose you attended a committee or two?—Yes.

27,085. Did Mr. Kenward tell you what you would get if you got on the committee?—He did not tell me what I would have, but he said there would be a something.

27,086. What did you get?—I received 1*l.* 10*s.* before the election, and 1*l.* 10*s.* after the election.

27,087. Who from?—Joseph Kenward.

27,088. Was that all you received?—Yes.

27,089. Was this your first election?—Yes.

27,090. You had not voted before?—No.

G. Parsons.

George Parsons called, sworn, and examined.

27,091. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was your qualification at the last election?—A house, 5*s.* a week.

27,092. What are you?—A carpenter.

27,093. On what terms did you hold your house, monthly or weekly?—Weekly.

27,094. As to notice to quit?—A month's notice, I believe.

27,095. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Monson.

27,096. How came you to vote for Mr. Monson? What was the inducement?—I thought proper to do so.

27,097. That is one reason; was there some other reason?—Nothing at all, not any inducement whatever.

27,098. Who was it canvassed you?—Mr. Corderoy.

27,099. For Mr. Monson?—Yes.

27,100. Did he ask you to go on the committee?—No, I had nothing to do with it.

27,101. Did he ask you to work for Mr. Monson?—He asked me to do the best I could for him.

27,102. What did you say to that; that you would?—Yes, I said I would do so.

27,103. I suppose you were not to do that for nothing?—I had a recompense for it.

27,104. Who paid you?—Corderoy.

27,105. What was it?—1*l.*

27,106. When did he pay you?—After the election.

27,107. When he asked you to do what you could for them did he not say something about remuneration?—No, nothing; he promised nothing of the sort.

27,108. Was that the first time you had voted?—That was the first time.

27,109. Were you canvassed by anybody on the part of Mr. Gower?—Nothing particular; I was asked.

27,110. Who was it asked you?—Some of the shopmates; Charles Parsons did for one.

27,111. A brother of yours?—No, he is no relation of mine.

27,112. Were you asked to go on Mr. Gower's committee?—No.

27,113. Were you asked to work for Mr. Gower?—No, nothing of the sort.

27,114. Were you not canvassed by any of the principal agents, Apted, Green, Rose, or any of those men?—None of them at all.

27,115. Is that all you know about the election in 1865?—That is all I know.

27,116. That is all you got?—Yes.

27,117. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You got it from Corderoy?—Yes.

27,118. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he say why he gave it to you?—The two days that I lost, I expect, on the nomination day and the polling day.

27,119. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you at the nomination?—Yes.

27,120. That did not take long, did it?—I was about amongst them all day somewhere; on the last day, at all events.

27,121. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You expected to be paid, did you not?—I did not expect nothing about it.

27,122. Why should you get 1*l.* if you did not expect it?—I do not know how it was, I am sure; I had it gave to me, and of course I should not refuse it.

27,123. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not take it as a bribe, I suppose?—I did not take it as such.

27,124. What did you take it as?—For the loss of two days.

27,125. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When you lost two days, you did not expect to be paid for that loss of time, you know?—No.

27,126. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much should you have taken if he had offered a higher sum? I am sure I do not know.

27,127. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) All you could have got?—All I could have got, perhaps.

27,128. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is Henry Parsons a brother of yours?—No, no relation.

27,129. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Corderoy tell you where he got the money from?—No, he did not.

27,130. You did not think it came out of his own pocket?—I could not tell where it came from.

27,131. Did anybody ask you to attend the nomination?—Yes.

27,132. Who?—Thomas Corderoy wished us all to attend.

27,133. I suppose you could have gone back to your work after the nomination?—I dare say I could.

27,134. Did you occupy the afternoon by attending refreshment houses?—No, I did not attend them much.

27,135. Did you on that occasion?—I was there a little while.

27,136. Of course you did not pay for what you had?—Yes, I did.

The witness withdrew.

W. Millbank.

William Millbank sworn and examined.

27,137. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A painter.

27,138. What rent do you pay?—17*l.* a year.

27,139. Do you take the house by the year?—By the month.

27,140. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

27,141. Was that the first election you had had?—Yes.

27,142. Before that election who canvassed you for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Ford.

27,143. What is his Christian name?—I cannot say.

27,144. Do you know how long before, about?—I should say five weeks.

27,145. Where does Mr. Ford live?—In Reigate, in the Lesbourne-road.

27,146. He is a voter, I suppose?—I believe he is.

27,147. What arrangement did he make?—None at all.

27,148. Did he ask you to go on the committee in the first instance?—No.

27,149. Were you put on the committee?—No.

27,150. Who canvassed you besides Mr. Ford, afterwards?—Not any other person.

27,151. Did anybody canvass you for Mr. Gower?—That is Mr. Gower's canvasser.

27,152. You told me you voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

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W. Millbank.

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27,153. And you said Ford canvassed you ?—For Mr. Gower.

27,154. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson ?—No person.

27,155. Did he call on you himself? — He had called at my place.

27,156. But had not seen you ?—He had not seen me.

27,157. Why did you vote for him ?—I thought he was the proper person to represent the borough of Reigate ; that is why I chose him.

27,158. Who is your landlord ?—Mr. Shepherd.

27,159. I suppose Mr. Shepherd canvassed you ?—No.

27,160. Did he not ask you to vote ?—No.

27,161. Did he ask you how you were going to vote ?—No.

27,162. Did he know how you were going to vote ?—No.

27,163. Did you know how Mr. Shepherd voted ?—No.

27,164. Do you know now ?—No.

27,165. Is it the same Shepherd that we have eard about ?—I am sure I do not know.

27,166. What Shepherd is it ? — Shepherd the uilder, of Redhill.

27,167. That is not the Shepherd who is gas fitter o the railway ?—I do not know.

27,168. Did you do anything for Mr. Monson ? Were you active in doing any work for him, giving him your assistance ?—No.

27,169. I suppose, though not active, you did assist him ?—No.

27,170. Not at all ?—Not at all.

27,171. Were you here all the time during the election ?—Yes.

27,172. I suppose you took some part in it ?—No.

27,173. You did not mind the election ?—Not at all.

27,174. Then it was after you had agreed to vote for Mr. Monson that Ford canvassed you for Mr. Gower ?—I told him I would have nothing to do with it, that I had made up my mind, and that was sufficient.

27,175. Is Mr. Ford a voter ?—Yes.

27,176. He voted, I suppose, for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

27,177. Did he ask you to go on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No.

27,178. What did he ask you to do ?—Whether I would vote for Mr. Gower. I said, "No," I had made up my mind, and should not alter.

27,179. Was that all that passed ?—That is all that passed.

27,180. Did anybody else canvass you for Mr. Gower ?—No.

27,181. After that you voted, as you had made up your mind, for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

27,182. Had you been asked to go on Mr. Monson's committee ?—No.

27,183. Not at all ?—No.

27,184. Did they not ask you to get some votes for Mr. Monson ?—No.

27,185. After the election was over did they come and talk to you ?—No.

27,186. Was anything offered to you ?—No.

27,187. I need hardly ask whether you received anything ?—No.

27,188. Did you receive any promises ?—No.

27,189. Did they raise any expectations ?—No.

27,190. This was your first election ?—Yes.

27,191. Where do you live ?—In Glover's-fields.

27,192. Were you present at any meeting of Mr. Monson's committee near where you lived ?—No.

27,193. Not one ?—Not one.

27,194. Where was Mr. Monson's committee, nearest to you ?—I cannot say.

27,195. He had committee rooms in different parts of the town ?—He might have had, but I have not been to one.

27,196. That is no reason why you should not be able to tell me where his committee room was in your district ?—I cannot tell you.

27,197. Do you not know what house it was at ?—No.

27,198. Can you tell me who was the principal man on Mr. Monson's committee in your district ?—No.

27,199. If not the principal, an active man in your district ; that is all I want to know ?—I cannot tell.

27,200. Have you no notion ?—No.

27,201. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What time did you vote ?—At half-past 9 in the morning.

The witness withdrew.

H. Sendall.

HENRY SENDALL sworn and examined.

27,202. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What rent did you pay for your house ?—10*l.* 8*s.*

27,203. What are you ?—A gardener.

27,204. Did you pay rent by the week ?—By the week.

27,205. Then you paid 4*s.* a week ?—Yes.

27,206. Under what terms of notice to quit were you, monthly or weekly ?—Monthly, I believe.

27,207. For whom did you vote ?—For Mr. Gower.

27,208. Had you been canvassed by the Monson party ?—No.

27,209. Not at all ?—No.

27,210. Or asked to vote on the part of Mr. Monson ?—No.

27,211. How came you to vote for Mr. Gower ?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith canvassed me. I promised my vote in the early part of the canvass.

27,212. Did they make any overtures to you to go on the committee ?—Yes, Mr. Smith asked me if I would be on the committee, and I told him yes.

27,213. Did Mr. Smith tell you that if you went on the committee and worked you would be paid for it ?—No.

27,214. Somebody did, did they not ?—Yes.

27,215. Who was it ?—Not particular for going on the committee, but for working.

27,216. Who was that ?—Mr. Frederick Joyes.

27,217. How long after you had seen Mr. Gower, and promised your vote, did you see Mr. Joyes ?—I do not know ; perhaps it might be a week ; I cannot say to a few days.

27,218. What took place between you and Joyes ?—Mr. Joyes asked me to work, if I would assist in returning Mr. Gower.

27,219. Did he tell you what work you were to do?—Not particular ; canvass, and see what was going on in our neighbourhood.

27,220. I suppose you did not do much ?—I think I did.

27,221. What did you do ?—A great deal of running about, and I lost a great deal of rest.

27,222. You sat up at nights ?—A great many nights.

27,223. These nights when you sat up you attended the meetings ?—Yes, sometimes.

27,224. At the different public houses ?—No.

27,225. Where did you attend ?—At the public halls.

27,226. At this hall ?—No, the new hall once or twice.

27,227. Only once or twice ?—Not at that hall ; I did not.

27,228. What did you do on these committees ?—I do not hardly know what to tell you ; I run about, and done what I was asked to do ; canvassed my fellow gardeners, and tried to persuade them.

27,229. All the gardeners canvassed each other ?—I do not know about that.

27,230. Did you get paid ?—Yes.

27,231. What did you have ?—5*l.*

27,232. Who paid you that ?—Mr. Mazden.

27,233. Had Mr. Mazden spoken to you about your vote as well as Joyes ?—No.

27,234. Then how came Mr. Mazden to pay you ?—

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H. Sendall.

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I suppose that might be arranged between Mr. Joyes and him; I do not know.

27,235. Did he bring the money without your asking for it?—I do not know; I think I did ask him when the settling time was coming.

27,236. You asked Mazden?—Yes.

27,237. How came you to ask Mazden?—I think Joyes said he would see me paid; he did not say he would pay me himself.

27,238. How came you to apply to Mazden?—I heard I was on Mr. Mazden's list.

27,239. Who told you?—I think he told me himself.

27,240. Were you living in Mazden's district?—Yes.

27,241. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much out of the 5*l.* do you set down for your loss of rest?—I can hardly tell; I am in the habit of getting to bed at 9 or 10 o'clock at the outside.

27,242. I want to know how much is for the loss of rest?—I do not know; pretty nearly every night we were after hours.

27,243. How much out of the 5*l.* ?—I do not know how much; there was a great deal of looking after Mr. Monson's party, who were doing a good deal in our neighbourhood, or trying to do so, but they did not succeed much.

27,244. What did you notice Mr. Monson's party doing in that neighbourhood?—I do not know; it was the general talk that money was going pretty freely, and I think it has told tales in our neighbourhood.

27,245. Mr. Monson's money?—Yes.

27,246. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you offer any money?—No, I had it not in my power to do so.

27,247. Did you hold out any hopes to those whom you canvassed that they might expect something?—No, not coming on our side, I did not.

27,248. How did you manage?—I believe I did tell one of my fellow gardeners that if he worked he would be paid for his work.

27,249. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think you said that Mr. Monson's money told tales?—Yes, I think you have seen that through the Inquiry.

27,250. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you canvass Oxtoby for one?—Yes.

27,251. You told him that he would have the same as the rest if he worked?—No, that is wrong, I did not make that statement to Oxtoby, I wish the reporters would confine themselves to the statements made here.

27,252. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The statement is, "Sendall asked me to do work, and said I should "have the same as the rest"?—I do not know anything at all about "the rest." That is false; I deny it.

27,253. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you canvass anybody besides Oxtoby?—I did several, not particular.

27,254. Any individual?—I just put a feeler on several of them to see how they were.

27,255. How did you put a feeler?—I cannot hardly tell you how it was there.

27,256. Did you receive any instructions from Apted or any of those men in the committee as to how you should canvass?—I received instructions from Mr. Joyes that if Oxtoby worked he should be paid for it; not Mr. Apted, I had no conversation with him.

27,257. Did Joyes tell you to make the same offer to others?—No, he did not.

27,258. Only to Oxtoby?—No, he did not.

27,259. Then Oxtoby was the only person you got?—I think it was individually.

27,260. Tell me one individually that you got?—I do not know.

27,261. You only got him because Joyes told you to make that offer?—I do not know that it was an offer exactly on my part.

27,262. Did you vote at the previous election of 1863?—Yes.

27,263. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

27,264. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you loss of rest then?—Yes, a great deal.

27,265. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you get for voting upon that occasion?—Mr. James gave me 5*l.*

27,266. Did you receive it from Mr. James himself?—I did, and dearly earned it too, more so than on the last occasion.

27,267. Do you know a person of the name of Thomas Hards?—Yes.

27,268. Living in Bridge-street, Leatherhead?—Yes.

27,269. Did you canvass him?—Yes.

27,270. Tell me what took place between you and Hards?—I went over to Leatherhead to see Hards. I rode to Dorking, and walked from Dorking to Leatherhead, which is six miles. I went to see Hards and asked him if he would support Mr. Wilkinson. He said he should like to do so, knowing that he was a good man, but he had had an offer from the other party. I do not know whether it was 3*l.* 10*s.* or 4*l.* 10*s.*, but I believe it was 4*l.* 10*s.*; I cannot recollect which of the two.

27,271. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was the Gower party?—Yes.

27,272. Your party?—No, I was for Wilkinson on that occasion.

27,273. But you voted for Mr. Gower the last time?—Yes.

27,274. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—Yes.

27,275. Now tell us what took place between you and Hards?—He told me that he should like to support Mr. Wilkinson, to vote for him, but he says, "I "have left your neighbourhood now" (he was a neighbour of mine previous to that), "and I have had "an offer from the other party." He said, "I want "to make a little." "Well," I said, "I have no "power to offer you anything." He told me that he had been offered by the other party. I do not know whether it was 3*l.* 10*s.* or 4*l.* 10*s.*, but I believe it was 4*l.* 10*s.*

27,276. What did you say?—I told him I would go home and report it to the committee, and let him know.

27,277. Did you go on the committee?—No, not at the time. Penfold came up while we were all at, I think it is called, the "Swan" at Leatherhead, and Hards told him the same tale, I believe, and Penfold said, "You will get nothing of the kind." He assured Hards that he would get nothing like that. He said his expenses should be paid if he voted for Wilkinson, he could not say anything further.

27,278. Is that all you know about Hards?—No, he promised Penfold there in my presence that on Sunday there were two men coming to see him, and then he would let him know after those two had seen him.

27,279. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Hards promised Penfold to let Penfold know on the following Sunday?—Yes.

27,280. What then?—I do not know whether he let Penfold know, but he voted for Mr. Gower at the election; Mr. Penfold will answer that, I dare say.

27,281. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What Penfold is that?—Thomas Penfold of Mead-vale.

27,282. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was on the same side as you?—Yes.

27,283. *Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you voted before?—Yes.

27,284. What did you get yourself in 1863 for Mr. Wilkinson?—5*l.* from Mr. James.

27,285. Had money passed through your hands in 1863 to give to voters?—No, not a sixpence, nor nothing of the kind.

27,286. You said you did a great deal of work in 1863?—I did.

27,287. Did you canvass?—Yes.

27,288. Beyond Hards?—Yes.

27,289. Did you get any instructions as to the way in which you should canvass?—No, not particular.

27,290. Anything out of the particular ?—No.

27,291. Did not some of the committee men, Mr. James or some of them, tell you that you might make offers to them ?—No, he was quite the reverse.

27,292. Mr. James was ?—Yes, quite the reverse of that.

27,293. Did any of the other persons acting on the part of Mr. Wilkinson give you any instructions ?—Mr. James had a committee room at the "Junction" hotel Redhill; that is where he was staying all through the election, though he had a committee room here.

27,294. Did you get any instructions as to how to canvass ?—No, I did not, nothing particular that I know of.

27,295. Did you make any overtures to persons when you canvassed them as to whether they might expect anything for their work ?—No, I did not.

27,296. What was the election before that at which you voted ?—I voted for the late Mr. Hackblock.

27,297. In 1859 did you vote, when Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson were candidates ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson then I believe.

27,298. Did you get anything for that election ?—I did, but I really do not know what it was, not the sum I believe that was in the returns. Whether it was 2*l.* or 30*s.* I do not know; it was a small trifle that Mr. Cape gave me.

27,299. We may say 30*s.* or 2*l.* ?—Yes.

27,300. From Mr. Cape ?—That was the agent.

27,301. Was that for voting for Mr. Wilkinson or for loss of rest ?—I cannot speak to the two.

27,302. Was it for voting for Mr. Wilkinson or for loss of rest ?—For work.

27,303. Then it was not loss of rest ?—I suppose it is one and the same thing.

27,304. What was the work you did ?—There was a great deal of work to be done at that time, I think.

27,305. Who asked you to work ?—Mr. Cape.

27,306. Did he tell you what work you would have to do ?—No, nothing particular, but then being on the spot where the committee room was I had to run about a great deal to take notes and circulars. Never scarcely a day passed but what I did take a circular somewhere from the committee room.

27,307. Did you vote in October 1858, when there was an election between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

27,308. Did you do work on that occasion ?—That is when Sir Henry Rawlinson was returned I think.

27,309. No, October 1858, the last election, between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson, when Mr. Monson was returned ?—I voted then for Wilkinson.

27,310. Did you get anything for voting then ?—No.

27,311. You were not paid anything at all ?—No. There were two contests between Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson; it was the last election, when Mr. Monson was returned, that I had money from Mr. Cape.

27,312. Mr. Monson was returned twice ?—Yes, but Mr. Wilkinson did not then come forward; he was nominated here, I believe, but he never came down himself.

27,313. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was the time you were paid ?—No.

27,314. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was in 1859, the mock election, when Mr. Wilkinson was put up without his knowledge ?—Yes.

27,315. There were two elections in 1858. Do you recollect the removal of Sir Henry Rawlinson, when he took office and then resigned ?—Yes.

27,316. Then there was an election in October, when Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson were candidates, and you voted for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

27,317. What did you get at that election ?—That was the election.

27,318. In 1859 you got nothing ?—Nothing at all.

27,319. The election in February 1858, when Mr. Doulton was down here ?—That is when I ought to have made a hit.

27,320. You smile with regard to that election ?—I was offered 10*s.* a day on Mr. Doulton's committee.

27,321. Who offered you 10*s.* a day ?—I do not know who his agents were; there were many of the sweeps running about at that time.

27,322. Who do you call sweeps ?—Some of the scum of London, I should think they were.

27,323. Who were they working for ?—Mr. Doulton.

27,324. Were they foreigners to Reigate ?—Yes, I knew no one except one; I did not know him, but they told me that was Freeman; that is the only agent I knew. I was offered 10*s.* a day by one of them if I would go on his committee, and vote for Doulton; and I believe that was the first of corruption in this borough, if there is any.

27,325. For whom did you vote at that election when Mr. Doulton was here, and you were offered 10*s.* a day ?—The Hon. Lord Monson that is now I believe.

27,326. You did not take his offer, the sweep's offer ?—No, if it had been ten times the amount I should not have taken it.

27,327. Did you get anything for voting for Mr. Monson at that time ?—No, not a sixpence nor a glass of anything that I know of, not to my knowledge.

27,328. That was not an impure election so far as you were concerned ?—No, I think not, quite the reverse of that.

27,329. Were you about much at that election ?—Well, after the ballot I lost my choice, and I did not take any interest at all, only giving my vote.

27,330. Who was your candidate ?—Mr. Wilkinson; he was balloted out.

27,331. You voted for Mr. Monson ?—I voted for Mr. Monson to keep Mr. Doulton back; I had no great love for Mr. Monson, but I voted for him.

27,332. You liked him rather better than Mr. Doulton ?—I did.

27,333. Was there anything at all like bribery going on upon that ballot between Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Doulton ?—I think there was a great deal.

27,334. What reason have you for saying so ?—I do not know, I wish poor Roupell was here to answer that. I think he is suffering for a little of that.

27,335. Was Mr. Roupell down here before that ballot ?—I believe he was.

27,336. Did you see him ?—I saw him, I think, in this hall.

27,337. Did he speak to you ?—No.

27,338. After that ballot was there much of treating going on, or before the ballot ?—I was not about much after that. I lost my choice, and I cared nothing about the election, only giving my vote.

27,339. When your choice was gone, did you go about the borough, to see how the election was going on ?—Before the ballot I was about a great deal.

27,340. You can perhaps tell me, was there anything of treating going on; were houses open ?—I dare say a little; it is so long ago that I cannot remember much about it.

27,341. You were present ?—I cannot give much information about that.

27,242. Had you voted before that ?—I voted for the late Mr. Hackblock.

27,343. Did you receive anything for that vote ?—No, nor yet a glass of anything.

27,344. So far as you saw, with regard to that election, was it a fair election ?—I believe it was.

27,345. That was between Mr. Hackblock and Sir Henry Rawlinson ?—Yes.

27,346. You believe it to have been a fair election ?—I do.

27,347. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect that election pretty well between Mr. Hackblock and Sir Henry Rawlinson ?—I do, I think.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

H. Sendall.

10 Sept. 1866.

27,348. It is not very long ago, in 1857 ?—No.

27,349. After that election was over do you recollect whether there was much dissatisfaction among the voters; were they grumbling, rather ?—Not that I am aware of.

27,350. They were not grumbling, but they thought it rather slow ?—I do not know what there was to be grumbling about; there was nothing going on in the way of corruption that I am aware of.

27,351. Were they rather dissatisfied that there was so little doing ?—No.

27,352. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You say that Monson's money told tales in Mead-vale; what tales did it tell ?—I think through this Inquiry you have been able to form an opinion, so far as I have read in the newspapers.

27,353. I thought you knew something yourself ?—No, I do not.

The witness withdrew.

J. Cook.

JOHN COOK sworn and examined.

27,354. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A carpenter.

27,355. What rent do you pay ?—11*l.* a year.

27,356. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Monson.

27,357. I suppose this was the first time you voted ?—Yes.

27,358. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee ?—Yes.

27,359. Who put you on the committee ?—Mr. Nichols I suppose.

27,360. What were you to receive ?—30*s.*; I made an arrangement with Mr. Nichols to have 30*s.* a week.

27,361. How many weeks before the election ?—Five weeks and three days.

27,362. Did you receive the 30*s.* a week regularly ?—1*l.* a week, and 3*l.* after the election.

27,363. Then you received 8*l.* ?—8*l.* 10*s.*

27,364. Did you receive it altogether ?—No, I received 1*l.* a week for five weeks.

27,365. And then you received 3*l.* 10*s.* in a lump ?—Yes.

27,366. After you had voted ?—Yes.

27,367. Did you go to Nichols after you polled ?—Yes, three days after I polled.

27,368. And he paid you the money ?—Yes.

27,369. He paid you all the money ?—Yes.

27,370. Was there any one associated with you ?—No one at all.

27,371. You did not canvass anybody ?—Yes, I canvassed George Buck and John Fuller.

27,372. Anybody else ?—No, I persuaded a good many, tried to.

27,373. Who is Mr. Buck ?—A bricklayer.

27,374. He was a voter ?—Yes.

27,375. I hope you succeeded with Mr. Buck ?—Yes.

27,376. Did Buck vote for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

27,377. What did Buck get ?—I am sure I do not know.

27,378. What did you promise him ?—I directed him to Mr. Nichols for a job.

27,379. That is how you canvassed him ?—That is not particularly how I canvassed him.

27,380. You said, "If you want to vote for Monson "go to Nichols, and he will give you a job" ?—It was to that effect.

27,381. Did you tell him what you were getting ? I did not tell any one what I was getting.

27,382. You knew that Buck went to Mr. Nichols ?—I did the week after he went there.

27,383. Was he on the canvassing line too ?—Yes.

27,384. He did not canvass you in turn, did he ?—No.

27,385. Did you say the same to Mr. Fuller ?—No; I canvassed him, and got him in the mind to vote for Mr. Monson, and some one else took him in hand. I was the means of his going to the poll in the first instance.

27,386. He went to the poll, did he ?—Yes; I believe somebody else paid him for his time.

27,387. He voted for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

27,388. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it Richard Fuller or John Fuller ?—John Fuller.

27,389. You do not know who paid John Fuller ?—No.

27,390. He did not tell you ?—No.

27,391. Did he tell you how much he had got ?—No, he did not tell me at all.

27,392. Did Buck tell you how much he had got ?—No.

27,393. Is there any one else whose name you can recollect ?—I do not recollect any one else that I canvassed.

27,394. Any one that you won over ?—I dare say I persuaded a good many.

27,395. You tried ?—Yes.

27,396. Can you mention any other that you worked upon, that you mentioned Nichols to ?—No one at all.

27,397. Buck got 7*l.* 10*s.*, did you know it ?—No, not until I saw it in the *Standard*.

27,398. You do not know what Fuller got ?—No.

27,399. What is John Fuller ?—A labourer.

27,400. Of Mead-vale ?—Yes.

27,401. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Fuller says that somebody took him out of your hands, was that Hewett ?—Yes.

27,402. No money passed through your hands, except what you received for yourself ?—No.

27,403. I suppose you attended the public houses ?—Not many, one I think.

27,404. You had refreshment ?—Yes, I did have a little.

27,405. You had no vote before ?—No.

27,406. You have a vote still, I suppose ?—Yes.

27,407. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How did you appropriate the 8*l.* 10*s.* ? Did you keep it all yourself ?—Yes.

27,408. How long were you working ?—Five weeks and three days.

27,409. And you sent one voter, and canvassed Buck and Fuller, and then Nichols paid ?—Mr. Nichols paid Buck, not Fuller.

27,410. They both got paid ?—Yes.

27,411. When you canvassed them did you tell them they would be likely to be paid ?—I told Buck to go to Nichols, and he would I dare say get a job.

27,412. You meant by that that he would get paid ?—Yes.

27,413. For his vote ?—Not for his vote.

The witness withdrew.

J. Cook.

JOHN COOK sworn and examined.

27,414. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are another John Cook ?—Yes.

27,415. What is your address ?—South Park.

27,416. Were you a voter ?—No.

27,417. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you been a voter previously to the last election ?—No.

27,418. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take part in the last election ?—A little.

27,419. Who asked you to take part a little in the election ?—Thomas Jordan.

27,420. What did Thomas Jordan tell you to do ?—I was hired as messenger.

27,421. Was that all that you did ?—I canvassed one.

27,422. Who did you canvass ?—James Jordan of South Park.

27,423. How came you to canvass him, were you sent to him ?—Yes.

27,424. Who sent you?—Thomas Jordan.

27,425. Did Thomas Jordan tell you how to canvass him?—He asked me to see him.

27,426. Did he tell you what to say to him when you did see him?—I do not remember.

27,427. He told you to go and see Jordan. What were you to do?—I was to set him to work.

27,428. What were you to tell him to work at?—To do what he could as regards getting some votes.

27,429. What was he to get for it?—15*s.* a week.

27,430. How long before the election was it?—About a fortnight.

27,431. What was he paid?—I paid him 30*s.*

27,432. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Paid whom?—James Jordan.

27,433. Was that the old man?—A middle-aged man.

27,434. The father of Thomas?—No.

27,435. Well, what is James Jordan?—A gardener. He has been up, I believe; he was up here last Thursday.

27,436. Where did you get the money you paid him with?—From Thomas Jordan.

27,437. But I suppose James Jordan did no work, in fact?—He done what he could of a night, the same as myself. He went to places.

27,438. You paid him 15*s.* twice over?—Yes.

27,439. Thomas Jordan paid him the other 3*l.* 10*s.*, did not he? He was to have 5*l.* I think altogether?—Yes, he was to have 5*l.*

27,440. It was paid to him by Thomas Jordan?—Yes, on the polling day.

27,441. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is all you know about it, I suppose?—That is all.

27,442. Did you pay anybody else?—I did not pay anybody else.

27,443. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you came down to the election, I believe you thought you were a voter yourself?—Yes, I thought I was at first.

27,444. What made you think so? Did you think your name was on the register?—Yes.

27,445. Were you renting a house, or something?—Yes.

27,446. Why were you not on the register, were not you up high enough in the rent?—The rates were paid in my name at the first onset, and afterwards they were altered, and then I was scratched off the register.

27,447. Did you come or did Jordan send for you?—I met Jordan in the town and he asked me for my vote, and I did not know but what I had got one. I promised to vote for Monson.

27,448. That was your first election?—Yes, the first time I was asked.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN BARKER sworn and examined.

J. Barker.

27,449. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A tailor by trade.

27,450. What is your Christian name?—John.

27,451. What rent were you paying at the election?—I paid 4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

27,452. And you still do so?—Yes.

27,453. Do you pay it by the week?—Yes, I do.

27,454. You take it by the week?—Yes, giving a month's notice, you know.

27,455. Who did you vote for?—Monson.

27,456. Who canvassed you for Mr. Monson?—Thomas Barker.

27,457. What relation is Thomas Barker to you?—Only a son.

27,458. And what did Thomas, your son, urge as a reason why you should vote for Monson?—He asked me which way I was going. I told him I should go the same way as he did, and he said he was for Monson. That is all I know about it.

27,459. Did he ask you to be on the committee?—No, he did not.

27,460. Did anybody ask you to go on Monson's committee?—No.

27,461. Did not they?—No.

27,462. Did you go on the committee?—I have been at the houses when I have been drinking.

27,463. Where have you been when you have been drinking?—I cannot tell so many houses.

27,464. Well, tell me two or three, just shortly?—I was at the "Yew Tree" once.

27,465. Go on?—I think that is about all I can remember. I cannot recollect.

27,466. Did you have plenty of election beer?—When they asked me to drink I drank with them.

27,467. Did you go in and find that the houses provided you with beer?—No, what we had was paid for.

27,468. Somebody paid for it?—Yes.

27,469. How long before the election did Thomas, your son, ask you to vote for Mr. Monson?—The first beginning.

27,470. Four or five weeks?—It might be.

27,471. We may take it four weeks; did not you do anything more than go round drinking?—No.

27,472. Did you get money for doing it?—No, I got something at the latter end.

27,473. You got something towards the latter end?—You knows that very well, sir. You knows what I've had, I suppose.

27,474. You have given your evidence all right, Barker; now tell me what you did get, if you please?—Five.

27,475. Did they call it a fiver?—It was a 5*l.* note, a bit of paper. It was pressed upon me, and I accepted it.

27,476. Who gave it to you?—Thomas Barker.

27,477. Your son?—Yes, certainly.

27,478. You seem to have a good recollection of the election; were you talked to by the other side?—I was.

27,479. Who by?—By a man that is not living now.

27,480. Oh, then, I need not trouble about it?—Mr. Briggs.

27,481. You voted, I suppose, at the previous election in 1863?—No, this is the first, and I hope it will be the last. I have had enough of this.

27,482. I have nothing more to ask you, you have given your evidence very well?—Thank you.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN BOLSTER sworn and examined.

J. Bolster.

27,483. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A painter.

27,484. What do you pay for the house you vote for?—6*s.* a week.

27,485. You take it by the week, I suppose?—By the week.

27,486. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

27,487. Were you on his committee?—No, I was not.

27,488. Who canvassed you?—My late employer, Mr. Barnes of Nutfield, a builder.

27,489. You were in his employ?—I was.

27,490. Were not you on Mr. Monson's committee at all?—No, I was working from home, at Guildford.

27,491. What were you to get for coming and voting?—I was to have got 5*l.*, I got 2*l.*

27,492. Who told you you were to get 5*l.*?—Mr. Barnes.

27,493. Upon that, I suppose, you promised your vote for Mr. Monson?—I did.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

J. Bolster.

10 Sept. 1866.

27,494. Had the other side, the Gower side, spoken to you at all?—No.

27,495. They did not come to you?—No, I did not come home often.

27,496. So that they did not know where you were?—They might have known.

27,497. You did not go home till the week of the election?—I was away months before and after.

27,498. Were you paid anything?—I was paid 2*l.* I was allowed 1*l.* for each day, nomination and polling.

27,499. You came from Guildford?—Yes.

27,500. But they promised you 5*l.*?—They promised 5*l.*

27,501. And did not you apply to them afterwards for the balance?—I asked Mr. Barnes several times, when he came down, if he had heard anything respecting it, and he said no, he had not.

27,502. Who paid you the 2*l.*?—Mr. Nichols.

27,503. Mr. Nichols here?—Yes.

27,504. Did not you go to Mr. Nichols and ask him for the balance?—I did not say a word to Mr. Nichols about it. I left it entirely to Mr. Barnes.

27,505. You never spoke to him at all; but you merely took what he gave you?—That is all.

27,506. Had you voted before?—Never before.

27,507. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you mean to say that you came from Guildford on the nomination day?—No.

27,508. Were you working at Guildford at the time?—Working at the county hospital.

27,509. Did you attend the nomination?—No, I did not.

27,510. Then you came over on the polling day, and next morning returned?—The next morning I went back; on the Thursday.

27,511. Then how came you to get paid for two days?—I sent my name to Mr. Hart, seeing the advertisement in the paper, as I was promised two days' pay and did not get it. I wrote to him, and not having received any answer from Mr. Hart I went to Mr. Nichols.

27,512. Did you tell Mr. Nichols that you wanted pay for two days?—He sent word that I should get the 2*l.* for two days.

27,513. But you only came over one day; how was it you got paid for two days?—I thought I had a claim to it.

27,514. Then, in fact, it was not for the two days, but for the voting?—Well, I lost money by it.

27,515. But you claimed for two days, so that at all events the 2*l.* was a positive bribe; it is clear it was not for attending the nomination?—No, I could not come up to the nomination; I could not get away.

The witness withdrew.

E. Feldwick.

EDWARD FELDWICK sworn and examined.

27,516. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was your qualification at the last election?—I pay 15*l.* 12*s.* a year.

27,517. What are you?—A carpenter and joiner.

27,518. Is yours a yearly living?—No, I pay the rent weekly. It is a week's notice if anything is wrong.

27,519. 15*l.* 10*s.*?—15*l.* 12*s.*; I think it is 6*s.* a week.

27,520. You pay weekly, and upon what terms are you in reference to notice to quit?—A week's notice.

27,521. 5*s.* 6*d.* a week?—No, 6*s.*

27,522. For whom did you vote?—On behalf of Mr. Monson.

27,523. Who was it asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—I do not recollect being asked for my vote at all, further than being asked to work on behalf of Mr. Monson.

27,524. Who asked you to work on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Joseph Kenward.

27,525. What were you to get?—I was to have 30*s.* a week for the last two weeks.

27,526. Did Kenward pay you? What did you receive?—Nothing, only for the first week.

27,527. When were you paid the 30*s.*?—On the Saturday.

27,528. Did you vote for Monson?—Yes.

27,529. Did you get anything else besides the 30*s.*?—I got 3*l.* in all.

27,530. Were you to get anything for the nomination and polling days?—No.

27,531. When did you get the balance?—I had 30*s.* each week for two weeks; that is the whole I received.

27,532. You got nothing else?—Nothing else.

27,533. Kenward paid you?—Yes.

27,534. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did he pay you the last one; after polling?—No, the end of each week, before polling.

25,735. And you have received nothing else?—Nothing else.

27,536. Was that your first time of voting?—Yes.

27,537. You did not vote in 1863?—No.

27,538. Were you on the register then?—No, not in 1863.

27,539. Were you canvassed on the part of Mr. Gower in 1865?—I do not know whether I was particularly; there was one that asked me several times to go on his committee, but I refused.

27,540. Who was that?—Mr. Stoneman.

27,541. What did he say to you?—He said we were carpenters, and birds of a feather go together. I said, "I think I shall have nothing to do with it, as "regards being put on the committee, at all."

27,542. Did he hold out any expectation if you went working?—Not the least; no, he only asked me to go on the committee.

27,543. Do you know of any of your fellow workmen who received money for working at the election?—I never see any money pass between no persons.

27,544. You heard of some who had received money?—There were rumours going about, what one says and another says; it is only hearsay; I cannot say anything further.

27,545. Did you hear from any of them that they had been paid?—Well, no person at present that I heard that they had received anything. Of course they were talking that they did receive, but whether they did or not I am not able to say.

27,546. A good many of them?—No, one or two.

27,547. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who were the one or two?—One has been examined here this morning, Davey, and Parsons.

27,548. You don't know of anybody else?—No.

27,549. Nobody who received money like Davey and Parsons?—No.

27,550. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You cannot tell us of anybody else?—No, I have taken very little interest.

27,551. Do you know anything else about the election of 1865?—No, not the least.

27,552. What did Stoneman say to you?—He asked me to vote the same way.

27,553. He did not tell you what the covey was; he merely said, "Birds of a feather;" he did not tell you who was going with him?—No.

The witness withdrew.

D. Dewdney.

DANIEL DEWDNEY sworn and examined.

27,554. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A gardener.

27,555. What rent do you pay for the house under which you vote?—10*l.* a year. I pay the rent quarterly.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

D. Dewdney.

10 Sept. 1866.

27,556. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Monson.

27,557. Were you on his committee?—No.

27,558. Did you work for him?—I voted for him.

27,559. You voted I know, but did you work for him?—No.

27,560. Did you receive any money?—No, never in my life.

27,561. You received money for voting, did not you?—No.

27,562. Who asked you to vote?—Mr. Monson himself.

27,563. He canvassed you himself?—He called at my house before the election some time, and Mr. Hanbury was with him, and he asked me for my vote, and I said I always voted for his brother, now Lord Monson, and I thought I should vote for him, and so I did.

27,564. Did any one else speak to you afterwards about voting for Monson?—No.

27,565. Never?—No; he did not call any more.

27,566. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

27,567. For whom?—Mr. Gower, because Mr. Wilkinson's party had gone on so rough that I said I would never vote for them.

27,568. Gone on so what?—So rough; treating and kicking up rows, and I said I would never vote for him.

27,569. Did you receive anything on that occasion?—No.

27,570. At how many elections have you voted altogether?—I voted first for Mr. Hackblock, then for Monson, and then for Gower. At the last election for Mr. Monson.

27,571. I understand you to say you received nothing from any?—Nothing from none of them.

27,572. I can hardly say I am sorry you have been brought here, because you have given us such satisfactory evidence, but I have nothing further to ask of you?—Very well, sir.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM BROWN sworn and examined.

W. Brown.

27,573. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A labourer.

27,574. What rent do you pay for your house?—I do not pay any at all; it belongs to me.

27,575. Oh, freehold, very well. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

27,576. What is the value of your house?—I cannot tell you.

27,577. What would it be worth to take by the year?—30*l.*

27,578. You voted for Mr. Monson. Who asked you to vote; tell us all about it?—Mr. Emery of the "Prince Albert," Horley.

27,579. How did he put the question?—He asked me to vote for Mr. Monson, and I said "Yes." He said if I would he would give me 5*l.*

27,580. Well, you did vote; did he give you the 5*l.*?—Yes; after I given my vote he gave me the 5*l.*

27,581. Were they after you at all for Mr. Gower? There might be gentlemen spoke to me; that I did not take notice of at all.

27,582. Did they make you an offer?—No; I only stuck to one man.

27,583. Have you anything particular to say about the Gower people?—Not at all.

27,584. You had voted before?—Oh, yes; for years.

27,585. Let me ask you shortly, in 1863 whom did you vote for?—Wilkinson, I believe.

26,586. It was Wilkinson and Monson, you know?—No, Wilkinson and Gower.

27,587. I beg your pardon, it was my mistake. Did you get anything that time?—Yes, I got 2*l.*

27,588. And who paid you that 2*l.*, do you recollect?—Mr. Emery; the same man.

27,589. Is Emery your landlord? Oh, no, you have no landlord?—No; only an old friend of mine who gives me anything when I want it.

27,590. Helps you. The election of 1859 was the sham one between Mr. Wilkinson and the Hon. Mr. Monson?—I cannot tell you anything about it; it is no use trying to tell lies; I cannot tell you about it.

27,591. Do you recollect voting at the election of 1858, between the Hon. Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson; the year before?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson twice; but I cannot tell you anything about it. It is no use telling stories. I have no recollection of it at all.

27,592. Have you no recollection of anything that took place at any of the previous elections?—No.

27,593. Don't you remember Doulton's election?—Yes.

27,594. You voted then?—Yes; I did.

27,595. Who did you vote for?—I voted for Mr. Doulton himself.

27,596. Very well, that was in 1858 you voted for Doulton. Did you get anything from Emery that time?—From Mr. Doulton?

27,597. Yes.—Yes; I was paid per day; but they made me carry a board which hurt me so, that I dropped it and broke it, and would not carry it any more.

27,598. What did you get for that?—10*s.* a day sometimes at starting, and sometimes 5*s.* They would not have me carry the board because I was a voter. I had got a vote, you see, and they would not allow me to carry it.

27,599. What were you paid altogether; I dare say you remember that?—I think I had about 11*l.* 10*s.* in the course of seven weeks; I believe the election was on for seven weeks that time

27,600. How long were you carrying the board?—About half an hour. I have got the mark on my shoulder now.

27,601. You voted twice for Wilkinson; you cannot tell me whether you received any money more than once?—From which, sir.

27,602. From Wilkinson?—No; I had 2*l.* for my trouble; for my work.

27,603. Then you voted twice for Wilkinson. Can you tell me how much you got the last time?—I forget.

27,604. You did get something?—Very likely I might; I do not know.

27,605. You were here during all the elections we have been talking about; I suppose sometimes before they took place?—No.

27,606. I mean before the elections came on; you were here two or three weeks before?—No; I never asked any question at all. I am in a lonesome place, and never ask any questions as to what is going on.

27,607. How far do you live from the place?—Pretty near two miles.

27,608. Did not you come and see how things were going on?—No.

27,609. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you voted for Doulton?—Yes.

27,610. Did not you ballot for him?—Yes.

27,611. What did you get?—Nothing at all; I had my regular pay, every-day wages.

27,612. When you left off carrying the board, which you only carried for half an hour, what work did you do?—I went canvassing.

27,613. Did you get any votes?—I do not know I am sure; I tried them pretty hard.

27,614. Were you canvassing for Mr. Doulton before you balloted?—Yes; I had been.

27,615. And had been paid for canvassing?—I was paid regularly 3*l.* a week.

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W. Brown.

10 Sept. 1866.

27,616. I do not recollect your saying what you are ?—A labourer. I work sometimes on my own premises and my neighbours.

27,617. What do you labour at, gardening ?—Hay-making, or harvesting, or gardening; it does not matter what it is. I work at home and oblige my neighbours, that is all.

27,618. Do you recollect who engaged you for Doulton ?—No, I do not recollect.

27,619. I suppose you were doing other things at the time as well, besides canvassing ?—Not much; they called me out so early in the morning.

27,620. Who did ?—I do not know.

27,621. The Doulton party ?—Yes.

27,622. Were there any other of you labourers out canvassing ?—I cannot say. Some went one way and some another. I wish there were none at all; it disturbed my rest a great deal.

27,623. You got loss of rest ?—Yes.

27,624. Do you recollect whether there was much money going about at that (Doulton's) election ?—I do not know anything, only what I took myself.

27,625. When you canvassed the voters did you offer them anything ?—Not at all. I said "You can "do what you like, but," I said, "Doulton is my "man;" that is all. I never had no money in my hand to give them. I only had my weekly pay.

27,626. When you went on canvassing, did they tell you you might offer anything ?—They would not trust me with any money.

27,627. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then I am afraid you were not very successful ?—No.

27,628. Did you canvass while you had the board on ?—I had not time.

27,629. I see you rub your shoulder. I suppose it is sore ever since ?—It has been. It was a rotten spring and broke.

27,630. Who succeeded to your board ?—I do not know who put it on me.

27,631. But who took it off you ?—It dropped off.

27,632. Who picked it up ?—I do not know. I run away, and never looked back.

The witness withdrew.

J. Matthews.

JOHN MATTHEWS sworn and examined.

27,633. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where do you live, Mr. Matthews ?—In the London-road.

27,634. What are you ?—A surveyor and builder.

27,635. For whom did you vote ?—At the last election ?

27,636. Yes.—For Mr. Gower.

27,637. Were you on his committee ?—No.

27,638. You were not at all ?—No, I was on no committee.

27,639. You are an auctioneer ?—No, I am not an auctioneer; I am an architect and surveyor and builder.

27,640. Had you voted in 1863 ?—Yes.

27,641. For Mr. Gower ?—I really do not know in 1863.

27,642. Who did you vote for in 1865 ?—Mr. Gower. I have got so much to think about that I can hardly recollect, but I think it was Wilkinson in 1863. I think he was up that time.

27,643. You voted for Wilkinson that time ?—I think so. I voted for Gower on two occasions, and Wilkinson previously, and then for Monson.

27,644. Did you vote for Gower in 1863 ?—I voted for him twice.

27,645. Were you on his committee on either occasion ?—No.

27,646. Did you take any part in the canvassing ?—I chaffed a few of the electors.

27,647. That is it; I put it wrongly. Who did you chaff among the electors ? Which of the electors ?—I really could not tell; I chaffed nearly the whole that I met along the roads, on the roadside.

27,648. Tell me in what way; I take it in the most candid way. What did you say ? How did you chaff them ?—Oh! I chaffed them who they were going for.

27,649. Well ?—It was just merely in passing.

27,650. Will you tell me one of them ? What did they say ?—They returned the chaff; they took it as such, and returned it as such.

27,651. What did they say ? I suppose some said they wanted a fiver and some a tenner ?—Oh, no, nothing of the sort.

27,652. What did they say ?—I really do not recollect what they did say; some of them wanted employment.

27,653. How much did they say ?—They did not say how much.

27,654. They all wanted employment, I suppose ?—I suppose all who were needy did.

27,655. Did any of them canvass you at all; we have had so many canvassers ?—I have not been canvassed, except that Mr. Gower called upon me himself.

27,656. Not in the way of chaff ?—No, not in the way of chaff.

27,657. I do not suppose Mr. Gower chaffed anybody ?—No.

27,658. Did you ask anybody to vote; of course I will take it as chaff ?—No, I never asked any of them to vote for either party. I told them which way I was going to vote, for Mr. Gower.

27,659. That was rather unnecessary ?—No, I thought that was the right way to influence them, the right influence to make use of.

27,660. That was not altogether chaff ?—No, that was not the chaff.

27,661. You told them, "I am going to vote for "Gower" ?—Yes.

27,662. Now give us the chaff ?—I do not recollect the words, but it was merely chaffing about what they were going to ask.

27,663. Let us see whether there was any grain of wheat in the chaff ?—I had no knowledge that anything of this kind was going to come out of it.

27,664. I do not desire to trouble you; can you tell us ?—I cannot.

27,665. I take it candidly on your own answer that you offered no temptation to any one ?—No, none whatever.

27,666. It was some of these persons that mentioned your name which caused you to be brought here ?—I was quite surprised, but as I am here I should wish to mention that I saw Mr. Gower and told him I was quite satisfied he would be returned without——

27,667. Without what ?—Without the least risk or doubt.

27,668. He does not seem to have acted upon that ?—Well, he must have been misled by others.

27,669. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you attend any of the committee meetings ?—No, I attended none of the committee meetings.

27,670. Nor any of the convivial meetings ?—No, none whatever.

27,671. Did you go about at all so as to observe the general character of the elections ?—I did; I attended the nominations.

27,672. Before the nomination were you about the town, and could you tell the general character and way in which the election was being conducted ?—Yes.

27,673. What opinion did you form?—Nothing more than usual at such times. I think it was very much better conducted than when Doulton put up. I do not think we had at all the rough characters which were then introduced.

27,674. Now do you recollect that election of Doulton's?—Yes, very well indeed.

27,675. Did you vote at it?—I did.

27,676. In your own way, perhaps, you can give us a description of that election. What is your opinion of that election; the mode in which it was conducted?—I never saw an election before like it in Reigate, and I was in the place at the time the roughs were down here. We never saw so much bad conduct in the roughs that were introduced to us, not the natives of Reigate, and I certainly did think we were overwhelmed with a great company of bad characters that we never saw before.

27,677. Now at what period of the election did those persons make their appearance?—I think they appeared about a day or two before; I am not quite certain; about a day or two before the nomination. I should think I saw them in the market place the day before, but my memory is not quite sufficient to say.

27,678. Did you notice before whether there was much treating; open houses?—I think there was a good deal of drinking about.

27,679. For whom did you vote at that election?—I voted in opposition to Doulton.

27,680. Perhaps you voted for Rawlinson?—Yes. I do not know that I was on his committee, but I was very anxious to see him returned, and I took great interest in Sir Henry Rawlinson's return at that time.

27,681. Did you know of money being used at that election; I mean improperly used?—To buy votes? I think there must have been a great deal of money used to produce the scenes and the outrage produced, but I had no notion of what was carried on, nor could I believe it; I had a better and far higher opinion of the working classes.

27,682. In that election of Doulton can you tell me whether, by reputation, there was money distributed?—It was generally rumoured.

27,683. I am only taking the value of your evidence as mere rumour; we cannot go further than that?—No, of course not.

27,684. Can you tell me what your impression was at the time, whether money was flying about?—I should say it was.

27,685. What was the rumour, what was currently rumoured and spoken of between man and man?—That it was a matter of impossibility for Doulton to make way without money; he was unknown, and introduced as a stranger amongst us.

27,686. Who was that?—Mr. Doulton.

27,687. You recollect his being balloted for?—I have heard of the circumstance.

27,668. You did not know it as a fact?—No, I have heard it.

27,689. Was Mr. Wilkinson a man very well known at the time?—Yes, and very popular with the working classes.

27,690. Very much respected?—Very much indeed.

27,691. Assuming there had been a fair ballot as between Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Doulton, Mr. Wilkinson must have stood a better chance?—I would not have the least doubt that Mr. Wilkinson would have stood the best chance, and I have heard that they bribed the persons in that ballot.

27,692. Of course you could form an opinion upon that, knowing the place and knowing the respect in which Mr. Wilkinson was held?—I have not the least doubt that it was through bribery and corrupt influence at that time that he was out.

27,693. You voted for Gower at this last election? I voted both times for Gower.

27,694. I am speaking of 1865. What I want to know is, which of his agents was it that came to you, and which was it that you dealt with?—None of his agents came to me. He came before the election himself, and asked me his prospects with regard to the election, and the letter that was written, and I told him, knowing the minds of a great many of the working classes, he would have all Mr. Wilkinson's influence on his behalf.

27,695. Did any of the agents come to you?—Not one. They stopped outside the door when Mr. Gower came in.

27,696. I mean afterwards?—No, not afterwards.

27,697. Did any of his agents come to you for advice about the election? Who was the agent you were acquainted with?—Mr. Smith was his agent.

27,698. But the sub-agent?—I had no communication with any sub-agent. I did mention to the agent one man who wanted employment.

27,690. Who was that?—Ing, I think his name was.

27,700. To whom was it you mentioned it?—I mentioned it to Mr. Smith, but there was no more about it. I never saw Ing afterwards and I never did anything in the matter.

27,701. Was Ing a voter?—He was.

27,702. Did Ing come to you?—No, it was chaff going along the road, and I mentioned it to Mr. Smith passing along, that is all.

27,703. Exactly. Did you mention to Mr. Smith that you knew a man named Ing, and say, perhaps he would have something for him to do?—Yes, if he could find him something to do.

27,704. Did Mr. Smith say, "Well, give him "something"?—He said whatever was right do, and I did nothing.

27,705. But you mentioned that you asked Mr. Smith if he could manage to do something?—Mr. Smith was in such a hurry at the time, and he said in an off-hand way, whatever was right do, and I did nothing. I never saw the man afterwards, and I did not know that he voted afterwards till this day.

27,706. How did he vote?—For Gower.

27,707. How did you find that out?—He told me this day; I met him coming up to the Court.

27,708. Is he here now?—I do not think he is.

27,709. Is Ing summoned?—I thought he was, and I thought that was how you had got my name.

27,710. Are you sure there is nothing you can recollect, no one that came to you for advice for anything except Mr. Smith. I don't mean that he did, you know?—No one called on me for advice, I tendered advice.

27,711. To whom?—Well, that was when I heard certain rumours.

27,712. That is exactly what I mean. I want to know who it was to?—I tendered advice to Mr. Morrison. He was not an agent of Mr. Gower.

27,713. Is that George Carter Morrison?—Yes.

27,714. Be so good as to tell me what your advice was?—Well, I heard that Mr. Monson was employing a lot of people at Redhill, and as I understood it was legitimate employment I thought Mr. Gower's people ought to do the same and not be behindhand.

27,715. You mean the voters?—Yes. I thought there was legitimate employment to be given to the voters, and I considered that if Mr. Monson was doing it on one side, Mr. Gower ought to do it on the other side.

27,716. That was at Redhill?—Yes.

27,717. Did you refer to railroad people particularly?—I do not know the railway people. It was only a rumour.

27,718. Was the rumour about the railway people?—I think it must have applied to them.

27,719. And you told him that Mr. Gower's people had better do something of the same sort?—Yes, to prevent their promises being broken.

27,720. To counteract the influence?—To counteract the influence.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

J. Matthews.

10 Sept. 1866.

27,721. Of the employment on the other side?—Yes. He told me that Mr. Gower was very much opposed to doing anything of the kind, and there the matter ended.

27,722. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What was Mr. Morrison?—He is an agent to Lord Somers.

27,723. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He had been agent at the previous election?—Yes, but he had nothing to do with this.

27,724. But did he take part in the election for Mr. Gower?—No part at all that I know of.

27,725. Then why did you give advice to Mr. Morrison?—It was only a private conversation. It was meeting him casually that I did so. I was anxious that Mr. Gower should be maintained and that all legitimate means should be used.

27,726. Did you know that Mr. Morrison was on Mr. Gower's side?—Oh, yes, very well indeed.

27,727. In opposition to the Monson family?—Yes.

27,728. Does the Somers family generally oppose the Monson family?—I do not know that they did at all.

27,729. Then why did you think he would be for Mr. Gower?—I thought that he would be on Mr. Gower's side; I knew that he would be.

27,730. You knew at that time that Mr. Morrison was steward for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

27,731. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He acts for Lord Somers and for Mr. Gower too?—Yes.

27,732. Did you know at that time that he was agent for Lord Somers?—Yes.

27,733. Why did you go to him about it?—I did not go to him about it; I mentioned it.

27,734. I did not mean "go to him"?—I mentioned casually the reports. I had business with him.

27,735. Why did you mention it to him more than to anybody else?—Merely because he had very great influence with Mr. Gower.

27,736. You had probably seen Mr. Morrison canvassing?—I did not. I never saw him take any part whatever.

27,737. Had you seen him canvass?—Never seen him canvass. I do not believe he canvassed.

27,738. I was going to say, don't you know that he had been canvassing?—I do not recollect at all.

27,739. Do you know whether he canvassed any of Lord Somers' tenants?—I do not know. He never canvassed me.

27,740. Are you one?—I am one of Lord Somers' tenants.

27,741. Don't you know that Mr. Morrison canvassed some of Lord Somers' tenants?—I do not. As far as I knew Mr. Morrison took no part whatever.

27,742. Do not you know that Mr. Morrison canvassed at the last election some of Lord Somers' tenants?—I do not.

27,743. Don't you believe it?—I do not.

27,744. You don't know any instance?—I do not believe that Mr. Morrison interfered in the election in any way.

27,745. I am asking whether you don't know that he canvassed, I mean, solicited their votes?—I don't believe he did, and I don't know that he did.

27,746. Did not it seem rather odd then that Mr. Morrison was the man that you gave this advice to, because if he took no part in the election one would have thought you would rather go to Job Apted, or some of the active sub-agents?—It was merely a passing casual remark. You are laying an impression upon my going; I did not go.

27,747. I did not mean to do it. Does it not seem strange, if he took no part in the election that he was the man to whom you mentioned that?—Mr. Morrison told me from etiquette, between the two solicitors, his brother-in-law being engaged, he took no part in the matter.

27,748. Does not that rather increase surprise than diminish it, that Mr. Morrison should be the peeson you should address upon the subject?—I do not know that, when he was an intimate friend of Mr. Gower, or confidential steward.

27,749. But he took no part in the election?—No.

27,750. Then don't you think it would have been much more natural, and according to what one would expect, that you should go to an election agent, or a man who took an active part in the election, rather than to a man who took no part at all?—It never struck me so; I never argued it; it was a casual thing.

27,751. Why did you go to him?—I did not go to him.

27,752. Why did you make the remark?—Simply from the desire to serve Mr. Gower, and to serve him legitimately.

27,753. Why did you make the remark to him?—Because he was one of Mr. Gower's intimate friends, one of his best friends.

27,754. He was his steward?—Still he may be a friend, as well as agent.

27,755. If you have no other reason to give, I must be satisfied with that, but I ask you once more, why did you make the remark about the Redhill voters to Mr. Morrison rather than to anybody else?—It was dropped casually. There is one thing I have seen which I should wish to refer to. I have seen it reported that the Mayor of Reigate stated that the men and women were debauched at the election.

27,756. No, nothing of the kind.—Is the report wrong then? I am very glad to hear it is.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Oh, no, it was only political.

27,757. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was speaking in a figurative way.—It is well to have it explained.

27,758. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Of course it was a figurative expression.—Well, country people do not understand figures. Is not it better that it should be explained. Did he say anything about women.

27,659. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I wish to give you an opportunity of explaining in reference to your own evidence. Did you ever offer any corrupt motive or inducement to any person at any time during the election?—Never, in my life.

27,760. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think that is fully explained. You accidentally met Mr. Morrison, and then spoke what you thought would be proper advice to Mr. Gower?—Yes, and it never went any further.

27,761. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You recollect what you told us about Ing?—Well, that was in chaff too, although I did mention it afterwards.

S. Brown.

STEPHEN BROWN sworn and examined.

27,762. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A publican.

27,763. What is the sign?—The "White Lion," Redhill.

27,764. What rent do you pay?—25*l.* a year.

27,765. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

27,766. Who was it canvassed you?—Mr. Monson.

27,767. Himself?—Himself.

27,768. Did Mr. Gower canvass you?—No.

27,769. Not at all himself?—Not at all.

27,770. When Mr. Monson canvassed you did you promise him your vote?—Yes.

27,771. In the first instance?—Yes, my vote and interest.

27,772. As you had promised him your interest, did somebody afterwards come and ask you to put your name on the committee?—I think Mr. Richardson did.

27,773. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were on his committee?—Yes.

27,774. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You assented to it?—Yes.

27,775. Did you interest yourself and did you act for him?—I did when I had any time to spare.

27,776. I suppose you were obliged to attend to your own work?—Yes.

27,777. Had you made any arrangement with Mr. Richardson?—None whatever.

27,778. Did he say if you gave your services or time you should be paid?—No, nothing whatever, I gave mine gratis.

27,779. Before you came to the poll was anything said about going up to the poll?—No, not particularly.

27,780. Who took you up to the poll?—I was one who happened to fetch up the other voters.

27,781. In a carriage?—Yes.

27,782. Was it your own horse?—No.

27,783. You happened to fetch up voters in a carriage you found provided?—Yes; I gave my day to that.

27,784. Who asked you?—I was at Reigate, at the "White Hart," the night before the polling, and they asked me whether I would work that day.

27,785. Who asked you?—I will not be certain whether it was Mr. Richardson or not.

27,786. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was some committee man?—Yes.

27,787. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were asked to give your services on the polling day?—Yes.

27,788. On what terms?—To run where they wanted me and to be able to bring up the voters.

27,789. What were you to receive for it?—There was nothing mentioned.

27,790. Was it said you would be paid for your services?—There was nothing of that; I did not wish for it.

27,791. What were you to receive?—Nothing was mentioned, and I never received anything.

27,792. Did you receive nothing afterwards?—No.

27,793. Did not you expect to be paid for the polling day and your services?—No.

27,794. You had lost your own business then?—Yes, but Mr. Monson's people I have known some years, and of course I gave my support gratis.

27,795. What house is it you live in?—Mr. Neale's; Messrs. Neale and Mellish's.

27,796. Which way did Mr. Neale vote?—I think he voted for Mr. Gower.

27,797. Were the committee meetings at your house?—Not for Mr. Monson; not at all.

27,798. For whom?—For Mr. Gower there were before.

27,799. But I mean this last election?—No; not any meeting.

27,800. Not a single meeting at your house?—Not at all.

27,801. Do I understand you to say that after the polling was over you received nothing at all for the time you lost?—Nothing at all.

27,802. Did you not ask for anything?—No; I spent out of my own pocket.

27,803. Did you, after the polling, apply to somebody for money?—No.

27,804. Did you ever make any application to Mr. Hart?—No.

27,805. Or to any one else?—No.

27,806. In 1863, who did you vote for?—That was Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower; I voted for Mr. Gower then.

27,807. Then you did not vote for Mr. Gower this time?—No.

27,808. You voted for Mr. Gower in 1863; were you on his committee?—Yes.

27,809. And was your house used then?—Yes; there was a room taken.

27,810. For the committee?—For the committee to sit there.

27,811. What were you paid for your committee room?—Well, I do not want to tell an untruth.

27,812. I do not want to tie you at all?—I think it was 10*l.* for the room.

27,813. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long was it occupied?—From the beginning of the election.

27,814. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) For some time then, five or six weeks?—Yes, I should say five weeks.

27,815. Who paid you the 10*l.*?—Mr. Smith; Mr. Gower's agent at that time, I believe.

27,816. What I want to know is whether you gave him your assistance on the polling day on that occasion?—Yes.

27,817. Did you receive anything for your services then?—I put it all together, with regard to that; there was some refreshment allowed for the committee, and I drew it, and put it all down in one sum. They had several meetings.

27,818. Who authorized you to do that, was it Mr. Smith?—No; I believe Mr. Green told me I was to draw it.

27,819. Mr. Henry Green?—Yes; he came one meeting and he asked it himself to be drawn, and I told Mr. Smith at the time, and he said, "Well, of "course, but not too heavy."

27,820. So that you had his authority too?—Yes.

27,821. Can you tell me how much the drink part of the bill amounted to; I want you to separate the two charges, and tell me how much the drink would be?—I think it was somewhere about 10*l.*

27,822. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then you only got 10*l.* for the whole?—I was speaking of 10*l.* for the use of the room, and the drink, as near as I could say, would be about 10*l.* more.

27,823. How much for your services?—They were included in it, it was something over 10*l.*; it might be 22*l.* or 23*l.* altogether.

27,824. It might be 10*l.* or 12*l.* for services and drink?—Yes.

27,825. Tell me what you put in the account, did you say "for services and refreshment," or "refresh-"ment and services"?—I think it was put down "for the room 10*l.*, and services and refreshments."

27,826. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 13*l.*, I suppose?—Somewhere like that. It is so long ago that I do not carry it in my head.

27,827. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You sent in your account, and you were paid, and gave a receipt, I suppose?—Yes.

27,828. Did you get the whole of the money that you sent in your account for?—Yes, mine was a very straightforward account with regard to that, and I think I was out of pocket by it.

27,829. No objection was made to it, you got paid what you charged?—Yes.

27,830. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was the election of 1863. Do you remember the previous election to that, the one in 1859, between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Monson.

27,831. That was in 1859?—Yes.

27,832. Did you keep the same house then?—No.

27,833. What did you vote for then, for a house you were living in?—A house I was living in at the time.

27,834. Not a public house?—No, I have been a publican a little over five years.

27,835. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee in 1859?—Yes.

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S. Brown.

10 Sept. 1866.

27,836. And did you work?—Yes. When I say work, I mean the same as I did this last election; I was occupied with my business, of course.

27,837. What was your business then?—I was a carman then.

27,838. What did you get paid in 1859 for your services?—I think a few glasses of ale was all I had for my services.

27,839. I do not care about that?—I had nothing besides, I spent my own money.

27,840. Did you bring up voters?—Yes. I gave them the day the same as I did this last.

27,841. Did you not get anything for that?—I never asked for anything.

27,842. And got nothing?—No.

27,843. I will put down you got nothing for the election, I do not care for the glasses of beer?—Nothing at all.

27,844. Well, there had been the previous election between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson in 1858, who did you vote for then?—Mr. Monson.

27,845. Were you on the committee?—Yes, to the best of my knowledge I was working about the same then as at the other elections.

27,846. What were you paid that time?—Nothing at all.

27,847. I trust to your being very candid about it. I mean if you say you got nothing you got nothing of any kind?—I never asked for anything, and I was not offered anything.

27,848. Or you got no money's worth?—No.

27,849. Then we will go back to what we call the Doulton election, who did you vote for then?—Who were the candidates?

27,850. Mr. Doulton, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Monson, and Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I voted for Mr. Monson.

27,851. What did you get for that?—Nothing at all.

27,852. Were there not any offers from the Doulton people?—There were several of them came bothering, and I told them to keep away; I did not want to be annoyed by the party.

27,853. I will take your answer; you got nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

27,854. I treat you candidly, and so I hope you will me?—Yes, I was bothered very much by that party; they came again and again, but I told them it was no use coming to me; I would have nothing to do with it.

W. Best.

WILLIAM BEST sworn and examined.

27,855. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What rent do you pay for your house?—10*l.* a year.

27,856. What are you?—A butcher.

27,857. For whom did you vote in 1865?—Mr. Gower.

27,858. Were you on his committee?—No.

27,859. To whom did you give the promise?—I never promised any one before I voted.

27,860. Nobody asked you?—I was asked by both.

27,861. Who asked you on the part of Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower himself.

27,862. Did you promise him at once?—No.

27,863. Who did you eventually promise?—I never promised any one until I got to the poll.

27,864. Did any one canvass you besides Mr. Gower?—No, no one in particular.

27,865. Somebody came and asked you which side you would vote besides Mr. Gower?—I do not think there was anybody asked me besides Mr. Gower and Mr. Monson.

27,866. You were uncertain when Mr. Gower saw you which way you would go?—At least, I had not made up my mind.

27,867. You told Mr. Gower?—No.

27,868. Then you did not promise him?—No.

27,869. Of course he looked upon you as a doubtful vote?—Yes.

27,870. And, of course, somebody came from him; you saw some of his agents?—I have no recollection of anybody canvassing me; somebody might come in the shop and ask me.

27,871. Apted?—No.

27,872. Who was the active man for Mr. Gower at Redhill?—Mr. Green and Mr. Rees, I believe.

27,873. Did you see them?—Neither of them ever asked me; they only asked me who I was going to vote for, and I said I had not made up my mind. I was not going to tell them whom I was going to vote for.

27,874. You were one of those who liked secret voting, I suppose?—I do not know about that.

27,875. You kept it a secret?—I did.

27,876. Who came to you on the part of Mr. Monson?—I am sure I do not know; several people came into the shop.

27,877. And asked you which way you were going to vote?—Yes.

27,878. Did they ask you to come on the committee and work for them?—No.

27,879. Canvass for him?—I never was on any committee; I did not care about being on one.

27,880. I do not care whether you do or not, but did any of them ask you to go on committees?—I do not remember any one doing it.

27,881. Do try and recollect?—If they had put my name on I should have taken it off again.

27,882. Then you did not want to join either party actively?—No.

27,883. Who was it asked you on the part of Mr. Monson?—I do not know whether Mr. Nichols did; he might have, but I forget.

27,884. When you came to this part of a night, where did you visit; the "Grapes," or where?—I have no particular house.

27,885. You have been there, I suppose?—Yes.

27,886. And were in the "Grapes" probably, before the election?—Oh, yes, I sometimes was there; I was in this morning.

27,887. When you have been in the "Grapes" has not Mr. Nichols tried to find out which way you were going to vote?—No; perhaps he might ask me.

27,888. Has he thrown out any inducement?—No, it would have been no good if he had; I would not have taken it.

27,889. I only want to know whether any overtures were made to you by either side; overtures might have been made and failed; you know what I mean?—Yes.

27,890. Whether any overtures were made to you?—No offers were, and I have been a voter here now for 14 or 15 years.

27,891. Which was your first election, Mr. Doulton's?—No, I voted for Mr. Parrott.

27,892. Did you vote for the election when Sir Henry Rawlinson was returned against Mr. Doulton and Mr. Monson?—Yes.

27,893. For whom did you vote?—I think I voted for Mr. Monson.

27,894. Did you take any part in the election?—No.

27,895. Have you taken any active part in these elections?—No.

27,896. Excepting voting?—Excepting voting.

27,897. Have you ever received anything for voting?—No, I never received 1*d.* in my life for voting.

27,898. In any shape or way?—No.

27,899. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not know whether there is another Best?—Yes, there is.

27,900. Who is the other?—He lives in Meadvale.

27,901. What is his Christian name?—William Best.

27,902. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Sometimes we

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

W. Best.

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unfortunately make a mistake, and summons the wrong man. You say there is another William Best?—Yes, probably it is William Best the father.

27,903. As you have merely given your vote on these occasions, you can probably give me some notion of Mr. Doulton's election in 1858; you were about the town, I suppose, and saw what was going on?—I went to give my vote.

27,904. Were you about in the borough sufficiently to form an opinion as to the character of the election, and the mode in which it was conducted?—I heard there was a great deal of money spent at that time.

27,905. Was that a common report?—Yes, amongst the voters.

27,906. Did you hear of that more particularly with reference to Mr. Doulton than with reference to any of the other candidates?—Yes.

27,907. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And I suppose you saw evidence of it?—No.

27,908. I mean what you saw in going about?—I saw the people about in the streets.

27,909. That is what I mean?—Yes.

27,910. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You saw the people about in the streets; was there anything in particular passed or attracted your attention with regard to the people?—They were going about with these boards.

27,911. Were the people drunk who were about?—No, not particularly. I suppose I did not notice, because I was out. I used to go out about 10 o'clock in the morning.

27,912. Were you out to see the general character of the town, as to whether it was riotous or the people were tipsy?—There were people in the streets, drinking in the streets.

27,913. Were the elections before conducted fairly and properly, and not riotously?—I dare say they were for what I know of them.

27,914. Did you see any of the scenes with roughs who were brought down, and who have been spoken of at the election?—I cannot say much about that, but there were some rough characters here.

27,915. Were you living at Redhill then?—Yes.

27,916. The chiefs of the establishment were in this part?—We had to come here to vote.

27,917. That was before the borough was divided into divisions for voting?—Yes.

27,918. From that time to this what has been your notion as to the character of the elections as to good conduct?—I do not know. I dare say there has been money passing about, but there has been no rioting here.

27,919. Not so much as in Doulton's time?—Nothing like it.

27,920. Now in 1865 we heard of a lot of men employed called rooks and rabbits, did you see any of them?—I heard talk of them.

27,921. You were not out sufficiently to notice?—No.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned to to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

E. Dale.

11 Sept. 1866.

Tuesday, 11th September, 1866.

EDWARD DALE recalled.

27,922. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What do you say now? Do you remember what occurred yesterday?—No.

Mrs. Dale.

LAVINIA ANN DALE sworn and examined.

27,923. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are the wife of Thomas Dale?—Yes.

27,924. Do you recollect the election of 1863?—I do.

27,925. Do you recollect Mr. Barker coming to your house?—I do.

27,926. Is that Mr. Barker the tailor?—Yes.

27,927. Did he come more than once?—I do not recollect seeing him but once.

27,928. What did he bring?—He came into the sitting-room and asked me to be kind enough to walk out; my twins were there, and I said, "If you will "be kind enough to take care of my twins I will go "to the shop." I recollect the circumstance well; I went into the shop, and he came out and had an orange; my husband followed him out. He and Mr. John Wilkinson were together; they had an orange each, and paid for them. My husband walked out and held some money to me over the counter. I said, "Did he give you that?" He said, "Yes, but half of "it is for my brother; I will give it to him before "I put it in my pocket." He went to his brother direct, and came back to me and gave me 4*l.*, and said, "Put that away, I am going a walk with my "brother; I shall not be long."

27,929. Did you ascertain from your husband that half of the money that was left, whatever it was, was for his brother?—Yes; he had 8*l.*, and gave 4*l.* to his brother, and brought 4*l.* back.

27,930. You did not see him give it?—No.

27,931. Did you know that he had 4*l.* more?—Previous to that I received a parcel; a little boy brought it; I asked him where he had brought it from; he said, "It is for Mr. Thomas Dale; a "gentleman gave it to me at the Station-road."

27,932. It contained 4*l.*?—Yes. I took the parcel till my husband came, and when he came I said, "There's a parcel come for you." He said, "All "right, my brother had one; I know what it is, "it's starch." It was a threepenny packet of starch. I had the starch and my husband had the money.

27,933. It contained four sovereigns?—Inside the starch; he took it down and showed it to his brother.

27,934. He said his brother had had another?—He said he had seen his brother's first, or he would not have known it to be starch.

27,935. Did you see your brother, Edward Dale?—Yes.

27,936. Did you learn from him afterwards whether he had received the 4*l.* and the packet of starch?—He came into the shop one evening with my husband after that, and joking asked me what I had done with the starch, that is all I know. I said, "Your wife and I will make your shirts stiff this "winter, and no mistake." I am sure they both had it.

27,937. Is his memory a little defective?

(*Thomas Dale.*) It is, especially after he has had a little. He knows nothing; in fact he does not know where he is. He has been so ever since.

(*Mrs. Dale.*) He recollects this morning.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

E. Dale.

11 Sept. 1866.

EDWARD DALE recalled.

27,938. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Have you heard what your sister-in-law stated, and what your brother stated, and does that bring to your memory the fact that you received some money at the election of 1863 ?—When I got home last night my missis told me that she took the parcel, and it was starch with money in it.

27,939. You received the 4*l.* from your brother, afterwards ?—My missis took the money ; I never took money from no party ; my missis had it.

The witness withdrew.

HENRY WALLIS sworn and examined.

H. Wallis.

27,940. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A carman.

27,941. What rent do you pay ?—I live in my own house.

27,942. You are a freeholder ?—Yes.

27,943. What is your house worth by the year ?—I don't know ; about 30*l.* to 40*l.* I suppose.

27,944. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Monson.

27,945. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson ?—Mr. Nichols.

27,946. Where was it he canvassed you ; in your own house ?—No, in his own house.

27,947. Did he send for you ?—I went there.

27,948. Being there, he asked you if you would vote for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

27,949. How long before the election was this ?—I do not know ; it might be a fortnight, perhaps.

27,950. Tell us about it ?—I promised him.

27,951. Did he ask you to go on the committee ?—No.

27,952. Did you go on the committee ?—No.

27,953. Did you do any work ?—No, I did not, nor yet attend any meetings.

27,954. Did Mr. Nichols tell you what you would be paid for ; any loss of time or assistance that you gave ?—No ; he never said anything about that.

27,955. Tell me what you were paid ?—I was paid for the use of my house for the committee.

27,956. What is the name of your house ?—I have no name to it ; it is not a public house.

27,957. I thought you said you were a carman ?—Yes.

27,958. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where do you live ?—In Mead-vale.

27,959. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You applied for a license, but did not get one ?—No, I did not. It was my intention to open the house.

27,960. (*Mr Commissioner Smith.*) Have you not an excise license ?—No ; I had previous to going into that house. I kept a beer house before that.

27,961. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What were you paid in money before the election ?—20*l.* 5*l.* before the election.

27,962. By whom ?—By Mr. Nichols.

27,963. How much after ?—15*l.* afterwards.

27,964. From Mr. Nichols ?—Yes.

27,965. Was the 5*l.* for yourself ?—For myself, the 5*l.* was.

27,966. What was the 15*l.* for ?—For the use of my house.

27,967. Did you receive anything more ?—No.

27,968. Was there not something allowed you for beer ?—No.

27,969. I mean by "beer" for drinkables ?—No.

27,970. Do you recollect when there was a meeting at your house what beer was drunk ?—No. I did not have a great deal in the house. I had a little left in the old house, which I brought up into the new. I had a little more in on account of opening of the new one as I thought.

27,971. Do you not remember one night in particular by this fact, that all your beer was drunk clean out ?—No.

27,972. Was not that so as a fact ?—No.

27,973. It was not so ?—No.

27,974. I suppose there has been some misunderstanding about it. Did you send in any account for beer or for drinkables ?—No, I did not.

27,975. Who did for you ?—Mr. Newnham sent in for his account, and it was paid to him from me, at least from my orders.

27,976. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He supplied the beer ?—He was going to supply me with beer.

27,977. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was going ?—He did supply me with beer for opening the house.

27,978. And he had sent in the beer ?—The beer had been sent in, I dare say, two months before the election.

27,979. Who did he send the account to ; to you ?—To me ; and I referred him to Mr. Nichols for the bill.

27,980. I presume he went to Mr. Nichols ?—Yes.

27,981. Are you able to say whether Mr. Nichols paid him ?—I believe he did ; at least Mr. Newnham told me so.

27,982. How much was the account ?—14*l.* odd, I think ; I will not be certain how much.

27,983. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That bill of 14*l.* was plus the 20*l.* which you got for your house ?—Yes.

27,984. You supplied the beer, in fact, as Newnham's agent ?—Well, I gave the beer away.

27,985. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who ordered you to supply beer to the people coming there ?—No one ordered me.

27,986. Did you do it then thinking it would be all right ?—I gave it to them.

27,987. You could not do it otherwise ; you were not licensed ?—Certainly not.

27,988. Somebody else paid for it ?—Of course they did.

27,989. How many meetings were there in your house ?—I suppose there were six or seven.

27,990. You have told us what the account was. I suppose Mr. Newnham brought you the account on paper ; a written account ?—Yes, a bill of it.

27,991. Made out to you ?—Yes.

27,992. And then you referred him to Mr. Nichols ?—Yes.

27,993. I presume you sent the account to Mr. Nichols ?—Mr. Newnham went to see him himself.

27,994. He took the account with him ?—I went over with him at the time.

27,995. Did you see Nichols with him ?—I left Mr. Newnham there. Mr. Nichols was not within ; I could not stay at the time.

27,996. He had the account to present to Mr. Nichols ?—Yes.

27,997. About how many meetings were held at the house ?—Somewhere about six or seven.

27,998. Is Newnham a voter ?—I do not know whether he had a vote at that time.

27,999. At all these meetings this beer was drunk ?—Yes, some of it, when I chose to give it to them.

28,000. They never came to the meetings without there being beer for them ?—Well, they had some.

28,001. And they never paid, I suppose ?—No, there was none paid for.

28,002. I am not speaking as to quantity, but I suppose there was no "dry" meeting ; no meeting without some beer ?—Certainly not.

28,003. What is Mr. Newnham's Christian name ?—John.

28,004. Whereabouts is your house ?—Close against the British school.

28,005. Where ?—In Mead-vale.

28,006. That is where you are living now ?—Yes.

28,007. On those occasions, generally, who took

the chair, one person or different persons ?—I do not know. I was scarcely ever in the room myself.

28,008. You would be in the room sometimes ?—I do not think I was ever in the room except one night; the first night.

28,009. Do you remember on one occasion seeing Mr. Hart at the meeting ?—Yes.

28,010. More than once ?—I think he was there twice; at two meetings.

28,011. Do you remember on one or two occasions (I do not know which) seeing Mr. Richardson there ?—Yes; Mr. Richardson was there, I believe; I do not know whether it was the first meeting or the second.

28,012. Can you tell me whether it was more than one time ?—Only once that ever I know of.

28,013. Do you recollect seeing Mr. Monson there ?—Yes; I think Mr. Monson was there the first meeting, but I am not positive. I think so.

28,014. You have no doubt at all that he was there one night ?—I think he were.

28,015. You say you went into the room once or twice; are you able to tell me whether the night when you went into the room Mr. Monson was in the chair ?—I cannot say.

28,016. I do not want to press you if you have any doubt about it ?—I think perhaps he were.

28,017. Did you ever send in your account for beer or refreshments ?—No.

28,018. Did you at any time send in your account for your room before you sent it in to Nichols ? Did you send it to Mr. Hart ?—No.

28,019. Did you not send it in to anybody ?—No.

28,020. Did you make any demand at all on Mr. Richardson ?—No.

28,021. Nor on Mr. Hart ?—No.

28,022. Did you not make a demand on Mr. Hart for anything ?—No.

28,023. Anything connected with the election ?—Not one individual besides Mr. Nichols.

28,024. Was this your first election ?—No.

28,025. In 1863 what part did you take ?—I never took any part in the election whatever.

28,026. You voted ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

28,027. By whose request ?—Mr. James's.

28,028. What arrangement did Mr. James make with you, if any ?—Well, he made an arrangement for 5*l.* for the house. That was when I kept the beer house.

28,029. Was there any name to your house ?—"Earlswood House."

28,030. Five pounds for the beer house. What else ?—2*l.* 10*s.* for expenses.

28,031. Was that for loss of time and services that you gave ?—Yes.

28,032. That was for yourself ?—Yes.

28,033. Did he pay you that money ?—Yes, he did.

28,034. He paid you 7*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes.

28,035. Was there anything more he paid you ?—No, not anything more.

28,036. Was the 5*l.* for the use of the room, or for the beer you found ?—For the committee purposes; for the room.

28,037. Who paid you for the refreshment ?—No one paid me for refreshment, only Mr. James. That was 2*l.* 10*s.*; my expenses and the liquor they had.

28,038. How much for your services ?—It might be about 10*s.*

28,039. What was the 10*s.* for ?—10*s.* for my own expenses.

28,040. And 2*l.* for the beer ?—Yes.

28,041. Well, but, Wallis, are you sure there is not some mistake about this ?—No; it was only 7*l.* 10*s.*

28,042. How many meetings were there altogether in your house in 1863 ? I suppose it was pretty well open ?—I do not know.

28,043. Well, six or seven times ?—There were not more.

28,044. We will take it five, six, or seven times ?—Something like that.

28,045. Did the 2*l.* cover all your charges for beer and refreshment ?—Yes; what little they had, it was nothing; there were not many attended the meeting; the place was small.

28,046. Who ordered you to give them beer ?—I believe it was Mr. Richardson who ordered me to provide the beer; that was right.

28,047. Well, he ordered you to provide the beer, that is right; that is what you mean ?—Yes.

28,048. You are sure 7*l.* 10*s.* is right ?—I am sure 7*l.* 10*s.* is correct.

38,049. But are you sure that is all that was paid ?—Yes.

28,050. You had voted at some more elections besides that ?—Yes.

28,051. Had you taken any part in the election of 1859 ?—No, sir, I did not; that was the election when Mr. Wilkinson stood.

28,052. Mr. Wilkinson and the Honourable Mr. Monson ?—Yes, sir; I voted for Mr. Wilkinson that time.

28,053. Did you get anything ?—No, sir.

28,054. Nothing at all ?—No, sir.

28,055. That was a sort of sham election; Mr. Wilkinson was put up behind his back ?—Yes.

28,056. And got nothing ?—No.

28,057. In 1858 there were two elections; in the second Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson were against each other ?—Yes, that was right; I voted for Mr. Wilkinson that time.

28,058. What did you get for that ?—Nothing.

28,059. How was that ?—I did not apply for anything.

28,060. Do you mean you got no money nor money's worth ?—No.

28,061. In 1858 there was what is called the "Doulton" election ?—I voted for Mr. Rawlinson.

28,062. What did you get for that; it was in February ?—I had 5*s.* a day.

28,063. For how many days, about ?—I think it was eight or nine weeks altogether.

28,064. How much did you receive altogether ?—I do not know what it amounted to exactly.

28,065. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 12*l.* or 13*l.* ?—It was 5*s.* a day; it was 8*l.* or 9*l.*, I think, I received.

28,066. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were there six or seven days counted in the week ?—Six.

28,067. Do you believe it was about 13*l.* and 14*l.* ?—Well, I think it was something like 9*l.*

28,068. According to the calculation it would be more ?—Yes, it must be so; I thought it was something like 8*l.* or 9*l.*

28,069. We may say 13*l.* or 14*l.* ?—Yes, 30*s.* a week.

28,070. Now I am going to ask you whether you were on his committee or not ?—No, sir.

28,071. What were you engaged in doing ?—Taking out circulars and bills.

28,072. Did you do any real work; if you did, say "yes," and if not say "no" ?—That was all.

28,073. Did it take up any time ?—It used to take my daily time to do that; I was not doing anything at the time.

28,074. Were you keeping the beer house then ?—No.

28,075. What were you doing ?—I was in my trade.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

H. Wallis.

11 Sept. 1866.

28,076. What was your trade?—I was bricklaying.

28,077. You went on with your bricklaying?—No, there was nothing doing at that time; it was very slack.

28,078. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who engaged you?—Mr. Nichols.

28,079. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) May I say you had nothing to do as a bricklayer, or anything?—Nothing at all for 13 weeks. I had holiday; there was nothing to do; it was in the dead of the winter.

28,080. Did Mr. Nichols pay you?—Yes.

28,081. You are quite right, Nichols paid you then?—Yes.

28,082. Was it Nichols who put you on to the work?—Yes, sir.

28,083. Then you voted in Hackblock's election, Hackblock and Rawlinson, the year before?—Yes, I think I voted for Rawlinson.

28,084. Were you paid anything for that?—No, sir.

28,085. Do you remember all these elections pretty well?—Yes, I do.

28,086. Were all these elections, not including Mr. Hackblock's or the sham one when Mr. Wilkinson first came down here; but with those exceptions, were they all pretty much alike as to treatings?—I did not attend the meetings.

28,087. If you cannot give an opinion, say so?—Well, I cannot.

28,088. You have not much to say about it?—No.

28,089. Did you see any difference between the elections of '63 and '65?—I would certainly say if I knew anything about them.

28,090. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were there many of these people carrying out boards?—Yes, a great many boards.

28,091. I suppose all who wanted occupation had it?—There were a great many out of employ.

28,092. And those who were out of employ and asked had it?—Yes.

28,093. Did it not strike you there were more employed than was necessary for the work?—There were more employed than were voters.

28,094. There were non-voters and voters?—Yes.

28,095. Do you mean employed like yourself for a long period of time or just before the election?—I can hardly say.

28,096. We know a great many non-voters came from London to make a disturbance, what they call the roughs?—Yes.

28,097. I wish to know something about this supply of beer at your house. You say you had some beer at your old house where you were licensed?—Yes.

28,098. How much of that beer did you bring into your new house?—It might be a barrel and a half.

28,099. The beer you had at Mead-vale made the bill come to 4*l.*?—Yes.

28,100. Had you paid up your account with Mr. Newnham when you left the house?—No, but it was in the 14*l.*

28,101. Then, I suppose, the barrel and a half you brought with you was a portion of the 14*l.*?—Yes.

28,102. Would there be anything beyond the barrel and a half in the 14*l.* before you left the other house in Mead-vale?—No; I think there were about two barrels, or something like that.

28,103. What is the price of two barrels?—36*s.* a barrel.

28,104. When you had these voters coming to your house they would drink it out, and you would want more?—No; I had this beer in the house two months with the intention of opening the house.

28,105. How much had you in?—Four or five barrels altogether.

28,106. Would you store so much as that?—Yes; the cellar was large, and Mr. Newnham sent some back. After he was paid for it he took a barrel and a half.

28,107. There was some beer in, so that you would have five barrels, four or five?—I had some in at the time.

28,108. That was a barrel and a half?—But I had some more in when I left the house; altogether it would make 14*l.*

28,109. Do you mean to say you had the 14*l.* worth in two months before the election?—No, not all of it.

28,110. You ordered some during the time of the election?—No, not a drop.

28,111. Had you some in?—This was had in before the election.

28,112. The whole of it?—Yes.

28,113. The whole of the 14*l.* worth?—Yes, with the intention of opening the house.

28,114. Did not Mr. Newnham send in a single barrel during the election?—No; that I can take my oath of.

28,115. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did Mr. Nichols send you a range of the amount you were to take?—I arranged with Mr. Nichols 20*l.* for the use of the house; that was my arrangement.

28,116. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I forget whether I asked you this last election of 1865, whether you reeeived a supply of beer?—No, sir.

28,117. He engaged your house?—He engaged my house at 20*l.*, and I gave them the beer.

28,118. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who told you that you might supply the beer?—Nobody. I thought I had a right to do as I thought fit in my own house.

28,119. But you expected to be paid?—No; I should have received it.

28,120. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) A portion of this was in the bill of 14*l.*?—Yes.

28,121. Did you deduct the value of these barrels of beer out of the 14*l.*?—No.

28,122. Then Mr. Nichols has paid for two barrels? He never paid for the beer.

28,123. He paid the 14*l.*?—Yes; it was for me he paid it.

28,124. A portion of this was for beer consumed on your old premises, where you were licensed?—About a barrel and a half I brought into the new house from the old one two months before the election.

28,125. How much was owing by you to Nichols when you left the old house?—I cannot say exactly; the 14*l.* was the old account Mr. Nichols had against me.

28,126. But a portion of the amount was for beer supplied to the old house, where you were properly supplying beer to the public?—Yes, something like two barrels.

28,127. Whoever has paid the bill has paid that portion?—He has paid the whole of it, instead of my paying Mr. Newnham. He did not pay me more than 5*l.* When he took the house he agreed to pay me 20*l.* for the use of the place, and instead of my taking it I referred Mr. Nichols to Mr. Newnham.

28,128. And a portion of the money you owed Mr. Newnham was for beer drank in an unlicensed house?—It was not for beer that Mr. Nichols agreed with me.

28,129. Mr. Newnham had a debt against you?—I referred Mr. Newnham to Mr. Nichols for the whole of the money I owed to Mr. Newnham.

21,130. A portion of the bill was for what you were entitled in the old house?—A portion of it; two barrels.

28,131. That was in your lawful trade?—That was in the old house.

28,132. Why did you not deduct it; it had no reference to the election?—The amount I agreed with Mr. Nichols had nothing to do with the election.

28,133. A portion of the 14*l.* was a debt you incurred in the other house?—Yes.

28,134. It ought to have been separated from the bill incurred in the new house?—What for? I owed Mr. Newnham 14*l.* odd, and Mr. Nichols owed me 15*l.*, and I referred Mr. Newnham to Mr. Nichols instead of that money being paid over to me.

28,135. You got the 15*l.*?—I have only had 20*l.* altogether.

28,136. Including the 14*l.*?—Yes, that includes all; there is only 5*l.* I have received myself, and the bill makes up the 20*l.*

28,137. I have taken it down that you received 15*l.* afterwards?—No, I referred Mr. Newnham to Mr. Nichols.

28,138. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understand you to say you had some beer for yourself in the old house, you brought that into the new house, and the beer supplied amounted to 14*l.*?—Yes; altogether.

28,139. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said you received 5*l.* before the election, and that you received 15*l.*?—No, I did not receive 15*l.* I said I referred Mr. Newnham to Mr. Nichols for the amount.

28,140. That is not what you said in the first instance?—That is what I meant.

28,141. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you paid 20*l.* into your own pocket?—No, only 5*l.*, and the other went to Mr. Newnham's account, that is, only 20*l.* altogether, and that is what I meant. I referred him to Mr. Nichols for the amount.

28,142. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You wish the evidence to be corrected, that you did not receive 20*l.* into your own pocket?—I only received 5*l.*

28,143. Tell us truly what it was you received and, if necessary, we will refer to the short-hand writer's notes. You say the last 15*l.* was not paid to you, but was paid through Mr. Nichols to Mr. Newnham?—Yes, for the account that I owed him.

28,144. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much of that was for beer?—I cannot say about that.

28,145. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was the 14*l.* all for beer?—Yes, for beer that I had altogether from Newnham.

28,146. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But as between you and Nichols, out of the 14*l.*, as between you and Nichols?—No, it was for the use of the house, that is correct, I agreed with Mr. Nichols and my vote.

28,147. You supplied no beer at all to the voters in your new house?—I did a little, but I was not at home all the time.

28,148. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You supplied no beer but what was in the house?—No.

The witness then withdrew.

SARAH ISTED sworn and examined.

S. Isted.

28,149. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you the wife of Mr. Isted, who was examined here yesterday or the day before?—Yes.

28,150. The blind man?—Yes, I am his wife.

28,151. Before the election do you recollect Mr. Henry Francis coming into your shop?—Not in my shop.

28,152. Where did you see him?—At the "Grapes."

28,153. Was your husband there with you?—My husband was there very tipsy at the time. I cannot say what time before the election, but it was one day before the election.

28,154. Was Mr. Francis with you?—No; there were a great many persons drinking there.

28,155. Which room were you in?—I was in the bar.

28,156. Was your husband at the bar?—He was all over the place.

28,157. You were waiting there?—I was waiting there to take care of him.

28,158. Will you tell us whether Mr. Francis said anything to you about the election?—He never said anything to me about the election, but all he did was to put eight sovereigns into my hand; he told me to give them to my husband the next morning, for he was so tipsy he was unable to take them.

28,159. Did he say anything more?—He never said anything more, but instead of my giving them to my husband I kept them.

28,160. You thought you could apply them more profitably than he could?—Yes; he never knew of it till yesterday. I thought if I gave them to him he would do nothing but drink.

28,161. Mr. Francis did not tell you to keep them but to give them to your husband?—Truly, but I did not give them to him.

28,162. Had Francis ever given you money before?—Never.

28,163. Or sent any?—Or sent; that was the only money I had.

28,164. How long was it before the election?—I should think three or four days before the election; I could not say to a day.

28,165. Did you see Mr. Francis give any other money?—No.

28,166. To no one?—No.

28,167. Did Mr. Nichols ever speak to you about your having had this money?—No, he never spoke to me at all.

28,168. Or to any of the party?—No; my husband told me when he had given his vote for Mr. Monson. He being blind, I am obliged to be out with the fish, and when he came home he told me he should give his vote for Mr. Monson.

28,169. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who took your husband to the poll?—I do not know; I am obliged to be out with the fish, my husband being blind.

28,170. Did anybody else come to canvass you for your husband's vote?—No; I heard him say to Mr. Monson, he promised to vote for him.

The witness then withdrew.

EDWARD BAILEY sworn and examined.

E. Bailey.

28,171. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

28,172. What rent do you pay for your house?—3*s.* 6*d.* a week.

28,173. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you when you voted?—No, only 3*s.*; they are what I call model cottages.

28,174. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

28,175. Who talked to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Kenward.

28,176. Did he put you on the committee?—Yes.

28,177. How long before the election?—About a month.

28,178. What were you to have?—30*s.* a week.

28,179. How much did you have?—3*l.*; which was two weeks out of four.

28,180. You received 3*l.*?—Yes.

28,181. When did you first receive anything?—I did not receive for the first week or the last, but the two intervening weeks 3*l.*

28,182. How was that; when did he pay you the 3*l.*?—He paid me the two middle weeks running.

28,183. Why did he not pay you for the first and the last?—He said he could not get the money to pay me.

28,184. Did you apply to him after the election?—No, sir.

28,185. You did nothing except vote?—Yes; I went with him and tried to do what canvassing I could.

28,186. Who did you go to?—Thomas Denton, a working man; I looked him out for Kenward.

28,187. Where was Denton?—He was at work at East Grinstead. He was not at home only on Saturday nights, and I saw him on Saturday night.

28,188. And canvassed him?—I went and brought him out to Kenward, for nobody else knew him.

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E. Bailey.

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Kenward went with me to the house, and I went in and called him out.

28,189. Who else did you canvass?—John Wolgar.

28,190. Where did you find him?—He was working at Croydon. I did not see him at all; his wife was at home, and she was all I saw.

28,191. Did he vote?—I do not know whether he voted or not.

28,192. You did not see him at the election?—No.

28,193. Did you tell Kenward about him?—Yes.

28,194. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you sure his name is John?—Yes.

28,195. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You only saw his wife?—That is all.

28,196. Did you go to anybody else?—I went to see Johnson the sweep. I asked him who he was going to vote for; he said he was not sure that he should vote, and he would not promise any one.

28,197. Any one else?—No.

28,198. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you make an offer to Johnson?—No; I never had authority to do so.

28,199. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your duty was to introduce them to Kenward?—Yes; that was all I had to do. I went round with him to several parties.

28,200. Did you receive any money from Langridge? You know Langridge?—Yes; but I never had any money from Langridge; I never had any money except from Kenward.

28,201. But he promised you something?—No.

28,202. Just recollect?—He never promised me anything.

28,203. Not for your expenses?—No; I never even spoke to him.

28,204. Is this your first election?—Yes, this is my first election.

28,205. Of course you were to vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

28,206. You had promised?—Yes; I promised I would vote for Mr. Monson. I did not intend to vote for Mr. Gower.

28,207. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you get no money for any person?—Not any.

28,208. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you voted at any previous election?—I had only voted at this last election.

The witness withdrew.

D. Mepham.

DAVID MEPHAM sworn and examined.

28,209. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

28,210. What rent do you pay?—6*s.* a week.

28,211. Did you take your house by the week?—Yes.

28,212. A week's pay or a week's notice?—Yes.

28,213. And who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

28,214. Who was it asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Kenward came to my house and asked me if I would come on his committee. I told him I had no objection, and he said he would give me 30*s.* a week for a fortnight, and accordingly I attended and had my money of him.

28,215. When did he pay you?—Every Saturday night.

28,216. Did he pay you up to the time of the election?—Yes, except the last three days.

28,217. Did he pay you for those extra, or did he leave them out?—He left them out.

28,218. How was that?—I do not know; I never asked him for it.

28,219. He paid you 3*l.*?—Yes.

28,220. Did anybody ask you to vote for Mr. Gower?—No; I do not recollect that any person asked me.

28,221. Or made you any offer?—Or made me any offer; and no one asked me; but Mr. Monson came to my house.

28,222. And canvassed you, of course?—Yes.

28,223. Is this your first election?—No, sir.

28,224. Did you vote in 1863?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson the time before.

28,225. Were you on his committee in 1865?—No.

28,226. And what did you get for the voting?—Nothing.

28,227. Nothing at all?—Nothing at all, not a farthing, not anything.

28,228. Not either before or after the election?—No.

28,229. How was that?—I was at work away at Woodmanston, and he sent a carriage or chaise and asked for me, and asked if I would come to vote; it was Wilkinson the painter. I know it caused me the loss of three days, for he never paid me.

28,230. Who did you apply to?—I applied to nobody except him, for he was the person who said he would pay me.

28,231. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You applied to him afterwards?—Yes.

28,232. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much did you apply to him for?—Nothing, only my two days.

28,233. And how much?—I should expect 5*s.* a day, and that would make 10*s.*

28,234. Was that the sum for which you applied to him?—I do not know exactly, further than this; I used to ask him when I saw him.

28,235. Was 10*s.* the sum you wanted when you asked him?—Yes.

28,236. Did you name that sum to him, or more?—I do not know whether I made any arrangement, except that I was to have 5*s.* a day.

28,237. What were your expenses?—They could not be much, for he brought me back to Woodmanston.

28,238. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You lost your work?—I lost my work, and I had to walk back to Woodmanston.

28,239. That was in 1863; did you vote before that?—Yes, I did for Mr. Wilkinson.

28,240. Was that the next previous election to the general election?—Yes.

28,241. What did you receive for that?—Nothing at all.

28,242. How was that?—I never asked for anything, I gave my vote freely.

28,243. And the election before that, 1858, who did you vote for then?—I had no vote then.

28,244. Then the other was your first election?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

E. Briggs.

EDWARD BRIGGS sworn and examined.

28,245. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

28,246. What rent do you pay for your house?—3*s.* 6*d.* now.

28,247. What rent did you pay at the time you were on the register?—3*s.*

28,248. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

28,249. On what terms was your tenancy as to notice to quit?—A week's notice.

28,250. Who canvassed you for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Kenward.

28,251. Did he offer you anything when he canvassed you?—He asked me who I was going to vote

for; I said "Mr. Monson." He asked me if I was going on the committee, and I said yes.

28,252. What were you to get for it?—30*s.* a week.

28,253. For being on the committee?—Yes.

28,254. Did he pay you?—Yes.

28,255. How much?—3*l.* for the two weeks.

28,256. You were on a fortnight?—Yes.

28,257. Were you canvassed by the other side?—Not at all.

28,258. Was Mr. Kenward the only person who canvassed you?—Yes.

28,259. How did he find you out?—He met me as I was coming home one night.

28,260. This was in 1865?—Yes.

28,261. Did you vote in 1863?—No.

28,262. Had you voted in 1865?—No.

28,263. What is Mr. Kenward?—A carpenter.

28,264. Was he working in the same house as you?—No.

28,265. Does he have men under him?—No.

28,266. He is a journeyman carpenter like yourself?—Yes.

28,267. You went on the committee?—Yes.

28,268. Did you do anything on the committee?—No.

28,269. Did you attend any committee?—Yes, at Mr. Langridge's, that is all.

28,270. And got plenty of good refreshment there, I suppose?—A drop of beer, that was all.

28,271. That was all, you say, you did?—Yes; I was ready, but I was not called to do anything.

28,272. Instead of that you called for your beer?—Yes.

28,273. And got well paid for it?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES WOODMAN sworn and examined.

28,274. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A little farmer.

28,275. You farm land?—Yes.

28,276. A freehold? Is it your own?—No.

28,277. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you vote?—Yes, I voted for the freehold.

28,278. What rent do you pay?—20*l.* a year.

28,279. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

28,280. Who canvassed you?—I do not know that any one did.

28,281. Who spoke to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—James Apted.

28,282. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—No.

28,283. You worked for him, and did all you could for him?—I was away; I was too far off to do anything.

28,284. Did you not do anything at all?—I was living seven miles away.

28,285. What were you paid for your expenses?—Nothing.

28,286. Then for your loss of time, or anything in that way?—That was on the polling day.

28,287. What were you paid for loss of time?—Nothing.

28,288. Did you come seven miles?—Between six and seven miles.

28,289. Who brought you over?—No one. I came by myself, and drove my own horse.

28,290. Where are you living now?—Charlwood.

28,291. You received no money for yourself?—No.

28,292. You received money for others, did you not?—No.

28,293. Do you recollect being at the "Castle" one day with James Apted? You know the "Castle"?—Yes, I was there.

28,294. With James Apted?—I think he was there.

28,295. You have no doubt he was there?—Very likely he was.

28,296. No; but call your memory back to it. Do you not know he was there?—He might have been there.

28,297. How long before the polling day was that?—That was on the polling day; I never saw him before. I was not up there before all during the election.

28,298. What time of the day was it?—I am sure I cannot say.

28,299. But about the time. I do not want it within two minutes?—I cannot say to hours.

28,300. Tell us the nearest you can?—I cannot say; perhaps 12 or 1 o'clock.

28,301. Who else was there besides James Apted?—I do not know.

28,302. Who did you go into the "Castle" with?—I do not know that I went in with any one except myself.

28,303. Who keeps the "Castle"?—Mr. Green.

28,304. Henry Green?—No, John Green.

28,305. You had some refreshment there, I suppose?—At my own expense.

28,306. You had some refreshment there at the "Castle"?—Yes, but I paid for it.

28,307. You saw Apted there?—I saw him there.

28,308. Can you tell me at all who was there besides Mr. Apted?—I cannot say that any one was there in particular, and it is so long ago that I cannot remember who was there. I was there and my wife. Green and his wife were down at my house a fortnight before, and spent part of the day with me, on a Sunday. Green asked me to come up, and he said most likely he would have a few friends there on polling day. I did not promise him. I had not made up my mind whether I would or not.

28,309. You did not go in there then by accident?—I call in at the house every week.

28,310. You went in by invitation?—Not by invitation, as I said if I came into the town I would call.

28,311. Did Mr. Green canvass you for Mr. Monson?—No.

28,312. He was a Monsonite?—I believe he voted for Mr. Monson, but he never said anything to me.

28,313. You know he voted for Mr. Monson?—I have no doubt that he did; but he did not satisfy any one till after he polled who he was going to vote for.

28,314. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You know all about it then?—Not much.

28,315. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What have you heard about it since?—I heard he voted for Mr. Monson.

28,316. Did he not vote for Mr. Monson at the same time that you did?—No.

28,317. Did you vote for Mr. Monson after you had been at Mr. Green's?—Yes.

28,318. You went and voted between 2 and 3 o'clock?—Perhaps it was; but I cannot say.

28,319. You had been speaking to Apted that morning?—No.

28,320. You spoke to him at the "Castle"?—I might have spoken to him, but not on election affairs. Of course I spoke to him; I could not get out of it there. I could not sit in the room without speaking to him.

28,321. And no doubt you spoke to him about the election?—I do not know whether it was about the election in particular.

28,322. Every one was speaking about the election; that is, how it was then going on?—There were lots of things to talk of besides the election; at public houses there generally are.

28,323. I do not think there was much else talked of in Reigate that day. How long did you remain there before you voted?—I cannot say.

28,324. Perhaps it was a couple of hours?—

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J. Woodman.

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Perhaps one hour, perhaps two hours, or perhaps three.

28,325. Did you see any one paid at the "Castle" at all?—No, I did not.

28,326. We have information about it; but I do not want to say anything with respect to that. Did you see any money taken from any person at the "Castle" that day?—No, I did not.

28,327. Am I to understand you that you saw no money paid to any one that morning?—I did not.

28,328. No money paid at all?—No, except anyone called for a pint of beer; and I might have seen that.

28,329. You know that is not what I mean. I mean money with reference to the election, for services rendered at the election, for work done?—No, I did not see any money paid.

28,330. Do you know any one who voted for Mr. Monson?—No, being away, I did not take any interest in the election that time.

28,331. But you kept your house in the place?—No, I was working from the place.

28,332. How long had you given up the house?—I had been away nearly over a twelvemonth.

28,333. You ought to know that you had no right to vote?—Yes, I was entitled to vote.

28,334. You must know that having voted out of the house, and given it up nearly upon a twelvemonth, you had no right to vote?—I did not know; I did not understand it.

28,335. You had no qualification?—Yes.

28,336. At that time who came to you?—James Apted came over to the house.

28,337. He came to your house?—Yes.

28,338. When?—Just before the election.

28,339. What time. You must recollect that?—I cannot say whether it was a week before, more or less.

28,340. You saw him?—I saw him.

28,341. You did not know much of Apted before?—I knew the man very well.

28,342. He was not a friend of yours?—He was not a friend at all, but he was a man with whom I had a deal of doing with in trade, and I have sold him a good many things.

28,343. He came over to canvass you for Mr. Monson?—I do not know whether he came purposely for that. He asked me who I was going for when he came.

28,344. Did he come to buy anything that time?—I do not remember it.

28,345. I must ask you as a favour to recollect yourself. Did he buy anything from you on that day?—I do not recollect whether he did. I was not at home at the time when he came.

28,346. But you saw him?—I saw him before he left.

28,347. He waited for you?—I do not know about waiting, but he was there when I came in.

28,348. He was waiting for you?—He was there.

28,349. What else did he speak to you about except voting for Mr. Monson?—I do not know. There were not many words passed; there were only a few.

28,350. Did he come and ask you to go on the committee?—No.

28,351. Did he not tell you that your expenses would be paid?—There was nothing said about expenses. I was very off-hand about the election. There was a little bother the time before, and I had made up my mind that I would not vote at all.

28,352. Did you tell him you would not vote?—I said, "If I voted at all I would come;" and he said, "I will send to you upon polling day." I said, "Do "no such thing."

28,353. Tell us what was the bother at the former election?—Of course there was a little dispute about Mr. Gower being elected. I voted for Mr. Gower at the election before.

28,354. You voted for Mr. Gower in 1863?—Yes.

28,355. Had you left the house then?—No.

28,356. Tell us what the bother was about at that election. It was a bother that affected you?—It did not affect me much, but it affected all, I think, a little.

28,357. Tell us what it was?—They tried to turn him out again after he was in, and I made up my mind I would have nothing more to do with elections.

28,358. A petition was presented against him. You had been on his committee in 1863?—I cannot recollect whether I was or not; but I might have been.

28,359. You were living here then?—I was living here then; but I do not think I was on his committee.

28,360. Had you worked for him in 1863?—Not particularly; I did a little work. I was always ready then to work for two or three of my neighbours.

28,361. You had not worked very hard in 1863; but how long had you been working for him?—From the beginning of the election to the end.

28,362. The election was a very sharp contest I am told between Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson; it lasted five or six weeks?—I cannot say how long it was.

28,363. Were you at the "White Hart" after the election was over to celebrate Mr. Gower's triumph?—No.

28,364. You were not there to celebrate his triumph?—No.

28,365. Are you sure?—I cannot recollect it.

28,366. Well, but you would not forget that?—I am rather forgetful.

28,367. Oh no, you are not?—Yes, I am.

28,368. I hope not. What did you receive for your expenses and services in 1863?—I do not consider I received anything for my expenses.

28,369. You kept a beer house at that time?—I let my rooms, and of course there were refreshments had in on polling day.

28,370. What did you receive for your rooms?—I do not know what it was; I cannot say.

28,371. I can remember more than five or six years, and this is only three years ago. You surely can tell me what you received, whether it was 50*l.* or 150*l.*?—Nothing like that.

28,372. You see we shall get it soon?—It was nothing so much as that; nothing so large as that. I never had so much money as that to play with.

28,373. Was it 20*l.* or 30*l.*?—No; I think it was something like 12*l.* or 14*l.*, or something like that.

28,374. For the rooms?—For the rooms and refreshment.

28,375. What for the refreshment?—It was all together.

28,376. Did you send in your bill?—Yes, to Mr. Smith.

28,377. I am very glad of that, because I think we have them. Now, just refresh your memory again, and see whether it was not a little more?—I cannot recollect what it was exactly, but to the best of my memory it was between 12*l.* and 14*l.* I went for my money to Mr. Smith, and he began to dispute my bill. I told him that it was a just bill, and he asked me to take off 2*l.*, but I would not.

28,378. How much was it you claimed?—It was 12*l.* or 14*l.*

28,379. I think it was more?—No, I think not.

28,380. Did you take off the 2*l.*?—I never settled it myself.

28,381. Who settled it?—Mr. Durrant, my landlord, and I believe he lost the 2*l.*

28,382. Mr. Durrant settled it?—Yes, he settled it.

28,383. How much did Mr. Durrant pay you?—I cannot say; he told me at last, so it is my opinion, that he lost the 2*l.*

28,384. Did that include your own services?—That included everything.

28,385. And you voted for Mr. Gower?—Everything of the kind; I voted for Mr. Gower then.

28,386. How is it you did not vote for Mr. Gower this time?—That is the reason.

28,387. Because they cut off 2*l.*?—Yes, because they did not please me.

28,388. That is the bother you referred to?—Yes.

28,389. Then it was not about the petition after all. That was not the first time you voted I think?—Yes, it was.

28,390. You had no beer house in 1865?—No.

28,391. James Apted asked you?—Yes.

28,392. You saw him the day of polling; was it by accident you met him at the "Castle"?—Well, I do not know; it might have been.

28,393. Let us see, we will go by steps. James Apted canvassed you on the part of Mr. Monson, say on the Friday, the week before the election?—It might have been, but I cannot say.

28,394. Had you any communication with him between that time and the time you arrived at Reigate?—No, I never saw him.

28,395. Then you came by arrangement into the "Castle"?—Well, I put my horse up there.

28,396. And then James Apted came in by accident?—I forget whether he was in at the time, or after.

28,397. It was a mere accidental thing so far as you know that he was there?—Yes.

28,398. Then he said to you, did he not, "Why "Woodman, I am very glad to see you here, you are "coming now on our side?"—Yes.

28,399. You see he did say that?—I do not know, I misunderstood you; he might have said good morning.

28,400. You gave him a kind of promise?—No.

28,401. You said, "If I vote at all I will vote on your side?"—I said that at my own place.

28,402. That is what I call a kind of promise?—Yes, a half promise.

28,403. Had he not spoken to you then at the "Castle?" You told me he did not speak to you about the election; did not he speak to you immediately you came in, and say, "You are the very man I wanted"?—I do not recollect it.

28,404. He did want you though?—He might have wanted me.

28,405. Apted is not a man who would not make his wants known?—I do not know; but he has always paid me 20*s.* in the pound.

28,406. He spoke to you about the election?—There was very little said about it.

28,407. You did not vote till after you had spoken to Apted about the election?—Of course not.

28,408. Why of course not?—I mean——

28,409. Answer the question; why of course not?

28,410. Why of course?—I mean I misunderstood you; I mean when he was at our place; that was just before——

28,411. Why of course?—Oh, I misunderstood you.

48,412. Why should it be of course?—Of course I saw Apted before I voted.

48,413. But why should it be of course that you saw him and spoke to him before you voted?—Because I did not see him after.

48,414. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do answer the question. You have remembered every single thing when my friend has pressed you about it, but you take such a long time before you answer it; you have forgotten no single thing?—I cannot remember everything.

28,415. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you not a conversation with James Apted about the vote you meant to give some time before you voted?—I might have had.

28,416. Then you did?—I do not recollect.

28,417. Did you not have a conversation in reference to your vote?—I do not remember.

28,418. I ask you, did he not ask you to vote, and did you not say you did not like to vote in consequence of the bother you had had at the last election?—Yes; I did not like to vote for Mr. Gower.

28,419. I am speaking now of what occurred at the "Castle" on the polling day?—There was nothing said at the "Castle" about my voting for Mr. Gower.

28,420. Now, then, I will take you to your own place, when you said there was a bother about the 2*l.*; you told him they would not pay you 14*l.* for the amount of beer you had supplied, and that did of course make you not like them?—I said I had a reason why I would not vote for Mr. Gower's side, but I did not say what it was at the time; I think I told him upon a subsequent occasion.

28,421. When did you tell him?—I think I told him I would tell him some day.

28,422. Did you not tell him in fact just before you voted?—No, I did not.

28,423. It would be the most natural thing in the world; the Gower party had done what in the law would be called taxing your bill. They taxed your bill, and it is a very unpleasant thing to have your bill taxed, and to have 14*l.* reduced to 12*l.*; did he not say, "I will do nothing of the kind on our side, we "are gentlemen"?—Not to my recollection.

28,424. I am satisfied you will recollect if you turn your attention to it; did he not say, "Now there will "be nothing of that on our side, we are gentlemen, we "keep to our word"?—Nothing of the sort so far as I can recollect.

28,425. What did he say to it?—I do not remember it; there might have been something said, but I could not keep such things in my head all this time.

28,426. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Let me take this down. Apted may have said, "We do no such "thing on our side"?—He may, or he may not, I could not say.

28,427. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How were you sure that you would not have the same bother on the Monson side?—I was not sure whether I should or not.

28,428. How soon after the election did you see Apted?—I do not know, I cannot say; I might not have seen him for a fortnight or a month. I very often come to Reigate, and very often see him when I come.

28,429. I believe a great many of you went up together to vote at that time?—I went by myself.

28,430. From the "Crown"?—From the "Castle."

28,431. How many voters were there?—I cannot say.

28,432. Who went out with you?—No one that I recollect; I came up to be ready myself. I do not know that any one knowed exactly who I was going to vote for.

28,433. I should think James Apted knew?—He might give a large guess.

28,434. He knew very well?—No one ain't to be trusted, they say, when they are gone out of sight.

28,435. He knew before you left the "Castle" that you were going to vote for Mr. Monson?—Well, he expected it.

28,436. He could only expect it?—That is all.

28,437. What made him expect it?—I suppose I told him I should vote for him.

28,438. You told him, in fact, that you would vote for Monson before you left the "Castle"?—I might have done so.

28,439. He asked you?—Well, I do not recollect as he did; he might have done so; I cannot say. I did not think of course that I should hear anything more about it; it never came into my head.

28,440. When did you see James Apted last?—Not for some time now; perhaps a fortnight or three weeks, perhaps more; I cannot say. I know I have not seen him for a fortnight.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

J. Woodman.

11 Sept. 1866.

28,441. When were you at the "Castle" last?—To-day; I put my horse up there; that is where I always stop.

28,442. I will ask you again, be very cautious, did nothing occur with James Apted that morning as to your voting; anything with regard to money?—No, it did not; nothing at all.

28,443. Did he not tell you that those who voted for Mr. Monson would be satisfied; that they would have no reason afterwards to complain?—No.

28,444. Nor words to that effect?—No.

28,445. Just now you said he might have said so?—Not to my knowledge; I cannot recollect anything of the sort.

28,446. No money passed at all?—No.

28,447. And no expectations?—Nothing was said about money.

28,448. And nothing done?—Nothing done.

28,449. You and James Apted were in the parlour at the "Castle," you told me?—I forget whether it was in the parlour or in the bar.

28,450. You said the parlour?—No, I never said I was in the parlour.

28,451. Were you in the parlour?—I cannot say.

28,452. You cannot say whether you were in the parlour or in the bar?—No; in fact I think there is no parlour there; I do not think there is; there is a little back room.

28,453. Then were you in the back room?—No, I think not.

28,454. Just recollect?—I might have been in both places; I often am.

28,455. Your wife was with you?—My wife was with me; she came the bigger part of the way, and afterwards I met her there.

28,456. Where?—At the "Castle," when I was coming home; she came as far as Cockshot-hill with me, and then got out.

28,457. Did Apted go from the "Castle" with you?—No.

28,458. Did you see any one?—I do not recollect any one going.

28,459. Did you see anybody?—I met Mr. Job Apted and Mr. Buckland in the road as I was going along, and asked them how they were, and they the same to me; that is nearly all that was said. I do not know that I spoke to any one else all the way.

28,460. They did not canvass you then?—No.

28,461. Have you any knowledge of any money being paid?—No.

28,462. Or any consideration given on your account?—No.

28,463. No knowledge?—No knowledge of it.

28,464. No belief on the subject?—No, I cannot recollect nothing of the sort being named, money nor nothing of the sort.

28,465. Do you believe that any money was paid?—No.

28,466. Do you believe that no money was paid?—I do not believe that any money was paid.

28,467. Do you believe that no money was paid?—I never saw any money paid.

28,468. I am not asking that; do you not believe that money was received on your account?—No.

28,469. Upon your oath, do you not believe that money was received on your account; be cautious?—I am cautious; I have got no recollection.

28,470. Upon your oath, do you not believe that; I am not asking about your recollection; do you not believe that money was received on your account at that election?—No.

28,471. From some of the Monson party?—No, I think not.

28,472. On your oath, you do not believe that there was money received?—No; there was nothing said about money.

28,473. Nothing said. Do you not believe that money was received? Be very cautious?—I am; it was never named about money.

28,474. I implore you to be cautious?—I am.

28,475. It is a question of the largest kind. Do you not believe that money was received on your account from the Monson party at that election?—No.

28,476. You do not believe it?—No.

28,477. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do not believe what?—That there was any money pased at that election. I never saw anything of money.

28,478. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you any outstanding accounts with James Apted?—No; I do not recollect that I had.

28,479. Do you recollect whether you had or had not?—No, I have not.

28,480. Had you at that time?—No, I think not.

28,481. Recollect yourself?—I do not recollect if I had at all. I have had a good many dealings with the man; he has always paid me.

28,482. Had you any outstanding accounts with any body else?—No, I do not recollect. I might owe money about.

28,483. Had you any outstanding accounts that were settled by reason of that election?—No.

28,484. Just recollect?—No, nothing of the sort.

28,485. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing of the sort. I have no recollection of it in the slightest.

28,486. If such accounts were outstanding, you could not fail to recollect?—I should think of it most likely.

28,487. Certainly you would; if any account was settled without your paying for it you would recollect?—Of course I should.

28,488. Was there any?—There was nothing of the sort; I have no recollection of it.

28,489. Was there anything of the sort?—No, I think not.

28,490. Was there anything of the sort?—No.

28,491. Will you pledge your oath that there was nothing of the sort; any account outstanding that was settled in consequence of your vote?—There was not at all.

28,492. Not at all?—No, there was not; I should recollect it if there was, most likely.

28,493. No beer account with your brewer?—No.

28,494. Who was your brewer?—Durrant was my brewer then, but I have no brewer now.

28,495. Durrant was your brewer then?—Yes; at the election before.

28,496. You do not believe that there was any money, or any consideration whatever?—No; I never saw any money pass.

28,497. I do not say that you did, but do you believe that any money was given, or any consideration, for your vote?

28,498. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have not yet taken your answer to the question, because you seem not to attend to it?—Perhaps I misunderstand it.

28,499. You have now another chance; pray be cautious.—I do not want to speak more than what is right.

28,500. *Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you believe that no consideration was given, or no money paid, or no account settled on your account, for your vote at that election?—There was nothing settled nor nothing of the sort.

28,501. And no money paid?—And no money paid.

28,502. No consideration?—No consideration; I have not the least recollection of it if there was.

28,503. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) No money paid to whom?—To me, or no one to receive money for me, as I recollect.

28,504. Nor your wife?—No; I do not recollect the slightest of it, and I should, of course, if there had.

28,505. Your wife would tell you, of course?—Of course, I should think so.

28,506. Your memory does not seem very clear?—It is not very clear, worse luck, but, of course, I might have recollected if I had knowed anything had been coming to this point, of course.

28507. Have you any books, or anything of the sort?—Nothing of the sort; nothing was said.

28,508. Why should you drive in at your own expense seven miles to vote for Mr. Monson?—Because I could ride back when I liked; I was not tied to time. I have done the same to-day, driving my own horse.

The witness withdrew.

William Spence sworn and examined.

28,509. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A tailor.

28,510. A journeyman tailor?—Yes.

28,511. What rent do you pay for your house?—I am not living in Reigate parish at the present time; I come from Brighton.

28,512. You are not a voter now?—No.

28,513. What rent did you pay in the year 1865?—14*l.* a year.

28,514. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

28,515. Have you got a vote anywhere now?—I have not.

28,516. Were you put on Mr. Monson's committee at the last election?—Not that I am aware of.

28,517. Did Mr. Monson canvass you?—He did not.

28,518. Who asked you to vote in the first instance?—Mr. Nichols wrote to me.

28,519. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where were you living then?—At Brighton.

28,520. Had you left the borough?—I had left the borough.

28,521. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did he ask you to come up about the election?—He did.

28,522. Had you given up your house in this town?—I had left my house; still my name was on the register.

28,523. How long had you left the borough before the election?—I cannot say exactly the time I left.

28,524. Did you leave at Lady Day?—It might be four or five months before the election when I left.

28,525. Nichols asked you to come up and help them about the election?—Yes.

28,526. Did you come?—I did.

28,527. How long was that before?—A few days before the election came off; only a few days.

28,528. Before the polling?—Before the polling.

28,529. How many shall I take it, as far as you recollect, three or four days?—Yes, more than that; it might be perhaps 8 or 10 days; I cannot exactly say.

28,530. What did he hold out to you as to how you were to be paid for the loss of your time?—Nothing at all; he held out nothing; no inducement.

28,531. How were you to be paid?—I was not to be paid at all.

28,532. You came up?—To oblige Mr. Nichols.

28,533. When you did come up you saw him, I suppose?—Yes, I saw him.

28,534. Did you call on him at the "Grapes"?—No, I did not.

28,535. Where did you see him?—At the committee room at the "White Hart."

28,536. What was then arranged?—There was no further arrangement made whatever, no more than I had promised him if at any time he wanted me to send for me.

28,537. That was no promise at all?—There was no arrangement made after I arrived at the committee room at Reigate.

28,538. What arrangement was made before?—None.

28,539. If there was no arrangement made after you arrived you need not specify that unless there had been some arrangement before?—No more than I stated, that if ever he wrote to me to come up and poll for a canditate I should do so.

28,540. To poll for a candidate; but you assisted them?—Certainly I went round.

28,541. When did you first become aware that you would be paid for your loss of time and your services, or whatever you choose to describe it?—I never became aware that I was to receive anything on this occasion; I never was to be paid; I never was promised anything.

28,542. When did you receive anything?—I did not receive anything.

28,543. Not at all?—Not at all; not for this present election that you are now speaking of, the last election.

28,544. I am only speaking of the last election?—I received nothing.

28,545. Was there any outstanding account from the previous election of 1863?—Any outstanding account?

28,546. Any unsettled account which you had from the election of 1863?—No.

28,547. There was not?—No. There is one thing I admit; of course I owed money in Reigate to different parties, not to one individual alone, but perhaps to several; but I did not come up to vote under any consideration of any debts that I owed.

28,548. Those debts have not been paid since, I suppose?—They have not.

28,549. They are not now owing, are they?—Yes, they are owing. All the debts that I owed previous to my leaving this parish are owing at the present time, because I have not been in a position to pay them.

28,550. Now, whether you have paid them or not, tell me, are they still owing?—They are.

28,551. I do not say from you?—They are still owing from me; that is, as far as I know. I know of no consideration of any debt being paid at all.

28,552. Do you ever expect any of those debts to be brought up against you?—I do; I believe they are all liable at the present time.

28,553. Do you believe (do not answer hastily) that any of those debts will ever come up against you?—Any of the debts that I owed?

28,554. That you did owe. Do you believe that any of those debts will ever come up against you?—Yes. I received a threatening letter and county court summons last week from one party.

28,555. Who was that?—From Mr. Hewett, for 3*l.* 10*s.*, for rent.

28,556. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you receive that notice?—On Saturday morning last.

28,557. Is it George Hewett?—He is a servant of Mr. Clutton.

28,558. Whom did Mr. Clutton vote for?—I cannot say.

28,559. Was it for Mr. Gower?—I think so; I am not certain.

28,560. When do you say you left this place; five months before the election?—Yes.

28,561. You say you received a paper last Saturday for the rent owing to Mr. Clutton?—No, it was due to Hewett; he is a servant of Mr. Clutton; it is his property that I am living in.

28,562. You left last March?—I think it was the beginning of May.

28,563. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You do not know whether Hewett is a voter?—I think not.

28,564. Was there no demand made till last Saturday for the rent, 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, I received a letter previous, but I wrote saying that I was not in a position to pay it.

28,565. When was the previous application made?—The previous one? I should think perhaps nine months ago.

28,566. You say there were other accounts; I do not want to know how many. Have you received

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

W. Spence.

11 Sept. 1866.

any other demands for those accounts, any application for payment?—No, I have not.

28,567. That is odd, is it not?—Well, I imagine the parties know that I am not in a position to pay them at the present time.

28,568. Under these particular circumstances it was not likely that Nichols, who knew exactly all these things about you, would suppose that you would come up from Brighton at your own expense at the election; that is, nine or ten days previous to the election?—Well, I do not know, I am sure, whether he knew that I should come up.

28,569. From some accident or other things were not very flourishing with you, and Nichols would of course know that pretty nearly as well as you would yourself, though he would not know all the particulars; then it would be rather unfair, would it not, that he should expect you to come at your own expense from Brighton to work the election for him?—Decidedly so.

28,570. And we know very well that Nichols had plenty of money?—Mr. Nichols some few years previously had been a friend to me, and therefore I came up when he wrote the letter to me to say that he should like if I would come up.

28,571. I do not want to intrude in the least in any private matter; but if Nichols had been a friend to you, was that to be taken into account?—Nothing was mentioned.

28,572. You understand me perfectly, though I do not want to go into it?—There was nothing of the sort mentioned nor no consideration.

28,573. There was nothing of the sort mentioned; but you understand me perfectly, I am sure?—I merely came up as a friend.

28,574. I have given you what I thought was an answer to that, by telling you that it is not likely that Nichols, who had plenty of money, and, as far as I know, was a humane and considerate man, should write down to you and say, "Come up for nine or ten "days at the election."—I did not come up; he only wrote to me.

28,575. You say he had been a friend to you. I wish you to take a hint from me and give me an answer. Is not it really a clue to the whole thing?—What I have stated is true.

28,576. I have no doubt it is.—There was no communication, and no promise whatever on either part.

28,577. But since then has not your coming here been remembered in your favour?—Not that I am aware of; I do not know in what respect.

28,578. I am very fair to you?—And I will be as fair to you as I possibly can, and answer every question if I understand it.

28,579. Has not your coming up at Nichols's request been remembered in your favour?—I cannot say that it has; not that I am aware of, which I can speak positive.

28,580. Suppose this case. Suppose there was some little arrangement by which, if one man is under an obligation to another, he makes him from time to time some acknowledgment of it in the way of half-yearly or yearly payments, or promises, or something of that kind, if those payments are not insisted on, that, remembering something in the man's favour who has to pay?—Yes.

28,581. Now, need I say more?—Nothing of the sort has ever occurred between Mr. Nichols and myself nor any one connected with that election.

28,582. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the kindness which Nichols had shown you? Did he lend you money?—Yes, and that money was repaid.

28,583. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then, if that money was repaid we come at once to the same difficulty. How was it that Nichols sent down to Brighton to ask you to come up nine or ten days before the election? He would not have written so to me, even if he had known I had been a good canvasser; he would have said, "If you will come up of course your ser-"vices will be remembered; if you will come we "shall be very much obliged, and you will get your "fee, or get something or other"?—Yes.

28,584. You must not tell us things that are contrary to the usual course?—Well, I can assure you, which I have stated before, that there was nothing stated by letter nor by word that there was to be any recompense whatever. I have known Mr. Nichols many years.

28,585. I dare say it was not stated?—I never received it, which I can state upon oath.

28,586. Is it due still?—Yes.

28,587. Now, tell me what is still due for the services rendered in 1865?—I do not know. I have had no promise of anything.

28,588. What do you consider?—I do not expect to receive anything.

28,589. What do you consider you ought to receive?—I expect I ought to receive nothing.

28,590. If there was an election coming off to-morrow, should you expect to be sent for anywhere to work without being paid for it?—I should not.

28,591. Then do explain how it is you were sent for on this occasion?—Well, I cannot explain to you any more.

28,592. Who paid your fare up?—I paid my own.

28,593. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You took that from your creditors?—I paid my own fare.

28,594. Who paid your fare down?—I paid my own fare down.

28,595. Who paid you back the money?—I have never received any money.

28,596. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you pay any money out of pocket during the election? Did you pay anything to any person you canvassed, either by giving them beer or money; did you pay anything out of pocket?—I paid nothing out of pocket by giving beer or money.

28,597. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you pay any money?—No money. I paid the railway fare of one party; I took a ticket for him.

28,598. Who was that?—A man of the name of West.

28,599. Who gave you that money?—I paid it out of my own pocket.

28,600. Did you get it returned to you?—No.

28,601. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much was that railway money?—It was 2*s.* 6*d.*, the fare from Brighton; a third-class ticket.

28,602. And you paid your own too?—And my own.

28,603. That would be 5*s.* altogether?—Yes.

28,604. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) From Brighton?—Yes.

28,605. What West is that?—He is a bricklayer.

28,606. Here?—I do not know whether he is living in the neighbourhood now or not.

28,607. Is he a voter?—He was at that time.

28,608. What is his Christian name?—William.

28,609. Are you able to tell whether he lives here now or not?—I am not.

28,610. Did you pay any other money out of pocket?—No.

28,611. Who paid for your eating, drinking, lodging, and so on?—Well, I lived with a friend of mine, and likewise had accommodation, with eating and drinking.

28,612. I do not want to go into private affairs further than is necessary, but where did you eat and drink; at your private friend's house?—At Redhill.

28,613. With the same person?—No.

28,614. Where did you eat and drink?—I had a part at a friend of mine at Reigate, and a part at Redhill during the day.

28,615. At Redhill had you to pay for it?—I had not; they were friends of mine.

28,616. How soon did you go away after the election?—I went away the next day.

28,617. Then you were here perhaps something less than a fortnight?—I was here only two days. I received the letter about the election coming off, but I

did not come up then. I came upon one day and went back the next. It was on the day of the election that I came up, on the morning of the election, and I went back on the next day.

28,618. Your services were used by Mr. Nichols and by the party for doing what you could; you did what you could while you were here?—Yes.

28,619. You were active in taking men to the poll, were you not?—Yes; I was not particularly active. I certainly did go to the poll with one or two.

28,620. Can you tell me their names?—I cannot.

28,621. Cannot you tell me the name of anybody you went up to the poll with?—No, I cannot. When I voted I went to the poll by myself. I think I went on one occasion, that was all; who the party was I do not know.

28,622. I thought you had received money to hand over to some person or persons?—No; never a farthing.

28,623. You say you paid 2*s.* 6*d.* for West's fare; was that 2*s.* 6*d.* for the fare from Brighton here?—Yes.

28,624. Did you bring him up with you?—He came up with me; yes.

28,625. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You brought him?—Yes; at least, we appointed to meet to come up together.

28,626. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had Nichols told you of West being down there?—Nichols had not told me, but I had heard that he was down there from some one else.

28,627. Upon which you went to him, I suppose, and canvassed him?—Yes.

28,628. Did West get repaid the 2*s.* 6*d.* fare?—I am sure I cannot say.

28,629. Did West repay you?—He did not.

28,630. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were that 2*s.* 6*d.* out of pocket?—I was that 2*s.* 6*d.* out of pocket.

28,631. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have made some claim for it, have you not?—No.

28,632. Or for your loss of time?—For neither.

28,633. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then you in your condition expended 2*s.* 6*d.* on Mr. Monson's voter because you were a friend of Nichols, and Nichols was scattering money about. You really think we can believe that?—Well, ——

28,634. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What kindness did Mr. Nichols do to you in 1865 for coming up to Brighton? He must have done something?—Nothing at all; he has done no kindness to me, neither at the time nor since.

28,635. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you anything to do at Brighton at the time of the election? Were you in any employ?—I was working at the time.

28,636. Did you lose your employment by your absence?—No, I did not.

28,637. You lost the two days?—I lost the time.

28,638. You did not lose your employment when you got back again?—No.

28,639. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much did you earn; 6*s.* a day?—It depends a great deal upon the time of the year; the trade is so fluctuating.

28,640. About 12*s.* for the two days?—The Brighton rate is about 5*s.* a day.

28,641. That would be 10*s.*?—Yes, provided I was in full work.

28,642. And your fare up and down would be 5*s.*?—Yes.

28,643. That would be 15*s.* altogether?—Yes.

28,644. And then 2*s.* 6*d.*, making 17*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes.

28,645. And you expended it out of your own money?—Yes.

28,646. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Which you have not been repaid?—Yes.

28,647. May I add, "in any way or in any manner"?—Yes.

28,648. I may?—Yes.

28,649. You were here in 1863?—Yes.

28,650. Who did you vote for in 1863?—For Mr. Gower, I believe.

28,651. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were with Nichols at that time?—Yes.

28,652. Mr. Nichols was on Mr. Gower's side at that time?—Yes.

28,653. Were you employed on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

28,654. Did you work for some time for him?—Yes.

28,655. Who put you on the committee?—I do not know who put me on the committee; Mr. Nichols engaged me.

28,656. Do you recollect how long before the election, about?—No, I cannot say.

28,657. Perhaps from the beginning, four or five weeks?—It was somewhere about the commencement.

28,658. Perhaps four or five weeks?—Yes, it was quite that; a little more perhaps.

28,659. What was the arrangement made on that occasion? You said specially that what you were telling me referred to 1865; to the last election?—Yes.

28,660. Now, in 1863 what was the arrangement made with Mr. Nichols?—I was to receive 10*l.* for my services as canvasser.

28,661. Did you receive it?—I did.

28,662. From Mr. Nichols?—No.

28,663. From whom?—From Mr. Smith.

28,664. In 1863 you say you received 10*l.* for your services as canvasser from Mr. Smith. Did you do much as canvasser?—I done a great deal of work; I was continually away from my business.

28,665. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were living here then?—I was living in the parish of Reigate.

28,666. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) On that occasion money was paid to you to pay out, was not it?—Exactly so.

28,667. Besides the money which you had for yourself, do you recollect paying some money to a man named Ards?—I never paid Ards any money. I know the name; I know the man.

28,668. You and Corderoy called upon him?—Exactly so, we did.

28,669. He was not paid any money while you were there?—Not in my presence.

28,670. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you turn your head away, then?—No, I cannot say whether I did or not.

28,671. You knew it was paid?—No, I did not see it paid, and did not know it was paid; it was not stated to me. I know the party very well.

28,672. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) "I am not able "to tell you the amount;" that is what you say. Do you know that he received anything?—I do not.

28,673. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He was paid by Corderoy?—I cannot say whether Corderoy paid him or not.

28,674. Then how do you know he was paid?—I do not know that he was; I say I did not see him paid, and I did not know that he was paid. It must have been done when I was not present.

28,675. That is the reason; I will put it in that way. You say it was not in your presence?—Of course I could not answer for Corderoy.

28,676. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you remember a man named Creame?—Yes.

28,677. Can you tell who paid him?—No.

28,678. Do you know whether Corderoy paid him?—No, I do not.

28,679. Do you recollect whether you were present when Corderoy called upon him?—I recollect Corderoy's going to find out Creame; where he was living I do not know; somewhere in the suburbs of London, I believe.

28,680. At that time you were living in Mead-vale?—I was living at Mead-vale at the time.

28,681. After you did find him out, do you recollect Corderoy going to pay him something?—I do not; I have no knowledge of it myself.

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28,682. Ards and you went up to the polling booth together, did not you?—No, I went with Creame. I think you said Ards?

28,683. I beg your pardon. Don't you remember after he was taken up to the poll Corderoy calling upon him with you?—I have no recollection of that.

28,684. I think you did. Perhaps you will remember when you did call upon him Ards was there also?—No, I have not the slightest recollection of seeing those two together.

28,685. You don't recollect that?—No, not in the slightest.

28,686. You had a good deal of difficulty with Ards, had not you?—Difficulty?

28,687. Yes, you made him an offer?—I never did.

28,688. I think you did?—No.

28,689. Did Corderoy in your presence make him an offer?—Not in my presence.

28,690. What do you mean by your presence?—It might——

28,691. Did you and Corderoy call on him together?—Yes.

28,692. Now you believe that when you turned round, or were out of the room, not out of the room I won't say, but when you turned round, you believe that Corderoy paid him?—I think it is probable that he might have paid him.

28,693. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith*). You might say it out at once?—I give it to you just as plain as I can state it. I only imagine it; I don't know for certain.

28,694. Do you know that after that Ards was paid 3*l.*?—I do not.

28,695. Tell me, if you please, at that election in 1863 did you send in an account?—Yes, I believe I did.

28,696. To whom?—To Mr. Smith.

28,697. For services and canvassing?—Yes.

28,698. Was it for the same amount that you were paid, or for a larger amount?—The amount that I sent in at least, the bill that I sent in, was for my engagement as a canvasser, for myself.

28,699. Quite right; was it for a larger amount than what you received?—No.

28,700. Then you sent in your account for 10*l.* I suppose, according to that?—What I received from Mr. Smith?

28,701. Quite right, yes?—10*l.* was my engagement.

28,702. Well, I am asking now about your account. You sent in your account for Mr. Smith in writing?—Yes.

28,703. Was your account for a larger sum than the 10*l.* engagement?—Yes, for 13*l.*

28,704. How was that?—That was for extra services after the election.

28,705. What was it, the extra service?—To the best of my recollection, why, for going about to see parties.

28,706. After the election?—When the petition was on.

28,707. Was that allowed?—I was paid 13*l.*

28,708. When?—After the election.

28,709. I thought you told me you were paid 10*l.*?—10*l.*; that was my engagement, and 3*l.* for expenses.

28,710. I will tell you what you said before, "I "was to receive 10*l.* for my services as canvasser, "and I did receive it from Mr. Smith"?—Yes.

28,711. Now, then, you say you received 13*l.* from Mr. Smith?—I did not know that I said I did not receive any more; that was my engagement.

28,712. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did not you say then you received 1*l.* That would have been just as good an answer?—I am not aware that the question was asked what I was paid.

28,713. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It shows how very particular one must be with you?—I thought the question was only just asked what my engagement was for the service.

28,714. You say it was 13*l.*?—Yes.

28,715. Now I will ask this question. You received no more?—I received no more.

28,716. You received no more from Mr. Smith? It makes me so very cautious and anxious to hedge myself round. Did you receive no more from Mr. Smith?—Not for myself.

28,717. Did you receive any more from Mr. Smith? You cannot get out of that question?—I received (I forget the amount) a small amount for a person of the name of Jordan; Thomas Jordan.

28,718. What was it?—I think it was something like 4*l.* I won't be positive as to the amount.

28,719. Did you receive anything more?—No, nothing more, that I am aware of.

28,720. I want to know aye or no?—I received nothing more as to charges.

28,721. But I did not say a word about charges. Did you receive anything more?—Do you mean during the election?

28,722. No, I have not said a word about during the election?—In regard to the bills I sent in?

28,723. Did you receive anything more in regard to anything in the world from Mr. Smith?—Yes.

28,724. Will you please to tell me what?—I cannot tell you the exact amount. It might be something like 9*l.* or 10*l.*

28,725. You received 9*l.* or 10*l.* you say for other people?—For monies to be expended in meetings.

28,726. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was during the election?—That was during the election.

28,727. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive any more money from Smith?—No.

28,728. Now did you receive any money from anybody else?—No, none.

28,729. Did you receive any money from Mr. Hart?—I did not.

28,730. Will you be so good as to tell me who you paid the money to that you received; the 9*l.* or 10*l.* to be expended in meetings?—Well, I cannot exactly tell you.

28,731. Never mind about exactly?—Well, a portion of it was spent at public houses. I will tell you the names presently. "The Oak" at Redhill, and "The Plough" at Redhill; at "The Marquis of Granby"; likewise at "The Wheatsheaf" at Redhill.

28,732. You did not pay it all away, I suppose?—I paid it all away.

28,733. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you keep an account?—No.

28,734. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who was Mr. Nichols working for in that election of 1863?—Mr. Gower.

28,735. But who was he voting and working for?—Mr. Gower.

28,736. Had you anything to do Mr. Nichols on that occasion?—What I had to do with him he referred me to Mr. Smith.

28,737. What you had to do with him is what I want to know?—If I asked him a question, he referred me to Mr. Smith.

28,738. Before you went to Mr. Smith with your account, did you take it into Mr. Nichols?—No, I did not.

28,739. None of those accounts which you have mentioned?—None of those accounts that I have mentioned.

28,740. Neither the 13*l.* nor the 4*l.*; nor the 9*l.* or 10*l.*; as far as you can recollect?—Not as far as I can recollect.

28,741. Now, did Mr. Nichols when he engaged you tell you what you would receive?—Yes.

28,742. What did he tell you you would receive?—10*l.*

28,743. You did not send it in to Mr. Nichols first? Did you get his signature to it?—No.

28,744. I mean by way of recommending it, to show that it had been examined?—No.

28,745. You did not vouch Mr. Nichols' name to Mr. Smith, you understand me, by getting his initials on the account?—No initials whatever.

28,746. I mean, you had Mr. Nichols' initials?—No, I had not.

28,747. Did you receive any more money from Mr. Nichols than what you have mentioned as having been received from Mr. Smith?—None.

28,748. That you feel sure of?—I am certain of that.

28,749. Now in previous elections had you been at work?—Yes, I had.

28,750. In 1859 had you done anything, I want to know?—In 1859?

28,751. Yes?—Yes.

28,752. Who had you been engaged for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

28,753. He did not appear that time himself?—Oh, in 1859!

28,754. He did not appear in person?—Then I beg your pardon. No, I was not.

28,755. You did not do much then?—No.

28,756. Well then, in 1858, when Monson and Wilkinson were opposed to each other who did you work for then?—Mr. Wilkinson.

28,757. And voted?—And voted.

28,758. Were you on his committee?—I do not know whether my name was put on the committee or not.

28,759. You worked for him?—I worked for him.

28,760. Did Mr. Nichols set you on to work then?—No.

28,761. Which side was Mr. Nichols?—On the opposite.

28,762. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For Mr. Monson that time?—Yes.

28,763. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me, what did you receive then?—I received 13*l.*

28,764. Who from, do you recollect?—Well, I really forget the name of the party who paid me the money now.

28,765. Perhaps you will remember it if you recollect who set you on?—I think it was Mr. Cape. Mr. Cape was one of the parties who was engaged in this affair; but I could not call to mind exactly.

28,766. I suppose it was not Mr. Cape who set you to work. Do you remember?—I believe he was one of the party who waited on me to ask me to canvass that district. There were two together.

28,767. You sent that account in? Was that a written account?—It was a written account.

28,768. And he paid it?—I received the 13*l.*

28,769. I mean, did you receive it from him?—I could not say for certain; I believe it was the case.

28,770. What was that account for?—For my services in canvassing.

28,771. Can you recollect (perhaps you cannot exactly) how you sent it in; in what way you stated it?—I was engaged as a canvasser, and that election lasted 13 weeks, and I was continually being called by a brother of that candidate at that time, William Arthur Wilkinson, and I was taken very much away from my business, and I sent in a bill, owing to the affair lasting so long; some of the parties requested me to send it in as moderate as I could.

28,772. What did you put down?—13*l.*

28,773. Did they pay you the same amount?—I received the 13*l.* at once.

28,774. I suppose then you had not paid money out of pocket?—Yes, I had paid money out of pocket. My account for that was 7*l.*

28,775. Who paid that?—I had it from the same source.

28,776. You received 20*l.*?—Yes, I received 20*l.* altogether for that.

28,777. Did that 7*l.* go into the same account as the 13*l.*?—No; a separate account. That 7*l.* was for expenses.

28,778. Now, was that 7*l.* for your own expenses or for money which you had paid out of pocket?—It was money I had paid out of pocket for the meetings at the public houses.

28,779. That was your own expenditure?—My own expenditure.

28,780. Was that all that you received from anybody?—That was all I received from anybody.

28,781. Now then we get back to the Doulton election. Were you at work then?—I was.

28,782. Be kind enough to tell me, who did you vote for at that election?—Mr. Doulton.

28,783. Were you at work for him, you know I mean by that canvassing?—Yes, I was.

28,784. For some time?—No, for a very short time.

28,785. Were you paid so much a week, or paid in a lump then?—I was paid 3*l.* for something like a fortnight's services as a canvasser.

28,786. And was that all you were paid?—That is all I were paid.

28,787. All you were paid at all, either out of pocket or for services?—That was all the money I received.

28,788. Who paid it?—Mr. Truman, I believe.

28,789. I don't want to go farther back than that. So that you see you were paid in the first election 3*l.*, you were paid in that other election, the next election in 1858, 13*l.*, you received in 1863 20*l.*, (not all for yourself, you know), but then when we come to 1865, when you appear to have been quite as active as at any other election, you say you received nothing. Do you still say you received nothing?—Yes, I do.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And that you paid another man half-a-crown out of your own pocket.

28,790. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That you were in fact 17*s.* 6*d.* out of pocket?—I do say so, on my oath.

28,791. What do you say?—That I paid that amount.

28,792. And that you were that out of pocket?—And that I was that out of pocket, and received no remuneration for it or promise for it.

28,793. Or value; value received?—Nor value received; not one single item.

28,794. Do you reckon anything struck off against your value received?—I have had nothing struck off.

28,795. But do not you call it so?—I should call it so, certainly.

28,796. I only want us to understand each other?—I should understand that perfectly well, sir.

28,797. And in that sense you have had no value received?—I have had no value. I received a letter from Mr. Nichols some few days previous, to say that I might be expected up here to be called.

28,798. Have you got it in your pocket?—Yes.

28,799. Have you seen Mr. Nichols since you have been in the town?—I saw him in his yard driving in his pony cart as I came up. (*The letter was handed to the Commissioners.*)

28,800. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that written before the election?—No, this is just a few days ago, telling me that I might be called up on this occasion. It is only just the letter that he sent down to me that I might be called on.

28,801. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) So far as that is concerned it is a very proper letter. He advises you to tell all you know and you have nothing to fear if you speak the truth. That is what we want you to do; to speak the truth. I do not want to know the amounts, but how many creditors have you in Reigate; some half a dozen? I do not want to know particularly?—That is just about it. About half a dozen.

28,802. Have you had any request from either of them for payment, excepting that from the landlord?—No more than I have been in contact with parties in Reigate since I have been away, that is to say, since I

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have been living in Brighton, they have asked me as soon as convenient if I would send a portion of the amount. That is all. I have received no communication by letter, only this.

28,803. Have you your summons in your pocket?—I have.

20,804. Please let me see it. (*The summons was handed in*). Have you got that letter again that you had from Mr. Nichols? (*The letter was produced.*)

28,805. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you work at all with Corderoy in 1865? Did you go with him?—I was with him, but not working, the latter part, towards the evening.

28,806. Not working. You did not go to any voter with him?—I did not go to any voter.

28,807. Were you sent to any voter by Mr. Nichols?—I was not.

28,808. In 1865?—No.

28,809. Then, in fact, you did nothing in 1865?—I did nothing when I came up here. I merely went to see the party living at Brighton and asked him to come up with me. That is the party I saw.

28,810. Did you take your friend to Mr. Nichols?—I took him to the committee room.

28,811. To the "Grapes"?—To the "White Hart."

28,812. Did you see Mr. Nichols and report to him that you had brought this man up?—Yes.

28,813. Do not you know what took place between Mr. Nichols and him?—I do not.

28,814. Did you ever hear from your friend what took place?—I heard he voted for Gower.

28,815. That was very ungracious, that you should pay this gentleman's railway fare and then he should vote against you?—Rather so.

28,816. Who was it got hold of him?—I heard that he did receive something; he did not tell me who it was paid him, or what.

28,817. That was Mr. West?—Yes.

28,818. You heard that he got something?—Yes, that is all; he did not tell me who it was or what it was that was paid him.

28,819. Did not you ask him for the half-crown?—I did not.

28,820. Did you pay his fare back again?—No; I did not see him from that time until about two or three months afterwards.

28,821. Did you never hear from West who it was that got him over to the Gower side?—I never did.

28,822. What time of the evening or day did you arrive here?—On the polling morning about half-past 7. We came by the first train.

28,823. Did you take your friend West down to the committee room yourself?—I did so.

28,824. From the railway?—Yes.

28,825. Where did you lose sight of him?—Just near the "Crown."

28,826. Whose house is that?—Mr. Bonny's.

28,827. Was that after 8 o'clock?—Oh yes, I suppose between 9 and 10.

28,828. Why did you not see him safe to the poll?—Well, there is a difficulty sometimes in getting some people to the poll, when there is so much confusion.

28,829. You lost him at Bonny's?—Yes.

28,830. Where is West now?—I cannot tell you, I believe he is somewhere in the parish.

28,831. In this parish?—Yes, in this parish; but as I am living at Brighton I cannot tell.

28,832. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you receive your summons?—I received the summons yesterday.

28,833. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) After Mr. Nichols' letter?—Yes, after Mr. Nichols' letter.

28,834. You received your summons yesterday, and you had that letter from Mr. Nichols on the 5th?—Yes.

28,835. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Well, you know, according to your account, nothing at all occurred between you and Mr. Nichols that would justify us in bringing you before us?—With the exception of this that I received.

28,836. Don't you think it queer for Mr. Nichols to write to you? Let us see what you did; you not only brought West up and expended 15*s.*, but advanced on Mr. Monson's account a half-crown?—Yes, I did so.

28,837. Don't you think it was singular for Mr. Nichols to write such a letter to you, a man who was advancing money for Mr. Monson; to think you would be brought before the Commissioner? How do you account for it?—Well, I account for it in this way; his knowing very well that I had been, of course, mixed up in elections, not only from the time of Mr. Doulton, but previous to that, from the time that Cox contested against ———.

28,838. Oh! we are not going to inquire into that?—I cannot account for it in any other way than that I had been mixed up in electioneering matters.

28,839. You had been mixed up in elections and received money for all except the last?—Yes.

28,840. You always voted against the Monson party till the last time?—I did so.

28,841. Will you tell me, because I want to know. I can hardly believe you as a credible man. Can you tell me why you advanced the half crown on Mr. Monson's behalf? It is the same as if you had met him in the street, and said "Sir, I understand you are in "want of money; will you be kind enough to accept "half-a-crown from me." That is what it is, you know?—I can tell you no more than I have.

28,842. Can you give me any reason?—No, I cannot. I have told you in plain terms. I answered the question. I tell you Mr. Nichols was a friend of mine. I have answered you in that way. I tell you I received no money, and therefore——

28,843. Mr. Nichols was a friend of yours in 1863, and you received money then for your services?—He is a friend now.

28,844. The friendship did not prevent your receiving the money?—I have not received any.

28,845. Attend. You were a friend in 1863; Mr. Nichols was a friend of yours then, and yet you received money?—Exactly so.

28,846. Then there is nothing in your friendship to prevent you receiving the money. You were a frend of Mr. Nichols', I suppose, in 1858, when you voted against his party?—Yes.

28,847. I want to know the value of his friendship. Will you tell me what acts of friendship Mr. Nichols did to you between 1863 and 1866?—I can tell you no more than I have stated before.

28,848. What acts of friendship did he do for you?—I can tell you no more. The question has been asked what I done in that election.

28,849. I will have it?—So you may.

28,850. How long before the election of 1865 did you see Mr. Nichols before you had the letter from him?—Oh! I came to Reigate on two or three occasions.

28,851. How late before the election?—Well, it might be some six or seven months, perhaps; I cannot say exactly.

28,852. How long had you seen Nichols before then?—That is the very thing I was speaking upon.

28,853. Some months?—Yes.

28,854. You had only left in May; your recollection fails you?—I may make a little mistake.

28,855. You told me you left in May?—Last May twelvemonth.

28,856. That would be only two months before the election was. Come, how long was it before the election that you saw Mr. Nichols?—If it was only two months I never saw Mr. Nichols from the time I left Brighton till the time I came up to the poll.

29,857. That is not an answer to my question. It was known at that time, you know, in May?—Well, I might have seen Mr. Nichols and been in his house on several occasions.

28,858. It was known at that time that there was an election pending?—Exactly.

28,859. Before you left?—Yes, before I left.

28,860. How did Mr. Nichols obtain your address in Brighton?—I sent him my address.

28,861. When?—Or, at least, I won't be certain whether I sent it to Mr. Nichols, or whether I sent it to a friend of mine. It might be to Mr. Jordan; it might be to Mr. Corderoy.

28,862. To whom did you send your address?—I won't be certain to whom I directed, but it was either to Mr. Nichols, Mr. Corderoy, or Mr. Jordan.

28,863. We know something about them all?—Yes.

28,864. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are they all friends of yours?—Yes.

28,865. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you send your address to them? Did you write to them?—Yes.

28,866. What did you say? At that time I suppose you had not canvassed for anybody?—In a friendly manner.

28,867. Of course, but you had not canvassed for anybody then?—I had not.

28,868. And you had received at a former election 13*l.* from the Gower party?—Yes.

28,869. Now I ask you, did you write to Mr. Nichols or not?—I do not recollect, I tell you, which, whether it was to Corderoy, or Jordan, or Mr. Nichols; it was to one of the three I should write.

28,870. Did you receive any answer from Corderoy?—I did not.

28,871. Did you receive any answer from Jordan?—Yes, I did.

28,872. I suppose you have not got it here?—I have not.

28,873. Did he canvass you on behalf of Mr. Monson?—He did not.

28,874. Jordan was a Monsonite?—Yes.

28,875. We know these men. He wrote to you; did not he ask you to go for Monson?—No.

28,876. Did not he write about the election?—He did not write to me about the election; he wrote to me as a friend, and I replied to it.

28,877. How long before the election?—I cannot tell you exactly the time I received the letter from him.

28,878. I will test it presently. Have you written to him since the election of 1865 as a friend?—I might.

28,879. But have you?—I will tell you in this way, that I might have written to him, because I have written several letters, but I have written nothing concerning the election.

28,880. Have you written to him as a friend since 1865?—Since 1865? I have.

28,881. When?—I cannot tell you exactly, but I have written.

28,882. On either occasion was it the subject of the election?—No, not on either occasion.

28,883. And have you written to Corderoy on the subject of the election?—It is very probable I might have written to him since the election, but not on that subject.

28,884. And have you written to Mr. Nichols since the election?—I have written to Mr. Nichols; let me see, since the election.

28,885. You were less than two months away?—No, I have not written to Mr. Nichols since the election.

28,886. Now I ask you again, had not any money been advanced to you as a loan by Mr. Nichols before you left?—No.

28,887. Was any money advanced to you by Mr. Nichols between 1863 and 1865?—Between 1863 and 1865? None whatever.

28,888. Now, be cautious; no money advanced by Mr. Nichols to you or on your behalf?—Between 1863 and 1865, none that I am aware of.

28,889. Eh?—None that I am aware of.

28,890. Was there anything before 1863 advanced by Mr. Nichols on your behalf?—Between 1863 and 1865?

28,891. Before 1863?—I cannot say. Mr. Nichols has been a friend of mine.

28,892. Now, come, come. Any monies advanced by Mr. Nichols on your behalf? I don't want to go into particulars unless you compel me to go into them?—I cannot help that. I tell you as well as I know.

28,893. Is Mr. Nichols an officer of the county court?—Yes.

28,894. Upon your oath, don't you know that there was a judgment out against you in Mr. Nichols' hands?—No, I do not know that a judgment was in Mr. Nichols' hands.

28,895. Did not you hear that there was a judgment out against you?—I won't be certain; it might have been spoken.

28,896. Spoken?—I say that I don't know.

28,897. Did not you hear there was a judgment of the county court out against you?—I heard there was to be one; I did not hear there was one.

28,898. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you ever been summoned to the county court for any debt (you must recollect that), and you did not appear, and judgment went against you?—(*After considering*) Well, I cannot recollect. If you will refer to the circumstance, I will——

28,899. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) No, no, upon your oath, did not you hear there was a judgment out against you from the county court?—(*After again considering*) Well, I tell you candidly, gentlemen, that I do not recollect having a county court summons.

28,900. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) A summons would be the first document that you would get; you would first be served with a summons?—Yes.

28,901. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did not you hear there was a judgment out against you in the county court?—No, I never heard it.

28,902. What did you mean by saying there was a report?—I say, if there was a report I did not hear it.

28,903. Oh, it never came to your ears?—I had been threatened.

28,904. By whom?—With a county court summons by a party of the name of Clement, a butcher.

28,905. For how much?—I do not know.

28,906. About?—Somewhere about 16*l.*

28,907. Have you paid that?—I have not.

28,908. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Previous to 1865?—Yes, before that.

28,909. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Have you ever satisfied Mr. Clement, the butcher?—I have not. I have never been in a position to do it.

28,910. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he take out a county court summons?—I do not know.

28,911. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are in a most enviable position; paying money away for Mr. Monson. You never satisfied Mr. Clement. When did you hear last from him about the debt?—I do not know; but I heard some time previous to that.

28,912. You never heard from him since the election of 1865. I venture to say he never applied to you for the debt?—No, he has not.

28,913. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long before the election of 1865 did Mr. Clement threaten you with a county court summons?—I do not exactly know the time. It might be some few months previous to the election.

28,914. Not very long?—No.

28,915. Before the election?—Yes, some few months before the election. I cannot say for certain.

28,916. Is Mr. Nichols the summoning officer of the county court?—I believe he is.

28,917. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where does Mr. Clement live?—I cannot say.

28,918. You know where your butcher lived?—I have been away 18 months.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

W. Spence.

11 Sept. 1866.

28,919. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where did he live then?—At Mead-vale, if that is the question you ask me.

28,920. Is he there now?—I do not know.

28,921. Don't you know where he lives?—I do not.

28,922. Do you know that he lives at Nutfield?—I do not.

28,923. Where was he when he threatened you with a county court summons; was he living at Reigate?—At Mead-vale.

28,924. Do you know when he left Mead-vale?—I do not.

28,925. Was it before the election?—I cannot call to mind the time when he left.

28,926. Did he write to you to threaten a county court summons?—He sent one of his men to me.

28,927. What, all the way to Brighton?—No, previous to my leaving. I have heard nothing of him since.

28,928. Had he left his place before?—He had left his business.

28,929. Before he sent the county court summons?—Yes, I believe it was about the time.

28,930. And since that threatening of the county court summons you have heard no more about it?—I have not.

28,931. Don't you think that very strange? Can you account for it?—I can only account for it in this way, that a great many people knew my position, that I had not the means of paying the money, and therefore they could not take the money if I had not got it.

28,932. You had the means of laying out 17*s.* 6*d.* in 1865, paying your friend's fare who voted against you?—17*s.* 6*d.* would not pay 16*l.*

28,933. But if you could not afford to pay debts you could not afford to pay money out of your own pocket, out of your own earnings.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) No, he only paid 7*s.* 6*d.*

28,934. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You lost your two days' work, and you paid 7*s.* 6*d.*?—The fact was, I considered, as Mr. Nichols was a friend of mine, I was indebted to him in a sense of the word.

28,935. Did not Mr. Nichols continue his friendship and arrange with Mr. Clement with regard to that county court summons?—Oh, I cannot answer; not to my knowledge.

28,936. Has it been hinted to you?—No.

28,937. Suggested to you in any way?—Never.

28,938. What answer did you give to Mr. Clement when he said he would send you a county court summons?—I told him I was not in a position to pay the money. That was the word I sent back.

28,939. That was the whole 16*l.* or 17*l.* at once?—I was not in a position to pay the money.

28,940. But a man who has a county court judgment is much safer than merely relying upon your word?—I said I would pay when I was in a position to do so; but, unfortunately, I have not been in a position. I have hardly been able to get my own living.

28,941. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that your explanation, that you thought Mr. Clement was satisfied with your promise to pay rather than take out the summons?—I tell you I had no knowledge of any settlement with any of the parties, not with Clement. I received no information, and I had no reason to presume that anything of the sort had occurred.

28,942. Did you mention to Mr. Nichols when you came up that you had been threatened with a county court summons?—No.

28,943. Were you never summoned? Did not Mr. Clement actually take out a summons?—I do not know.

28,944. Don't you know that it was promised to be paid by instalments?—No; on my oath I never did. You asked me to speak the truth, and you have it to the best of my ability. If I make a mistake it is not wilfully.

28,945. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you pay Mr. Nichols his loan, when he was kind to you actually in money?—It was a bond for me from the loan society.

28,946. He paid the bond?—He was answerable for the amount.

28,947. You failed in payment, and he paid for you?—He paid for me.

28,948. Have you repaid to him the whole of that bond?—No, I have not.

28,949. You have not? What was the amount of that bond?—I think there was a deficiency of something like 2*l.* or 3*l.* that was to be made up.

28,950. Then what did Mr. Nichols pay for you?—Well, I do not know exactly what the amount was, because I had been at work afterwards for Mr. Nichols.

28,951. What was the amount of the loan in the first instance?—Something like 10*l.* or 12*l.*

21,952. Had you paid anything off that 10*l.* or 12*l.*?—Yes, I had.

28,953. How much did you pay?—I paid it up nearly to about 3*l.* I paid by instalments.

28,954. What did Mr. Nichols pay for you off that bond; how much?—Well, what I say was left. I think about 3*l.* I won't be certain exactly what the amount was.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And costs, I suppose. 3*l.* and costs.

28,955. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I understood you to say, in a previous part of your examination, that you had paid Mr. Nichols all that you owed him?—That was previous; money that was lent to me.

28,956. Then is this upon a second transaction?—That was another transaction—a second transaction. I did not consider that money lent by Mr. Nichols.

28,957. Perhaps you did not consider that a kindness?—I did so.

28,958. Now then, with the greater kindness, what money did Mr. Nichols lend you?—I think it was something like 20*l.*

28,959. Did you pay him off the whole of that?—Yes, I think I did.

28,960. At intervals?—Yes.

28,961. Without any county court summons?—Without any county court summons.

28,962. Was there any election pending whilst that money was owing?—No.

28,963. You paid it before any election?—I paid it before any election.

28,964. When was it that Mr. Nichols consented to be surety for you for 10*l.*? What was the date of that bond?—I cannot tell you.

28,965. What year was it, 1862?—I won't be positive whether it was 1862 or 1863. Mr. Buckland would be able to give you the information you require.

28,966. Mr. Buckland was the secretary, I suppose?—Yes. He will tell you.

28,967. I would rather take it from you?—I cannot tell you; that is why I refer you to him.

28,968. Was it before the election of 1863?—I cannot say.

28,969. Was it after?—I cannot say; I cannot recollect. If you will refer to Mr. Buckland——

28,970. He is not before us?—Then I cannot tell you, or I would do so with pleasure.

28,971. Then that 3*l.* is still owing to Mr. Nichols?—Still owing to Mr. Nichols.

28,972. Upon that bond?—Upon that bond.

28,973. How long has it been owing?—Well, it has now been owing something, perhaps, over two years; I cannot say exactly.

28,974. Has he ever asked you for it?—Well, he has just told me that I could pay it when I was in a position to do so. He knew my situation; he knew that I was not in a situation to pay it, and therefore it would be useless for him to ask me to pay him the money.

28,975. Do you think he ever expects it after your voting at the last election?—Yes; if he does not expect to be paid it, I expect to pay him.

28,976. Was anything said about that?—Not a word.

28,977. Eh?—Nothing.

28,978. Has he ever said one single word to you about that 2*l.* or 3*l.*?—When I left Reigate he told me the amount that he was bond for. I went to him and told him I was not in a position to pay it, and asked him to be kind enough to settle it for me.

28,979. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Recollect, you told me you did not see him afterwards?—That was before I left Reigate.

28,980. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you were at the shop?—About the time of my leaving.

28,981. You say you expect to pay it. You have not been asked for it for two years?—No, I have not been asked for it. It is no use a man's asking if he knew, at least he could very soon ascertain, that he could not receive it, not in money. He could take my body, and that is all that he could do.

28,982. I suppose that kindness had a little effect on you in coming up from Brighton?—Well, it did in a certain sense.

28,983. Perhaps you thought that one good turn deserved another?—Exactly; I did think so.

28,984. And that good turn might be construed into meaning that Mr. Nichols probably would not ask you for the 2*l.*?—I never understood anything.

28,985. But that would be a very probable result?—I had no idea of it myself.

28,986. And I suppose as soon as Mr. Nichols was to ask you for the 2*l.* you would bring up that 17*s.* 6*d.* against him?—It is very probable I might.

28,987. So you mutually kept the thing silent between you?—The fact is, it is very true as you say, "silent," but I have never had any communication on the subject of electioneering matters.

28,988. Silence very often gives consent. Don't you think it is very much like consent between you that that 2*l.* is not to be asked for by Mr. Nichols from you?—No, nothing of the sort; because I am still indebted to him, and he can sue me for the amount.

28,989. I very much suspect it is so?—You asked me to tell the truth.

28,990. And we have been a very long while getting it out?—Well, I tell you to the best of my knowledge.

28,991. It has taken us very nearly two hours to get it out?—As you have asked me the questions I have been ready to answer them as well as my abilities would allow me.

28,992. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I only want to ask you one single question. Do you recollect the story which you have just told my friend here about Mr. Clement the butcher?—Yes.

28,993. Do you recollect when I asked you whether you had received money's worth you said "No;" and you told me that in "money's worth" you included any demand against a man struck off. You know you said that was money's worth?—I was not aware that anything was struck off, I assure you.

28,994. Do you recollect telling me when you explained what you meant by money's worth, do you recollect declaring, "I have not received money's "worth"?—No more I have not; nothing to do with the election. It was a private affair my being indebted to Mr. Clement.

28,995. Of course it was; it was long before the election?—Exactly so. Then I say I have no knowledge of any settlement of that question.

FREDERICK FULLBROOK sworn and examined. *F. Fullbrook*

28,996. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

28,997. For whom?—Mr. Monson.

28,998. What are you?—A hawker.

28,999. A travelling hawker?—Yes.

29,000. What rent do you pay for your house?—I did not pay any at all at the time of the election.

29,001. What house do you occupy?—I was living at the toll-house over the other side of Earlswood common.

29,002. How came you on the register?—Because I lived at a house at Castlefield before I went there.

29,003. You had removed?—I had left my residence.

29,004. What residence were you on the register for?—For part of a house; not a whole one.

29,005. What rent do you pay?—2*s.* 6*d.* a week.

29,006. You paid 2*s.* 6*d.* a week. Did any one live in the house?—No, there are four cottages all together.

29,007. You are in a separate part of the house?—No, the two front rooms.

29,008. Were there others living in the same house?—Yes, the house was occupied.

29,009. All of them had the use of the front door?—Yes.

29,010. Then you had not even that qualification when you voted?—No.

29,011. How long had you left before the election?—February. I cannot say exactly what day of the month it was that I did leave, but I know it was in the month of February.

29,012. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Whatever you had was left in February?—Yes.

29,013. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How came you to vote for Mr. Monson?—I did not particularly trouble myself for whom I did vote.

29,014. Who canvassed you?—I had ever so many come to me.

29,015. Before we go to the Monson party we will inquire about the Gower party. Did anyone canvass you on the Gower side?—Mr. Gower himself.

29,016. I assume he did not offer you anything?—No.

29,017. Did anybody offer you anything on the Gower side?—They offered me my wages for what I worked for.

29,018. Who was it offered you your wages, and what were you to do for your wages?—I was to run messages when I was wanted.

29,019. Who asked you to do that?—Job Apted.

29,020. Were you to go on the committee?—My name was put on the committee; because Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower asked me whether I would like to be on, and I told them I should not mind being put on.

29,021. Were you offered anything else by the Gower party?—No.

29,022. Were you offered anything by Mr. Monson's party?—Only for work.

29,023. Do you remember William Henry Goss calling upon you?—I do, on the polling morning.

29,024. Did he offer you something for your vote?—No.

29,025. He told you something?—No.

29,026. You got paid?—Not by him.

29,027. Who paid you?—One of the party.

29,028. Who paid you?—I was not paid anything at all only for my labour by both parties.

29,029. What were you paid for your labour?—5*s.* a day. It came to 5*l.* on the Monson side.

29,030. What on Mr. Gower's side?—10*s.* for three day's work, that was agreed; but he did not pay me one 10*s.*, and that was the reason that I turned the lot up, because I thought it was no good working for nothing. I received 10*s.*, 1*l.*, and 3*l.* 10*s.* from James Apted according as I wanted to draw it.

29,031. What did James Apted give you?—5*l.* in all for my work.

29,032. Did you do anything for this 5*l.*?—Yes, I neglected my own business and ran about.

29,033. Anything more?—Oh, yes, a great deal; I was running about, and I drank a little.

29,034. You did not get drink for running about?—I had to take a drop at times.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

F. Fullbrook.

11 Sept. 1866.

29,035. You canvassed on the committee ?—No, I never went near them.

29,036. Were did you get your customary drink ?—At different houses ; at different places. Some at Woodhatch, and at several other places.

29,037. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How did you divide yourself between the two, did you work in the morning for one and in the evening for the other ?—No, I beg your pardon, I went as I tell you, only for three days for the Gower party and got paid for the two days. I drew the 10*s.* after I worked the two days, for the two days work, which I spent that very night along with some friends, then I went the third night after some more money and he could not pay me, and then I went and worked for the other party.

29,038. You discharged the party ?—Yes, I did, I could not work unless I had my money.

29,039. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Of course the money you received was to go with your vote ?—I never made any agreement about my vote. I made an agreement that I was to work for them, but I never made an agreement about my vote.

29,040. When Mr. Goss came and canvassed you you told him you had had 5*l.* ?—No, I did not, because I had only had 30*s.* then.

29,041. Were you living on what is called the Common ?—On Earlswood-common, Southall-street is the proper name of it.

29,042. You had some neighbours there ?—There were a few little houses, that is all.

29,043. Do you know a person named Nash ?—Yes.

29,044. And a person named Steel, now dead ?—Yes.

29,045. And Mr. Benjamin Brown ?—Yes.

29,046. You were all a little lot together, getting 5*l.* a piece, were you not ?—Not that I am aware of.

29,047. Did you not mention that to Goss ?—Not that I am aware of. There were some of them got 5*l.*, but I had nothing to do with them. I was here at Reigate at work for my money and they were at home.

29,048. You heard they got 5*l.* ?—I heard they got 5*l.* ; but Benjamin Brown I believe, told me that he did not get anything.

29,049. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where is Nash now ?—I cannot say, but he did live down there close to where Benjamin Brown lived.

29,050. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you canvassed at that place by Jim Apted ?—Down at Brand's the beer shop, and Jim Apted came after me with a horse and cart on the polling morning and I went as far as the town with them.

29,051. You got the promise of 5*l.* before the poll morning ?—I never had a promise of 5*l.*

29,052. You got it ?—I got it by working for it, but I did not have the 5*l.* altogether. I had it as I wanted it, 10*s.*, 1*l.*, then 3*l.* 10*s.* I left to the polling day when I started, and would not come away till I could have it before I voted. I would not have come away before I received my wages, I would have stopped there altogether if they had not brought it me.

29,053. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is it William Nash ?—I cannot say whether it is William or George.

29,054. Earlswood ?—Yes, close to where Benjamin Brown lives, it is only 50 yards apart from where he lives.

29,055. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When Mr. Gower canvassed you and asked you for the favor of having your name on the committee, I suppose you promised to vote for Mr. Gower ?—I never said anything about voting ; I told him I did not know.

29,056. But you promised to vote ; you would not allow your name to be put on the committee without that ?—I did not promise my vote at all. I told them they might put my name on the committee if they thought proper.

29,057. That is a kind of promise ?—Putting my name on the committee was not telling them I should vote for them.

29,058. They would take that as a kind of promise ?—So they might, but I did not mean it.

29,059. You are a very deep man, but we should all understand that you would mean by that you would vote that way ?—No, I would have voted for him as well as for Mr. Monson, it did not make any difference to me so long as they paid me for the work. They are both Liberals, so they call themselves, so I do not consider it made any difference.

29,060. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You intended to vote for the most money ?—For the man by whom I could get best paid for my labour.

29,061. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien,*) How long had you been at work for Mr. Monson ?—I cannot say exactly, it might be three weeks or a month or not not quite three weeks, but it was somewhere about three weeks ; between three and four weeks.

The witness withdrew.

E. Manning.

EDWARD MANNING sworn and examined.

29,062. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A carpenter.

29,063. What rent do you pay for the house you are in ?—At the time of the election, in fact, I did not rent any house, I had left, I cannot remember how many months. 13*l.* 10*s.* was the rent of the house I got my vote from.

29,064. For the house for which you had had the vote ?—Yes.

29,065. Had you left a year or so ?—I daresay I had, perhaps not quite so much, it was about January and the election took place in June, I think.

29,066. You voted for Mr. Monson ?—No, for Mr. Gower.

29,067. Who canvassed you ?—I saw Mr. Gower once, he met me in the street once.

29,068. I do not mean Mr. Gower ; you were on Mr. Gower's committee were you not ?—No, I was not.

29,069. You worked for him ?—No.

29,070. You said you voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes, Stoneman was the man.

29,071. How long before the polling day were you put on his committee ?—I am not aware I was on the committee at all ; it was about two or three days.

29,072. What did Stoneman give you ?—He gave me nothing.

29,073. What did he promise you ?—He promised me no amount.

29,074. He said you should be paid ?—He said we shall be all right, are you satisfied.

29,075. Which of course you took to be that you would be paid for your trouble ?—Certainly.

29,076. Did you receive anything at all ?—Yes, I did.

29,077. How much ?—Not from the Gower side ; from the Monson side 1*l.* 10*s.*

29,078. Who paid you on the part of the Monson party ?—Joseph Kenward.

29,079. How was that ?—How came he to pay me.

29,080. Yes ?—I do not know how he came to pay me.

29,081. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you paid before or after the voting ?—Some time before voting.

29,082. How long before the polling day did he pay you ?—I should think three weeks.

29,083. He was to pay you 10*s.* a week, was he not ?—There was no arrangement come to at all.

29,084. That is what you understood ?—That is what several were receiving. I received one of them.

29,085. Was it for one week ?—For one week.

29,086. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you

apply to him for more than one week?—No, I did not.

29,087. How was it you neglected your application?—I was not here; I was in Sussex at the time the next Saturday.

29,088. How was it you changed your mind and voted for Mr. Gower instead of Mr. Monson?—I do not know how it was I changed my mind.

29,089. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had better tell us?— I cannot exactly tell you. I did not intend to vote for Mr. Monson, that was the meaning of it. Kenward neither asked me if I would give my vote or anything of the kind. He said, "Are you "going?" and gave me the money at night. I perfectly well understood it.

29,090. What did you understand?—He meant me to vote for him.

29,091. You received the 30*s.* and left him under that impression?—Yes, he thought I intended to vote for him.

29,092. (*Mr. Commissioner OBrien.*) You never intended, from the beginning, to vote for Mr. Monson?—I promised Mr. Gower that I would not vote against him.

29,093. Before you made the arrangement with Kenward?—I never made any arrangement with Kenward.

29,094. How soon before the polling day did Stoneman speak to you?—About three or four days.

29,095. And he told you it would be all right?—Yes, all right.

29,096. You had heard that money was going on the Gower side?—I heard that promises were made.

29,097. And that money was going, and you expected to be paid?—Yes.

29,098. How much did you expect, 5*l.*?—I was not promised anything, but I thought it might run to 3*l.* or 4*l.*

29,099. You did not get anything?—I did not.

29,100. To whom did you apply?—To no one, of course. I was left on Stoneman's hands.

29,101. Did you not apply to Stoneman?—I asked him several times in the street.

29,102. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did he say?—He said he had heard nothing about it at all; that he had applied to parties and had heard nothing about it.

29,103. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) To whom did he say he had applied?—I think he said he had applied to Mr. Smith.

29,104. And that he could not get any money for you?—He said he had got no money for me.

29,105. Was this the first time you had voted?—Yes.

29,106. Had you not voted in 1863?—No.

RICHARD PEAT sworn and examined.

29,107. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

29,108. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you voted at the election?—I did not pay any rent.

29,109. How was it then? Was yours a freehold?—Yes.

29,110. Are you still a voter?—Yes.

29,111. Is the value of your house 10*l.*?—Yes, or more.

29,112. You took rather an active part in the election?—Unfortunately I did.

29,113. Towards the latter part of it, not so much in the early part of it?—I took part in it all the way through, but a more prominent part towards the latter end.

29,114. You were on Mr. Monson's committee?—I was.

29,115. You attended at some particular committee meeting?—I attended at the "White Hart" several times, and once at Langridge's, and I think I attended a meeting once at the "Plough," Redhill, and once behind the park.

29,116. You received money for the purpose of paying some of the voters?—I did.

29,117. Will you be so good as to tell me in the first instance, if you can, how much money for the purpose of paying out you received altogether?—40*l.* or upwards.

29,118. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is not including yourself?—No, not a farthing.

29,119. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I mean for paying out, 40*l.* or upwards; do you think 40*l.* is about as near as you can tell?—It was over 40*l.* I believe.

29,120. 40*l.* is as near as you can tell?—I should think it was between 40*l.* and 45*l.*

29,121. How did you receive it?—I received it in several payments from Mr. Jordan; the time sheet was made out to pay so many men with so much money; the men signed the sheet and I handed it back.

29,122. All the money you received did you receive from him?—I did.

29,123. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You say you had a sheet with the names of the men on it?—I had.

29,124. Which they signed?—Yes.

29,125. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did he give you the names of the men, or did you have them?—He gave me the names and I wrote them from dictation, I believe, generally, or I copied them from those he had.

29,126. The men gave you a receipt on the paper?—The name was simply written on the paper.

29,127. Have you got a copy of it?—I have not, nor the original. I am sorry to say when the money was paid to me by Mr. Hart, through Mr. Nichols, I went home and burnt everything connected with it.

29,128. Did you burn this?—I did. The list is burnt, and so unfortunately I stand in an awkward predicament.

29,129. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you say the men who had these monies signed the paper in the shape of receipt?—Yes.

29,130. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The name was put down, with the amount?—Yes; like a commercial transaction.

29,131. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I am sorry the paper is burnt, because it would be a short way of getting through the names?—So it would.

29,132. I do not know whether you can tell me all the names?—I have put down a list from recollection.

29,133. Do not be in a hurry, but tell me them?—I have here the name of Amos Sarjeant.

29,134. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How much?—Some of the men I did not pay the whole to, they were to receive 5*l.* each.

29,135. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You mean to say, all the men you were to take the names of received 5*l.* each, either from you or from Mr. Jordan?—Yes.

29,136. Where were your payments made? Was it on the night of the polling at the "Plough?"—Yes, that was the clearing up.

29,137. Had you paid men money before you paid it at the "Plough?"—I had paid 15*s.* a week for two weeks before the election.

29,138. You had paid them for two weeks before the election?—Yes; what had been paid before that I do not know; it was represented to me that whatever was coming to these men, it was placed in my hands, and they were to be satisfied. I said, "If that "is the case, and as it is only part, whatever there is "coming to them to be paid by me, they should have "it."

29,139. You were deputed to give the money over

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to these men after they voted?—That was the way it was put to me. The names are Amos Sarjeant, John Lane.

29,140. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They were all paid 5*l.*?—Either by one or the other.

29,141. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were each of these men paid the 3*l.* 10*s.* on the night of the polling?—To the best of my recollection the whole of them were on the night of the polling.

29,142. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) We can put them in one class as men who received 3*l.* 10*s.* from you on the night of the polling; now for the names?—Amos Sarjeant; you have John Lane, James Peat, Henry Child, George Brewer, Joseph Hewett, James Marchant, John Fuller, and William Wood. Altogether there are nine names, I think.

29,143. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Each of those had 3*l.* 10*s.* on the night of the polling?—Yes.

29,144. At the "Plough"?—Yes.

29,145. Had you paid to either of those men that you can recollect, the two weeks wages before?—I had.

29,146. Can you tick off any of those names now? Amos Serjeant; do you think you had paid him the 30*s.* before?—The two 15*s.* would make the 30*s.* I do not know whether I paid him or not, or whether Jordan paid him; I could not say that.

29,147. You cannot speak for certain with respect to these men except with regard to the 3*l.* 10*s.*?—I could not.

29,148. Are there any names you can remember?—James Peat, I paid 15*s.* twice to, and the same to Henry Child.

29,149. Those two you paid the 15*s.* to?—Yes. Joseph Hewett, if not two weeks, I paid him something; and I believe I paid Marchant and Fuller, but I would not be certain. William Wood I paid another 15*s.* to.

29,150. Do you not know from Jordan or from these men that when you had paid them the 3*l.* 10*s.*, they had each received 5*l.*?—I cannot say, but I had every reason to believe they had.

29,151. You know that was the arrangement with Jordan that the money should come up to 5*l.*, and that the 3*l.* 10*s.* was the balance of the 5*l.*?—That is what I understood, though it was not clearly stated.

29,152. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me, if you please, the money you received from Jordan?—Yes.

29,153. Did you ascertain from Jordan who it was had handed over the money to him?—I did not, and I did not see the money paid.

29,154. Besides the money which you paid over to other people, what money did you receive for your own services?—During the election, or at the winding up?

29,155. The whole, if you please?—I think I had nothing for my services while it was going on, or there might be half-a-sovereign or something like that which I received from Mr. Jordan to pay my current expenses.

29,156. After the election was over, did you make any application to Mr. Hart?—I did.

29,157. Did you send any written account to him?—I did. I saw an advertisement in the paper that all claims should be sent, and I merely sent in a note. He sent word back that I was to send in a bill.

29,158. Which you did?—Yes.

29,159. What was the amount of it?—12*l.* 10*s.* was what I put down.

29,160. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For yourself?—That was for myself, and a little I had been out of pocket was included.

29,161. I suppose you promised Mr. Monson?—I promised Mr. Monson; he had called on me in the first instance, during the time of the election.

29,162. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You first of all sent in a claim for 12*l.* 10*s.*; that was altered?—It was cut down to 10*l.*, which I received.

29,163. Was an alteration literally made on the note; the 12*l.* 10*s.* was altered into 10*l.*, or else did you send in a fresh account?—It was altered into 10*l.* I think.

29,164. I only asked, as it looks as if it was altered into 10*l.*?—Yes; that is the bill I sent to the best of of my recollection.

29,165. You are quite welcome to see it?—(*it was handed to witness*). Yes, that is it; it has been altered.

29,166. It looks as if it had been scratched. Now, will you tell me if you received any other money, either for yourself or for the purpose of paying out?—No, I did not.

29,167. Did you receive any other money from any other person besides Mr. Hart?—I did not receive the 10*l.* from Mr. Hart, I received it from Mr. Nichols.

29,168. You sent it in a note, I suppose?—Yes.

29,169. Did Mr. Hart see it first and, put his initials to it?—Most likely he did.

29,170. After you sent it in to him, was it sent to you to take to Mr. Nichols, or did it find its way to Mr. Nichols?—It found its way to Mr. Nichols without my help.

29,171. Did Mr. Hart tell you that Mr. Nichols was to be paymaster?—I do not think he did.

29,172. Please to tell us how you knew you were to receive it from him?—One day I went to see Mr. Hart, and he was not within. I walked across to Mr. Nichols, he told me I was to come over to him. I called more than once at Mr. Hart's.

29,173. Did you find the bill at Nichols's?—Yes.

29,174. I want to see whether the bill did find its way to Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

29,175. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You put the stamp on at Mr. Nichols's?—Yes; and then I received the money.

29,176. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received no more money at that election?—No.

29,177. I suppose you cannot well have forgotten it if you did receive it?—I feel pretty well sure that I did not.

29,178. I am not aware that you have done so. I am not in the least endeavouring to entrap you?—No, no; no more do I wish to withhold anything.

29,179. Tell me about the election of 1863?—There is one matter you have not asked me yet with respect to this election, which I wish to mention, and that is, in the course of canvassing. I spoke to a man about his vote; I held out no promise to him, nor led him to believe that he was going to receive 6*d.* On the afternoon of the polling day, I saw him again and asked him had he voted. He said he had not. I said, "Will you go with me?" and he said he would do so. He never asked me for anything, nor did I promise him, and he went of his own free will.

29,180. Who was that?—Richard Burge. Afterwards when I found there was plenty of money being paid, I thought it was rather a hard thing that he should go off without anything, and I gave him 2*l.* I made no acquaintance with him, and paid him out of my own pocket, and as that may come out in the evidence, I wish to state it now as it may save further trouble.

29,181. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose that really made your bill up to 12*l.*?—Yes, I suppose so, but as I had had a great deal from Mr. Hart, sometimes I got somewhat careless about it.

29,182. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you took in your bill for 12*l.*, did you inform him that was 10*l.* for your services and 2*l.* out of your own pocket?—No; I put it down in one lump.

29,183. Then when they objected to the 12*l.*, you struck it off?—Yes; I did not make any bother about it.

29,184. Where did Burge live?—In Bridge-road, Redhill.

29,185. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I daresay in 1863, you took some part in the election?—Not much.

29,186. You were on the committee?—I was on Mr. Gower's committee.

29,187. Did you vote for him?—I did. I was canvassed by Mr. Gower and Mr. Nichols, and I was asked by Mr. Nichols if I would go on the committee.

29,188. Did you canvass for him after you had been canvassed?—Yes; of course I was not a professional canvasser, I did it as I had time.

29,189. Did any money pass through your hands in 1863?—No.

29,190. Did you give your services to him for many weeks, and attended several meetings?—For many weeks I attended several meetings at the "White Hart," and I went through the list in the usual way of business.

29,191. What did you receive on that occasion?—3*l.* from Mr. James Nichols two or three weeks after the election was over.

29,192. No more?—No, and I gave him no account.

29,193. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You sent in no account?—No, none whatever.

29,194. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now, we will go back a bit further yet to the previous election, the general election between Mr. Wilkinson and the Hon. Mr. Monson?—I was not on the register.

29,195. Had you not been on the register at all?—I had not.

29,196. Was 1863 the first time?—Yes, of my election experience, and I hope this will be my last.

29,197. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you at the "White Hart" after the triumphal return of Mr. Gower in 1863?—I was.

29,198. You celebrated the return?—Well, I celebrated it with a plate of cold beef, or something of that sort.

29,199. Were you not there the night after when there was a great deal of shouting, and drinking, and speechifying?—No.

29,200. You were not there on the night of the triumph?—I was there in the course of the evening, but not when there was any speechifying.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES WOODMAN recalled and examined.

J. Woodman.

29,201. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were examined here this morning?—Yes.

29,202. You have been thinking about the case since, that I daresay something has occurred to your mind; has anything occurred to your recollection which did not when you were questioned before?—No, not that I know of.

29,203. I am asking you about your recollection; we have had another gentleman up here, and I pray you to call upon your recollection?—I have got no recollection of anything more than I told you this morning.

29,204. Tell me whether you were canvassed at all on the Gower side?—No, I was not.

29,205. Do you know a man named Pelling?—Yes, Peter Pelling.

29,206. I ask you, did he not canvass you on the part of Mr. Gower?—No, he came and tried me, but he never canvassed me.

29,207. That is what I asked you?—He asked me.

29,208. But that is canvassing?—He did not canvass me.

28,209. Do not play with words, you will get the worst of it if you do. He came to you and asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

29,210. That is canvassing?—He came to me of course.

29,211. Did he come to your house?—He came to my house, where I live now.

29,212. I asked you if any one had called. Did he tell you from whom he came?—Yes.

29,213. From whom did he say he came?—By Mr. Durrant's orders.

29,214. You knew Mr. Durrant before that?—Yes.

29,215. You used to have your beer from him?—I used to rent under him.

29,216. And you had your beer from him?—Yes.

29,217. Now, I will ask you this; did you not ask Peter Pelling how much he could give you?—No.

29,218. Now, mind; did you not add, "You know "Pelling this is the last vote I shall have for Reigate, "and I shall vote for the biggest handfull"?—No, I did not.

29,219. Remember, these are men who are now living. Did you not say words to him to that effect, that it was the last time you would have to vote for Reigate, and that you would vote for the biggest handful?—No, I did not; I deny that.

29,220. Who was present?—No one who was near to us that I know of; I was very busy hay-making, and he came and helped me.

29,221. He came and helped you?—He did help me while he was there.

29,222. You had voted for Mr. Gower before, had you not?—Yes.

29,223. At the previous election?—Yes.

29,224. What did you say to Pelling?—I did not give him any answer at all.

29,225. You must have said something, he came from your landlord and brewer, Mr. Durrant?—I did not give him any satisfaction.

29,226. I did not say you did; you must tell us what he said to you; he will be called, and you will be re-called again, if necessary. What did you say to him; you say that he wanted to help you make the hay, how long was he helping you making the hay?—He might be there an hour or two.

29,227. What did you say to him?—I cannot recollect everything I said to him.

29,228. He said that he was sent by Mr. Durrant to you to canvass you on behalf of Mr. Gower; what did you say to him?—I do not recollect exactly what I said.

29,229. Did you not say to him that you knew it would be the last time you would have a vote for Reigate?—Not to my recollection.

29,230. You knew it was the last time you would have a vote?—I was there, because I understand since that I had no business to vote then.

29,231. Did you not say it to him?—I do not know, I cannot recollect.

29,232. You cannot tell me what he said to you, can you recollect what you said to him?—I know I gave him no satisfactory answer.

29,233. Can you tell me what you recollect you said to him?—I cannot give you the words.

29,234. Tell me the substance?—I cannot.

29,235. Have you no recollection?—Very little.

29,236. Give us that little?—He asked me simply about my coming on their side; I said, "Well, I do not know, I have not made up my mind now."

29,237. What did he say?—I do not know; I forget.

29,238. Why should you say to him you had not made up your mind?—I do not know; I had not exactly made up my mind.

29,239. Did you see Mr. Durrant during the polling day?—Not till after the polling was over.

29,240. That is, during the day?—Yes, but not till after polling was over.

29,241. You polled about 2 o'clock? where did you see him?—I know I saw him in the town somewhere; I do not know exactly where.

29,242. Had you any conversation with him?—Most likely I had, something was said, I do not exactly recollect what.

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J. Woodman.

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29,243. Do you recollect what passed between you and Mr. Durrant?—No.

29,244. Do you remember anything you said to him about your vote?—No, I do not recollect it.

29,245. You voted against his party?—Of course I know I did.

29,246. Did you not say to him I have done better Mr. Durrant?—No.

29,247. Come, come, did you not say, "I have "done better than with your side?"—No.

29,248. What did you say?—I did not say that, I know.

29,249. You tell me what you did not say. I want to know what you did say?—I said but very little.

29,250. What was that little?—I do not know, there was nothing said about the election.

29,251. What was that little?—I do not recollect.

29,252. Have you any recollection about it?—There might be a talk to say what a majority there was, what a difference or something like that.

29,253. Did you not say to him, "I have done better than with you?"—I do not recollect that I said any such thing.

29,254. Might you have said it?—I have no recollection at all.

29,255. Might you have said such a thing?—I think not.

29,256. Why?—Because I think I had no reason to say such a thing.

29,257. If you should hear Mr. Durrant depose to it in this box, upon his oath, what would you say?—I would take the man's word.

29,258. Do you not believe that you said something of that kind?—I cannot recollect it.

29,259. Do you not believe that you said something of the kind?—If I did I do not recollect it. I do not and cannot believe it. I do not think the words ever passed out of my mouth.

29,260. You might have said it in joke?—I do not recollect it.

29,261. Your memory is very defective?—It is so, worse luck. I do not want to speak an untruth if I know it.

29,262. Did you see James Apted the evening after you voted?—What evening?

29,263. The evening of the polling?—I do not recollect that I did.

29,264. After you polled?—I think not, I have no recollection of it.

29,265. What time did you leave the town?—I cannot say exactly.

29,266. What time?—I cannot say, I got home before dark, I think. I know after I polled I had two or three drinks with one and the other, and I did not get back to Green's very soon, and of course I did not get away very soon.

29,267. You do not know what time you left Green's?—I do not know, I cannot say. I know that when I got home I had had quite enough to drink.

29,268. Then you might have forgotten what had occurred?—I might have forgotten. I know I was a little the worse for it when I had had a drink at different places.

29,269. Were you the worse for drink before you polled?—I was very well before I polled. I went after and had a drink with one and another, and I recollect seeing Mr. Durrant, but I do not think there was anything of that passed, but I will not say.

29,270. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You knew as a fact that Pelling came by Mr. Durrant's orders?—I understood that he came by Mr. Durrant's orders.

29,271. You recollect enough of the conversation between you and Pelling as to remember that?—I recollect that, of course, for he told me Mr. Durrant sent him.

29,272. Having recollected that, was it not a very likely thing that when you saw Mr. Durrant you should have spoken to him about it?—This was a long time after that, it was polling day.

29,273. Was it not a very natural course for your speaking to Mr. Durrant about Pelling?—I never spoke to Mr. Durrant about Pelling. I do not know that I mentioned the election.

29,274. Was it before or after you polled that you saw Mr. Durrant?—After.

29,275. Was it before or after that you had taken too much?—After polling.

29,276. How soon did you get drunk after polling?—I was not drunk, I had a drink.

29,277. How soon after you had polled did you have a drink?—I had some directly.

29,278. What time in the evening was it that you saw Mr. Durrant?—It was after the polling was over, I believe, but I cannot say.

29,279. Some time after the polling was over?—It might have been 6 o'clock or it might have been 5 o'clock. I cannot say.

29,280. A man, if he makes his mind up to it may take a good deal in an hour?—Of course he can.

29,281. Do you know that your intellect was not so clear that you could recollect what took place between you and Mr. Durrant?—I do not remember. I remember seeing him.

29,282. All this might have taken place without your remembering it?—It might have done so.

29,283. You began drinking directly after you had voted?—I had a drop of drink directly after I came out.

29,284. What time did you poll?—About 2 o'clock, or between 2 and 3 o'clock.

29,285. Then in fact you might have been drinking for two or three hours?—I cannot say.

29,286. You were on the losing side?—Yes.

29,287. Then if you had said to Mr. Durrant that you had done better by going on that side to being on Mr. Gower's side, it could not have been with reference to the success of your candidate?—In what way?

29,288. It could not be with reference to the success of the election of your candidate?—I know I voted on the losing side, and I told you the reason.

29,289. If you did say to Mr. Durrant I have done better by going on the other side, it must have had reference to something else?—I do not recollect it.

29,290. Would it not naturally have reference to money matters?—It might have done so, but I have got no recollection of it.

29,291. Now you say it might have done; why should it have had reference to money matters?—In the way you put it, of course it would, but I do not say it is so.

The witness was ordered to leave the box until Peter Pelling had been examined.

P. Pelling.

PETER PELLING sworn and examined.

29,292. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—I am a baker.

29,293. Here in this town?—On the freehold.

29,294. What is the rent that you pay?—35*l.* a year where I am living now.

29,295. What in '65 at the time of the election?—10*l.* 8*s.*

29,296. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you pay by the week?—By the week; 4*s.* a week.

29,297. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did you vote for?—For Mr. Gower.

29,298. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) On what terms were you for quitting the tenancy? was it a weekly tenancy or for the month?—For the month, I believe. I never had any written agreement.

29,299. What was the understanding between you and your landlord as to your notice to quit?—A month's notice.

29,300. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you take an active part for Mr. Gower?—Well, I do not know.

29,301. You canvassed and all that sort of thing?—Yes.

29,302. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

29,303. Then I will say that you took an active part in the election. You made use of your horse and cart to go about with I believe?—I had no horse and cart.

29,304. You did canvass some people, did you not?—I did canvass two or three people. I asked them.

29,305. That is what I meant by canvassing. Did you ask them to go your side?—Yes.

29,306. Among others, did you know James Woodman?—Yes, I knew James Woodman.

29,307. At the time of the election he was living away from Reigate at a distance of four or five miles, was he not?—Yes.

29,308. Do you recollect calling upon him previous to the election?—Yes.

29,309. There was haymaking going on, was there not?—Yes, there was.

29,310. Did you go out there?—Yes.

29,311. Where was he when you got to the place?—He was out in the meadow.

29,312. I believe you asked him about the election?—Yes, I did. I was sent to do so.

29,313. Was Mr. Durrant the person who sent you?—Yes.

29,314. Tell me as nearly as you can what you said to him. Did you say to him, You will go with us, or anything of the kind?—I went to ask him. I told him I was sent by Mr. Durrant, and if he chose to come and vote for Mr. Gower he should be paid for his time and his expenses.

29,315. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was some distance away was he not?—I do not know exactly, but it is five or six miles.

29,316. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did he say to you in effect?—I do not know the words.

29,317. I do not want the exact words. What sort of things did he say; tell us the substance of it?—He said it would be the last time he should have a vote. He said he would not promise it would be the last time he should have a vote, and he would do what he could.

29,318. Did he say, "as it was" or "this was" the last time he should have a vote?—I do not remember which.

29,319. Do you recollect his saying anything more to that effect, or about that?—No, I do not recollect anything more.

29,320. Do you recollect an expression being used, perhaps you do not, but do you remember his saying that he would try to get the biggest handful?—Well, I suppose that was the meaning.

29,321. So it was, but do you think he used that expression; do you recollect that expression?—I have no recollection that he said the "biggest "handful."

29,322. But that he would do the best he could?—Yes.

29,323. What did you say to that?—I told him it had nothing to do with me; I was sent down with a message, and I delivered the message I was sent with.

29,324. Do you remember telling him, when he said he should do the best he could, that at any rate his expenses would be paid?—Yes, I told him that.

29,325. Do you recollect whether Woodman said anything more than that?—I do not recollect.

29,326. Do you recollect any sum being mentioned by Woodman? Did he ask you at all anything about a sum?—No, I do not remember that he asked me about any sum.

29,327. Do you know whether a sum of 5*l.* was mentioned?—He said, "I suppose it will be about "5*l.*" I said, "I do not know, but I do not suppose "that will be far off the mark."

29,328. Did you then leave him, and was that all so far as you recollect that passed about the election?—I do not recollect anything else.

29,329. Did you stay there a little time?—Yes, about an hour or an hour and a half.

29,330. Then you came away. Was there anything more definite than that?—No more than that when I came away he told me he should see David Durrant himself.

29,331. I want to get it from you rather than to put it in your mouth?—Then you have got it now.

29,332. Did you go to many people to get other votes?—Not a great many.

29,333. Did you succeed in getting any votes?—No, not many; I think I took two names to Mr. Durrant.

29,334. Which two?—One was a person named William Pooley.

29,335. Who else did you get?—William Razzell.

29,336. Where does William Razzell live?—On the freehold.

29,337. Did you offer them 5*l.*?—I told them that they should have from 3*l.* to 4*l.* if they worked for it.

29,338. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you understand from Woodman that he was asking for money?—I thought that was it. I did not know.

29,339. That was what you understood by it?—Yes.

29,340. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive any money at all to pay any people?—No, not to voters; I did not.

29,341. I mean voters, I do not care about other people?—I do not recollect that I did.

29,342. Were you authorized to pay any money out of your own pocket to anybody on the understanding that you were to have it repaid you?—No, I do not remember it.

29,343. Did you pay money out of your own pocket to voters?—No, I do not think that I ever paid a shilling.

29,344. I dare say it is quite correct; but I want you to give me information about what went on. You went to Pooley, and you told him what Durrant had authorized you to tell him?—Yes, I was working with him.

29,345. When you went to Razzell's did you tell him what Durrant had authorized you to tell him?—He never authorized me to tell him anything; he told me to go that way.

29,346. You said you secured these voters?—Yes.

29,347. What did you promise; you made an arrangement with them?—No, I did not, I took them up to Mr. Durrant.

29,348. You introduced them to Mr. Durrant, and he arranged with them?—Yes.

29,349. You were at work with Razzell?—No, with Pooley.

29,350. Did Razzell tell you what the arrangement was with Mr. Durrant?—No.

29,351. Did Mr. Durrant tell you?—No.

29,352. And you did not in fact pay any money out of your own pocket?—Not to my knowledge. I do not remember that I did.

29,353. Mr. Durrant employed you entirely. You had nothing to do with any other committee man?—No, I had not.

29,354. How long before the election did he come to you to secure your help?—Six or seven weeks before, or five or six weeks. I cannot say exactly.

29,355. Before you set to work did he make any arrangement with you?—No.

29,356. Then you did not know what you were to receive?—No.

29,357. When were you paid anything?—I was paid some before the election and some after.

29,358. By Mr. Durrant?—Yes.

29,359. Or did he send any one to you?—No, he gave it me.

29,360. How much before the election?—I do not know how much before the election; but what I had before and after amounted to 3*l.*

29,361. Did that satisfy you; that is to say, had

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you sent in for any more than 3*l.*?—I had not sent in for anything.

29,362. You had not stated that you wanted something more than that?—No.

29,363. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You made no claim then?—No.

29,364. Who paid you?—Mr. Durrant.

29,365. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In '63 had you voted?—I had no vote.

29,366. Was this your first election?—This was my first.

JAMES WOODMAN further examined.

J. Woodman.

29,367. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What time in the day did you come into the town to-day?—A little before 11 or about 11 o'clock.

29,368. Where did you go first?—I went and put my horse up at the "Castle."

29,369. Where did you go next?—I came here.

29,370. Straight from the "Castle"?—Straight from the "Castle," I think.

29,371. Did you speak to anybody in the town before you gave your evidence here to-day?—No, I think not.

29,372. You are quite certain?—I cannot recollect anyone.

29,373. Do not tell me about not recollecting. I am speaking now of what happened to-day?—I do not recollect speaking to anyone.

29,374. If you tell me you do not recollect, I shall say at once that I believe you did speak to somebody. Did you speak to anybody in this hall about your evidence?—Before I came up?

29,375. Yes, we will take it first before you came up. Did you speak to anybody to-day about the evidence you could give before you went into the witness box?—No, I think not.

29,376. Will you swear you did not?—I will not swear.

29,377. Or that anybody spoke to you?—Perhaps you will be so good as to tell me the party.

29,378. I am putting you upon your oath. Who spoke to you?—I do not recollect any one.

29,379. Why did you answer so cautiously, you do not recollect?—Well, I could not answer.

29,380. Will you not swear as to a circumstance which happened this morning. Come now, remember you are speaking before all this Court?—If you will let me consider a few moments.

29,381. You do not want consideration about that?—I do. I do not think I spoke to anyone.

29,382. Do not hold yourself out as such a dull-pated man as that, that you do not recollect what took place this morning?—I do not recollect.

29,383. Will you swear that nobody spoke to you about the evidence you were to give this morning?—No one ever spoke to me about my evidence, I think. I cannot recollect anything about it. When I came from the "Castle," I think I came over straight to these rooms.

29,384. Are you certain?—I cannot recollect speaking to anyone.

29,385. After you had given your evidence did anyone speak to you about it?—Yes.

29,386. Who?—I saw Apted after.

29,387. Which Apted?—James.

29,388. Did you see anybody else?—I saw Green.

29,389. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where did you see Apted?—In the town.

29,390. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it Green of the public house?—Yes. I went there and had some dinner.

29,391. Who did you go with?—By myself.

29,392. Are you certain?—Yes.

29,393. Will you swear you did?—Yes.

29,394. From this Court?—I stood at the door outside and then walked down.

29,395. Who did you talk to at the door?—They were strangers to me. There were two I was talking to outside.

29,396. Did you go out of the Court with those strangers?—I went out by myself, I think.

29,397. How soon did these strangers speak to you?—While I was standing outside.

29,398. Did the strangers speak about your evidence?—They came and talked, and said "Some-"body had a long hearing." I said, "Would you "know the man if you saw him;" and they said, "It was you, I think."

29,399. Did you not have a conversation with them about your evidence?—I do not think so.

29,400. Was it only with James Apted that you had any conversation about your evidence?—I saw him after I left the Court.

29,401. Did you see him before?—No.

29,402. Have you seen him within this last week?—Not till to-day.

29,403. Are you able to swear to that effect?—Yes. I have not seen him, I think, for three weeks. I have not been up to Reigate till to-day.

29,404. Why did you hesitate, and could not recollect whether you had seen anybody before you came into Court?—I could not recollect. I think I came right away from Green's up to the rooms.

29,405. What took place between you and James Apted?—He said, "Why are you up here? I am sur-"prised to see you here; have you been up to have a "hearing?" I said, "Yes, and I have got to go again."

29,406. Anything else?—No, I do not think there was anything else in particular.

29,407. Where did you see Apted?—Close here, against the "Swan" yard.

29,408. You met him by accident?—Yes.

29,409. Do you see anybody in Court now with whom you have had conversation with regard to your evidence?—No.

29,410. Nobody?—No.

29,411. Do you recollect at all now why you voted for Mr. Monson at the last election; you heard what Mr. Pelling said?—Yes.

29,412. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you understand what Peter Pelling said?—I understood some of it, and I deny some of it.

29,413. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What part do you deny?—I can deny some of it.

29,414. Which part?—About what he said I said on several different points.

29,415. Tell me the points?—Several things were said that I never said, not to my recollection.

29,416. Tell me what the points are that you did not say?—I never said anything about 5*l.*

29,417. Will you swear that?—I never said anything about 5*l.*

29,418. Will you swear to that now?—Yes.

29,419. So you recollect now so well that you can positively say that?—I recollect that nothing was said about 5*l.*

29,420. But you will not swear that that did not take place about the 5*l.*?—I never said anything about the 5*l.*

29,421. Will you swear that you did not?—Yes.

29,422. You will?—Yes.

29,423. You swear it?—Yes; I would not give him any answer either way.

29,424. That was not giving him an answer?—I think he is right when he said that I said I would see Mr. Durrant first; I did say I should see Mr. Durrant, but I did not see him until after the polling.

29,425. Who did you see who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—I told you that James Apted was the man I saw.

29,426. Now, can you recollect what he was to give you?—Nothing.

29,427. Is that the only part of the conversation between you and Mr. Pelling which you are prepared to contradict, that part with regard to the 5*l.*?—I think so. I do not, in fact, understand everything that was said. What he said was right enough, that

when he came to ask me which way I was going, I told him I should see Mr. Durrant, and I did not satisfy him.

29,428. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did see Mr. Durrant after the polling?—I met him somewhere in the town.

29,429. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you prepared to swear that you did not say this, that it would be the last time that you would have a vote, and that you should do your best?—I never recollect saying those words.

29,430. Will you swear you did not?—I do not recollect saying the words.

29,431. Will you undertake to swear you did not say those words?—I could not swear it, but I have got no recollection that I did say it.

29,432. Have you got such a recollection that you are prepared to swear and contradict him upon that point?—I would not swear it.

29,433. He may be right?—He may be right or wrong. I do not remember it. I recollect his saying, what should he tell Mr. Durrant, and I said I would see him.

29,434. Did you never see the strangers before who talked to you outside the Court after you went from here?—No, I went and spoke to one man I know of the name of Batchelor, but there was nothing said about election affairs to him.

29,435. I mean those who spoke to you; were they perfect strangers?—Perfectly. He did not know he was speaking about me, and I said, "Will you know "the man again if you see him?" There might be another party, but I cannot say.

The witness withdrew.

JOSEPH FINCH sworn and examined. *J. Finch.*

29,436. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A gardener.

29,437. What rent do you pay for your house?—I paid 16*s.* a month,

29,438. You paid by the month?—Yes.

29,439. With notice to quit, I suppose, by the month?—Yes.

29,440. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Monson.

29,441. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—I do not know that anybody asked me to vote for Mr. Monson at all.

29,442. Did you work for Mr. Monson?—I did from the commencement.

29,443. Who was it asked you to work for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Nichols.

29,444. Where were you when he asked you to work for Mr. Monson?—I almost forget.

29,445. Was it at your own house or at the "Grapes"?—I think it was at the public hall in Reigate.

29,446. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He asked you to work for Mr. Monson, but not for your vote?—He did not ask anything about my vote, but whether I would go canvassing for Mr. Monson.

29,447. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What were you to work at?—He chiefly asked me to go canvassing.

29,448. Canvassing among the gardeners?—Anyone in Mead-vale.

29,449. Did you canvass?—I did.

29,450. And did you find that most of your friends about Mead-vale were canvassing for Mr. Monson?—I did so. I soon found that out.

29,451. When you went to one of your friends and said, "I have come to canvass you on the part of "Mr. Monson," I suppose he said, "Well, but I have "come to canvass you"?—He did not exactly say that, but there was some little chaff.

29,452. A little amusing chaff, I suppose, that you were all corporals and no privates?—I don't know.

29,453. I suppose you attended some of the committee meetings?—I did some.

22,454. What sort of committee meetings were they; were they meetings at which any real work was to be done?—Yes, there was at some of them; sometimes when I came to the "White Hart" I had to go to Warwick-town about three times, I attended at Mead-vale at Mr. Wallace's.

29,455. That was a private house?—It was a public meeting.

29,456. Was there plenty of good beer going?—Mr. Monson was there, there was some beer when the meeting was over, but Mr. Monson was gone when the beer came in.

29,457. The beer came in afterwards?—Yes; I used to come to the "White Hart" where I attended several meetings.

29,458. What were you to have?—I agreed to have 10*l.*, there.

29,459. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was for your work?—That was for my work for canvassing.

29,460. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you understand that was also for your vote?—I never promised my vote to anyone in my life.

29,461. Well, but did not you consider your vote engaged as a matter of honour?—No.

29,462. Who was to pay you?—Mr. Nichols.

29,463. Did he pay you?—Yes.

29,464. When did he pay you?—About a fortnight or three weeks after the election as nigh as I can tell.

29,465. Where did he pay you?—At his house; I called for it.

29,466. Were you canvassed at all by the Gower party?—Mr. Gower did himself canvass me.

29,467. Was that after you had made the agreement with Nichols?—It was.

29,468. What answer did you give to Mr. Gower?—I told him I could not promise him.

29,469. Did you tell him why?—No, I did not.

29,470. Was it only Mr. Gower who canvassed you?—Mr. Smith was with him at the time.

29,471. Did you tell Mr. Smith?—I never told either of them further, only that I could not promise.

29,472. What was your reason?—I never intended to vote for him.

29,473. You intended to vote for Mr. Monson?—Well, if I had not voted for Mr. Monson I should not have voted for Mr. Gower.

29,474. Was anybody else canvassing you on the part of Mr. Gower?—No, I believe they all knew I was in for Mr. Monson.

29,475. Were you on the committee?—Yes.

29,476. Was your name advertised as one of the committee?—I do not know, I never looked to see.

29,477. I suppose there was a long list?—Yes.

29,478. Each party had a long list of committee men?—Yes, I know there was; for I believe I saw them hanging up at the station.

29,479. You attended at the committee?—Yes.

29,480. And I suppose would not be surprised to see your name on the committee list?—No, I should not, everybody knew which way I was, I know I knew myself.

29,481. Was this the first time you voted?—No.

29,482. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

29,483. Who did you vote for then?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson, and canvassed for him No. 1 canvassing book, which I had, I think, from Mr. James.

29,484. What did you get for that?—I agreed to have 10*l.*, if we won the election, and I received 5*l.* of it.

29,485. Mr. Wilkinson was not successful?—He was not successful.

29,485. And you got half your pay?—I did.

29,487. I suppose you considered your vote was to go for that?—I never promised, and I never do; I would not promise my vote if I had it for 20 years.

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J. Finch.

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29,488. You were to have 10*l.* if you won in 1863?—Yes.

29,489. You would not have been very ready to have voted for the opposite side?—I would not have worked for the opposite side.

29,490. To have voted for the opposite side would have made you run the risk of losing 10*l.* ; you might have run so close?—We did run close.

29,491. The 10*l.* did influence you a little, I suppose?—Not at all.

29,492. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Not a bit?—No.

29,493. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The betting would have been very strong one way you see, it would be 10*l.* to nothing?—That would not signify.

29,494. You put that construction on it do you, well, we must put ours?—Very well.

29,495. Did you vote before?—Yes.

29,496. What election was that at?—I think I voted for Mr. Wilkinson three times to the best of my knowledge.

29,497. Did you work for him on each occasion?—The first time I did not, and the second he never came out.

29,498. Who did you work for then?—McCullock, but he chucked up.

29,499. And I am afraid you chucked up too ; what election are you speaking of?—I do not know what it was, perhaps 1859.

29,500. That was Monson and Wilkinson, on Mr. Monson becoming Lord Monson ; Mr. Wilkinson only came out at the last?—That was the election.

29,501. You did not work then?—No.

29,502. For either party?—No.

29,503. The time before that was in 1858, Mr. Wilkinson and the Honourable Edward Monson, did you work for Mr. Wilkinson then?—No.

29,504. Or the Monson party?—No.

29,505. Did you vote then?—Yes, for Mr. Wilkinson.

29,506. Did you get anything for it?—Nothing whatever.

29,507. Did you vote in February 1858 at the great Doulton election?—No, I had no vote.

29,508. Did you work then?—No.

29,509. Were you living here?—Yes.

29,510. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose you lived in the same house then?—No, but not far from the same spot ; I had no interest in the election then.

29,511. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You got nothing except in the years 1863 and 1865?—That is all.

29,512. Who paid you in 1863?—Mr. James ; I made the arrangement with Mr. James ; it lasted eight or nine weeks.

29,513. In 1865 did you receive money from other people?—No, sir, none whatever.

29,514. Nor in the other elections?—No, sir, not one.

29,515. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you canvass any man successfully at the last election ; did you get his vote?—I asked some who had votes and found they had promised themselves before ; I do not consider I got anybody but myself. I called on a good many, and found some had promised and some had not.

29,516. And I suppose a good many called upon you?—I do not think any single individual called on me, and I do not remember being asked once except it was by Mr. Gower himself as I was going up to the post office.

The witness then withdrew.

J. Fielder.

JOHN FIELDER (examined on the 12th of August) recalled.

29,517. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a baker?—Yes.

29,518. What rent do you pay?—12*l.* a year.

29,519. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

29,520. Were you on his committee?—I do not think I was.

29,521. Who canvassed you?—Mr. Mazden.

29,522. You have been examined before?—Yes.

29,523. We have been given to understand you have something to add to what you formerly said?—Nothing at all.

29,524. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were paid for your services after the election, 5*l.* by Mr. Smith?—Yes.

29,525. And 30*s.* by Mr. Mazden?—Yes, that is quite right.

29,526. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you want to add anything to your former evidence?—Nothing at all.

29,527. We were under the impression you had something further to say, is that so ; have you got anything further to say?—Nothing at all.

The witness then withdrew.

Adjourned until 11 o'clock the following morning.

NINETEENTH DAY.

NINE-TEENTH DAY.

Wednesday, 12th September 1866.

D. Durrant.

DAVID DURRANT sworn and examined.

12 Sept. 1866.

29,528. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A brewer.

29,529. Are you a freeholder, or did you pay rent?—I am a freeholder, it is an occupation.

29,530. It is the occupation for a freehold you had?—Yes.

29,531. And you voted last time for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

29,532. What is the value of the freehold?—I am rated at 22*l.*

29,533. What I want you to tell me is whether you know a man named Woodman?—Yes.

29,534. Do you remember sending Peter Pelling to him before the election?—Yes.

29,535. That was a short time before the election?—I cannot say, it might be a month.

29,536. I did not think it was so much?—Three weeks or a month, but I cannot say exactly.

29,537. We have been told that Pelling went over and came back, and I suppose he told you that he had been and seen him?—He was at my house to work there.

29,538. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Woodman said that he would see you himself?—Yes.

29,539. That was his message?—Yes.

29,540. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What I want to know is whether he did see you himself?—No, he never saw me from that time till polling day ; in the

evening after polling day I passed him on Cockshot-hill.

29,541. That was after the polling?—After the polling in the evening, I suppose it might be 5 o'clock.

29,542. Had you had any communication with him before?—No, I never saw him.

29,543. You might have had communication with him by letter?—No.

29,544. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*) He did not see you according to him?—No, he did not.

29,545. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you know till you saw him which way he had voted?—No; I asked him which way he had voted when I saw him.

29,546. Had you at any time previous to the election any communication with him about his vote?—No, I never spoke to him during the election.

29,547. But did you have any other kind of communication with him?—No.

29,548. He got his beer from you?—At the time he kept the "Barley Mow."

29,549. He did at this time too. Did you not supply him at this time with beer for his own consumption?—For his own consumption I did, but I think he has not had more than four four-and-a-halfs.

29,550. What I want to know is when he wanted beer you were the person who supplied him with it?—No, I believe he has his from Mr. Brown, he had not had beer from me for some time.

29,551. About the time of the election he was having his beer from you?—He was about the time, but not during the election, I do not think.

29,552. I do not mean during the election or the time he kept a public house, the name of which was the "Barley Mow," did you supply him with beer then?—Yes; it was my house.

29,553. How long had he given it up before the election?—He left it two years ago this Michaelmas.

29,554. Had he left two or three months before the election?—He left on the 2nd of October before the election.

29,555. It had been your house as well as your supplying him with beer?—Yes, it was.

29,556. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What I want to know is at the time he left the "Barley Mow," had you got an account against him.—No.

29,557. Are you sure?—Yes.

29,558. Quite certain?—Yes, we squared everything up before he left the "Barley Mow." I have no recollection of any account on either side; I do not think there was, and I do not know what it could have been, because the man who came after he paid the valuation.

29,559. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Paid for the fixtures?—Yes, for the valuation of the place.

29,560. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then the account which you had for beer which you supplied him was taken by his successor?—He settled with George Nichols who keeps the house now; a valuation was made, and I believe Nichols paid Woodman.

29,561. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Woodman paid you?—He paid me.

29,562. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did Woodman pay you the beer score; are you quite sure of that?—He paid me what he agreed for the beer score.

29,563. At the time he gave up the house there was something due to you for beer which you supplied to him?—Not that I am aware of.

29,564. When were you paid for it?—Everything was paid at the time when he left the house, I believe.

29,565. Did he then pay you for some beer; his then running account?—Yes; everything was paid.

29,566. I want you to tell me of the beer in particular; had he paid you when he left, do you mean?—Yes, when he got out of the beer.

29,567. When he went out of the beer house if he was your tenant, I suppose he owed you something?—No, no, at a beer house of course there is always something to pay once a month.

29,568. How did he settle with you when he went out. He washed his hands clear when he went out, I suppose?—Yes.

29,569. How was that done, did he pay you over so much money to square all accounts?—I think the money was not paid, I think George Nichols was to go in at a valuation, and a valuation was taken and he paid the difference, or whether I had to pay money I do not know.

29,570. Why should you pay him money?—I do not know whether the valuation was more than what beer he used.

29,571. The valuation of the premises?—And fixtures.

29,572. I thought you said George Nichols took that of you?—Yes.

29,573. You would not have anything to do with that; that could not interest you if George Nichols said I will take the house as it stands and the fixtures, that would be an arrangement between him and Woodman, and you would have nothing to do with that?—I believe we went down and the thing was settled; all three were present.

29,574. You allowed the fixtures, if that is the case, to be handed over to Nichols, and Nichols paid I suppose for them?—Yes.

29,575. You say he paid that to Woodman?—He paid it to Woodman. I am not certain whether the money was paid or how that was, but the account was struck between us three; whether there was any money paid either way I do not know.

29,576. There may not have been money paid, it may have been left?—There was nothing left.

29,577. I dare say you can tell me by looking at the account what the fact is?—I dare say I can find out.

29,578. I should like it very much indeed. Now since the change of occupation of the "Barley Mow," have you had any settlement since, can you tell me, with Woodman?—Between me and Woodman.

29,579. Yes?—Only what has been had since.

29,580. No, I mean with regard to the "Barley Mow?"—No, because everything was settled for at the time.

29,581. Has there been no payment made by him for beer which you have provided him with since he went out?—No I have had money to pay him; he has had a cask of beer and I have had pigs of him and paid him the difference.

29,582. Then you do not understand that he said anything of the sort when he was seen by Peter Pelling. "You know this is the last vote I have got "for Reigate, and I shall take care to do the best I "can about it?"—That was the message Pelling brought to me.

29,583. That was the message Pelling brought to you?—It was.

29,584. Also that he would see Mr. Durrant about it?—It was.

29,585. Now from what has passed between you and Woodman you hardly understood that?—The reply I made to Pelling was, "Well, I will not trouble "any more after him, for he will be sure to go for "Mr. Monson."

29,586. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You thought at once it was no use troubling further about him?—From what he told me of the last election, that he would never vote for Mr. Gower again, I thought so; there was a little difference about paying his account with Mr. Smith, 2*l.* I think. Mr. Smith would not pay, and so he said he would never vote for Mr. Gower again.

29,587. You took his message then as a put off?—Yes.

29,588. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say that after the polling you met him on the hill?—Yes, he was going home, and I was going home.

29,589. Tell me what passed?—I spoke to him and I said, "I have not seen you the whole day," he said, "No, I have not been up for a great while," I said, "Who did you vote for?" and he answered me, "I "voted for Mr. Monson, you do not blame me, do you?"

29,590. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were on good terms with him; was he tipsy at all then?—Not that I am aware of.

NINETEENTH DAY.

D. Durrant.

12 Sept. 1866.

29,591. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you make any reply to that?—I said every man has a right to go where he thinks proper, if he has a good reason, and I went over the park and that was all that passed.

29,592. I will ask you this, are you aware of anyone on your behalf having made Woodman any offer for his vote at the last election?—No.

29,593. You are not?—No.

29,594. Not on your behalf?—No.

29,595. Did you in any way encourage anybody to do so?—I did not.

29,596. Did you make him any offer yourself?—I did not.

29,597. Or pay him any money?—All I said to Pelling was, that he should be paid for loss of time, and his expenses if he came to poll.

29,598. And you are not aware more than that of any offer at all being made either by you or anyone on your behalf?—No.

29,599. I think it is a promise you would recollect, I do not put it merely to you as a matter of recollection, but was there or was there not to your knowledge anything of the kind?—No, there was not; I do not know what was said.

29,600. You mean it may have been said without your knowledge, but was any such offer made to your knowledge?—Not to my knowledge.

29,601. You had not authorized anything at all beyond what you said to Pelling?—No, nothing more.

29,602. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think if I recollect right that Pelling said that Woodman should refer to you?—Yes.

29,603. You did not see him between that time and polling day?—No.

29,604. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You do not know whether the opposite party had seen him?—No.

29,605. I mean you did not hear of it in the course of the election?—No, I did not; I never attended any meeting, and I never saw any of them

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Durrant, we have only called you for that particular purpose; perhaps we shall want to see you again, and you will consider this summons as still binding.

The Witness. Yes.

The witness withdrew.

T. Gilbert.

THOMAS GILBERT sworn and examined.

29,606. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What rented house did you occupy when you were on the register?—18*l.* a year.

29,607. What are you?—A carpenter.

29,608. Where did you live when you were on the register?—On the freehold.

29,609. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

29,610. Did you occupy the whole house or let off part of it?—I let off two rooms.

29,611. What rent did you get for the lodgers?—3*s.* a week.

29,612. From each?—Yes, 3*s.* a week for the two rooms.

29,613. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—Yes.

29,614. Who was it that canvassed you for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Monson himself.

29,615. Anybody else afterwards?—James Apted spoke to me.

29,616. You voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

29,617. When was it James Apted spoke to you?—I cannot tell when it was; it was about a week before the election Mr Monson came to me, and it was a day or two after that James Apted spoke to me; it was some time between Mr. Monson seeing me and the election.

29,618. You are Thomas Gilbert of Reigate park?—Yes.

29,619. Both Mr. Monson and James Apted went to you before the election?—Apted did not come to me with Mr. Monson, I met him in the street.

29,620. After you saw James Apted you voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

29,621. What were you to get for voting for Mr. Monson?—I was never promised anything.

29,622. There was no promise made, but what did you get?—Apted gave me a sovereign.

69,623. When James Apted canvassed you, did he say anything to you to induce you to come to his side, for Mr. Monson?—No; he did not canvass me in particular, he asked me if I would go his way, and I told him I thought I should.

29,624. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Before you polled then you got the sovereign?—Yes, on the morning of the polling day.

29,625. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Tell me what took place between you and Apted when you met him in the street?—Well, nothing particular was said.

26,626. Did he tell you anything of this sort, that if you voted for Mr. Monson you should be paid like the others?—He said I should be well paid my expenses most likely.

29,627. Was that all that was said by Mr. Apted with reference to future prospects?—I cannot say that he said even those words.

29,628. It was something like it?—Yes, something like it.

29,629. Did you have any further communication with Apted before you voted?—No.

29,630. Before you polled Apted came to you?—Yes.

29,631. He came in a carriage and took you to the poll?—No, we walked down.

29,632. What time did you poll?—Between 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning.

29,633. When did Apted pay you the sovereign?—Before I polled.

29,634. Then what did you receive after?—Three months after I had 5*l.*

29,635. Then you had 6*l.* in all?—Yes.

29,636. Who paid you the 5*l.*?—James Nichols, and I gave him a receipt for that.

29,637. What did he say the 5*l.* was for?—I was ill at the time and I heard that he was paying people money, so I went to him and he gave me the 5*l.*

29,638. Did you tell him what you wanted it for?—I told him I had voted for Mr. Monson.

29,639. And it was with reference to that vote that he paid you the 5*l.*?—I consider it was.

29,640. What is your opinion about it?—If I had not voted for Mr. Monson I do not suppose I should have had it.

29,641. You never got 5*l.* from Mr. Nichols before?—No.

29,642. And you never expect to get any more, unless there is another election?—No.

29,643. Did you get anything from the Gower party?—No.

29,644. Were you not canvassed by the Gower party?—Only by Mr. Gower.

29,645. Who else came to you on the part of Mr. Gower?—I do not know.

29,646. Somebody saw you after Mr. Gower?—No, I merely saw Mr. Buckland, and he said he hoped I would go his way.

29,647. What did you say?—I told him I should.

29,648. Did not anyone speak to you on the part of Mr. Gower, about your going on his committee?—There was nothing said about it.

29,649. How long before the election did Mr. Buckland see you?—About a month before the election.

29,650. Before you had been seen by Mr. Monson?—Yes.

29,651. You did go on the committee of Mr. Gower?—No.

29,652. Was Mr. Buckland the only person for Mr. Gower whom you had seen with reference to the election?—I might have met persons in the street, they might have asked me about my vote.

29,653. Did you meet people in the streets?—I dare say I did many who would ask me which way I was going, but nothing particular was said only by Mr. Buckland.

29,654. Did not Mr. Buckland tell you that if you would go on Mr. Gower's committee, you should get paid for your services?—No, he did not say anything of the kind.

29,655. Did you expect that you would get paid for your services?—No.

29,656. Did you take any interest in the public papers?—Yes.

29,657. And the local papers?—Yes.

29,658. I suppose at the time of the election you took an interest in the local papers?—Yes.

29,659. And read them?—Yes.

29,660. Did you not see your name advertised as being on the committee for Mr. Gower?—I was not on the committee.

29,661. Did you not see your name in the paper?—It might have been.

29,662. Did you take steps to have it taken off?—No.

29,663. Why not?—I did not trouble myself about it, I did not attend the meetings.

29,664. Very likely not, but were you promised by Mr. Buckland, that if you went on the committee you should be remunerated?—No, I believe the reason my name was put on the committee was, that Mr. Smith and Mr. Joyes came to me and they said they should like to have my name on the committee, and I said there might be men on the freehold before the election.

29,665. How long after you had seen Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith did you see Mr. Buckland?—It might have been a fortnight afterwards.

29,666. Did you work in his neighbourhood?—Yes.

29,667. Have you any recollection whatever of the conversation further than what you have told us that took place between you and Mr. Buckland?—No.

29,668. Did you see Alexander Rose or any other man?—I have seen them.

29,669. Did they speak to you?—Nothing particular.

29,670. Or Job Apted?—No.

29,671. Or Joyes?—Joyes was with Mr. Gower when he came to me.

29,672. Did Joyes speak to you about going on the committee?—Nothing more than what I said to you.

29,673. Did you think it likely that if you went on the committee and worked you would be paid for your loss of time?—No.

29,674. Was anything said about loss of time?—Not that I know of, no more than rumours that if we did anything we should be paid.

29,675. Had you heard that rumour before you had seen Mr. Buckland?—I do not know when I heard that rumour.

29,676. It was before you had seen Mr. Monson or James Apted?—Yes.

29,677. Did you treat the report that you had heard merely as an idle rumour without substance?—No, not without substance.

29,678. You thought there might be some substance in it?—Yes.

29,679. Suppose you had left your name on the committee to vote for Mr. Gower, would you have expected to have come in for that substance?—I might have been paid for my trouble.

29,680. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know Mr. Tyrrell?—He is my employer.

29,681. He spoke to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—I think he asked me once.

29,682. Did he tell you you should be paid for your time and trouble?—No.

29,683. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Tyrrell speak to you before?—I told him I was going for Mr. Monson, and he said I hope you will.

29,684. That is after you saw Apted?—I do not know.

29,685. Had you made up your mind to vote for Mr. Monson before you saw James Apted?—I think I had.

29,686. When was it you made up your mind to vote for Mr. Monson; when you saw Mr. Monson?—I told Mr. Monson I should vote for him.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE BOWRING sworn and examined.

G. Bowring.

29,687. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

29,688. What rent did you pay for the house out of which you voted?—12*l.* a year.

29,689. Do you live in Reigate?—Yes.

29,690. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Richardson.

29,691. You voted among the 10 or 12?—Yes.

29,692. For whom were you to have voted if Mr. Richardson had not been put up?—For Mr. Monson.

29,693. Who advised you to vote for Mr. Richardson?—No one.

29,694. Did you know why Mr. Richardson was put up?—No.

29,695. We have heard he was put up because there might be a petition against both the other candidates, and he would be the pure candidate?—Yes.

29,696. You were on Mr. Monson's committee, I suppose?—Yes.

29,697. And worked hard on it, I understand?—I do not know that I did.

29,698. You canvassed a good many?—No, I did not.

29,699. You spoke to a good many?—No.

29,700. Did you not go about speaking to them and asking them to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

29,701. Not to any?—Yes, to some.

29,702. Tell us who?—I canvassed one man named George Beale.

29,703. Give me another?—I do not know of anyone else that I canvassed in particular. I might have spoken to one or two.

29,704. That is what we call canvassing. Tell me the names?—I recollect speaking to a man of the name of Smith, who canvassed a man of the name of Fuller.

29,705. Did you not canvass him?—No.

29,706. I want to know the names?—These were the only two I had anything to do with.

29,707. Did you attend several meetings?—I went to several meetings.

29,708. Were you the chairman of the meetings?—No.

29,709. What money did you receive?—I received 10*s.*

29,710. For all that work?—Yes.

29,711. Who paid you?—Mr. Nichols, and I did not ask him for that. I did not expect anything; in fact, I had never done anything to receive it.

29,712. When did you receive the 10*s.*?—I cannot say; it might have been a month or six weeks before the election, and Nichols gave it to me, and he did not say what it was, nor did I ask him.

29,713. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. Nichols gave it you, and you voted for Mr. Richardson?—Yes.

29,714. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He gave you 10*s.* before you were on the committee?—I do not know whether I was on the committee.

29,715. Why should Mr. Nichols give you 10*s.*?—I do not know.

29,716. You are too respectable a man to suppose that Mr. Nichols would give you 10*s.* as a gift or in charity?—I did not ask him for it.

29,717. There was no occasion to ask him?—No.

29,718. Was that all you received before the election?—Yes.

NINETEENTH DAY.

G. Bowring.

12 Sept. 1866.

29,719. What did you receive after?—Nothing at all.

29,720. How many committee meetings did you attend?—Three or four.

29,721. Were there refreshments?—There were refreshments.

29,722. Of course you partook of them?—I did, and I paid for them.

29,723. Surely not out of the 10*s.*?—I do not know that it had anything to do with the 10*s.*

29,724. When you canvassed Beales what did you say to him?—I asked him which way he was going. He was ill at the time, and I told him in the first instance when I called upon him, that he was not to be in a hurry, and that if there was anything going or anything to be got he had better have it.

29,725. If anything was going that he had better have his share?—Yes.

29,726. For whom did he vote?—Mr. Gower.

29,727. Did he ask you how much it was?—He did not ask me anything. He wanted to know what he could get in effect, and I told him that he should have 5*l.*, but he wanted more than that.

29,728. I knew that you told him he should have 5*l.*?—Yes, I did.

29,729. That was not enough for him?—No, he wanted more.

29,730. What did he say?—I offered him 2*l.* 10*s.*, and I told him he should have the other 2*l.* 10*s.* before he polled.

29,731. When you say you offered 2*l.* 10*s.* to him, you had it in your hand?—Yes.

29,732. Where did you get the 2*l.* 10*s.*?—It was my own money; but I should have got it back from Mr. Nichols if the man had taken it.

29,733. You were authorized by Mr. Nichols to take 2*l.* 10*s.*?—I was authorized by Mr Holdsworth.

29,734. You were not authorized to offer your own money; it was only generous men like Mr. Spence who did that?—Mr. Holdsworth authorized me to offer it.

29,735. Beales refused it, and would not have it?—Yes.

29,736. How much did he want?—He did not ask for any particular amount; he thought about 7*l.*

29,737. You knew very well that bribery was going on?—I knew money was parted with, but he was the only one I had anything to do with, with respect to offering money.

29,738. He was the only man you canvassed?—Yes, he was.

29,739. Did you tell Mr. Nichols you had offered him 5*l.*?—I told him I had seen him, and what offer I had made him, and he said "Let him wait."

29,740. Did you tell that in committee?—No, I told it to Mr. Nichols himself.

29,741. And to Mr. Holdsworth, I presume?—Yes, and to Mr. Holdsworth as well.

29,742. You have not voted at any former election?—No.

29,743. I forget what rent you pay?—12*l.*

29,744. Have you not since had any present of any kind made to you?—No, not a halfpenny.

29,745. No consideration of any kind?—No, nothing whatever.

29,746. You know what I mean, any consideration of any kind?—No, nothing at all.

29,747. Were you not to have something if you got any votes?—No.

29,748. It may be my stupidity, but I can hardly understand a respectable man like yourself going with your own money in your pocket to others for the benefit of somebody of whom you knew nothing; were you not to get some money, or was it for the love of canvassing and spending your own money and bribing people? Were you not to get anything?—No.

29,749. Did you not expect anything?—No, I did not.

29,750. Do I understand you rightly that you went about canvassing these men and ready to advance your own money?—That was the only money I advanced.

29,751. You were ready to advance to others if you had known them, were you not?—No.

29,752. You were ready to advance money to this man; why did you canvass him?—He was a man who worked in the same place as I did, and he was laid up at that time.

29,753. Why should you advance your own money if you did not expect anything?—I should have it again from Mr. Holdsworth.

29,754. That would be no advantage to you, why should you do it for Mr. Holdsworth or Mr. Nichols?—I do not know I had any reason to do it.

29,755. It was a loss of time?—No, it was in the evening.

29,756. You say you expected nothing?—No, I did not expect anything.

29,757. That was after you received the 10*s.*?—Yes.

29,758. Was not the 10*s.* merely an earnest of what you were to have, a first instalment?—It was all I received.

29,759. Were you not to have received 5*l.*?—No.

29,760. Or as much as the others?—No.

29,761. Why should not you get it as well as Beale?—Perhaps I might have if I had asked for it, but I did not ask for it.

29,762. You had seen Mr. Nichols afterwards?—Yes, I have seen him on many occasions.

29,763. You did not get Beale, Beale disappointed you?—Yes, I never went to him after.

29,764. He voted on the other side, for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

29,765. Did you know that Mr. Nichols was paying money to other people?—I had heard say so.

29,766. You knew that?—Yes.

29,767. For whom did you work?—Mr. Thornton.

29,768. Are you in constant work?—Yes.

29,769. You received no consideration of any kind whatever?—None whatever.

29,770. I suppose you were in no way indebted to Mr. Nichols?—No.

29,771. Was it Mr. Nichols who came to you first?—No.

29,772. Who came to you first?—Mr. Monson came himself.

29,773. I do not mean Mr. Monson; did anybody else come to you?—No.

29,774. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You voted for Mr. Richardson. Was it Mr. Nichols who was paying Mr. Richardson's bills?—I do not know anything about that. I never heard anything about any money being paid about Mr. Richardson's election.

29,775. You got 10*s.*?—Yes. I did not know what it was for. When Mr. Nichols gave it to me he never said anything to me about what it was for, and I never asked him.

29,776. You did not ask him what it was for?—No.

29,777. If you had not voted for Mr. Richardson you would have voted for Mr. Monson; what made you go to Mr. Nichols?—I did not go to Mr. Nichols.

29,778. When did you see him?—I had the 10*s.* some time previously to the election.

29,779. At the time you were paid that 10*s.* was Mr. Richardson in the field?—No, not then; it was not thought of.

The witness withdrew.

J. Bell.

JOHN BELL sworn and examined.

29,780. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Bell?—A carpenter now.

29,781. What were you at the election?—The same thing.

29,782. What rent did you pay?—That is included in my wages. I live under Mr. Linnell, and have done so for many years; the cottage is the entrance to Mr. Linnell's premises.

29,783. What is the cottage worth?—It would be worth more than it is rented to me; it is rented at 10*l.*

29,784. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

29,785. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower called upon me with his card, and then Mr. Webb, who is a neighbour of mine, told me that Mr. Gower wanted to see me, and I laid wait to see him. I was told he was coming to a meeting, and when he came by he asked me how I did. I said, "Quite well, and I hoped he was well," and then he asked me if I would vote for him, and I said, "Most "likely I should."

29,786. That was a good while before the election?—Yes, it was pretty near to the first start.

29,787. When you got a little nearer to the election who came and asked you again on behalf of Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower had to call on and see Oxtoby; he is a gardener. I went to tell him Mr. Gower would be seeing him, when he told me he had seen Mr. Gower; so we agreed to go ahead for him for his support.

29,788. Oxtoby and you?—Yes.

29,789. You agreed to go ahead for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

29,790. And your names were put on the committee?—No, we never heard anything more about that, we were rather more in the background, more private.

29,791. After that did you present yourself to any of Mr. Gower's friends, saying you wished to go ahead for him?—Some time after that I saw Mr. Frederick Joyes, and as he and I had been friends before on other elections I said I was *on* again, and he said, "All right."

29,792. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which Joyes do you mean?—Frederick, and we went ahead.

29,793. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did Joyes say to you then?—"All right," nothing more.

29,794. And you went *on* ahead?—Yes.

29,795. Was Frederick Joyes the only person who engaged you on that account at this time? Who did you see again of Mr. Gower's people?—No one in particular that solicited my vote.

29,796. Did not any of Mr. Gower's party encourage you a little to "go on," and talk to you about what you were doing?—No, we talked to one another. We used to talk a little as to any great success.

29,797. Who did you give an account to?—I did not say much about it, only to Oxtoby.

29,798. He was not above you at all?—No, but he was the only one I used to have any account in talking with; we had it over with ourselves how we were going on, what we were going to see, and so on; that is how we went at it.

29,799. Did you canvass much?—Well, I did a little; I tried all I could.

29,800. Did you attend any meetings?—I did, two or three.

29,801. Did you have plenty to eat and drink?—No we did not, for the meetings where we met were at the town hall.

29,802. But when you went to the meetings at the town hall did you get plenty to eat and drink after the meetings were over?—Not unless we paid for it.

29,803. I do not mean too much, but as much as you liked?—As much as we liked; not always, but while the election was going on.

29,804. Where did you get plenty to eat and drink?—We did not have any at first start, but on the morning of the election there was a breakfast.

29,805. I believe it began as early as half-past six, and went on until two?—I do not know that it went on so long as that, but it was very good while it lasted.

29,806. Never mind the breakfast, but did you get plenty of refreshment?—No.

29,807. Any drinking?—Very little; one night Oxtoby and me went into the town hall, and after that we went into "Thimble."

29,808. And "Nutmeg Grater"?—Yes, and had a glass.

29,809. Who paid for it?—I think Joyes paid for it, because we had him in; he was coming up to Reigate and we asked him in; there was but little, two or three pints, very little; I do not like public house beer at all, I generally get good home-brewed at home.

29,810. You think Joyes paid for it?—Yes.

29,811. Did you receive any money before the election?—No.

29,812. You did not?—No.

29,813. Before the election I am speaking of now; did you not expect some money before the election?—No; one night I was at the town hall, there were a lot of men outside who wished to have a drink of beer or something; I said to Mr. Joyes, "Give me "2*s.*" I went into the "Wheat Sheaf" and it was gone in two minutes.

29,814. Were you not looking for something before the election?—No, I was not looking for something; not before the election.

29,815. Not a little something, if it was only to keep you going?—No, I was not, for it was distinctly stated there would be nothing at all. Mr. Gower said he would have no public houses, but that those who worked and did all they could should be paid for it.

29,816. Where did he say so?—I did not hear it, but it was so said; I was told he had so said.

29,817. You did work hard, why was it then you did not get anything before the election?—I do not know, I am sure, why it should be; there was a great deal said about it, but all I know is that I did not get any more than the two shillings, there was a great *narrative* about it.

29,818. Can you tell me this, did Oxtoby get anything before the election?—No, sir.

29,819. He did some time after?—But he would have been much better paid if he had stuck down to his own work at home than had this paltry 2*l.* from Mr. Gower.

29,820. You know what Oxtoby got?—Yes, because I had mine at the same time.

29,821. Did you get it from the same person?—I did, the same night; I did not know I was to get anything, but Oxtoby told me he had got it from Frederick Joyes.

29,822. You were paid by Frederick Joyes?—Yes.

29,823. And you gave a stamped receipt?—Yes, I think it was a regular receipt.

29,824. It was a good while after the election you got the 2*l.*?—Yes.

29,825. Perhaps you do not know how long?—No.

29,826. About three or four months, or more?—I dare say; if you have got the receipt it would have the date.

29,827. Your evidence is so clear I would not stop you at all.

(*The Witness.*) Do you want anything more?

29,828. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you anything more to say?—I tell you what I got, I am sorry to say. On the day of the polling I was at the town hall and one of the wains went over my foot and I was laid up a cripple for six weeks; I was told to send in my bill to my member and he would pay me, but I did not, so I well remember the election.

29,829. You got nothing by that?—No.

29,830. I thought you said there was something you did get?—That was my punishment.

29,831. Now tell me, in 1863 you voted, did not you?—Yes.

29,832. I dare say you forget whom you voted for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

29,833. Were you on his committee, and doing your best at going ahead for him?—I did go ahead for him, but I was not on his committee at all.

29,834. Were you associated with Joyes then?—Yes, I was.

NINETEENTH DAY.

J. Bell.

12 Sept. 1866.

29,835. What did you receive that time ?—I do not think we had nothing at all.

29,836. You have got a very good memory and have told me everything so nicely so far, just tell me what you got, because it will save me trouble ?—I do not think we got anything, excepting it was public-house beer, which I did not like.

29,837. I am not saying that you drank too much of it; I don't mean that. Tell me, what did you get then, because Joyes knew exactly the kind of man you were, and the next time he handed you over money ?—I do not think I had anything that time.

29,838. Oh, yes; I think there was something ?—Had I known this inquiry was coming off I would have made a note of it.

29,839. There may be a mistake in the amount, but you can tell me whether you received anything ?—Not that time, I think.

29,840. Which is the most likely thing ?—What ?

29,841. That you did or did not, because in 1865 Joyes knew you very well, and knew what you had been doing, and he paid you in 1865. He would not treat you differently from what you had been treated before ?—I do not think I received anything at that time.

29,842. I wish you would try and recollect a little better about that. I rather suspect there is a mistake about it; only a mistake; nothing more ?—I know I was on. I voted for Wilkinson once or twice.

29,843. I am speaking of 1863 ?—I do not think I had anything then. I would tell you in a moment if I did.

29,844. I have no reason for thinking you would not. How many times have you voted for Wilkinson ?—I think I voted twice for him, and there was a sort of a ballot, a sort of a sham ballot affair.

29,845. At Doulton's election ?—Ah, there was at Doulton's election too.

29,846. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are asked about another election first; we can go back to that presently ?—Very good.

29,847. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When there was a ballot for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

29,848. Was money pretty well going ?—I never had any, nor seed any pass.

29,849. You say you never had any of it ?—I heard there was money about, but I never see no money pass. I never see no money at all.

29,850. You did not get anything then ?—No.

29,851. That was the ballot time; did you vote for Wilkinson before that ?—Yes, I did.

29,852. And did you work for him then ?—I did.

29,853. On his committee ?—No, I was not on the committee at all.

29,854. But you went ahead pretty well ?—I did; I had reasons for it.

29,855. You did everything for it ?—I did the best I possibly could.

29,856. And who was it that set you on then ? Which of his agents ?—What, at that time ?

29,857. Yes ?—Well, Mr. Wilkinson came to me himself.

29,858. He canvassed you, no doubt, but after that you spoke to one of his agents ? His agents patted you on the back ?—I did not want any patting up. He knew I was honest.

29,859. Who was the agent that you referred to ?—Mr. Joyes.

29,860. Frederick Joyes ?—Yes; I got in on his side.

29,861. You worked together ?—I was acquainted with Frederick Joyes.

29,862. And you and he worked together ?—Yes.

29,863. Did you receive anything that time, before the election, for the polling ?—No, I did not.

29,864. Joyes did not say anything before the polling ?—I do not think I expected anything at all; there was never a word mentioned.

29,865. Now, after the polling was over and your work was done, what did you get ?—It was a long time afterwards, and I done all I possibly could for Mr. Wilkinson; I got a good many votes for him, and there was one man, William Church ——

29,866. I should like to know which had the first turn, Church or you ?—I had the first turn of him.

29,867. He is rather an eloquent man ?—I did not think much of him when I had the first go at him. How it was I came to fall in with him was this: Thomas Featherstone had been at him, and he said he might as well have 10*l.* from us as from anybody else. So I telled Church of Mr. Wilkinson's good principles, and winned him over, and I believe through that he got 18 or 20 votes. I thought when I got at him first, that if he did not do better at canvassing he would not do much.

29,868. He got 20 votes, and therefore if you got him you got 21 ?—I did.

29,869. Now what did you get that time ?—Well, a long time after that I was given to understand that Frederick Joyes had something for me, and it was 2*l.*

29,870. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was 2*s.* a head ?—Well, it was I think. The man that stood where I was yesterday, I never seed he with a wet hair on his head during the elections, and he got more money. I never seed he do much; I never seed he sweat a hair.

29,871. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How many days did you see Spence there in 1865 ?—I cannot say; but when I see him he was lopping about, never doing much.

29,872. Did you see him oftener than on the polling day ?—I did not see him on the polling day; but as I was about I seed him pretty well, because I understood he was well paid, and I thought he ought to have been more useful than he was.

29,873. Then it would not be true for him to say that he came up on the polling day ?—Oh, that was before he went to Brighton. Oh, 1865 ! I must call that back, then; I am speaking of 1863, Wilkinson's election.

29,874. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You canvassed Church, and in consequence of coming over to you he got 18 or 20 votes ?—He did.

29,875. Tell me, as far as you know, did Church do that with anything besides his talk ? Did not he give them something ?—No, I cannot tell anything about that. I do not think that ever he had any money; I don't think he did. I never heard him tell anything of it.

29,876. No; but when he got the voters, who paid them ?—I won't say. I don't know.

29,877. At that election you got several voters; were you authorized to make them any promise ?—I did not, because I had no authority at all. I never offered anybody a penny.

29,878. Did not you tell them if they would vote where they would be paid for loss of time ?—No; I will tell you what I had done. Mr. Wilkinson is a well-known friend in Redhill, for let there be an accident of any kind, cripples, or anything of that sort, there was hand, and heart, and purse; and he would give where some would not give anything. He was a well-known friend, and all the people knew it, and they told me, if the fountain was pure there was no occasion to drink in the stream.

29,879. That was what Church did ?—They said his brother, Robert Wilkinson, was a better man than his brother, if that could be; and I thought that Mr. Norman Wilkinson were like a father to him.

29,880. You are quite sure you did not borrow that stream from Church ?—No.

29,881. There was the year before, what they called Doulton's election; which side were you ?—Oh, I was for Wilkinson; there were boats on pictures, and Mr. Monson was upset, and there come Mr. Wilkinson in a jolly boat over all the rest. There were good larks over that job.

29,882. You were for Wilkinson ?—I was for Wilkinson.

29,883. Was there a great deal of beer going that time ?—I believe there was, but I never got much.

Featherstone, if brought up to this Court, will give you a better account, because he was a good bit amongst them.

29,884. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was he a Doultonite ?—He was head and chief.

29,885. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Thomas Featherstone can tell all about it ?—He can tell pretty well ; more than I can.

29,886. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) At that election of 1858 were you asked to sell your ballot ticket ?—To sell my ballot ticket ?

29,887. Yes ?—No, I was not asked ; I believe some of them did. I think some of them said they would if they could.

29,888. Sell their tickets ?—Yes, but I would not sell mine ; I kept it.

29,889. It is very likely you would not. I only ask you whether you were asked ?—Not to my knowledge.

29,890. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say at Doulton's election there was plenty of beer going on. Was there plenty of money going ?—Well, I believe any rough might have 10*s.* if he liked to go and carry a board for an hour ; but it was hearsay, though I believe it was correct. I never got any money at all ; I kept out of that.

29,891. You did not see much of that ?—No, I did not. I heard enough ; that sickened me what I heard.

29,892. It rather hurt you, what you heard ?—I like good company when I get out of an evening.

29,893. Tell me. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson, and you were not a rough or anything of that sort, what did you get for that election ? Do you recollect ?—Which one ?

29,894. Why, that Doulton's election ?—Nothing ; I never had anything at all.

29,895. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were balloted out, and as soon as you were balloted out you knew it was all up ?—Yes ; that time.

29,896. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote at all ?—I give my ballot.

29,897. Did you vote at the polling-booth for any of the candidates ?—I do not think I did at that time.

29,898. You balloted ?—Yes.

29,899. That was for Rawlinson that time ?—I do not think I voted.

29,900. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You recollect you and Oxtoby agreed to stick to each other at this last election of 1865. Did you look to see what was going on on the Monson side ?—Well, I did look about a little, but not much. I did not interfere with that at all.

29,901. Did they interfere with you a little bit ?—Well, after I made up my mind I did not get about interfering in other people's matters.

29,902. Did they interfere with you ?—I went to see Joseph Kenward, and tried to get him. I believe he had agreed on the first onset to go for Gower, but I believe he had been to see me.

29,903. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not know who Kenward was when you asked him to vote for your side ?—What, in 1865 ?

29,904. Yes ?—Oh yes, I had followed him up pretty tight ; I believe he was in view of something ; that is why he went over to Gower.

29,905. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was pretty well understood that Kenward began for Gower ?—Yes, and he told me when I went to see him ; I asked him whether he was going on for Gower this time, as he did not vote at the last ; he said no, he had been to see Mr. Green, and he had abused him, and said he had got no 20*l.* to give, and then Kenward took offence at that, and then he went on for Mr. Monson, and he wished me to come too.

29,906. That was Henry Green ?—Yes. Kenward told me that Mr. Green told him he had no 20*l.* to give him.

29,907. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For himself, Kenward, I suppose ?—He wanted money, I suppose, to handle for voters. That is how I looked on it.

29,908. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) So he said he would try the other side ?—Yes.

29,909. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He turned upon you, then ?—He was on ; and he wanted me to come on, because he thought if he could make sure of me he would make sure of a few more.

29,910. Two more, would he ? Oxtoby and who else ?—He thought if he could have got me I should have got a few more.

29,911. How did he try to get you ?—He asked me to come on their side, and told me if I would come we should do better there than we should for Gower.

29,912. How much better ?—He told me that if we went on and worked hard (whoever did go was to work hard, not have the money for nothing, and they were to work the full time ; it was not to be halves, and bits, and pieces they were to work) we should have 30*s.* a week.

29,913. Did that make you hesitate a little bit ?—No.

29,914. Then it was your turn ; how did you try Kenward ?—I had nothing more to do with him.

29,915. He tried you first, and then you thought, "Now it is my turn, I will try him" ?—No ; that was all at one time, and there the matter ended.

29,916. That was in 1865 ?—That was in 1865.

29,917. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You worked with Oxtoby ?—Yes, he is the gardener.

29,918. Were you at the town hall when Joyes was there ?—I was.

29,919. At that meeting at the town hall did you have any conversation with Frederick Joyes ?—As I said before, when I saw Frederick Joyes, about the first onset of the election, I told him I was going on their side.

29,920. I only ask you this question because it was said, but I don't know whether it was said to you, that it was said at the town hall, "You shall be paid for "what you do the same as the others" ?—Oxtoby told me that he had it from Joyes, and I believe Henry Sendall was there and said so too, and that Sendall was on Joyes' side, but that Mazden had got him down on his book.

29,921. Do you know a man of the name of Joseph Singleton ?—No, I do not. Oxtoby told me about him.

29,922. He did not try you ?—No ; I am not sure whether I know the man.

29,923. As you worked with Oxtoby, I thought you might have fallen in with Singleton ?—I do not know the man ; I could not call him to mind.

29,924. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How often have you voted altogether ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson twice, and balloted for him once.

29,925. And for whom else ?—And Mr. Gower once ; I believe that is correct. I am sure when Mr. Wilkinson were defeated, when Mr. Gower was up, I never see anything like it. There was just as though some heavy calamity befell Redhill. There was a gloom cast all over the place. There was one chap, a gardener at Redhill, and he worked for Mr. Frowd, of Wray-park, and they tried him stiff to get him for Gower. He would not do it, but went for Wilkinson. I told him, "Suppose you are laid up on a bed of "sickness, Mr. Gower is a gentleman we know "nothing of till he came out as a local candidate ; "but Mr. Wilkinson we do know." So he went for Wilkinson, and Mr. Frowd turned him out of his employ.

The witness withdrew.

William Razzell sworn and examined.

W. Razzell.

29,926. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—A shoemaker.

29,927. What rent do you pay ?—10*l.* 8*s.*

29,928. Then you pay it by the week ?—Yes.

29,929. 4*s.* a week ?—Yes.

29,930. Was your term determinable by a month's notice or a week's ?—A month's notice.

29,931. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

NINETEENTH DAY.

W. Razzell.

12 Sept. 1866.

29,932. Were you on the committee? — Well, I believe I was. Mr. Durrant told me I was on.

29,933. Then did Mr. Durrant canvass you? Did you promise to Mr. Durrant?—Peter Pelling canvassed me in the first place.

29,934. In what way did Peter Pelling canvass you?—He never said anything at all, he took me to Durrant.

29,935. What took place between you and Durrant?—He told me I was to be paid for loss of time.

29,936. Who told you?—Durrant.

29,937. Did he tell you what you were to do?—I canvassed two, but did not succeed in getting no one.

29,938. You had not the play of the money, I suppose?—No.

29,939. No authority to offer them money?—No.

29,940. Who was it you canvassed?—Dickinson and Eve, up in Lesbourne-lane.

29,941. What is Dickinson's Christian name?—Edmund.

29,942. E V E, is that how you spell the other's name?—I don't know how it is spelt.

29,943. Was he a voter?—Yes, they are old neighbours of mine.

29,944. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You canvassed them?—Yes.

29,945. Did they come and vote for you?—One voted for Mr. Gower, but not on my account.

29,946. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take those persons to Durrant? How did you canvass them?—I referred them to Durrant, but they never come to see him.

29,947. Did Durrant tell you that you might hold out any promises to them?—No, only that they should be paid for loss of time.

29,948. Did you tell them that they should be paid for loss of time if they came and voted?—Yes.

29,949. If they came and voted on your side?—Yes.

29,950. Were you paid for your loss of time?—I had 2*l.*

29,951. And you only canvassed those two men?—That is all.

29,952. Who paid you?—Mr. Durrant. I had 10*s.* soon after the polling day, and 30*s.* the latter part of October or the beginning of November.

29,953. Did you apply to Durrant for the money, or did he pay you without applying?—He paid me without applying. I did not take any account in.

29,954. Were you paid at your own house?—10*s.* I received at his house, but I did not go for it. The other I received at my own house.

29,955. He brought the money to you?—Yes.

29,956. Was there nobody else but those two men that you canvassed?—No, that is all.

29,957. Well, they voted, I suppose, on the other side?—One did.

29,958. Which? — Edmund Dickinson voted for Monson, and Eve, he voted for Gower, but not from my canvassing.

29,959. You do not know then who got hold of him?—No, I do not.

29,960. Now, is that all you know about the election of 1865?—Yes.

29,961. Did you vote in the election of 1863?—No, I had no vote.

29,962. Or at any previous election?—No.

29,963. Now, had anybody been at you for Mr. Monson in 1865?—No, I cannot recollect any one.

29,964. You were not canvassed by anybody for Mr. Monson?—No, I cannot recollect any.

29,965. Were you engaged in any way in Mr. Durrant's business?—Oh, no.

29,966. Or in his employ?—No. I told him that I knew two voters, and that I thought I could get them.

29,967. Were those the two you mentioned?—Yes.

29,968. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When you spoke to Dickinson and Eve, and told them that they would be paid their expenses, did not they inquire how much it would be, or about what it would be?—Well, they did, but I told them I had no authority.

29,969. Did they say, "Will it be 5*l.*?" or "How "much will it be?"—They asked me how much it would be, and I told them I did not know; I had no authority to give them anything.

29,970. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose you had heard the rumour that 5*l.* was about the price that would be paid?—I do not know.

29,971. You had heard something about the 5*l.*?—Yes, but I did not know that Mr. Gower was giving 5*l.*

29,972. You heard of 5*l.* in reference to each man's vote?—No doubt 5*l.* given on Monson's side, but I never heard for Mr. Gower.

The witness withdrew.

A. Sargant.

Amos Sargant sworn and examined.

29,973. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Sargant?—A labourer.

29,974. What description of labourer? — I do ground work.

29,975. What rent do you pay for your house?—I pay 6*s.* a week.

29,976. And did you at the time of the election?—Yes, this last election I did.

29,977. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

29,978. For whom?—Mr. Monson.

29,979. Was that the first time you had a vote?—No. I had a vote and voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

29,980. I believe you were canvassed by Mr. Peat? Who canvassed you? Who spoke to you about voting?—Joseph Hewett.

29,981. Did Hewett tell you what you would get for voting?—Yes.

29,982. What did he say?—He said I should have 15*s.* a week for two weeks, and the remainder to make up 5*l.* to finish with.

29,983. Were you at your work at the Asylum when he spoke to you?—No, I was at work on the hill then.

29,984. Did you receive your two 15*s.* before the election?—Yes.

29,985. Who took you to the poll?—I do not know; I came from the "Plough" that morning.

29,986. Then you received 3*l.* 10*s.*; from whom?—Richard Peat.

29,987. Who paid you the two weeks?—Hewett paid me.

29,988. Did you go to his house?—No, I went to the "Plough."

29,989. On the polli ng evening?—Yes.

29,990. That was 5*l.*? That was a good job?—Yes, a very good job.

29,991. Was it better than 1863?—Yes, better than that.

29,992. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—Yes.

29,993. Who spoke to you about it?—Sendall was the first person.

29,994. Who afterwards spoke to you about voting for Mr. Wilkinson?—I went on for Mr. Wilkinson that time; I was on five weeks.

29,995. You were employed?—Yes.

29,996. What did you receive for that?—5*s.* a day.

29,997. 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

29,998. Then you received 7*l.* 10*s.*?—7*l.* 15*s.*; seven weeks and one day.

29,999. Then that was not so bad, Sargant? — No.

30,000. Who paid you for that?—An old gentle-

man was on for them down at Mr. Laker's. I don't recollect who it was.

30,001. Was it Mr. James?—No, it was an older man. Rose paid me the last time; he paid me for the last four days 1*l.*

30,002. Ephraim Rose?—Yes. He paid me for the last four days, and the old gentleman paid me the other.

30,003. Had you voted before?—No.

30,004. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you paid the actual odd day?—Yes.

30,005. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did nothing the last time?—Yes, I spoke to the agents, and got some beer.

30,006. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose you would have done that without being paid for it?—No, not always.

30,007. You did not vote before 1863?—No, I voted for Wilkinson the last time I voted.

30,008. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am curious to know how they employed you in 1863; what was your work? What work had you to do in 1863?—Oh, carrying. We used to get paid for carrying out papers; anything that there was to do.

30,009. I want to know what it was, because to give you a paper to carry out seems to be a little absurd, you know. Used they to load you with a couple of circulars? That was it, I suppose?—Yes.

30,010. Which of course you laughed at, and took the money?—Yes.

30,011. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is William Thomas Sargant, a relation of yours, on the register? There is a John Sargant and a Joseph Sargant. Are those any relations to you?—No.

The witness withdrew.

ROBERT BIDDINGTON sworn and examined.

R. Biddington.

30,012. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Biddington?—I am the bill poster, or, in vulgar language, the common bill sticker, sir.

30,013. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Of Reigate?—Yes.

30,014. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What rent do you pay?—The rent I pay for my house is thirteen guineas.

30,015. Who did you vote for at the last election?—I did not vote at all.

30,016. You had a vote?—Yes, I had. I have had a vote about 12 or 14 years.

30,017. Had you voted at any previous elections?—Yes.

30,018. Though you did not vote, you took an active part, did not you, in the election of 1865?—Yes.

30,019. Were you an agent, or whatever you call it; a sub-agent?—I tried all I could to stick up the two candidates; that was all.

30,020. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was on the walls?—On the walls.

30,021. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But were you employed by either party as an agent?—No, certainly not.

30,022. Who canvassed you?—Well, I think I was canvassed by Mr. Monson himself, and I think, if I remember rightly, that Mr. Gower did not call upon me.

30,023. Did anybody particular press you for your vote before the election?—No more than they would other people. They simply asked for it.

30,024. Then they did not press you; they simply asked for it?—Yes, on both sides.

30,025. Were you asked to go on the committee on either side?—Oh, no.

30,026. You say, "Oh, no." I should have thought you would have been a likely man?—Well, I don't think I should like to post my own name up on another gentleman's committee.

30,027. Did you post bills for both parties?—Yes, I did. I have done so before. There is nothing very unusual in that.

30,028–9. Did both sides pay you for doing it?—Yes, at the last election.

30,030. I am speaking only of 1865. Did you attend any committee meetings on either side?—Yes, I did.

30,031. Which side?—I attended the first meeting that Mr. Gower held in Reigate.

30,032. Was that a public meeting?—Yes. I was so disgusted then with the treatment Mr. Gower received, that I did not attend any other on either side.

30,033. I mean, did you attend any of the committee meetings?—No.

30,034. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) As an elector you had a right to attend the others?—I purposely avoided attending any of the meetings after the first meeting of Mr. Gower in Reigate.

30,035. That was a public meeting?—Yes. I have just given you my reason for not attending any other meetings.

30,036. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you were paid to whom did you send in your account; we will take first your account for Mr. Gower?—I sent it in to Mr. Smith.

30,037. Then how many accounts did you send in?—To Mr. Smith?

30,038. Yes?—One.

30,039. Are you sure you only sent one account?—Well, I am upon my oath.

30,040. I am talking about your recollection now, you know?—I only sent in one account.

30,041. At one time?—At one time.

30,042. I do not mean that you sent in an account pressing for payment more than once, but you only sent in one account?—I only sent in one account.

30,043. And how many accounts did you send in to Mr. Monson?—One.

30,044. Only one to each?—Only one.

30,045. I shall get it right directly?—I may perhaps have asked for payment by two accounts, but I only sent in one.

30,046. Who paid you your account for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Smith, I believe.

30,047. But you have no doubt, have you?—I have no doubt whatever.

30,048. Did he pay you the whole account at once, or did he pay you at different times?—I believe I received the amount in twice; I believe I did.

30,049. Did you give a receipt for it?—I believe I did.

30,050. Are you sure that you were paid the whole account in twice?—I do not believe it was any more.

30,051. But you are pretty sure?—Yes, I am pretty sure about it.

30,052. And what was the whole amount?—That I really cannot tell you. My bill was sent in. I keep no books, and when it is paid of course I know nothing further about it.

30,053. I dare say I shall be able to tell you?—I have no doubt whatever you have my bill here.

30,054. I have not got your bills here. I do not want to pretend to more knowledge than I possess?—I don't know more about it. I have not seen it since.

30,055. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were employed by both parties?—Yes.

30,056. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me about what your bill was?—I really cannot tell you.

30,057. Was it over 12*l.*?—I really cannot. Oh, yes, I should hope it was.

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30,058. Was it under 20*l.* ?—I should hope that is nearer the mark.

30,059. Answer the questions ?—I have no manner of means of knowing. If you shew me the bill, I will tell you if it is correct.

30,060. I do not want that. If you have no recollection about it, say so ?—I have said so. I have none.

30,061. Not as to the amount ?—Not as to the exact amount. I am not going to distort the truth, or wilfully tell a lie, if I know it.

30,062. I find one account here 13*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* ?—I believe that is it. I would not swear.

30,063. Is that likely to be your whole account ?—It might be. If I had anything to refresh my memory.

30,064. It does not want refreshing. It is not long ago. Do you believe your bill was 13*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* ?—I think I can safely swear that.

30,065. The very amount ?—I should judge it was ; but of course I must say that I have no manner of means of knowing.

30,066. You were paid that, you said, in two payments, you know ?—Yes.

30,067. They did not tax any of it off ?—Oh, I believe I received a portion of the account from Mr. Smith first, for the simple reason that I was a man in a small way of business, and I had to employ my own men, and having the bill posting on both sides I did want a something, but my bill I believe did pass the auditor. I have no authority for knowing anything to the contrary.

30,068. You sent in a bill and were eventually paid ?—Yes ; not till after the election.

30,069. When you were paid was the whole of your bill paid ?—I have no doubt about that.

30,070. I asked you if any was taxed off ; that is all I meant ?—No ; I think very likely I should have complained if the whole of it had not been paid, and I have no cause to complain at present.

30,071. You say you sent your bill in ? Who paid it ?—Mr. Smith paid it.

30,072. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you any of the bills remaining in stock of the lists of the committees ?—Yes.

30,073. Have you got one of both sides ?—No, I have this one (*handing a bill to the learned Commissioner*).

30,074. Which is this ?—That is a portion of Mr. Gower's first committee list. There is another sheet wanting that I have not got.

30,075. Have you got Mr. Monson's ?—No, I have not. It is simply explained, because I had orders frequently given by Mr. Gower's committee not to post bills on any public house, because he had not taken any. On the contrary, as applied to Mr. Monson, I had orders to post on every public house where he had committee rooms, consequently I have some of Mr. Gower's committee bills left, but not one of Mr. Monson's.

30,076. You used all of Mr. Monson's ? — Every one.

30,077. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did you send in your account against Mr. Monson to ?—To Mr. Hart.

30,078. And what was the amount of your bill sent in to Mr. Hart ?—That I have no means of knowing.

30,079. But about ? I was in hopes you would save time by telling us ?—If I can save time in any way I will do so with pleasure.

30,080. Well, what was it ?—I really do not know.

30,081. You do not know anything like it ?—I really cannot say.

30,082. Was your account to Mr. Hart 11*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* ?—It is very likely to have been so.

30,083. Well, I find that account is signed by you ?—There is no doubt that is quite correct, or else my name would not be to it. There is no doubt it is quite correct.

30,084. Was that paid to you ?—Yes.

30,085. By whom ?—By Mr. Hart himself.

30,086. I suppose by cheque ?—I could not exactly tell you whether it was or not, but I should almost think it was.

30,087. He did not send you to Mr. Nichols to be paid ?—Oh, no.

30,088. Are you able to tell me whether he paid you that at once or in twice ?—I believe he paid me that at once.

30,089. It would appear so from the bill itself ?—I believe he did pay me at once, sir.

30,090. The date of the payment is not here. Well, now, did you stick any bills for Mr. Richardson ?—No.

30,091. You had nothing to do for them ?—No.

30,092. Did you bring in any bill-posting account to Mr. Nichols ?—What for ?

30,093. Bill posting ?—Connected with the election ?

30,094. Yes ?—Oh, no.

30,095. Did you send in any account at the time of the election to Mr. Nichols ?—No.

30,096. Did you receive any money from Mr. Nichols at all ?—No ; to the best of my recollection, certainly not.

30,097. About the time of the election, that is what I mean ?—No, I very rarely went in there.

30,098. Will you be so good as to tell me distinctly whether you did receive anything from Mr. Nichols ?—I believe not, sir. I have no recollection of it at this present moment.

30,099. I want you to tell me, you know ?—Connected with the election, I certainly believe I have not received a farthing from him.

30,100. I want to know why you say " connected " with the election " ?—If Mr. Nichols has employed me to post bills not connected with the election, which he has done, and I hope will do——

30,101. You mean about the sale of estates ?—Yes, anything of that kind. I shall be happy to do it for him ; but I never received anything from him on account of the election, either directly or indirectly.

30,102. You are quite sure of that ?—Not for the last election. I am quite sure of that.

30,103. That is right, is it ? That is what I have taken down ?—Yes, that is right.

30,104. Did you receive any money from Mr. Nichols about the election or after the election at all ?—No, sir, not connected with the election, not in any shape or way, to my knowledge.

30,105. Did you receive any money from Mr. Nichols about the time of the election ?—That I cannot say ; but I think I can safely say that I received no money from him whatever as connected with my posting bills during that election. I only wish to be careful. What other payments Mr. Nichols might make me would not apply to the election.

30,106. Have you had any payment made you by Mr. Nichols at any time since 1865 ?—Oh, yes.

30,107. Well, how soon after the election ?—Oh, but nothing at all to do with the election.

30,108. Well, I did not say so ?—I certainly shall stand upon my right not to answer any inquiries made of me in regard to my private business unless it refers to the election.

30,109. I will concede your right ?—If Mr. Nichols employs me to post a few bills and pays me, I am not going to tell all the town, it is not likely.

30,110. I don't understand you. The town would see you post them ?—Just so ; but then they would not know who paid me.

30,111. I should have thought a bill poster would be the last man in England to have a secret.

30,112. But did Mr. Nichols after the election have occasion to make payments to you ? — Not directly or indirectly connected with the election.

30,113. I ask you, did he make payments, whether they had anything to do with the election or not ?—None whatever ; not, as true as I stand here.

30,114. I believe it, if you tell me so; but had Mr. Nichols, on any account whatever, either for the price of a horse or for the sale of the smallest article, has Mr. Nichols had occasion to pay you any money since the election?—I think he knows me a little too well to do such a thing, to offer me such a thing.

30,115. Oh, no, I do not mean for your vote; you do not understand me. I mean for services or for any article has any money passed between you and Mr. Nichols?—I have already said, certainly not. I try to speak plain, but you really make me nervous. I had so little to do with the last election that it made me rather surprised that I should be summoned.

30,116. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say on Gower's side you had instructions not to put bills on any of the public houses?—I had instructions to put bills on no public houses.

30,117. Precisely?—I did put a bill upon one public house.

30,118. Which was that?—It was a bargain between me and the landlord that I should come and take it down very carefully.

30,119. Who was that?—Mr. Wells. His was the only house in the parish upon which one was posted.

30,120. Who was it gave you instructions not to post Mr. Gower's bills upon any public houses?—I really could not tell you. My instructions were, if I remember correctly, the bills were sent down to my house, and my instructions were that Mr. Gower was not going to take any public houses as committee rooms, and I was to post no bills whatever on any public houses. If I did so, I done it on my own responsibility, that was, I was to take them down, and that was the only public house, I believe, in the parish where I did it.

30,121. You received that order from the committee rooms?—Yes.

30,122. It came down with the posters?—No doubt of it.

30,123. And would that be by letter?—No; either written on the outside sheet or a waste sheet they usually put in, or else a bit of paper.

30,124. Did you receive from any of the committee whom you saw during the time or before the election any such instruction, any individual member of the committee?—No. I should most likely run up against every individual member of the committee on both sides, and as for what they tell me, I take no more notice of them than that (*snapping his fingers*).

30,125. I wanted you to tell me from whom you received the instructions?—I could not do so, because, being engaged by both parties, I did not interfere but very little about it, and I am very glad I did not.

30,126. I should like to have known that?—If I knew it, it should have been told.

30,127. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not vote, because you did not want to offend anybody, being employed on both sides?—If you ask me that reason, I should say no.

30,128. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He has expressed his reason more particularly in the early part of his examination, that he attended that meeting of Mr. Gower's, and was disgusted with what took place there, and would not have anything more to do with the election?—I did not attend any other meeting after that. The reason I did not vote was a matter in my own mind; it was certainly nothing to do with the election, if anybody asked me about it, as they will do, us common people get about, and they ask us; it was, as far as I knew, my own interest.

30,129. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you voted at a previous election?—I voted in 1863.

30,130. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

30,131. Were you engaged then in posting bills?—Yes.

30,132. Were you also on Mr. Gower's committee?—No; I never hope to be on a committee while I am a poster of bills. They want better metal, I think, on the committee.

30,133. Did you post bills for both sides on that occasion?—Let me see, Wilkinson and Gower; no.

30,134. You posted bills only for Gower?—Only for Gower.

30,135. Can you tell me what you received for posting bills that year?—I really cannot.

30,136. Who was the opposition bill poster?—Well, I really do not know.

30,137. Anybody in the town?—No one in this town. I believe there was a man at Redhill, and he used to ask me very often to put bills up for him, and I used to do it, but nothing to do with the other party. Just the same as anybody else might be.

30,138. You cannot tell what you were paid for Mr. Gower?—No.

30,139. Did you do any other service besides bill posting for Mr. Gower in 1863?—No.

30,140. You were on his committee?—I was not, sir.

30,141. Did you receive anything besides for posting bills?—I believe not. Let me see. I cannot tell you; it is a good while ago, 1863. I believe not.

30,142. But I should like to know?—If I received anything at all it would be in connexion with my work. I have no doubt it was for the work which I had done.

30,143. You sent in an account for bill posting. Were you paid it?—Oh yes.

30,144. Do you remember who by?—I have no doubt whatever it was by Mr. Smith.

30,145. Now what I want to know is, whether you were paid over and above that anything more by Mr. Smith or any other person for your services?—Well, I done nothing else.

30,146. I did not say you did. I asked you a very simple question?—I should say certainly not.

30,147. Will you say, "Certainly not." Say it if you like?—I am willing to say this, that I received no money for any other services except bill posting.

30,148. I am sorry I cannot get you to answer me a little more direct. You sent your bill in to Mr. Smith for posting, and were paid it by him?—That is all I received.

30,149. Did you receive anything else from him?—Well, I cannot exactly give it to you; certainly I sent in my bill to Mr. Smith, and after the election the auditor was here; the bill no doubt was passed, and I have no doubt I went to Mr. Smith's office and received the money.

30,150. The money mentioned in your bill?—The money mentioned in the bill. I had nothing to do with anything else.

30,151. Did you receive any other money from Mr. Smith?—Than that named in my bill?

30,152. Than that named in your bill?—I think not.

30,153. I did not catch what you said?—Certainly not. I did not receive any money but what was in the bill.

30,154. Give me "aye" or "no," which you like, only let us have it distinct, and don't let us get into conversation?—I have already said I received no money from Mr. Smith except in connexion with my bill posting, and that he paid me.

30,155. That won't satisfy me. You sent in your bill, according to your own account, to Mr. Smith, and it was probably passed, and Mr. Smith paid you the amount of your bill so stated?—Yes, he did.

30,156. Aye or no, did he pay you any other money?—Well, I certainly believe not.

30,157. You "certainly *believe* not." Now, must I take that to be your answer, that you *believe* not?—I believe not. I have no recollection of it whatever.

30,158. That is a very different answer from the last, "I believe I was paid no other money." I should think you would remember it if you were?—I believe I should; but I have no recollection of it at present.

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30,159. You cannot say positively you were not?—If you put me up in a corner I should say, certainly I was not.

30,160. Are you prepared to say that you were not paid any other money by Mr. Smith?—I can only give the same answer as I did before.

30,161. Will you undertake to say you were not paid any more money by Mr. Smith? It is a very simple question?—It is a very simple question, and it is a very simple answer to me; but I am not here to tell you a wilful lie, if I know it, and if I say I cannot test my memory exactly, but I believe the whole amount I received was charged in the bill to Mr. Smith for bill posting, and he paid it, I think there ought to be an end to it.

30,162. I am quite aware of that. Will you undertake to say you did not receive any more money from Mr. Smith?—I have already said so.

30,163. Said what?—That I have not received any more money than what was charged in my bill.

30,164. I heard you say "I believe." I have taken your words down?—Mr. Smith would not pay. I do not know what he would do to other people; he would not to me.

30,165. I do not care about your comments on Mr. Smith, or your opinions of him. Were you paid any other money by Mr. Smith?—If it is not sufficient for you that I give a plain straightforward answer, there is an end of it. I have already told you distinctly and plainly that Mr. Smith has not paid me any money for anything else but connected with posting, and that he paid me in the bill I gave him. You have the bill there; that is the only bill he has ever paid me, if you have the bill of 1863.

30,166. I never said anything about the bill. I want a plain answer to a plain qusestion. Will you swear?—I am swearing.

30,167. Don't be in a hurry. Will you swear that you have not received any more money from Mr. Smith than that which was charged in your bill, which was paid by him?—I have already said so, and you say that what I have said is not correct. I have already said I have not been paid any more money by Mr. Charles Smith than the amount of my bill for bill posting.

30,168. You will say that?—I have already said so.

30,169. Never once; nothing of the kind; you are quite mistaken?—I am sorry that persons brought here to be examined are almost treated as criminals. I have no wish to distort the truth, but to give a straightforward answer to a plain question.

30,170. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You greatly mistake the feelings of the Commissioners?—When a gentleman says that what I say is not correct, when I am upon my oath, I think I have a right to complain. Many of my own sphere would not doubt my word, if people above me do.

30,171. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were your services required previous to 1863?—I have been engaged in every election since 1852.

30,172. Have you always been engaged as a bill poster?—Yes.

30,173. Have you voted always?—I do not think I have voted before or since 1863.

30,174. Not before 1863?—I never voted before, though I have been on the register. I have had particular reasons, the same as prevented my voting the last time.

30,175. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the earliest election that you saw here?—I have been engaged professionally in every election since 1852, by two or three candidates at each election.

30,176. You were not voting in 1858 at Mr. Doulton's election?—No.

30,177. You were about a good deal, and of course had an opportunity of seeing the general tone of the borough and conduct of the election?—Yes.

30,178. Will you give us your independent notion of that election?—My independent notion is this, that that was certainly the introduction of a great deal of the drunkenness. I won't say debauchery, I am not going to libel the wives of my fellow townsmen; but drunkenness and bribery, and all that, I believe had its origin at that Doulton election.

30,179. Was that election then conducted in a very improper way?—Most decidedly.

30,180. May I use so strong a term as that?—Yes; the fact is, I doubt whether you can use too strong a term. Drunkenness, no doubt, was carried on to a great extent.

30,181. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It is a pity that it should have got abroad that the Mayor used the word "debauchery" in any other than a political sense. A voter is "debauched" when he does not vote according to his principles; that is what the Mayor meant?—I heard that gentleman say so himself, speaking of men and women too.

30,182. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) At all events, what you have said very much confirms what the Mayor has said?—Yes, but I would not go so far as he did, not so far as women were concerned.

30,183. But, taking that out, you would go as far as the Mayor?—There is no honest man in Reigate but what would come forward and say deliberately that the origin of the drunkenness and bribery to the extent that it has been carried on was brought here by Mr. Frederick Doulton.

30,184. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you not consider that political debauchery?—As I understand the word "debauchery" as connected with men and with women it is a very different thing altogether.

30,185. You did not vote at the last election, but you attended political meetings?—Only one.

30,186. If you have any private reasons I do not want them; but upon public grounds how was it you did not vote?—I will tell you fairly and candidly why I did not vote if you will allow me. They were both Liberal candidates. When Mr. Gower came here in 1863 many of the principal leaders of the Monson party at the last election made an idol of Mr. Gower; everybody was not the same way inclined, and did not want a new love so quick. I was one of that party; my friends chose to support, friends for whom I have a great respect and that kind of thing; therefore I held aloof, and, like a few more, did not vote at all.

The witness withdrew.

W. Best.

William Best sworn and examined.

30,187. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

30,188. What rent do you pay for your house?—16*l.* a year; I pay monthly.

30,189. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

30,190. Was this the first time you voted?—No, I voted once before.

30,191. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—No, I believe not; never.

30,192. Who spoke to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—Mr. Monson came to the building where I was working, and asked me himself.

30,193. Any one else?—Mr. James Nichols was with him, but he did not ask me.

30,194. Mr. Nichols spoke to you about it afterwards, did he?—Yes; I was working at the time.

30,195. Where?—At Warwick-town, for Mr. Stears, who is dead.

30,196. Did you do much for them?—I did what

I could; I promised my vote, I think, about five weeks before the election.

30,197. You did what you could?—Yes.

30,198. Did you understand that you were to be paid?—Not at that time.

30,199. Afterwards?—Yes.

30,200. When?—Two days afterwards.

30,201. Who told you you were to be paid for what you did?—Mr. James Nichols, and Mr. William Moody likewise. Mr. Nichols never told me so then.

30,202. But he did afterwards?—Yes.

30,203. And Mr. Moody?—Yes.

30,204. What money did you receive before polling?—*3l.*

30,205. And what money did you receive after polling?—*2l.* a fortnight and three days after.

30,206. *5l.* in all?—Altogether.

30,207. Who paid you the *3l.* before polling?—Mr. Moody; he paid me 30*s.* at a time.

30,208. 30*s.* at one time, and 30*s.* at another?—Yes.

30,209. What is he?—He keeps a public house, "The Plough;" he is a wheelwright by trade.

30,210. The landlord of the "Plough"?—Yes; he has been so I do not know whether it is two or three years.

30,211. Who paid you the *2l.* afterwards?—Mr. Moody's wife; he told her to pay me the first time I called for the money; he left the money for me.

30,212. On account of the election?—Yes, of course; he did not owe it to me for anything else.

30,213. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that William or John Moody?—William Moody.

30,214. William Moody, near Redhill church?—Yes, that is the man.

30,215. Do you recollect, when he paid you, were there many others there?—There was no one when I was paid either time but him and me, barring his wife.

30,216. Did you see any one else waiting to be paid?—I saw no one else paid a farthing during the election but my own self.

30,217. Were there many of you working together who had votes?—Mead-vale was my home; I was generally with the rest of the men about Mead-vale; we voted for Mr. Monson.

30,218. Carpenters?—Carpenters and labourers; I do not know what they were all of them.

30,219. How did you know what you were to get?—I came over to Mr. Nichols' house afterwards, and I saw him. We talked the subject over. I says to Mr. Nichols, "Can you give me anything to do? I "can earn a little money." "Yes," he says, "I can." I says, "I have promised my vote to Mr. Monson; it "appears to me that they are all earning money, and "I should like to do the same thing." "Very well," he says, "you can; what do you want?" "Well," I said, "I don't know what I want." He said, "I "will give you 15*s.* a week if you like before the "election," (it was to be 5*s.* a day,) "and the rest "after." I did not make any answer. However he says, "Go on and do your best." That is all we said. About two days after, when I was going home from work, from Warwick-town to Redhill, I met Mr. Moody just above the Union. He says, "Halloa, "neighbour, what are you going to do?" I says, "I am already done, I believe." He says, "Who are "you going to vote for?" I said, "Mr. Monson." He said, "You may as well come on with us, they "are giving them all a little money, and a little will "do you good as well as the rest."

30,220. Giving them all a little money?—No, he did not say giving them all money. He says, "We "have an opportunity of setting them to work."

30,221. You said, "Giving them money"?—Excuse me if I happen to make a mistake.

30,222. What did he say?—He said, "You may as "well come on with me." I never said any more to Mr. Nichols about the matter; I did not want two paymasters, Mr. Moody being a neighbour of mine, as I called him, and knowing him so well, I did the same thing.

30,223. He said, "You may as well have a little "money as the rest"?—Yes; and instead of my receiving 15*s.* a week, he gave me 30*s.* a week; he knew he could depend upon me; he was not afraid of my running away; at least I was not, if he was.

30,224. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you say that Nichols had to give you 15*s.* a week and Moody 30*s.*?—No; I never said any more to Mr. Nichols about the money; I went with Moody, and Moody paid me the money.

30,225. You say that Mr. Nichols offered you 15*s.* a week?—He said he would offer me that, but I met Mr. Moody coming home from work a day or two afterwards, and he and I made an arrangement that instead of my going to Mr. Nichols he took the subject.

30,226. Nichols' arrangement was 30*s.* a week; 15*s.* before the election, and the balance after you voted?—Yes, the same as they paid a good many others.

30,227. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said that you had voted before?—For Mr. Wilkinson at the previous election.

30,228. In 1863?—Yes.

30,229. Were you on the committee?—Yes, I think about six or seven weeks; I cannot say how long.

30,230. And worked for him?—I worked for him; I think it was 21 days; I am not quite certain.

30,231. What had you a day for the five or six weeks?—That is not five or six weeks; 21 days.

30,232. You said five or six weeks?—I said I was on the committee five or six weeks.

30,233. You were actually at work 21 days?—I think somewhere thereabouts; I should not have been to work for him, only I had nothing to do.

30,234. What had you a week?—30*s.* a week.

30,235. How much did you receive?—*5l.*

30,236. Who paid it to you?—Mr. Rose, of Mead-vale, paid me the last 30*s.*; the other money I received here in the committee room.

30,237. From whom?—Not from Mr. James. I signed a book for all the money; it was an oldish man that paid that; I do not know his name, he was rather lame. I think the first money he paid me was 15*s.*

30,238. You received *5l.* in all?—Yes, I did.

30,239. Were you paid all before you voted?—The polling day was on Thursday, and I had my last 30*s.* on the next Friday.

30,240. The day after?—Yes; my week was not up by one day; but he said he would pay the 30*s.*

30,241. I suppose you attended the committees in 1863?—Yes; when I was at work I was ordered there every morning at 9 o'clock.

30,242. You had refreshment?—A little, the same as the rest.

30,243. You did not pay for it out of your own pocket?—No; I am not a drunken man. I do not drink much; a little suits me.

30,244. Had you refreshment at the last election also, 1865?—Yes.

30,245. In the same way?—Yes; two or three meetings I went to.

30,246. You canvassed somebody, did you not? Who did you speak to of your own class of men to vote for Mr. Monson?—I do not remember speaking to any one in particular.

30,247. Did you not?—No.

30,248. I thought you did the best you could; you may have spoken to somebody. Did you ask anybody to vote for Mr. Monson?—I asked a man when I was at one meeting at Redhill.

30,249. What was his name?—He was a tailor in Mead-vale; he has left there now.

30,250. Was it Spence?—No, another man.

30,251. You cannot recollect his name?—No, I should recollect it if I saw it.

30,252. Did he vote for Mr. Monson?—No, he voted for Mr. Gower.

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30,253. You did not succeed in getting any vote, did you?—Not one. This was a tall thin man; I do not think I have set eyes on him from that time to this. He is a man I do not associate with or know anything about.

30,254. Did you speak to any one else?—Not any one that I know of, barring my master that I worked for; we used to talk it over sometimes. He voted for Mr. Monson.

30,255. Who was your master?—Mr. Stears, who is dead; only him and me had a vote.

30,256. Did you vote before 1863?—Never.

30,257. You received 5*l.* each time?—5*l.* both times.

The witness withdrew.

R. Ellis.

RICHARD ELLIS sworn and examined.

30,258. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

30,259. What rent do you pay for your house?—It is freehold.

30,260. What is the yearly value of it, do you think?—About 12*l.*

30,261. Do you live in it?—Yes.

30,262. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

30,263. Who asked you to vote for him?—He came to me himself.

30,264. Did you promise him?—I did.

30,265. At once?—Yes, my mind was made up.

30,266. Did he ask you to go on the committee?—No. I was asked, but I did not go.

30,267. Did you interest yourself for him, and try to get votes?—No; I had nothing to do of the sort.

30,268. Did anybody else come to you before the election came on, and talk to you about it?—No.

30,269. But you went up to vote when the election day came?—Yes, I went and gave my vote.

30,270. And nobody talked to you?—No, not at all.

30,271. Did you not do anything at all for the man you were going to vote for?—No, nothing. I had got plenty of things to fill my time up without anything of that sort.

30,272. Did you talk to any of the carpenters about it?—No; they used to ask me sometimes how I was going to vote, and I said I was going to vote for Monson.

30,273. Did you ever talk to Kenward about it?—No.

30,274. Perhaps you do not know him?—No, I do not.

30,275. What time in the day did you vote?—About 9 o'clock, as near as I can remember.

30,276. Before you voted had anybody been canvassing you for Mr. Gower?—No.

30,277. Nobody asked you for your vote?—They had been to me, certainly; but I gave them an answer.

30,278. Who had been to you?—I do not know.

30,279. You gave them an answer, and said you were engaged?—I said I should vote for Monson; that my mind was made up.

30,280. They did not tease you any more?—No.

30,281. Did you receive anything at all before the election?—No, not anything; no promise. They never offered me anything, and I never asked for anything.

30,282. After the election was over did you?—Well, I understood that most of the voters got two days' work; and about two months after the election I called upon Mr. Nichols, and said I understood the voters were paid for the two days. He asked me what I had before at the previous election, and I told him 2*l.* He said he would give me 2*l.*; but nothing was said about that before the election. I did not know what I was going to receive.

30,283. Did he say he would give you 2*l.*?—Yes.

30,284. And did he?—Yes, he did; not then, a week or two afterwards.

30,285. At the previous election who had you voted for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

30,286. On that occasion did you do anything for them?—No.

30,287. Who paid you that time the 2*l.*?—Mr. Frederick Joyes.

30,288. Was that your first election, in 1863?—That was not the first time I voted.

30,289. Had you voted at all the elections?—Pretty near, I think, commencing with Mr. Hackblock; at least I did not vote for him, but that was the first time.

30,290. You voted for Rawlinson?—Yes.

30,291. What did you get at that election?—Nothing at all.

30,292. Did you vote in 1858, at the Doulton election?—Yes.

30,293. Who did you vote for?—I balloted for Doulton.

30,294. And voted for him afterwards?—Yes.

30,295. Were you then paid so much a week, or so much at the end?—I never was paid at all.

30,296. You say that?—I never was paid anything. I went over to Redhill at the Infant School, and balloted there.

30,297. Did you not receive anything, not for your vote, but for your loss of time?—Nothing at all.

30,298. At the election after that Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson were candidates?—Yes.

30,299. The same year?—Yes.

30,300. Who did you vote for then?—Mr. Wilkinson.

30,301. Did you work for him?—Was that in 1859?

30,302. That was in October 1858, the same year as the Doulton election?—That is when I met with an accident, and cut my thumb.

30,303. You voted then?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson, and I went and distributed circulars about. I was laid up five months during the time.

30,304. What did you receive?—I cannot tell you exactly; but, as near as I can say, about 2*l.* 10*s.* altogether.

30,305. Who paid you?—Mr. Frederick Joyes.

30,306. That was all you got then?—That was all I got.

30,307. At the general election in 1859, when Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson stood, how did you vote then?—I do not recollect about that.

30,308. Mr. Wilkinson was put up against the Hon. Mr. Monson, behind his back, and did not come down.—I know that that is all I ever received. I do not know whether I voted for Mr. Wilkinson that time or not, perhaps I might.

30,309. You got nothing if you did vote?—No, that I did not.

30,310. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In 1858 were you a Doulton man from the first?—Yes, from the first, as soon as I heard of his character. I felt that ways inclined from the first.

30,311. You say you had no money at that election?—No, not a farthing.

The witness withdrew.

G. A. Albuary.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS ALBUARY sworn and examined.

30,312. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was your qualification at the last election?—12*l.*

30,313. What are you?—A bill poster.

30,314. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

30,315. Were you on his committee?—I think I was.

30,316. You were published on his committee?—Yes.

30,317. Did you know of your name being on the committee?—I knew my name was there.

30,318. Had you authorized your name to be there?—No; I did not give anybody leave to put it there.

30,319. I suppose some one had asked you about going on the committee?—No.

30,320. Can you suggest how it got there?—It was put there, I suppose.

30,321. Were there any reasons that passed between you and somebody else?—No reason.

30,322. Did anybody canvass you for your vote for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower himself.

30,323. Did you see anybody else but Mr. Gower?—No.

30,324. Did Mr. Gower ask you to go on his committee?—No.

30,325. Was anybody with Mr. Gower when you were canvassed?—Yes.

30,326. Who was?—I saw Mr. Joyes with him.

30,327. Did Joyes either then or afterwards speak to you about being on the committee?—No.

30,328. Had you promised nobody your vote?—I promised Mr. Gower.

30,329. Mr. Gower himself?—Yes.

30,330. Did you subsequent to seeing Mr. Gower have a conversation with any of his agents?—No.

30,331. You know whom I mean—Mr. Joyes, or Apted, or any of the persons who interested themselves?—Not any of them.

30,332. Did you do any other work for Mr. Gower except in the regular business of bill posting?—Nothing else.

30,333. Did you do any work for him in the shape of canvassing other voters?—No.

30,334. Not at all?—Not at all.

30,335. After the election I suppose you sent in your account for bill posting?—I sent in my account several times; two or three times before the election.

30,336. I suppose it was not paid till afterwards?—Yes, I was paid when I took it in; I took it in myself, I did not send it in.

30,337. Were those bills which you sent in for Mr. Gower fair and proper bills for the work which you had done?—Certainly they were.

30,338. You sent in four separate accounts?—I do not know how many there were.

30,339. 4*l*., 6*l*., 6*l*., and 3*l*. 15*s*.?—I dare say that is right.

30,340. 19*l*. 15*s*. in all?—I could not tell, exactly.

30,341. Did you receive any other monies from Mr. Gower's party except that 19*l*. 15*s*.?—None but those bills I sent in.

30,342. Do you keep books?—No.

30,343. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understand that might be the amount, though you do not recollect it?—Yes, about it; I do not recollect the amount; I cannot tell; I never kept any account of it.

30,344. You do your work, and send in your bill at once?—Yes, perhaps a week, or it may be 8 or 9 days; then I take in the bill and get paid. I was paid by the day.

30,345. And by the number of bills posted?—No, we did not count the bills; we were paid by the day.

30,346. You posted as many as you could?—We were supposed to post as many as we could; of course what was necessary.

30,347. Were you engaged in any previous elections?—In 1863.

30,348. Only 1863?—That is all.

30,349. Who did you vote for then?—For Mr. Gower.

30,350. Did you receive anything at that election?—The same as I did this.

30,351. Only for bill posting?—Only for bill posting.

30,352. Going about as you must have done posting bills all over the borough, you can probably give me some general account of the two elections and the mode in which they were conducted?—Of course I was about a great deal.

30,353. And you must have seen a great deal?—I had my business to attend to; therefore I did not take much notice of other people; but from what I did see I do not consider that there was anything extraordinary, no more than what there ought to be at these two elections; nothing out of the way.

30,354. Then I presume that the examinations of the last few days have not opened your mind any more than what you noticed?—I have heard a few things that I was not aware of at the time.

30,355. A few things?—Yes, decidedly.

30,356. Has that in the least degree changed your notions?—It is bound to; still I did not see anything myself.

30,357. You had not an an opportunity of seeing?—No, I had not.

30,358. Did you attend any of the meetings in the evening?—I believe I did, one or two.

30,359. Where did you attend the one or two?—I do not think that I was much in the public house meetings but one, and that was at the "Black Horse," Reigate-hill.

30,360. That was just before the writ came down; when was it?—In 1865.

30,361. Was it before or after the writ came down?—It was the night before, I think; I think I heard it mentioned there.

30,362. Did you hear it mentioned, in connexion with that being the night before the writ, that they must not do the thing so openly?—No, I do not recollect that.

30,363. That the treating must be a little more on the quiet after the writ came down?—I do not recollect that; I do not recollect anything said about it; I heard it said here that such was the case. I might not have been in the room at the time. It might have been said and I might not hear it.

30,364. Were those the only elections you had seen here?—The only two; I might have seen others, but I had not the opportunity of voting.

30,365. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you post bills only for Mr. Gower?—Only for Mr. Gower.

30,366. Not for Mr. Monson?—No.

30,367. How long were you engaged in posting bills for Mr. Gower?—I cannot say how long it was; I know it was longer in the previous election; I do not know how much longer.

30,368. How many weeks should you suppose?—Four or five weeks; it might be five probably; I cannot give any account of it.

30,369. Who agreed with you to do it?—Mr. Smith.

30,370. He set you to work?—He did.

30,371. Did he tell you what you would be paid?—Yes; 10*s*. a day.

30,372. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that your usual charge for posting bills?—At elections.

30,373. Suppose I asked you to post bills for me?—I would do it for a crown for you.

30,374. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He said you would have 10*s*. a day?—Yes.

30,375. Eventually was it Mr. Smith who paid your bill?—Yes.

30,376. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ask 10*s*. a day, or did Mr. Smith offer it?—I took him in the first bill charging 10*s*. a day without asking him.

30,377. Without any agreement?—Without any agreement whatever.

30,378. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He acquiesced in that?—He paid me the money anyhow; therefore I should judge he did.

30,379. Before the election of 1865 it was Smith who set you on the work?—Yes.

30,380. At that time did you stipulate what you should be paid?—No more than I did this time.

30,381. I am speaking of the last time, in 1865?—

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I took him in the bill after I had been working about a week for 10*s.* a day, and he paid me without grumbling.

30,382. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If you are engaged by a committee to post bills, I presume you have a great many more to post during the day than if a private person like myself was to ask you to post bills for the sale of an estate?—It all depends. Sometimes we had more than what was necessary; sometimes we had not enough.

30,383. You mean you could have covered more of the boardings and hoardings?—There are very few of them about here; they are generally brick walls.

30,384. I suppose you would post over your neighbours' bills too?—We did not make a practice of that. I think it was an understood thing between us that we should not do that sort of thing, interfering with one another's work.

30,385. The election war of paste and paper, you did not go into that?—No, we have never anything of that sort about here.

30,386. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say that at ordinary times 5*s.* a day would be the charge for posting?—That would be the charge. Yes, decidedly, I could do it for that.

30,387. Not higher than that in ordinary times?—I have earned at posting bills as much as 15*s.* or 16*s.* a day.

30,388. At ordinary times you say the charge is 5*s.* a day?—If you were to give me one little set of bills to post I should charge a crown for the one set. If there was more than one bill I should charge in proportion to the work.

30,389. Were there any bill posters that you know of who posted bills for both sides; Gower and Monson?—I know one man that did.

30,390. Who?—Beddington did.

30,391. Were you and he the only bill posters here?—I do not think there were any more at Reigate.

30,392. Was there one at Redhill?—I think there was.

30,393. Do you know how he did? Was he engaged on both sides?—I do not know, because I never had any conversation with the man.

30,394. Tell me how it was that you did not post bills for both sides if he did?—I do not think it a very good principle at all to go and take one man's money, and then go and work for the other man and take his money too, because they would naturally expect you to vote for them if you stick bills for them. It would not be anything like principle to go and take money both sides.

30,395. Unless you did not vote at all?—Then it is as bad, I consider.

30,396. When you were paid in 1863 you received the same amount as you had in 1865, exactly 19*l.* 15*s.*?—I do not know that.

30,397. You were paid at the same rate?—Yes.

30,398. Can you tell me who you agreed with then?—I believe it was Mr. Smith then; I would not be certain, it is so long ago.

The witness withdrew.

J. Ing.

JOHN ING sworn and examined.

30,399. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—Carman.

30,400. What rent do you pay for your house for which you vote?—20*l.*

30,401. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower.

30,402. Were you on his committee?—No.

30,403. Did you work for him?—No.

30,404. Did you do all you could for him in the way of the election?—I cannot say what I did. I asked a few friends that I knew.

30,405. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Himself.

30,406. Who was with him when he asked you?—I believe I saw Mr. Smith with him, and I think Mr. Joyes was somewhere not far off.

30,407. You saw Mr. Joyes afterwards, I suppose?—No, I did not.

30,408. Were you told that whoever worked for Mr. Gower should be paid?—No.

30,409. You did not hear that?—No, I was never told that.

30,410. You heard it?—No, I did not.

30,411. You heard it stated?—No, I did not.

30,412. Did you receive any money before the polling?—I did not; I was never promised anything.

30,413. Did you receive any after the polling?—Yes, I received 2*l.* some time afterwards.

30,414. From whom?—Mr. Apted.

30,415. Mr. Joseph Apted?—Yes.

30,416. When did you receive it?—I cannot say when; several weeks afterwards.

30,417. How came you to go to Mr. Apted?—I did not go to him at all. I go there pretty nearly every day, being a carman.

30,418. I am speaking about this election?—Yes.

30,419. He paid you 2*l.*?—He gave me 2*l.*

30,420. When, can you recollect?—I think about four or five weeks after the election; it might be six weeks.

30,421. Did he tell you what he had paid it to you for?—Not this last election.

30,422. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was this the last election that you had the 2*l.*?—No, never at all, nor yet promised anything. I misunderstood you.

30,423. You had nothing at this last election?—No, nothing was promised.

30,424. Nothing was promised; did you receive nothing from anybody at the last election?—Nothing.

30,425. Did you apply to anybody?—No, I did not.

30,426. Then you are speaking of 1863. For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

30,427. Then it was Mr. Apted paid you?—Yes.

30,428. Had you voted before 1863?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Monson.

30,429. That would be in 1859?—Yes.

30,430. You were paid nothing for that?—I was paid nothing for voting, nor promised anything.

30,431. But you were paid something for your services?—I had 2*l.* given me then.

30,432. In 1859?—Yes.

30,433. By whom?—By Mr. Holdsworth.

30,434. After the election?—Yes, a long time.

30,435. What was it given to you for?—Well, I did not ask any questions. They said "John, that is "for you." I did not ask any question at all.

30,436. For whom had you voted when you had been paid the 2*l.*?—For Mr. Monson.

30,437. Did you not vote in October 1858?—No, only three times; I was not entitled at that time.

30,438. How was it you got nothing last time?—I tell you I voted three times and never expected anything.

30,439. And your expectations were exceeded on the two first occasions?—Then I did not expect it.

30,440. At the last were you not surprised?—No, I never expect anything unless I get it.

30,441. You did not get it from anybody?—No, I never had anything. Had anything been offered no doubt I should not have asked what it was for; I should have taken it.

30,442. Although not expecting it, I think you were a little disappointed at not getting something at the last election?—No, not at all disappointed.

30,443. You did not apply to Mr. Joyes at all about anything?—No, nor Mr. Joyes to me.

30,444. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know Mr. Matthews?—I do.

30,445. At this last election do you recollect his telling you that he had spoken to Mr. Smith about giving you a job?—No.

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30,446. Do you recollect that?—He never did, not that I can recollect.

30,447. Do you remember going to Mr. Smith yourself?—No, I never did.

30,448. Did you have any talk with Mr. Smith at all?—I did not.

30,449. Have you anything to do with Mr. Matthews?—Not at all, further than going and collecting a little money of him,—railway bills and so on.

30,450. Did you not tell him that the election was going on, and that you should like a bit of a job?—No; I did not expect a job, I did not want one.

30,451. Did you not tell him that you were ready to do a bit of work, and that you should like a job?—I did not.

30,452. You did not ask him to mention you to Mr. Smith?—No, nor any one else.

30,453. Did you ask Mr. Matthews to mention your name to Mr. Smith?—I did not.

30,454. Did you ask him to mention your name to them?—No.

30,455. None of them?—Not one, nor no one else.

30,456. Who asked you for your vote this last time?—Mr. Gower himself.

30,457. Who else?—No one else. Mr. Smith was with him, and I think I saw Mr. Joyes somewhere in the road.

30,458. Did you tell Joyes that you were ready to do a job or work?—No, I did not; he never asked me.

30,459. You are sure you did not tell Mr. John Falkner Matthews?—I know him; I could swear it before his face, or any one else's.

30,460. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing of the sort.

30,461. It is very odd; there must be some mistake.—It may be odd, but it is true.

30,462. Did you know that he mentioned your name to Mr. Smith?—No, I do not know that he did; I never heard any one say so, nor Mr. Smith himself; I never had one word of conversation with Mr. Smith about the election. I promised Mr. Gower, and I said, "You can depend upon me." That is all the words that I said before or afterwards.

30,463. But having promised him it was the more likely you should be inclined to do something for him?—I had not got time; I was engaged in the railway.

30,464. A good many people had not much time, but they made a little extra time?—Yes.

30,465. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You know Mr. Matthews I suppose?—Yes.

30,466. And he knows you?—Yes.

30,467. He is friendly towards you I suppose?—Yes.

30,468. And perfectly willing to give you a good turn if he could?—I do not know about that.

The witness withdrew.

James Dewdney sworn and examined.

J. Dewdney.

30,469. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your qualification to be on the register, Mr. Dewdney? I suppose you are on the register?—I suppose so.

30,470. I simply ask you what is your qualification?—House, land and premises.

30,471. What rent?—28*l.*

30,472. What are you, Mr. Dewdney?—A baker.

30,473. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes, and I never voted before in my life.

30,474. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

30,475. Were you on his committee?—No, I never was on any committee in my life.

30,476. Did you assist him at all in his election besides voting?—No.

30,477. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—I never was asked in my life.

30,478. Did Mr. Gower call upon you?—He called upon me one morning when I was loading my cart.

30,479. Did you take no part in the election of 1863?—No, I never voted before in my life.

30,480. Had you known Mr. Gower before the election of 1865?—Known him?

30,481. Yes.—I know him when I see him.

30,482. Do you know him when you see him?—Yes, and that is all.

30,483. He is a gentleman living in the neighbourhood?—I don't know about the neighbourhood. He lives at Titsey.

30,484. I suppose he comes into the town at times?—He comes into the town sometimes when there are concerts or public meetings.

30,485. Did you attend any of those meetings?—No, I never did, not in all my life.

30,486. Did you not in 1863?—No, never in my life.

30,487. Did you interest yourself at all in the election of 1863?—I never interested myself at all before 1865.

30,488. May I take it then you did not?—I never had anything to do with any election in my life, more than that I voted for Mr. Gower in 1865.

30,489. Then I take your answer in the negative, that you did not vote in 1863?—I never in my life voted for anybody till 1865.

30,490. Were any of your relations on the register in 1865?—I do not know that I have any relations, barring a brother.

30,491. I suppose you would call your brother a relation?—Yes.

30,492. Your brother was on the register, I suppose, in 1863?—I do not know.

30,493. Do you know who he voted for?—I do not know whether he voted, or, if he did vote, who he voted for, in 1863. I have no recollection of the 1863 election.

30,494. Did your brother vote in 1865?—Yes, sir.

30,495. Did you go to the poll together?—No, sir.

30,496. Where does your brother live?—In Meadvale.

30,497. Where do you live?—In the town here, 200 yards from this place.

30,498. Where does your brother live?—At Meadvale, a mile and a half from this place.

30,499. Who did your brother vote for in 1865?—I do not know whether he did vote.

30,500. Your brother and you, I suppose, were very good friends?—Not at that time.

30,501. In 1863?—No.

30,502. You were not in 1863?—No, sir.

30,503. And you were not interested in the election of 1863?—No.

30,504. Though you did not take an active part in the election of '63 you took some interest?—I told you I never took any part before that of '65.

30,505. No part whatever?—No part at all; none whatever.

30,506. Had you anything to do with canvassing one single voter, or inducing a single voter in 1863?—Not at all. I never asked a man to vote for any candidate in my life.

30,507. Not in connexion with your brother in 1863?—No.

30,508. And you had no connexion with your brother in 1863?—No.

30,509. You say you were not on the best of terms with your brother in 1863?—No, I was not.

30,510. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you canvassed by anybody in 1863 to vote?—I have no recollection of that.

30,511. Your memory is not so bad as all that since 1863?—I know nothing at all about the 1863 election.

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30,512. We begin to think, and naturally, if your memory is so bad?—No, I did not.

30,513. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We will take it as a fact you did not take an active part in the election of 1863 or of this till circumstances took place?—What circumstances?

30,514. You are perfectly well aware there were some circumstances?—What circumstances?

30,515. I say you are well aware there were some circumstances, or else you would not jump so quickly to answer?—I wish to know what circumstances. I don't know what circumstances you allude to?

30,516. Then, why did you jump so at the question?—I did not jump at it.

30,517. You seem a little too eager?—Not at all.

30,518. Now I will put a plain question to you. Just before 4 o'clock, or late in the afternoon of the polling of 1863, did you not offer your own vote if anybody would give you 40*l.*?—No.

30,519. Was not this the little circumstance you jumped at?—No.

30,520. I suppose you have heard it before?—No.

30,521. Or hinted at?—No.

30,522. Then, what was your anxiety just now on the question being put?—I was under no anxiety.

30,523. Then it is your general fancy?—No, it is not at all my fancy; it is no inclination of mine I can assure you.

30,524. Was not something said; they would take you up at 4 o'clock?—I know nothing of 4 o'clock.

30,525. That is no answer to the question. Was not something said they would take you up at 4 o'clock?—No.

30,526. Not so?—No.

30,527. Did anybody come to you a few minutes after 4 on the polling day?—I have no recollection of the sort.

30,528. Did they?—Not that I know of.

30,529. You surely can say either yes or no; it is rather a vague answer, "Not that I know of;" you can either say yes or no?—Put the question again that I may understand it?

30,530. Did anybody come to you after 4 o'clock, when the poll had closed, and then you said it was too late?—No, nobody came to me.

30,531. Did you offer your vote to anybody in 1863?—No. I fully made up my mind not to vote in 1863.

30,532. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who canvassed you?—I was not canvassed at all.

30,533. Who asked you to vote?—I believe Mr. Burt asked me to vote for Mr. Wilkinson.

30,534. What is he?—A lawyer; as good as any other lawyer, I suppose.

30,535. Did you tell Mr. Burt that you would not vote?—I do not recollect what I did say.

30,536. Have you not a clear recollection of what you did say?—No, I have not a recollection. I was merely asked for Mr. Wilkinson when I came home with my horse and cart. I scarcely took any notice of him. I went down to take my horse, when he asked me if I would vote for Mr. Wilkinson. I said, "No," and he said, "You will promise not to vote "against him," and I said, "No, I will not."

30,537. That was a very doubtful answer?—No, I think not.

30,538. It left him to imagine you would or might be gained. Is that your only recollection of being asked?—I do not recollect being asked by any one else.

30,539. Then, in the afternoon of the polling day nothing took place a little before 4 o'clock or after?—No.

30,540. Or saying anything about it?—No.

30,541. I do not mean seriously, but in bravado. Did you not say, "If anybody will give me 40*l.* I will vote"?—No; I did not want their money.

30,542. But did not you say it as matter of joke?—No. I had fully made up my mind not to vote, and I did not.

30,543. But as a matter of joke you might have said, "If anybody would give me 40*l.* they shall have "my vote." You know there was money flying about, and you might, as a little joke, bring it out in that way?—No.

30,544. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you present at the polling in 1863?—No, sir.

30,545. Where were you on the polling day?—About my own business.

30,546. But you remember it, I suppose; were you at home at the time?—I was carrying out my bread and taking my money for it; that is what I was doing.

30,547. Did you get any knowledge at 4 o'clock, or after 4 o'clock, about the state of the poll?—No.

30,548. Was any message sent to you?—No, no message at all.

30,549. Was no message sent to you a little before or a little after the poll?—No, no messages, and so I have told you already.

30,550. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or talked to?—No.

30,551. I do not mean a letter or message, but somebody seeing you and speaking to you about it?—No.

30,552. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was a very close contest?—I believe it was.

30,553. You remember so much as that?—I confuse them. There have been so many elections that I really confuse them. I never voted at that election, and I know nothing about it.

30,554. I suppose there was a great deal of excitement in the town when it was getting to half-past 3 o'clock, and the two candidates were getting so close?—I suppose there might be.

30,555. It was very natural it should be so?—I had thoroughly made up my mind not to vote, and when I once make up my mind nobody can turn me.

30,556. I think you are a man not very likely to be turned; but for all that you might have had a person come and say to you, "Now, Mr. Dewdney, we are "running very close indeed, so close that we do not "know which will win, will you give us your vote?" Did anybody come and say that?—No party ever came a-near me.

30,557. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) By the way, I was going to ask you whether Daniel Dewdney was your brother?—I have got but one brother, and he is William Dewdney.

30,558. Will you tell me this? In 1865 you did vote for Mr. Gower, that was your first election. Mr. Gower was the person, you told us, who called upon you; who was the person to whom you promised your vote?—I never promised my vote to a man-jack of them. Mr. Gower, as I told you before, asked me for my vote while I was loading my cart at the door.

30,559. What I want to know is ——?—Do you mean those flabbergasting agents? Do you mean them, because there was not an agent who asked me for my vote—there!

30,560. No agent asked you?—Not one.

30,561. Did any one ask you for your vote besides Mr. Gower?—Not a man.

30,562. How long before the election was it that you saw Mr. Gower?—I do not recollect that; it might be a week or a month.

30,563. I mean in '65?—Yes, I was loading my horse and cart with my bread.

30,564. I know that; I only want to find out about how long before the election that was?—I should not like to swear to such a thing.

30,565. Do you think it was perhaps a month? Anything you like I will take. I do not want to tie you to a day or two?—I do not think it was hardly a month.

30,566. During the election time, after that, did not some one come to you from Mr. Gower, and say, "You promised Mr. Gower; I hope it is all right"?—Not a soul.

30,567. Tell me what time in the day you did vote?—I do not know. I never looked at the clock.

30,568. I did not say you did; please to tell me about what time in the day you voted?—I never looked at the clock.

30,569. Never mind the clock; please to tell me what time in the day you did vote?—It was after dinner.

30,570. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What time did you dine?—I dined at various times.

30,571. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now tell me about what time it was?—I go away with my horse and cart; I am sometimes three hours away, sometimes two, sometimes one, and so when I came back with my horse and cart I had my dinner.

30,572. Do you think it would be about 3 o'clock?—It was between 2 and 4 o'clock, if that is near enough.

30,573. Who was there whom you knew when you went to poll?—Who was there?

30,574. Yes?—There were a good many people there.

30,575. Any one you knew?—There were a lot of these here helpers, that hallo'd the people in and out, and a lot of roughs.

30,576. We do not care about them; did you notice anybody whom you knew?—Yes, Mr. Gower was there himself.

30,577. Did you notice any friends besides Mr. Gower?—Not particularly.

30,578. Did you notice any respectable persons living about here whom you knew?—I do not know; I do not recollect who was there now.

30,579. You do not remember any one?—Mr. Dennis, a butcher, went and polled the same time I did. I do not wish to bring his name in. I do not know that I should have polled if it had not have been for him. There was another gentleman.

30,580. Did Mr. Dennis ask you to come up?—I had just had my dinner, and I was in the shop; he came along, and he said to me, "Have you voted?" and I said, "No, what is the use of voting with the "majority so large?" that Mr. Gower had got. He said, "I am going to vote, and you must go with me." We went and voted togother, me and my friend.

30,581. What was the name of the other gentleman?—A farmer near here.

30,582. You do not know his name now?—No.

30,583. Then you went with Dennis?—Yes.

30,584. After that did you see Smith?—What Smith?

30,585. Mr. Smith, the agent?—No.

30,586. Did Mr. Smith call on you?—Mr. Smith never called upon me for my vote in his life.

30,587. And you had no conversation with him after the election?—I never saw him, no more than that I might have seen him the next day, because I went to his house with the bread.

30,588. There was no conversation with him about it?—I never saw him.

30,589. Do you recollect when you were on the register first of all?—I do not know when I was put on the register.

30,590. You cannot tell how long you have been on the register?—No, I cannot. I succeeded from my father, I believe; the names are both alike. I never asked any one to put my name on the register.

30,591. Did Mr. Dennis vote, in '63?—I did not know anything about Mr. Dennis; he was not in the same shop he is in now.

30,592. Who canvassed you in 1863?—Canvassed who?

30,593. It was Mr. Burt who asked you to vote for Mr. Wilkinson. I beg your pardon for asking you the same thing twice; you knew Mr. Burt very well in '63?—I knew him as a business man in the town.

30,594. He was a professional man here?—Yes, but he never did anything for me.

30,595. Was it on the day of the polling that he spoke to you?—No.

30,596. What day was it?—I do not know long before the polling, he asked me one day.

30,597. You do not recollect whether it was on the polling day?—It was not on the polling day.

30,598. Some time before?—I dare say it was weeks before.

30,599. Did you make him any promise?—No promise at all.

30,600. Can you tell me at all what you said to him? Did you say to him, "I shall not make up my mind"?—He wanted me to promise not to vote against Mr. Wilkinson, and I told him I would do nothing of the kind.

30,601. Were you in doubt at that time whether you would vote for Mr. Wilkinson or not?—No.

30,602. Which way did you think of going?—I made up my mind not to vote at all.

30,603. Did you tell Mr. Burt so?—No, I did not tell him so.

30,604. Perhaps Mr. Burt supposed you would vote?—I do not know what he might suppose; he might suppose a good many things.

30,605. Did you see him on the day of the polling?—No, I never saw him from that day forward to speak to; he never spoke to me; I did not look at him.

30,606. Did he not speak to you in 1863 before the election was over?—Yes.

30,607. After that did he speak to you again?—No, only that once.

30,608. Were you about watching the poll on that day?—What day?

30,609. On the election day of '63?—No.

30,610. I suppose you took an interest in how the election was going?—No, I had plenty of work without bothering after elections. I had a great deal to do to attend to my business.

30,611. So has everybody who has business to attend to; but you did take notice, did you not?—No, I kept out of the way. I did not want to vote, and I did not want any of their talk.

30,612. It was rather a close contest?—I believe it was.

30,613. Were they not looking up all the persons they could find?—I think they were.

30,614. They came to you and tried to induce you to vote?—No.

30,615. Did they not come and call upon you?—They might have called.

30,616. Who was it you had come to call upon you?—I do not know.

30,617. But who did you hear was anxious to find you, that you might help them?—I did not see them myself. My sisters told me that Mr. Goldsmith called with a carriage, and Relf, but I did not see them.

30,618. I am afraid, for Mr. Wilkinson's sake, they did not find you?—No.

30,619. Where were you when you did not want to be teased?—I was in the bakehouse, sifting flour.

30,620. You did not want to be teased by them, perhaps?—No, I did not want them in the flour sifting.

30,621. Mr. Goldsmith and Relf came, and after they had gone away did you know that they had been there?—My sisters told me they had been.

30,622. Did you go up to look for them afterwards?—No, not I; I never went out of the house.

30,623. Not where the polling was going on?—I never went out of the house.

30,624. Was it very late when they came?—I do not know what time it was; I did not look at the clock.

30,625. What time was it?—It was between 1 and 4 o'clock.

30,626. It was late, was it not?—It might have been 2 o'clock.

30,627. Do you not know that it was very late?—I do not know.

NINETEENTH DAY.

J. Dewdney.

12 Sept. 1865.

30,628. Did Goldsmith and Relf tell you?—I did not see them.

30,629. Had they not told you before that they would come and look for you?—They never asked me for my vote in my life.

30,630. Did they not tell you before?—I never spoke to them during the election.

30,631. Did they not leave a message to tell you?—No message at all.

30,632. Did they not leave a message?—I had no message.

30,633. From your sister or somebody in the house?—They told them I was not going to vote, and off they went.

30,634. Did they not say, "Oh, very well, tell him "to come up directly"?—I do not know what they said to them.

30,635. It would not be in your hearing?—I do not know what they said.

30,636. Did they not, before they came there, make you aware that they were coming for you?—How could they make me aware if I never saw them?

30,637. In two or three ways; in the first place they might have sent you a note?—I had no notes.

30,638. Did they not send you a message?—Do you really think that a man would send me an election note?

30,639. I am inclined to agree with you?—I think that is a very vague question; I really do consider it so; you must excuse me, you are a better educated man than me, I know.

30,640. Did they send you a message?—No message whatever.

30,641. Did they not send you a message something of this sort, that they were anxious to get hold of you?—No.

30,642. Did you not know, though, that they were anxious to get hold of you?—I did not see the men.

30,643. Did you not know it yourself from hearing of it?—I heard nothing. I came home with my cart and put my horse up, and then I had my dinner, and afterwards I went to work; I did not go out of the house.

30,644. Did you not know that they were very anxious to get you?—How should I know it?

30,645. First of all, did you know who they were?—No; I was in the bakehouse at work, and I did not see them.

30,646. You told your sisters the morning of the election, previous to their coming?—Which morning?

30,647. The morning when Mr. Goldsmith and Mr. Relf called on you?—I had not seen a man-jack of them.

30,648. Did you tell your sisters that if Mr. Relf —— ?—I did not know that Relf was coming.

30,649. Did you tell your sister, or any person in your house, that if Relf or Goldsmith, either or both of them came for you, you did not want to see them?—I told my sisters I did not intend to vote, and that they might tell them all so.

30,650. You told them to tell them all so?—Yes.

30,651. What is your sister's Christian name?—There are two of them.

30,652. But I mean the one who you spoke to; you told one sister that if anybody came —— ?—I do not know now which it might be.

30,653. Give me, if you please, both their Christian names?—Emily and Maria.

30,654. Did you mention Goldsmith's and Relf's names particularly to your sister?—I did not mention their names; I did not know what men were coming.

30,655. Did you not mention their names?—I did no more than tell them that I did not intend to vote.

30,656. I wish you would answer me one or two questions?—I will answer as fast as you give them.

30,657. Did you mention any names?—I mentioned no names at all; I was fully determined not to vote, and I did not vote.

30,658. Then I understand you to say that you told one of your sisters, that if any of them called she was to say that you did not want to see them?—It is no matter what I said.

30,659. Did you tell your sister, if any of them called she was to say that you did not want to have anything to say to them, as you did not intend to vote?—Yes; I did not want to see them.

30,660. "I do not want to see them," was that the purport of the message?—Yes.

30,661. What made you think they were going to call?—I never thought anything of the sort.

30,662. You left the message; what made you think any of them were going to call?—I did not know they were going to call.

30,663. I know you did not, but what made you leave a message; you would not have left a message with your sisters unless you had thought they would call?—I did not leave any message.

30,664. You would not have left this order with your sisters if you had not expected somebody?—I do not know that I left any order.

30,665. What made you leave those directions with your sisters?—I left no directions.

30,666. You said so just now, only you did not use the word directions?—I say I did not leave any directions.

30,667. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your sisters would not have said you were out unless you had?—My sisters never said I was out.

30,668. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) They said that you would not vote; what made you tell your sisters so?—What made me?

30,669. Why did you do that?—I did not intend to vote, and I told them to tell everybody so who came.

30,670. Why did you leave that message with your sisters if you were not expecting some of them?—I did not expect them.

30,671. Had you any reason to expect them?—No reason whatever; they never asked me to vote.

30,672. You knew the election had been on; was running very close?—I do not know how the success was running, I had not been in the town.

30,673. You told me that you knew it was a close contest, and your own party would be very anxious for votes; answer the question then?—I cannot answer it more than I have done, I have given a fair answer to you.

30,674. Why was it that you left those directions with your sisters?—If I did not intend to vote I did not want them.

30,675. Want who; Relf and Goldsmith?—I did not want them, I had not seen the men, and they had not asked me to vote.

30,676. What made you think that they or any of them would come?—I did not think they would come.

30,677. So you left a message only for fun?—That is all.

30,678. It was all from fun?—I suppose it was; I did not know any one was coming after me; they never asked me to vote.

30,679. Had you seen any of them, that is, of the party, previously?—No, not at all.

30,680. Now I will ask you in this way; you thought there would be very likely some of them call to get you to vote, did you not?—I never thought anything about it.

30,681. Did you not think it likely some of them would leave a message?—No.

30,682. Have you had nothing to do with them?—I had nothing to do with the election.

30,683. Had not you just before they came after your vote?—No.

30,684. Are you sure?—Yes.

30,685. Or been offered anything by any person?—No.

30,686. Are you quite sure you had not offered your vote that very day to somebody ?—No, I was not asked for it.

30,687. Pray be cautious about this, I want to have an answer to this if you please, only do not answer it in a hurry ; are you quite sure that you had not offered that very day your vote to somebody ?—No, I never offered it at all.

30,688. I wish to be certain ?—No, not on that day.

30,689. I am serious about this ; had you not on that day made an offer of your vote ?—Made an offer of it ?

30,690. Yes ?—No.

30,691. Had you not ?—How could I offer it if I did not see anybody to offer it to ?

30,692. Perhaps I shall be able to remind you of that by-and-by, I only want to have now a distinct answer ; had you not made an offer of your vote that very day ; we have got you leaving a message with your sisters that if they called they could not see you, and I think it must be now pretty clear to you there was some reason to expect they would call ?—No, I had no reason to expect that.

30,693. Bearing that in mind, I want to ask you this question seriously ; had you not on that day made an offer of your vote ?—Not at all.

30,694. Neither in earnest or in jest ?—Not at all.

30,695. Yet you thought it possible they might ask you ?—I did not think so, they had no reason to ask me for it.

30,696. Mr. Burt had ?—But you are speaking of the polling day.

30,697. If it was not on the polling day, had they not called on you for your vote recently before, perhaps it was the day before ?—No.

30,698. A few days before ?—No.

30,699. Long after your message to Mr. Burt ?—No, not at all about Mr. Burt.

30,700. And you had not offered your vote either on the polling day or any previous day ?—No.

30,701. I will ask you another question, had they told you ?—What ?

30,702. You shall hear what they told you ; previously to this they told you that if they could come up to your terms that they would call upon you ?—No.

30,703. Had they told you ; you used the expression, " any of them " ?—I do not know what you mean exactly.

30,704. Had any of them ?—No.

30,705. I am asking you a serious question ; now had any of them, to use your own phrase, told you that if they found they could come up to your terms they would call upon you ?—I had no terms, I never saw anybody.

30,706. Did they tell you that if they could come up to your terms ?—I had no terms with anybody, I had got no terms.

30,707. Did they tell you this ?—What ?

30,708. Any of them ?—Nobody.

30,709. Any of them ?—No, and I had seen none of them.

30,710. Did they tell you that if they could come up to your terms they would call on you about five minutes before 4 o'clock ?—Nothing at all ; I never saw anybody.

30,711. Aye or no ; be so good as to tell me whether they did not tell you that if they could come up to your terms they would call upon you at five minutes before 4 o'clock ?—No.

30,712. Nothing of the sort ?—I will swear nobody said anything of the sort to me.

30,713. Did they not give you to understand that by any means at all ?—I will swear I had no pledge of that kind from any one if you require it.

30,714. I want you to tell me candidly and properly, and to answer my question, did they send you any message of that kind ?—I never had any message.

30,715. Was it on a paper ?—I never saw any paper, nor any agents.

30,716. Had any terms been made ?—No terms whatever.

30,717. Had any terms been offered ?—No.

30,718. Do you mean that ?—Yes.

30,719. Do you really mean that no terms had been offered ?—Yes.

30,720. I mean by offered, any terms offered by you ?—No ; no terms whatever.

30,721. Nor to you ?—No.

30,722. Are you sure about that ?—Yes, I am quite sure.

30,723. Not to any of the party ?—No.

30,724. Not the day before ?—No.

30,725. Or the polling day ?—No.

30,726. Or the Monday ?—No.

30,727. I forgot, this is the election of 1863, I do not know the day ; I will ask you either on the polling day, or on the nomination day, or the day before ?—No.

30,728. Then you had not any terms ?—What should I make terms with them for if I had made up my mind not to vote ? I do not understand what terms you mean.

30,729. Did you receive any message about five minutes before 4 ?—I have told you over and over again, I had no message.

30,730. You have not told me so, I beg your pardon ?—I had no message whatever.

30,731. When did your sisters tell you they had been there ?—I do not know when.

30,732. I should like to know ?—When who had been ?

30,733. I do not know, but I suppose Relf and Goldsmith ; we will take it if you like ?—They were there in the course of the afternoon, that is all I can tell you, but I did not see them.

30,734. I should like to know whether they told you that they came five minutes before 4 ?—I do not know.

30,735. Did they tell you that they had come there five minutes before 4 ?—No, I do not know they were there five minutes before 4, it might have been 3 o'clock, or half-past 2, or half-past 3 ; I do not know what time it was.

30,736. They did not tell you ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS MILLER sworn and examined.

T. Miller.

30,737. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What rented house do you occupy ?—12*l.* a year.

30,738. What are you ?—A gardener.

30,739. In what district ?—Near Redhill church, on Earlswood-common.

30,740. Who did you vote for last election ?—Mr. Monson.

30,741. Who asked you for your vote first of all ?—I was canvassed by letter from Thomas Barker. I was at Berwarsh in Sussex.

30,742. You were at Berwarsh ?—Yes, I was residing there, though I had a vote.

30,743. When did you come up ?—The night before the election.

30,744. Did you go to Mr. Nichols' ?—No, I had nothing to do with him.

30,745. Where did you go when you came here ?—I sauntered my time about ; I called on Mr. Barker ; I had been acquainted with him eight years, and between 10 and 11 I had lived by myself.

NINETEENTH DAY.

T. Miller.

12 Sept. 1866.

30,746. It was Barker's the tailor?—Yes; I never interested myself in the election, though I certainly wished my man to win, but at 5 o'clock, as I was going away by the down train, he gave me 3*l.*, the same as he related here.

30,747. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was after you voted?—After I voted; I voted in the morning between 10 and 11.

30,748. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that all that you did with regard to the election?—That was all.

30,749. Tell me, did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

30,750. Who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

30,751. Mr. Nichols was engaged for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—To the best of my belief I never spoke to Mr. Nichols.

30,752. And did Mr. Nichols work for Mr. Gower in 1863?—I think he did.

30,753. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee in 1863?—No.

30,754. What part did you take in the election of 1863?—Nothing whatever, only wishing my man would win.

30,755. And you voted?—Yes, between 10 and 11.

30,756. Were you paid for that?—No.

30,757. Did you get anything at all after the election?—I never received a fraction of anything, and I never expected anything, neither did I ask on account of my being in a very good service in a county family. I never expected such a thing.

30,758. What were you?—A gentleman's gardener. In 1863 I lived in their parish.

30,759. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where did you say you were residing at that time, in 1865?—In the parish of Berwash; I had left my house then.

30,760. How long had you left?—In November and the election came on in July; there was not a registration held since.

30,761. You were not on the register, though I am satisfied you did not know it?—I left in November and the election came off in July; had it come on after the registration I should not have been on.

30,762. You were not entitled to your vote?—There was no new registration made at the time I voted.

30,763. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was a mistake, you might not have known it at that time. You got nothing then in 1863?—No.

30,764. Had you voted before 1863?—No.

30,765. Then you only got the 3*l.* paid you by Mr. Barker?—Yes; the words that were used were, "That will pay your expenses."

30,766. It more than paid your expenses, did it not?—Certainly it did; I did not spend 3*l.* to come up and go back 45 miles.

30,767. Are you the Miller at Redhill?—I did live at Redhill, but there were more Millers than myself; one Miller I personally knew.

30,768. I was going to ask you whether you know James Apted?—I know James Apted the poulterer, but I am not acquainted with him. I never had any dealings with him.

30,769. You were not the Miller frequently at Mr. Nichols'?—No, I never took any part in it at all.

30,770. Is there any other Miller at Redhill that you know of?—No, because old Thomas Miller is dead. He was no relation to me, and there was another Thomas Miller, his son, at Redhill, but he is dead now.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS COOK sworn and examined.

T. Cook.

30,771. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A labourer.

30,772. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you voted?—5*s.*

30,773. You voted for Mr. Monson at the last election?—Yes.

30,774. Had you voted at the previous election in 1863?—Yes.

30,775. For whom did you vote at that election?—Mr. Wilkinson.

30,776. Who talked to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—Richard Fuller.

30,777. What were you to have?—30*s.* a week.

30,778. For how many weeks before the election?—Three weeks.

30,779. Did he give you the three weeks' pay?—No, he only gave me 3*l.*

30,780. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Fuller paid you?—Yes.

30,781. How long before the polling did he pay you the last 30*s.*?—A week.

30,782. And then did you apply to him after you voted for the other 30*s.*?—Yes.

30,783. What did he say?—He said he had not got it.

30,784. Did he tell you he would get it for you, or something to that effect?—He said he would try it.

30,785. And he has not got it for you?—He has not.

30,786. Who did he say it was who gave him the money?—He did not say who to me.

30,787. He said, of course, he was to get it from some other?—Yes, from the Monson party.

30,788. What is Fuller?—A bricklayer.

30,789. You do not know whether he got any money or not?—No; he told me he had not got it on Sunday night.

30,790. Last Sunday night you asked him?—Yes.

30,791. For 1863 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson; who spoke to you about voting for Mr. Wilkinson first?—Thomas Dann, of Reigate.

30,792. What were you to get?—He did not say anything.

30,793. Did you get anything?—Not a halfpenny.

30,794. Had you voted before?—No.

30,795. That was your first time of voting?—Yes.

30,796. You were not employed in any way at the election?—No, no more than waiting to get some more if I could of my own neighbours; I spoke to them, and Norman Wilkinson asked me to do that.

30,797. Did you?—Yes, I spoke to several, and they voted; three of my neighbours did.

30,798. Then you got three votes?—Yes, in the street in which I live.

30,799. They made you some compliment for that?—Bonny ought to have done.

30,800. Did they not?—No, not a halfpenny; Mr. Norman Wilkinson told me to look to Mr. Bonny for it, and so did Mr. Thompson of London.

30,801. Who is Mr. Thompson?—He used to come down every night during the election.

30,802. To assist Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

30,803. You went to Bonny for it?—Yes.

30,804. What did you ask him?—I asked him for my money; I was out five nights.

30,805. You did not say how much?—No; I was not promised anything.

30,806. You were not promised any sum, but you expected to be paid?—Certainly, when Mr. Wilkinson told me, and I asked for it.

30,807. What did Bonny say to that?—He said he would kick my —— if I did not go off, and I said if he would come out in the road two could play at that; those were the very words he used, and I told him to walk out into the road and do it.

30,808. He had no right to say that, and when you had been out five nights and had worked for Mr. Wilkinson?—I had been at work altogether nine weeks.

30,809. And that was the remark you got for it?—That was all I got, and a little ginger beer; I had that.

30,810. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me was there much treating going on at that election?—Not with me.

30,811. But you had been nine weeks with them?—I had seen some, but I did not take any, I was a teetotaler at that time.

30,812. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I hope you are a teetotaler now?—I am turned again to-day, I turned too quick the other day, for I met an old friend who I had not seen for 20 years.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at 11 o'clock.

TWENTIETH DAY.

Thursday, 13th September 1866.

Mr. John Furley sworn and examined.

30,813. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—I do not know that I can call myself anything; I am a certificated solicitor, but do not practise.

30,814. But have you been in practise?—No, I have past my examination, but do not practise; in fact, I believe at this moment I am not certificated.

30,815. Are you a voter of the borough of Reigate?—No, sir.

30,816. Were you in 1865?—No, I have never been a voter; it is not my home, I do not reside here.

30,817. Were you here during the election in 1865?—Yes.

30,818. Were you engaged about it at that time?—Yes.

30,819. In what way?—I was working for Mr. Monson, as I had been on previous occasions.

30,820. Were you associated with no person at the time?—No, sir.

30,821. Who engaged you?—I never had been engaged. In every one of the Monson elections I have been here, more or less, working for him; I began in order to assist my friend Mr. Hart, and as a friend.

30,822. You came to assist Mr. Hart in 1865?—Yes.

30,823. You came to assist Mr. Hart?—Yes.

30,824. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was the conducting agent?—Yes.

30,825. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And you were here from the beginning to the end of it?—Not from the beginning; I forget the day I arrived; it was three or four weeks before the election.

30,826. What were your duties? What part did you take?—I had no duties at all.

30,827. Only volunteer duties?—I attended meetings, and sometimes I took notes for Mr. Hart.

30,828. Did you attend any of the Gower meetings?—I think I attended one held under a tent on Earlswood-common; that was the only one.

30,829. Did you make any payments for Mr. Hart?—No, I never made a payment.

30,830. You made no payments at all?—No.

30,831. Did you canvass a good many voters?—Not at the last election, I do not think I canvassed any.

30,832. Then I need hardly ask you whether you secured many votes?—No, I certainly did not; I think I may have asked two men, in fact I know I did.

30,833. Who were they?—The gardener at the "White Hart," and Mr. Hart's gardener; I asked them which way they were going to vote. Mr. Hart's gardener said he had promised Mr. Gower, the other said he was not sure; he was undecided.

30,834. What did you do then at the election, for at present we have only got a negative?—It is difficult to define what I did do; I assisted Mr. Hart at one or two places, I took down minutes.

30,835. Do you happen to have a list of the Monson committee for 1865?—I think I have got a list somewhere, which I cut out of a newspaper.

30,836. Where is it?—It is difficult to say, I think it is at Ashford.

30,837. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you think you could send it to us?—I might lay my hand upon it; I know I put one away somewhere.

30,838. When shall you be there?—I shall not be there for six weeks.

30,839. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you look over any bills for Mr. Hart?—No.

30,840. Did you some time after the election?—Directly after the election I went abroad.

30,841. I think I asked you whether you had looked over any bills sent in to Mr. Hart?—No, I was absent during the whole time the bills were being sent in.

30,842. Did you receive any money to pay out from Mr. Hart?—If you will allow me, I will sum up very shortly all I know about money.

30,843. If you please, you can do so?—Since the first election, when the present Lord Monson came forward, from that time up to the present, I have never been engaged as an agent, and I have paid my own money.

30,844. I did not mean money paid with regard to yourself?—I understand that, but the only money I ever received during the whole of the election is about 12*l.*, towards carriages, or one or two other expenses of that kind; nothing else has passed between Mr. Hart and myself as to money.

30,845. I do not mean as between yourself and Mr. Hart, Mr. Hart may have received considerable sums to pay out; did you receive any sums of money?—Never.

30,846. I do not mean that for yourself, but to distribute or keep on account?—Never.

30,847. Can you give me any information at all; I ask this with the fullest confidence that you will give a candid answer; can you give me any information at all with regard to money matters at the election of 1865?—Not the slightest.

30,848. Then I am afraid you cannot give us any more information?—I am afraid not, it would only be supposition.

30,849. What you saw or did yourself?—I had nothing to do with the canvass or disbursement of money.

30,850. Nothing to do with the receipt of money?—No.

30,851. What was the first election you had come down to aid and support Mr. Monson?—It was in October 1858, Monson and Wilkinson.

30,852. Did you come and support the Honourable Mr. Monson?—Yes.

30,853. You were not a voter?—No.

30,854. Did you receive any money on that occasion?—No.

30,855. None at all?—No.

30,856. Nor on any subsequent occasion?—No.

TWENTIETH DAY.

Mr. J. Furley.

13 Sept. 1866.

30,857. Has Mr. Hart or Mr. Monson paid you money on account of the election?—No.

30,858. For other people?—No, never for other people or myself.

30,859. And on no subsequent elections did you receive money from Mr. Monson or Mr. Hart on account of the election?—Never.

The witness then withdrew.

W. Carruthers.

William Carruthers sworn and examined.

30,860. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A builder.

30,861. Your premises are extensive, I believe?—Yes.

30,862. You employ several men under you?—From 1 to 200.

30,863. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You mean from 100 to 200?—Yes.

30,864. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Monson.

30,865. Are the premises you occupy your own?—They are taken on lease from Earl Somers, on a lease, I think, of 41 years. The rent is about 40*l.*, more or less. I have made considerable improvements since I took it.

30,866. I suppose you are one of the principal builders in Reigate?—I should think so.

30,867. Did you take an active part in this last election?—Not very; I never have taken an active part in elections, but perhaps more so in the last than in any other.

30,868. Did you take part in canvassing?—No.

30,869. Are these men that you employ employed in your own yard or upon various buildings?—The joiners are employed in the yard, and the builders and others upon different buildings; at Hackney, I am now upon the church, and upon various buildings in different parts of the country.

30,870. Many of the men under you, I believe, are voters?—Yes, a great many.

30,871. Can you tell exactly what proportion of voters were amongst your workmen?—I cannot tell you exactly, but I should say about 20.

30,872. Not more?—20 or 25; I should not think more than that.

30,873. You understand probably by my term canvassing going about in the neighbourhood?—I never went about the neighbourhood to any one.

30,874. Did you canvass at all your own workmen?—Never; I never have asked them. After they had promised their votes I may have asked them which side they were going to vote for.

30,875. How did you know they had promised their votes?—I knew from my foreman Carden.

30,876. Was he a voter?—Yes.

30,877. For whom did he vote?—Mr. Monson.

30,878. What is his Christian name?—John.

30,879. Where does he live?—In one of my houses in Nutley-lane.

30,880. How came you to inquire of your foreman?—I was told that the voters who had promised Mr. Monson were afterwards induced by Mr. Gower's party to go over and vote for him; one or two in particular were mentioned to me.

30,881. (*Mr. Commissioner. O'Brien.*) Who were they?—A person of the name of Gibbs was one in particular, and another of the name of Gilbert was thought to be shaky, as they call it.

30,882. Gibbs was one, and Gilbert was shaky?—Gibbs was considered very much so.

30,883. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you hear that your men had promised in this way before you inquired?—Yes, by Carden. He told me that most of the men he believed, if they were let alone, would vote for Mr. Monson. When I say let alone, I mean without any undue influence.

30,884. Did you give your foreman Carden any instructions when you heard that these voters were shaky?—Not in the least. He asked me if I would speak to them, and I told him I did not wish to interfere with the men's votes, I would rather not; but if I could be of any service to Mr. Monson, in a fair way, I would rather be so.

30,885. Did you speak to a man of the name of William Banks?—Banks, of Woodhatch, a plasterer. A person of the name of Brown, in my employ at that time, told me that he thought they were getting Banks on their side, and that if I spoke to him I might be of some service.

30,886. Who told you Banks had promised Mr. Monson?—I believe it was Mr. Brown, the plasterer.

30,887. Did you see Banks?—I saw him daily; I was daily at the yard.

30,888. When you saw him what did you say to him about his vote?—I asked him if he was leaving Mr. Monson, and he said he was promised to be well paid by the other party, and he thought he had a right to be paid and to look after his own interests, and that as the other party had offered him something handsome he thought he would go to them; but after that I believe he went to Mr. Monson.

30,889. Did you offer him anything?—Never.

30,890. Did you make any suggestion to him with regard to his working with you?—Not the least.

30,891. Did you not use your influence?—Not the least, or to any other man.

30,892. Was there a person of the name of William Gibbs in your service?—Yes.

30,893. And a voter?—Yes.

30,894. Had you heard which way he was going to vote?—I believe he was in favour of Mr. Monson. I heard from Carden and other men in the workshop that he went and offered himself to Mr. Monson before he ever asked him for his vote.

30,895. You saw him?—I saw him afterwards, when Carden told me he was likely to go over to Mr. Gower's party.

30,896. Tell us what took place between you and Gibbs?—I said to Gibbs, "Gibbs, I am sorry to hear "that you are likely to leave Mr. Monson after having promised him, as you have done;" and he said, "Yes, I am. Why," he said, "Mr. Nichols, the "agent, will not allow me any money to spend at "nights;" and I said, "What do you want with "money to spend at nights?" He said, "I think I "could be of a great deal of service to Mr. Monson, "because if I had a little money to spend in public "houses at nights along with other voters I have no "doubt I could be of service." I said, "Is that the "only reason you have for leaving Mr. Monson?" He said, "Mr. Gower's party have been and offered "me 4*l.*" I tried very much to find out the person who had offered it, but could not get the name. I was so disgusted with the man that I said to him, "Gibbs, my opinion of you is this: if a third party "or another party were to come and offer you 1*l.* "more they would have you." I never said a word more to the man afterwards.

30,897. Then I presume that is what William Gilbert told us the other day. He said that you had said to him that you supposed money would influence him?—I do not think I said so.

30,898. Well, what you have now said just amounts in fact to saying that?—Yes, but I do not remember saying so.

30,899. Did you not at the same time say that you should be in a short time short of hands, and that he would be one of the first to go?—I did not; I had no intention of shortening hands.

30,900. Did you, either then or at any other time, say that you should be shortening hands before long, and that he would be one to go?—I never said shortening hands. The man was nine months in my employ after.

30,901. It clearly points to something of the kind in your mind. Give us your version of what passed at the conversation?—My version is this: At an election of the town council a long time before——

30,902. No, no, never mind that?—Then I have nothing more to say. I never repeated anything more to Gibbs at a borough election.

30,903. You mean at an election for a member of Parliament?—Yes.

30,904. You were going to say something about an election for town council; how long before was that?—It was after.

30,905. Next November?—No, not a general election.

30,906. It might perhaps be before November?—No, I believe it was after November; in the spring of the year.

30,907. Was it in reference to one of the elections for the town council that you said to Gibbs you might be shortening hands, and that he would be one to go?—If you will allow me I will tell you what took place at the election for town council. Gibbs had given out to Carden that he was going to vote for one party, and went down with the intention of doing so, and did not return till half-past 2. On his return into the yard I said to the clerk, "It seems "strange in this man returning at this time of the "day." Your time is 2 o'clock, and you come in at "any time." He said, "I have been down to vote at "the town council;" and I said, "Did you vote?" and he said, "Yes." I said, "The other men can all "vote within the hour, why do you not do so?"

30,908. Did you ask him who he voted for?—I did afterwards.

30,909. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had better cut this short. Did you say anything to Gibbs with reference to the general election of 1865?—Never.

30,910. When did you discharge him?—I discharged him nine months after, with 14 others, for being an inferior workman.

30,911. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long had he been in your service?—Upwards of nine years.

30,912. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do not make use of us for the purpose of casting a slur upon this man?—I think you ought to allow me to state that when I discharge a man I think I discharge those who do not pay.

30,913. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You discharged him with 14 others nine months after the election?—Yes.

30,914. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We will not go into the question of what took place between you and him with reference to the town council, but how long after the election for the town council did you discharge him?—Perhaps four or five months.

30,915. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) His service with you for nine years is a pretty good character?—I do not find fault with him on that account.

30,916. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It ought to be a good character. I do not think it right to make use of strong language?—I have not made use of such strong language as he has made use of with respect to me.

30,917. Were there any other of the workmen who were reported to you in the same manner as Gibbs and Banks were reported?—No one, except Gilbert; he was considered shaky.

30,918. What took place with regard to Gilbert?—I merely asked him who he had made up his mind to vote for; he always said for Mr. Monson. And then Brown came to me and told me he did not think he was safe; but I had no reason to think he was not safe.

30,919. Did you see Gilbert?—Several times.

30,920. Did you see him or speak to him with reference to the election?—I never went to him on purpose to speak to him about the election.

30,921. I did not say you went on purpose, but did you speak to him about the election?—Only what I have told you. I asked him who he had made up his mind to vote for, and he always informed me "for Mr. Monson."

30,922. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he not vote the other way?—No.

30,923. He voted for Mr. Monson and was paid for it?—I do not know anything about pay.

30,924. Do not be so indignant about the other man?—I think you are taking that up rather too strong; I believe I have a right to speak my feelings about a man.

30,925. It is not requisite for you to speak about the man, we are not sitting here to hear you give an opinion upon the men you discharge?—I have a right to give my opinion upon the men.

30,926. Do not avail yourself of the opportunity of your being here in libelling the men?—I am not libelling the men.

30,927. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think your reason was not a very good one; I want to ask you more particularly with reference to this workman in your service of the name of Brown?—He is not in my service.

30,928. He was?—Yes.

30,929. He was not a voter?—No.

30,930. When did he leave your service?—He was discharged about the same time the carpenters were discharged, when I was shortening hands.

30,931. You were more in communication with Mr. Brown?—Mr. Brown came to me when he had anything to say.

30,932. Did you know of his taking a very active part in the election?—I had every reason to believe he was.

30,933. Do you know where he is now?—I do not.

30,934. Did he leave the town?—He has been here since and applied to me for work.

30,935. How recently?—Not within these two months.

30,936. Where was he at that time?—He was working in the neighbourhood of Sydenham; he wrote to me.

30,937. From Sydenham?—From the neighbourhood of Sydenham, I forget the name of the person he was with.

30,938. Have you got his letter?—I do not think I have got it.

30,939. For whom was he working then at Sydenham?—For a builder in London, but I really forget his name.

30,940. Was the name mentioned in the letter?—It was, but he was only going to be with his master for a fortnight; he wanted to work anywhere out of Reigate if I could get it for him.

30,941. Out of Reigate?—Yes, he did not wish to come to Reigate.

30,942. That was two months ago he did not wish to come to Reigate?—No.

30,943. Very likely not; did you supply Brown with money?—What for.

30,944. For the election?—Certainly not.

30,945. Did you know of his having money?—No, nothing at all.

30,946. You did not know of his having money?—No, nor of any other voters having money.

30,947. Did he tell you that he had paid William Banks 2*l.* 10*s.*?—He told me he had promised to pay Banks for his time, but he did not mention any sum.

30,948. He did not tell you how much?—No.

30,949. How long before the election did Brown tell you that he was going to pay Banks for his time?—It might be a week before, I cannot say to a day or two, I did not make any memorandum.

30,950. Did it not strike your mind that that was very much like bribery?—It did.

30,951. Did you speak to Brown and tell him so?—No, I did not, because I thought there were so many more likely to be paid for their time that I did not take any notice.

30,952. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Banks was in your service?—He was.

30,953. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And Brown was in your service, then?—Yes.

30,954. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you at

TWENTIETH DAY.

W. Carruthers.

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all deduct from the men's wages the honest time they would give to poll, supposing a man went to poll and then went back to his work again; did you deduct that from their wages?—Decidedly.

30,955. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you?—I did.

30,956. Your men were working time work?—No, working day work.

30,957. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Supposing your men came down and polled, it would take a quarter of an hour or half an hour, and did you deduct that from their wages?—Decidedly; they were away, and I paid them no more or less than the time-keeper put down.

30,958. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) They might vote in dinner time?—Yes.

30,959. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you do that to every man who voted, whether they voted for Mr. Monson or Mr. Gower?—Yes.

30,960. What is the name of your time-keeper?—The name of my time-keeper at that time was Gilbert.

30,961. I am sure you will recollect yourself. Are you sure whether or not Gilbert had orders to deduct from the men's wages the hour, or half-hour, or quarter of an hour that was consumed in voting?—I never gave any orders to such effect, I am sure.

30,962. You never gave orders to have the time deducted?—I never gave orders for him to keep the time in any other way than he usually kept it.

30,963. I am asking you if any particular orders were given?—Not any.

30,964. Then it was not deducted?—It was deducted, decidedly; if a man did not work his time you must deduct it.

30,965. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You never gave orders?—Never.

30,966. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have told me that when Brown replied to you he was going to pay Banks for his time you knew that was bribery?—It appeared to me very much like it. He was to be paid for his time, but he did not tell me what sum. I think a man ought to vote for nothing without being paid.

30,967. You knew of Brown going to pay Banks for his time; Banks was likely to vote for your own candidate?—That is questionable.

30,968. It was to induce him to vote for your candidate that Brown saw him; he was working in the election?—He was employed by Mr. Nichols, I think.

30,969. If you thought it was bribery, why did you not stop Brown from going any more amongst your men; you are a master man?—Yes.

30,970. Why did you not stop your plasterer from going about the town and bribing?—You are putting it in a different light. I know nothing about his going about the town; he told me Banks was expecting to be paid for his time; I had nothing to do with it.

30,971. I want to ask you this question; you were the person Brown reported it to, and you thought that was bribing?—I thought it was very much like it.

30,972. I ask you why you did not, as you are a master man over Brown, who was not a voter, put a stop at once to his interfering with Banks?—To send him off to the other side to take more money?

30,973. That would not interfere with your virtue?—No.

30,974. Were you not virtuous?—I had nothing to do with the statement made by Brown; the statement made by Brown did not inculpate me.

30,975. It brings it to this then, as a non-voter bribing another, the non-voter being in the same service?—He was employed by me, I had nothing to do with this.

30,976. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why should he tell you of this? Brown came to you and said, "I am going to bribe Banks"?—He did not say that; he told me he was going to pay him for his time.

30,977. You said it was bribery?—I said it was very much like it.

30,978. Why should Brown the plasterer come to you and tell you that?—He knew I took an interest in the election; he knew I was in favour of Mr. Monson, and he volunteered this statement.

30,979. That looks very much like having your sanction?—You may put any interpretation you think proper upon it, but I never gave my sanction to anything of the kind.

30,980. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is a very old adage, "Silence gives consent;" you did not remonstrate with Brown?—No.

30,981. Did you ask Brown whether he paid any more of your men for loss of time during the election?—No.

30,982. Did it not strike you as very extraordinary that one of your men, a plasterer, should be offering time money to voters?—It did; but I heard that he was engaged as a canvasser by Mr. Nichols for Mr. Monson.

30,983. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who was he getting the money from?—I do not know any more than you do. I never saw money pass.

30,984. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose you had every reason to believe it came from Mr. Nichols?—I heard he was employed by Mr. Nichols, and I suppose he was supplied with money by Mr. Nichols.

30,985. How long after the election did James Brown leave your service?—It was about the time I discharged many carpenters, when the work was done at Woodhatch.

30,986. Was he a good workman?—A very good workman; but he neglected his duty rather in going about election matters.

30,987. He did not leave till after this Commission was moved for?—Oh, yes, he did.

30,988. It was after the Committee met?—In the House of Commons?

30,989. Yes?—I think he left before; it had nothing to do with the election.

30,990. He could not have left before; he left when the other men did. He did not leave till the spring of the year?—I think it was April. I do not know when the Commission was moved for.

30,991. Did you learn after the election that Brown had been paying more monies than what he said he had paid to Banks?—Not for certain. I heard from the other men by report that he had paid others, but not for certain; it was merely a rumour, and I did not ask them about it.

30,992. How many of those men who voted at the election are now in your service?—I should say above half of them; there is one here now, he voted for Mr. Gower, and was in the same shop as Gilbert was in; when I heard he was going to vote for Mr. Gower I never asked the man which way he was going. It is a man of the name of Parsons.

30,993. I suppose he is a first-class workman?—He is.

30,994. Have you any other first-class workman who voted for Mr. Gower now in your service?—Yes, I generally retain the first-class workmen when I am discharging men. Gilbert is a very good workman.

30,995. Is he still with you?—Yes, and Waters, another workman, is still with me.

30,996. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) They voted the other way?—Yes.

30,997. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I ask you the question whether you had voters in your service who voted for Mr. Gower? Have you any other voters except Parsons who voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes, Chilcott the carpenter voted for Mr. Gower, and several other men I cannot recollect, but I dare say Parsons will be able to tell you.

30,998. Did you see Chilcott before he voted?—I asked him which way he was going, and he said he had not made up his mind. After that I was told he was going to vote for Mr. Gower, and therefore I said no more to him.

30,999. Were there any more of them who voted for

Mr. Gower in your service?—Yes, I think there were several there. I think a carpenter of the name of Smith, who has been here, voted for Mr. Gower; he is now in my service.

31,000. But the majority of them voted for Mr. Monson?—They would have if they had been let alone. I do not think the majority voted for Mr. Monson.

31,001. If they had been let alone? Brown did not let them alone; he was at all of them? — But he did not interfere with the carpenters.

31,002. Who did he interfere with?—The men like him, the plasterers and labourers like Banks.

31,003. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said there were 20 or 25 voters in your employ in the election of 1865?—I think there were.

31,004. Be kind enough to give me their names?—I do not think I can recollect the whole of them.

31,005. Could you make it out for me?—I will have it made out by my clerk and send down the list to you.

31,006. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And if you can find the letter which was sent to you by Brown, and recollect the person with whom he worked, I should thank you if you will let me know? — I think I can recollect the man's name now; I have remembered it since I have been in the box; it was Simpson.

31,007. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was your foreman Carden an active man for Mr. Monson?—He was.

31,008. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where does Mr. Simpson carry on his business?—In some part of London, I really do not know where.

31,009. Is it a company?—No, Simpson & Sons.

31,010. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understood you to say that Carden reported to you from time to time how the men were going to vote?—He gave me his opinion of how he fancied they were going.

31,011. That is what I mean. Carden was on the committee I suppose?—Yes.

31,012. And attended the different meetings?—Yes, I believe so.

31,013. And I suppose that you were aware that Carden canvassed all the men? — No, I do not think he did. I should scarcely think that he canvassed Parsons, the man who is sitting there; he did not by my orders.

31,014. But if he reported to you from time to time how the men were going to vote it would look as if he was speaking to them?—He would get the knowledge some way or other. I do not know that I heard him speaking to them.

31,015. Did you tell Carden and say to him, "I will "not allow you, Carden, to interfere with the liberty "of my men; you are in a place of authority among "them, and exercise influence over them, and I will "not allow you to ask them and to influence them"? —I do not know that he did so.

31,016. Did you say that?—I did not; I had no reason to suppose he did so.

31,017. I call your attention to the two or three little circumstances you have mentioned; he reported to you from time to time how the men were going to vote?—Yes.

31,018. You knew that he was on Mr. Monson's committee, and you knew that he was exerting himself for Mr. Monson? You must have known that he exercised considerable influence over your men; a foreman does, as we all know?—Lately, sir, labour has been in the ascendant, and the foreman has no particular authority over them.

31,019. You did not interfere?—No.

31,020. I suppose all the men knew you were a strong Monsonite?—Yes.

31,021. Were you on the committee yourself?—Decidedly.

31,022. Did you attend any committee meetings?—Very few.

31,023. Where? — Only those at the "White Hart."

31,024. Where there were refreshments going?—I never saw any.

31,025. There were refreshments?—I do not know; you know more about it than I do.

31,026. You did not know that there was another room besides the committee room? — I did. I saw Mr. Nichols in another room beside it.

31,027. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. Nichols's *sanctum sanctorum?* — I do not know; it is better known to the profession than to me.

31,028. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you put Carden's name on the committee?—I do not know.

31,029. He was on the committee?—Yes.

31,030. Who put you on? — I suggested it. Mr. Hart called on me. I signed the requisition for Mr. Monson to come forward.

31,031. You did not attend any of the committee meetings but one?—I think I attended two.

31,032. Where was the other?—I only attended at the "White Hart."

31,033. Then you saw no refreshments at all?—No.

31,034. You had some? — I had no wish for any, I had plenty at home.

31,035. You learnt of course from Mr. Brown that money was going?—Only with regard to Banks.

31,036. That was quite enough; if you know that a man holds money as against one, you know that he holds it as against all?—I do not think it is my business to interfere with such matters. I might find too much to do if I did.

31,037. You knew from Mr. Brown?—I only heard from Brown that he was going to pay money for a man's time.

31,038. Did you not hear from Carden that money was going on both sides? — I heard from different individuals that money was going on both sides, but nothing to be certain about.

31,039. Did you hear the price?—It was not like Yarmouth or Totnes. I never heard more than 5*l.*

31,040. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) May I take it that 5*l.* was about the price?—Yes. Gibbs told me once of 6*l.*

31,041. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We may take 5*l.* as a general rule?—Yes.

31,042. I want to ask you this question: when you knew that your workman Brown was doing the same you did not try to stop him?—No, I did not think it my place. To tell you candidly, I never try to stop it.

31,043. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you attend any committee meetings? — Two at the "White Hart."

31,044. You were asked to attend the meetings?—I was invited one night.

31,045. Were you requested to do what you could for Mr. Monson, to attend his committee meetings and do what you could to get him votes?—I do not think I was requested, as it was well known I should do so without being requested.

31,046. Did you make it known?—I suppose by my behaviour I did.

31,047. You say that you were aware that a man in your employ, James Brown, received money from Mr. Nichols for the purpose of paying it away among the men?—I did not say anything of the kind.

31,048. What you told us exactly was this, "James "Brown, I suppose, was employed by Mr. Nichols, and "supplied by him with money;" you heard from the other men that Brown had been expending money?—With regard to the one solitary case of Banks I did, and I believe it was likely that the money came from Mr. Nichols; it was nothing more.

31,049. I have taken your words down; I do not object to your explaining that that was what you meant by what you said. You said just now that 5*l.* was about the price, and you did not remonstrate when 5*l.* appeared to be offered and distributed among your men; let me ask you, did you offer any man 5*l.*?—Never.

31,050. Did you never tell any person that if he

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gave his services his time should be paid for?—Not in any way that he would be paid for his time.

31,051. Did you never tell any single person that if he gave his services to Mr. Monson his time would be paid for?—Not to my recollection; I never used those terms.

31,052. Will you allow me to say "to that effect"?—I do not think I did; I do not believe that I did say so.

31,053. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then if you only do not believe you might have done so?—I do not believe I did, but in the hurry and bustle of an election I may have.

31,054. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you never mention the sum of 5*l.* yourself?—Not to any voters.

31,055. You did not mention to them 5*l.* with a kind of intimation that men's services would not be forgotten?—I never did.

31,056. If not to any voter, did you to the wife of any voter?—No, I never had any conversation with the wife of any voter.

31,057. Or any relation, so that it might come to their hearing in some way?—No, I am very careful.

31,058. We know that those things are always done very carefully?—I did not do so.

31,059. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you always been a voter since '58?—Yes.

31,060. Had you always been on Mr. Monson's side?—No.

31,061. How had you voted before?—I voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson against the Honourable Mr. Monson, now Lord Monson; Sir Henry Rawlinson took the place of Major Parrott; I had promised to him if he stood.

31,062. After that came another election for Mr. Monson; did you vote for him then?—The second time I voted for Mr. Monson, Sir Henry Rawlinson was out of the field.

31,063. Were you on Mr. Monson's side in the general election of '59 against Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

31,064. Have you known of much bribery going on in the previous elections?—Nothing but hearsay.

31,065. I mean by bribery what we have been talking about, that money was to be given, not for their votes, but for their time?—I have heard it commonly represented that it was so, but nothing more.

31,066. And believed it?—I believe of course from the Inquiry you are making that it was so.

31,067. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But before?—I had every reason to believe that there was something wrong.

31,068. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You knew in '65 that it was going on to a considerable extent in your own establishment?—I do not think that you are quite right.

31,069. Bearing what you have told us in mind, do you mean to say that previous to '65 there was not a good deal of payment going on?—I never knew it to be so, but it was reported to be so, and I believe that it was; but I could not give you any proof that it was so.

31,070. How often have you been on committees yourself?—For Sir Henry Rawlinson, the Honourable Mr. Monson, and the present Mr. Monson.

31,071. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you in the town in '58, at the time of Mr. Doulton's election?—Yes.

31,072. You have no qualms of conscience about that, you can tell me about that?—I could not; I then voted for Mr. Monson if I recollect properly.

31,073. You did not see what was going on at that election?—Not at all.

31,074. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I shall be obliged to you if you will let me have a list of the 20 or 25 voters who were in your employ at that time?—My clerk shall make out a list.

The witness withdrew.

G. Bilcliffe.

GEORGE BILCLIFFE sworn and examined.

31,075. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you—A lime burner.

31,076. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you vote?—It is my own.

31,077. Of what value is it?—About 13*l.* or 14*l.*

31,078. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

31,079. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

31,080. Who put you on his committee?—I believe Buckland or Apted, I do not know which.

31,081. Did you interest yourself and work for Mr. Gower as a committee man?—Very little.

31,082. What did you receive?—I received 30*s.*

31,083. Was that before or after the election?—After the election.

31,084. Who paid you?—Mr. Durrant.

31,085. You received 30*s.* from Mr. Durrant?—Yes.

31,086. Did you receive anything else?—No.

31,087. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before or after the election?—No, not in any way. If you will allow me I will tell you what I did with it; it was to pay the expenses of a voter from Chelmsford.

31,088. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am glad you have mentioned that; who was the voter?—Ebenezer Hooper.

31,089. And did you pay it?—Yes.

31,090. You paid him the 30*s.*?—No, 22*s.*; not the whole of the 30*s.*; the other 8*s.* was for my own expenses.

31,091. What expenses were you at?—I told Mr. Durrant the actual amount I had paid him, the 22*s.*, and he told me it was but right that I should have the balance; he said it was not right for me to have the trouble of writing several letters and losing the day without receiving something, and so he gave me 8*s.*, which I was perfectly satisfied with.

31,092. Had you written to Hooper?—Several times.

31,093. Had you voted in any previous elections?—Yes, several.

31,094. For whom did you vote in '63?—For Mr. Gower.

31,095. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

31,096. And had you been working for him in the way you state?—Yes, I took a very active part in that election.

31,097. What did you receive at that election?—1*l.*

31,098. Before or after?—After.

31,099. From Mr. Durrant?—And Mr. Buckland; they called on me.

31,100. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Which paid you?—I could not say which.

31,101. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Durrant and Buckland both called?—Yes.

31,102. Did you vote in '59?—I believe so, for the present Lord Monson; I voted once for him.

31,103. You think it was in '59; there was no substantial contest then?—No, it was not like the other elections.

31,104. Do you recollect whether you voted at either of the elections in '58?—Yes.

31,105. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You voted in the election in October, before we go back to Mr. Doulton's election?—I only voted once for Lord Monson, and once I did not vote at all.

31,106. That would be in October?—Yes.

31,107. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For whom did you vote at the Doulton election?—For Mr. Doulton.

31,108. I suppose you were on his committee?—No.

31,109. Did you work for him?—No, I only voted for him; I believed him to be the best man.

31,110. And therefore you received nothing?—I received nothing.

31,111. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee the second time you voted for him?—No.

31,112. And therefore you received nothing the second time you voted for him?—No.

31,113. What I understand is that you received 1*l.* in '63 and 8*s.* before?—Yes; I voted for Sir H. Rawlinson.

31,114. Were you on his committee?—No.

The witness withdrew.

JOSEPH CHARLWOOD sworn and examined. *J. Charlwood.*

31,115. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

31,116. Do you pay rent for your house?—I have a lease for the house.

31,117. Is it a freehold house?—Leasehold.

31,118. What rent do you pay?—7*l.*, under the lease.

31,119. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose it is worth more now?—I should like to give 10*l.* for it now.

31,120. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

31,121. Were you on his committee?—No.

31,122. Who asked you to vote for him?—Mr. Gower called on me himself.

31,123. Well, that was some time before the election. Did some one speak to you after that?—No, I promised him there and then.

31,124. And when the election came on did not somebody come from him, some of his party, to remind you?—I do not remember anybody. I was employed as a canvasser.

31,125. Who asked you to be a canvasser?—One of his agents.

31,126. Who was the agent? Was it Green?—Mr. Green.

31,127. I thought so. Henry Green?—Yes.

31,128. Did you canvass?—Yes; I was about.

31,129. Did you get many votes?—No; the most of the work was carrying out circulars.

31,130. Were you paid anything before the election?—Yes, I received what I had before the election.

31,131. All you had?—2*l.* 15*s.*

31,132. All before the election?—I received nothing after.

31,133. Did Mr. Green pay you?—Yes.

31,134. Was 2*l.* 15*s.* all you received?—Yes.

31,135. He did not pay you all at once, did he?—No.

31,136. He paid you 30*s.* at one time, I believe?—Yes.

31,137. And then?—And then 1*l.* 5*s.*

31,138. That was on the day of polling?—No, before that.

31,139. Was that your first election?—No, I voted for Gower in 1863.

31,140. What did you receive that election?—I was on the committee, and employed as a canvasser.

31,141. Tell me, shortly, what you received?—I believe it was 7*l.* 10*s.* for the whole of the time.

31,142. I may take it it was 7*l.* 10*s.*?—I think it was as far as I can recollect.

31,143. Who paid you?—I was paid by the agents at the committee room.

31,144. Who was it paid you?—I believe Mr. Rees and Mr. Green were the gentlemen that paid.

31,145. How did they pay you; in money?—Yes.

31,146. The 7*l.* 10*s.* was for your services, for the trouble that you had taken?—Yes.

31,147. Now, then, in 1859, did you work at that time, it was Mr. Wilkinson against Monson?—I voted for Monson.

31,148. Were you on his committee?—Not at all.

31,149. Did you receive anything?—Nothing at all.

31,150. Now tell me, there were two elections in 1858; one between Monson and Wilkinson; were you on the committee then?—No; I voted for Monson.

31,151. Were you paid anything for your time?—No, sir; nothing.

31,152. Were you paid anything in the Doulton election?—No.

31,153. Nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS UPTON sworn and examined. *T. Upton.*

31,154. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A labourer.

31,155. At what work do you labour? In the field?—Bricklayer's labourer.

31,156. What house did you occupy to put you on the register?—Freehold.

31,157. What is the value of the house you live in?—I have got four cottages. They go at 13*l.* each.

31,158. Did you vote at the last election of 1865?—I voted at this last election for Mr. Monson.

31,159. Were you on his committee?—No.

31,160. Did you canvass for him?—No, I took no part at all.

31,161. He canvassed you?—I promised Mr. Monson himself.

31,162. Did any of his party—his agents—come to you?—Yes.

31,163. I suppose a great many of your fellow workmen were canvassing for Monson?—At that time they were.

31,164. I suppose they were all canvassing, either for Monson or Gower?—They were all canvassing.

31,165. Either one way or another?—I suppose they were. I took no part in it. I did not know who was a canvasser and who was not; sometimes they were, and sometimes they were not.

31,166. Did anybody speak to you about the advantage it would be to vote for Mr. Gower?—Lots of people talked to me, and I said I had promised my vote for Mr. Monson, and would not change for any one.

31,167. What did they say?—I do not recollect. I did not take much notice of it, as I had promised my word; I said I would not break it.

31,168. Was it something like this, "If you go on "our side you can come on the committee, and be "paid for your time"?—I was never promised anything of the kind, for I always turned it off with a laugh. If they said anything to me I said, "I have "promised Mr. Monson, and don't mean to turn."

31,169. Perhaps they held out some inducement; you were a staunch, honest man?—Well, they might have laughed at me, and I laughed at them.

31,170. Were not you offered by either of them to be paid for your loss of time?—No, I was never offered at all; not at any time.

31,171. Did you receive anything after the election?—Yes, I received 1*l.* from Mr. Nichols, of the "Grapes," after the election.

31,172. How long after?—About a fortnight after, as near as I can tell.

31,173. You had not worked for him; you only voted?—No I did not work for him. I lost the nomination and the polling day, and I expected it to be the recompense.

31,174. You did not ask him for it?—No, he gave it to me.

31,175. Where did he give it to you?—In his house, the "Grapes." I was in there one night with some more.

31,176. With some more?—With some more people that were there; what their business was I did not

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know. I just went in to get a glass of beer as I went home, and he gave me a sovereign.

31,177. You were rather pleased to get a sovereign for your glass of ale?—Yes; I should like to have another to-night.

31,178. Would you like to have another on the same terms?

31,179. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) No, I am sure you would not?—I am afraid I shan't get the chance.

31,180. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before you went to Mr. Nichols had you heard that the men were receiving money from Mr. Nichols?—No one had spoken to me particular. I had heard it laughed about by one and the other.

31,181. It was not in consequence of that report that you went and got a glass of ale at Mr. Nichols'?—No, I have done that before and after, as I have been going home from work. It is in my road home.

31,182. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We are glad to hear you are the owner of four freehold cottages of 13*l.* rent each?—I shall be, when I have paid for them.

31,183. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are the cottages let?—Yes.

31,184. And you receive the rents? I suppose there is a small charge upon them?—I belong to the Freehold Society, and pay off by instalments as fast as I can.

31,185. And eventually that property will come entirely into your possession?—Yes.

31,186. Who is the secretary to that society?—Mr. Buckland, of Church-street.

31,187. Did Mr. Buckland ask you about the election?—No, I do not remember as he ever said a word to me about it.

The witness withdrew.

J. Longhurst.

JOHN LONGHURST sworn and examined.

31,188. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

31,189. And what rent do you pay for your house?—11*l.* a year.

31,190. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

31,191. Who asked you to vote for him?—He asked me himself. Mr. Brown I promised. Mr. Gower asked me twice. I promised Mr. Brown.

31,192. Which Brown is that; James Brown?—Edward Brown.

31,193. He put you on the committee?—Yes.

31,194. What did you receive?—I did not receive anything, but then I was paid for all my time.

31,195. I mean what did you receive; anything beyond your time?—I never received anything.

31,196. Did not you receive anything at all?—No more than that he never stopped my time on the nomination and polling day.

31,197. Oh, you were at work for Mr. Brown?—Yes.

31,198. He told you you might go, and should not lose the time?—Yes, he told me I should not lose my time. That was all I received from him.

31,199. Did you receive any money?—Not separate from my wages; only my wages for the full time.

31,200. What wages were you receiving?—Wages? How much a day do you mean, sir?

31,201. Oh no, by the week. I suppose you were paid by the week?—Yes, I had 5*s.* a day generally.

31,202. Did you receive any more than your wages would come to?—No, I did not receive any more than what the wages would come to for the time.

31,203. Did Mr. Green pay you anything?—No, no one else never paid me a farthing.

31,204. Did Mr. Green put you on the committee?—No, I told him Mr. Brown could put me on the committee.

31,205. It is but right you should know you are on the list as having been paid 1*l.*

31,206. You were only paid your wages. Had you voted before?—For Mr. Wilkinson in 1863.

31,207. Did you receive anything for that election?—Yes, I was a messenger.

31,208. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you were on the committee?—Messenger. I do not think I was on the committee.

31,209. What did you receive?—I was paid 5*s.* a day for my time. I forget how long I was on.

31,210. You were a voter?—Yes. I think I was on two or three days over a fortnight, I won't be sure. I cannot tell to a few days.

31,211. I dare say you can tell the sum it did come to?—No, I cannot.

31,212. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) A fortnight and two or three days over would be about 3*l.* 10*s.*, or something like that. Did you give up all your other work for that?—No, I had no other work to do.

31,213. You were out of employ?—Yes.

31,214. Who paid you?—I do not know the gentleman's name.

31,215. Who was in the room when he paid you?—I think his name was Deare.

31,216. Where was it?—At the "Swan."

31,217. That was Mr. Wilkinson's house?—Yes.

31,218. I want to know, for my own satisfaction, were you employed during that fortnight?—Yes, every day about something or another; one day at one thing, taking out newspapers, and sometimes circulars.

31,219. At any other elections had you voted?—No.

The witness withdrew.

J. Rees.

JAMES REES sworn and examined.

31,220. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Mr. Rees?—An estate agent and builder.

31,221. Are you a freeholder, or do you vote for occupying a house?—I am a freeholder and leaseholder.

31,222. Which were you down as in 1865?—Leasehold, occupying my own leasehold.

31,223. What was the value of it by the year?—About 60*l.* by the year.

31,224. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

31,225. You took an active part, did not you?—Yes; I was requested to do so by Mr. Smith, his agent.

31,226. You were a a sub-agent yourself in some way, to some extent?—Under Mr. Smith.

31,227. When did you set to work; how long before the election?—About three or four months.

31,228. You employed yourself in attending meetings?—General business at the committee rooms.

31,229. What committee room did you attend?—The town hall at Redhill. We engaged it; at least, I engaged it for Mr. Smith.

31,230. I understand that in the course of carrying on your canvass you received monies to pay away?—Yes.

31,231. Were those paid you by Mr. Smith, or by whom?—By Mr. Green out of monies that he received.

31,232. Wait a moment. That was Henry Green?—Yes.

31,233. You were going to say where he got the money from?—Yes, a portion of the money, which he told me he had received from Mr. Smith.

31,234. Did he say that he had received a portion of it anywhere else?—No.

31,235. Now will you be so good as to tell me how much money you received from Mr. Green?—10*l.*, sir.

31,236. What was done with that 10*l.*?—I gave Mr. Smith an account of the application of it. I dare say you have that account.

31,237. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Let us have your recollection of it first, please?—My recollection, sir?

31,238. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long was it before the the election?—A couple of months, it may be not so much, before the election.

31,239. Before the polling?—Before the polling that I received 10*l.* from Mr. Green.

31,240. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That 10*l.* I understood you to say was received from Mr. Green. Was that what was paid two months before the election?—I understood it was paid to Mr. Green from Mr. Smith.

31,241. But about two months?—About two months, it might not be quite so much.

31,242. You wanted more money than that to disburse?—We generally among the agents required more.

31,243. I mean as agent, for the purpose of paying to other people. How much of that money did you receive altogether?—Me, sir? 10*l.*, not more.

31,244. Will you tell me how much money altogether during the election did you pay away?—10*l.*

31,245. But how much more did you pay away?—No more.

31,246. How did you pay that away?—Well, that account was supplied to Mr. Smith. I think it was principally in purchasing post office orders to send to voters at a distance for their expenses to come up.

31,247. I want to know who; can you tell me who?—One was Mr. James Davis.

31,248. That was a long time before the election?—I did not supply him till that time.

31,249. Do you recollect what you paid to Davis?—I think it was 30*s.*

31,250. Where was he?—He was at Greenwich.

31,251. Was he living there?—Yes.

31,252. Had he moved from Reigate then?—Yes.

31,253. Who was another?—Mr. Henry Turner.

31,254. How much was his?—I think his was 30*s.*

31,255. And how much more did you pay?—I sent an order also to Mr. Hooper, who was mentioned here this morning; it was said somebody else sent him one, so that he had two.

31,256. You sent an order for 30*s.*?—That's the amount, I think.

31,257. And who else? How much else?—I think there were some other little expenses I paid, for messengers.

31,258. I want to know the amount. I shall be very glad if you will tell me?—I think I paid Atkinson, the tailor, 10*s.*

31,259. That is just 5*l.* Who else was paid?—I think I went twice to London and twice to Brighton after voters.

31,260. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) After Spence?—No, sir, I did not go after Spence.

31,261. Did not you know he was there?—No, sir, I do not know him. I never saw him that I know of.

31,262. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You went twice to London and twice to Brighton. Was there anything else?—I do not recollect anything else.

31,263. I do not know whether it will trouble you much, but can you tell me what would be the expense of going once to London? You say you went twice to London?—It costs 4*s.* 6*d.*

31,264. It costs rather more than that; there was twice?—That is all I paid for a return ticket.

31,265. Then twice to London at 4*s.* 6*d.* each, say 9*s.* or 10*s.*, and twice to Brighton, how much to Brighton each time?—5*s.*

31,266. Then twice to Brighton would be double that, say a pound altogether?—Yes, say 1*l.*

31,267. What else was there?—I do not recollect anything else.

31,268. I do not in the least want to hurry you?—I understood from Mr. Smith that he had given you the particulars of the money I had expended.

31,269. Will you tell me whether you do recollect anything else?—No, I do not recollect anything else.

31,270. Then was there an understanding that your expenses out of pocket, like what you have been telling us, should be sent in and allowed you?—Yes.

31,271. Was there also anything to be allowed for the trouble you had?—It was understood, but not mentioned.

31,272. What was the understanding?—No definite sum was named.

31,273. Perhaps you will tell me what your impression was?—Yes, the sum I had at the previous election. It was 30*l.* That was for my services during the election.

31,274. The entire election?—Yes. It was paid about four months after the election, sent me in a letter from Mr. Smith, paid by cheque.

31,275. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You sent in no account for that?—No, I sent in no other account than the application of the 10*l.*

31,276. Your expenses?—Yes.

31,277. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The hand from which you received the 10*l.* was Green's hand, you know?—Yes.

31,278. Mr. Smith had paid you in the former election?—Yes.

31,279. The same amount?—The same amount.

31,280. Are you able to tell me then, on any occasion do you recollect, during the election, when, through not having received money enough for the purpose yourself, you sent a voter to be paid by some other agent?—Not one.

31,281. You think it did not happen?—No, it did not.

31,282. You would remember it?—Yes. If I had any applications I referred them to Mr. Green.

31,283. Do you recollect any one person whom you referred?—No, I do not.

31,284. I will tell you why I ask you. Because I think, but I am not sure, that one man said you had referred him to Mr. Green. That is my reason, but I am not sure without referring to the evidence.

31,285. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Might it have been James Smith your tenant?—Yes, I think I referred him.

31,286. Did you offer James Smith yourself anything?—No.

31,287. Do you recollect what took place between you and James Smith when you referred him to Mr. Green?—He came to the committee room and said he had promised Mr. Gower, and should like to be put on the committee if he could do anything, and he should like to be paid the same as the others; but I did not enter into any arrangement with him to pay him, and I did not pay him anything.

31,288. Do you know Mulley?—Yes.

31,289. Is he a person in your neighbourhood?—Yes.

31,290. Did you apply to him or did he apply to you?—No.

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31,291. Did you canvass him?—No, not at all. I would sometimes see him in the committee room, but I never canvassed him. Mr. Gower canvassed him.

31,292. Did you keep your eye during that election on the other party; on the Monson side?—Yes, we saw them.

31,293. Did you keep your eyes upon them so as to see what was going on?—Yes, but I did not go far from my own neighbourhood.

31,294. Where is your neighbourhood?—Redhill.

31,295. Cannot you tell me something that you saw?—I think it is better not for me to volunteer any statement.

31,296. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It is not volunteering?—I can tell you nothing, only from report; but you have heard sufficient of that I think already.

31,297. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There was nothing you saw yourself?—Nothing unusual in an election.

31,298. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What we have heard does not surprise you?—No, I knew a good deal of it before.

31,299. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you had been acting for which side? For Mr. Gower?—Yes.

31,300. Acting on his committee?—Yes.

31,301. Can you tell me how much money passed through your hands on that occasion; not your own?—Perhaps 300*l.*

31,302. In 1863?—Yes.

31,303. That was in addition to your own fee that your received?—Yes.

31,304. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You received 30*l.*?—Yes.

31,305. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That you received from Mr. Smith?—Yes.

31,306. Now what was that 300*l.* for? For the purpose of disbursing?—Paying for labour every Saturday night, these men.

31,307. That is, you mean messengers and canvassers?—Yes.

31,308. Was that over a long period of time?—Yes, we were paying, I think, for five or six weeks.

31,309. Have you got any account of your payments for that year, in 1863?—No, I sent them all to Mr. Smith. I paid those monies, you ought to understand, in conjunction with Mr. Green.

31,310. Do you mean that some of the 300*l.* was paid in conjunction with Mr. Green?—We were both present; the accounts were kept mutually between us. Sometimes he paid the money over, and sometimes I did.

31,311. Had Green no separate account at all?—No; in fact I kept the account.

31,312. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was a partnership account between you and Green; your joint work?—Yes.

31,313. Who paid you the 300*l.*; who handed it over to you?—Mr. Smith.

31,314. From time to time?—Yes, in cheques.

31,315. Did you give Mr. Smith any account of it? When you wanted a cheque did you say, "I want "more money," or did you each time render him an account?—I each time rendered him an account.

31,316. And there was the money which he gave you to cover past payments, or to meet future ones?—Some for both.

31,317. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much of that money found its way among the voters for services?—All. But those men were under different denominations; some were watchers, some messengers, and some canvassers; different kinds.

31,318. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At the previous election, in 1859, had you taken also an active part?—Yes.

31,319. Then it was Wilkinson and Monson, the general election?—Yes.

31,320. Just tell me, who did you receive monies from on that occasion?—Well, I was attending to the committee room at Redhill, and I was with Mr. Hart; then we had a committee room at the "Warwick Arms."

31,321. Then Mr. Hart was the person who paid you; the person from whom you received money?—Yes, but I paid no monies away on account. I received 20*l.* for my services from Mr. Hart.

31,322. That was on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Monson.

31,323. You paid no money away that time? none at all?—None at all.

31,324. You seem very candid, Mr. Rees; is it worth while my asking you any more questions about 1859.?—Well, the business conducted was much similar, only perhaps not to so great an extent. It has been increasing at every election since 1852.

31,325. I wish to know then, in 1859 was there money going and refreshments much in the same way?—Yes, but not to so great an extent.

31,326. But there was money going and refreshments?—Yes.

31,327. On both sides?—Yes.

31,328. Now Mr. Rees, in 1858 there was a second election, you know, between Monson and Wilkinson. Do you recollect the Hon. Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson contesting? It was the election after the Doulton election?—In 1858?

31,329. Do you recollect that election?—The second time that Monson was returned?

31,330. It would be the first time?—We had two previous elections that Monson tried at.

31,331. He was a candidate in the Doulton election?—Yes.

31,332. I do not mean the Doulton election, but the one at the end of that year; the second election that year, when Monson and Wilkinson opposed each other; who did you vote for?—Monson. I think there were three elections that I did all I could to support Monson.

31,333. You voted for him?—Yes, at every one of the elections.

31,334. You had a vote I believe always?—Yes, since 1852.

31,335. Now about that election of Monson's in 1858; did you pay out monies then?—No.

31,336. Will you be so good as to tell me what your remuneration was?—I did not have any; I had a brace of birds at Christmas.

31,337. Well, then, we will go back to Doulton's election. At that election whom did you back up?—Monson.

31,338. Did you receive monies to pay out?—No.

31,339. Did you receive remuneration for your assistance then?—No.

31,340. Nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

31,341. Was there a great deal of treating and a great deal of money going that time, as far as you recollect?—Yes.

31,342. A great deal?—Yes.

31,343. Did you ever recollect it before?—No.

31,344. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Almost all the voters were employed at that election?—A certain class of them.

31,345. That is what I mean; a class of men; nearly all of them?—Most of the men that polled for Doulton.

31,346. Working men; labouring men who had been employed?—Yes.

31,347. Some of the men had been carrying boards?—Yes.

31,348. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But they were voters?—Yes.

31,349. We have heard something about the roughs

coming here at the Doulton election: about 40 roughs, more or less. Do you recollect that?—Yes.

31,350. Now tell me, I am rather applying to you for information, among those what were called "roughs" did you notice many voters?—No, they were strangers.

31,351. I suppose you did notice some?—Those that I saw principally came from Croydon or London, men who had been paid on purpose to come.

31,352. That was the first impression; but did you not notice among the roughs some voters too?—You may apply the term "rough" to some of the voters.

31,353. But you did not, among those who appeared to go about as men ready for a row, you did not observe voters? Is that so?—Not the men that were imported here for the nomination or the polling day. I did not observe that they were voters.

31,354. But some few men having been imported here, did you notice that some of the voters took an opportunity of joining with them, and having some of their fun?—Yes, I think there were some.

31,355. I was anxious to get that. You cannot tell me any name, I expect, can you?—That you would have called a rough and a voter?

31,356. I have looked through the list myself and I have a suspicion about it, I tell you candidly?—Well, I think there was a good many roughs about from London, but I cannot name them.

31,357. In 1865, the last election of all, I understand you to say that all the money you received that was spent was 10*l.*?—Yes.

31,358. Why did you not receive more?—Well, I did not feel comfortable in going into the position I had formerly taken, and therefore I left the management of that business to others, and referred all those men who wished for work or anything of that kind to somebody else.

31,359. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then in fact you took no active part in the payment of the money in 1865?—Not in the payment of the money. I was going to ask you what you wished to convey by your last question.

31,360. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You know in 1863 you received a very much larger sum of money to disburse to other people?—Yes.

31,361. Then in 1865 you received a very much smaller sum, namely 10*l.*?—Yes.

31,362. Then I ask you, knowing that you were a good man in 1863, why did not Mr. Smith give you more money to disburse in 1865?—Well, sir, I did not feel disposed to go into it again in the same way, and those that had spoken to me I referred to Mr. Green as having taken the management of that part. You asked me for a reason for it.

31,363. Is there anything you think it right to tell me about the election of 1865?—I do not think I can add any statement.

31,364. We should be happy to hear at any time if anything should come to your mind which you think ought to be told?—Very well.

31,365. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you aware before this morning that Hooper, to whom you had sent 30*s.* had also received 1*l.* 2*s.* through Bilcliffe?—No.

31,366. Now, in 1863 there was a large sum of money passed through your hands in conjunction with Mr. Green; 300*l.* was paid during the period of five and six weeks for labour. In what way was that money paid; weekly?—Weekly, every Saturday night.

31,367. Where was it paid?—At the committee room.

31,368. Then did the men come there regularly for their pay?—Yes.

31,369. When did you begin to pay them; some weeks before the election?—Oh, yes, some weeks before the election.

31,370. Then what class of men did you begin to pay?—Principally mechanics; labouring men.

31,371. In the first week how many men did you pay?—I do not know. It might be perhaps a dozen or fifteen. They kept on increasing.

31,372. Still working men, labourers?—Yes.

31,373. Then as they increased and went on towards the election were they still in the class of working men?—Yes.

31,374. What were they receiving a week?—30*s.* a week.

31,375. Each 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

31,376. Then messengers, and that sort of persons were not so much employed until just close at the election?—No, not so many; there were always some two or three.

31,377. Was the same course adopted in 1863, to employ everybody pretty well as canvassers?—Yes.

31,378. I see upon an average you would be paying 50*l.* or 60*l.* a week, but I suppose you were paying more than that afterwards?—It increased nearer the election.

31,379. What was the largest sum you paid in a week?—70*l.* or 80*l.* a week.

31,380. That was only in your district?—Yes.

31,381. Were there other men paid in your district besides yourself?—No, there were only two others; there was one at Reigate and another at Mead-vale. We had entirely the Redhill district.

31,382. Then there were three districts. Who paid in Mead-vale?—I am sure I forget; I think Mazden.

31,383. Mazden?—I think so.

31,384. Who paid in Reigate?—Mr. Nichols. You are speaking of 1863?

31,385. Yes?—Mr. Nichols.

31,386. Are you sure about Mazden; because Mazden I understand was for Wilkinson in 1863?—I am not certain. I think they went from here there, but who was there paying I do not know.

31,387. You do not know who it was paid in Mead-vale?—No, I do not.

31,388. And you think that Mr. Nichols paid in Reigate-town?—Yes.

31,389. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I don't wish to trouble you at all, but I will just read the answer you gave just now, because I wish to be accurate. "In "1865 I was not disposed to take that part of the "business, and those who applied to me on the sub-"ject I referred to Mr. Green"?—Yes.

31,390. Could you tell us the names of any persons you referred?—I do not recollect any names, but any one that spoke about being set to work. I did not set any one on.

31,391. I understand you told them they had better apply to him?—Yes.

31,392. Knowing what the work was, you referred those who wanted to be paid for the work to him?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

E. Thorpe.

EDWARD THORPE sworn and examined.

31,393. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—I am a bricklayer when I works.

31,394. What rent do you pay for the house under which you vote?—5*s.* a week.

31,395. Did you vote at the last election?—I did.

31,396. For whom?—For Mr. Gower.

31,397. Had you been employed in canvassing for

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him? Were you on his committee?—I was on his committee.

31,398. And then, I suppose, you exerted yourself on his behalf as much as you could; you did all you could for him?—I give my services. I give all my services. I was like the parson and the lawyer,—I give all my services.

31,399. Your phrase is better than mine. You gave all your services?—I did.

31,400. What did you receive?—I received 30*s.* for two weeks or three weeks. I received 5*l.* altogether. I cannot tell you how I got it.

31,401. From whom?—Mr. Green, sir; that's it, sir.

31,402. Can you tell me how much of it you received before you voted?—Two 30*s.* I won't be sure. I won't be positive what I did receive before I polled.

31,403. And how soon after polling did you receive the balance, whatever it was?—I do not know.

31,404. You received it some time after?—I had some money after.

31,405. Did you go to Green for it?—No, he come to me, sir; that's it, he came to me, sir.

31,406. I suppose you voted at a former election?—I had no vote in 1863.

31,407. You never voted before?—Before that? Oh yes.

31,408. You had not a vote in 1863?—No.

31,409. But had you a vote in 1859?—Yes, sir.

31,410. You had?—I had, sir.

31,411. For whom did you vote?—Monson, the present Lord Monson.

31,412. And what did you receive for your services that time?—Nothing at all, sir; that's it.

31,413. Had you a vote in 1858?—I had, sir. I voted for Lord Monson, and never received nothing. That's it, sir.

31,414. And do you recollect the Doulton election?—I do.

31,415. For whom did you vote on that occasion?—I voted for Doulton.

31,416. Now, Mr. Thorpe?—Now's the time, sir.

31,417. You won't sell me, will you?—No, I will tell you the truth.

31,418. I am as sure of that as that I am speaking to you?—I am sure what I am going to tell you is the truth.

31,419. Did you receive anything?—All I could get there.

31,420. How much did you receive?—I cannot tell you; you must go back to the books. I can't tell you.

31,421. But about how much?—I can't tell you.

31,422. We will see. Were you employed?—I was employed.

31,423. I am sure you are giving your evidence as truthfully as you can?—I worked hard.

31,424. How many weeks were you employed?—About seven.

31,425. We understand it was about 30*s.* a week?—I had more than that, sir; I was worth more.

31,426. How much? About 2*l.* a week?—Something like that. I can't say to a pound or so what I received.

31,427. Who paid you at that time, do you recollect?—Heaven knows, sir! there was so many paying. I can't tell you. I think his name was—I will tell you in a minute. Hold hard! Don't be in a hurry! Oh, we ain't in no hurry to-day, sir. Let's see, what was his name? Truman—that was the man; that there big man; a big stout fellow; bigger than me, ever so much.

31,428. You have a very good memory, because we recollect Truman very well. Did he pay you all?—He always paid me, sir.

31,429. By the week, I suppose?—Oh, yes.

31,430. Every Friday night?—Something like that. I don't know; every Friday night or Saturday night I had it, and the snow was on the ground, sir. I had got no work to do, and that was very acceptable to my family, and no mistake.

31,431. You were about seven weeks employed?—That's it. I can't tell you the amount.

31,432. I suppose there was a good deal of beer going?—God bless your soul! Talk about beer. I don't know nothing about beer at all.

31,433. Something better?—God bless your soul, sir! You talk about beer. I am a lover of beer. You don't know anything about it.

31,434. Oh, yes, I do; I know what beer is?—So do I, sir. I know that.

31,435. Was there much beer going at that election, do you know? Election beer?—Ah, but you see now I happened to be a teetotaler at that election. I am a lover of beer, but I never had none at that election; not at Doulton's election.

31,436. I did not ask you that?—If you ask me such questions, I tell you I am a lover of beer, but I did not have it at that election. I was a teetotaler, and never had a drop at that election.

31,437. Did you see others having it?—Oh, that be blowed, sir! Oh, I see'd everybody drink.

31,438. That is what I mean. Were the public houses open free?—Not in my presence.

31,439. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said you gave all your services to Mr. Gower at the last election?—I did.

31,440. What were your services?—Mine, sir? Like the parson and the lawyer, sir.

31,441. What did you do?—What did I do? Services. When they asked me to do anything I did it, night and morning. I give the whole of my services up to them.

31,442. Just a moment. Were you at work as a bricklayer at the time?—No, my whole time was for services for Mr. Gower, sir.

31,443. Very well, that was what I wanted to know, whether you were at work or not?—No.

The witness withdrew.

C. Elcock.

CHARLES ELCOCK sworn and examined.

31,444. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter and joiner.

31,445. What rent do you pay for your house?—19*l.* a year.

31,446. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower; I promised him my vote the first time he called at my house.

31,447. Were you spoken to afterwards about it; before the election? Were you put on the committee?—Yes.

31,448. Who put you on the committee?—I do not know who wrote my name; it was in the committee room.

31,449. Who did you ask to put you on the committee?—I went there and put myself on.

31,450. Did anybody ask you to go to work and do what you could?—Yes.

31,451. Who was that?—Mr. Green.

31,452. And did you go to work and do what you could?—Yes.

31,453. What was your principal employment?—Anything that was to do.

31,454. Did you do anything in particular; one thing more than another?—No. I attended the committee rooms every night, went with messages, and so on.

31,455. Before the election did you receive any money from anybody?—Yes; I received 1*l.* one Saturday night, and 30*s.* the next.

31,456. Is that all you received altogether?—That is all I received—50*s.*

31,457. From Mr. Green?—From Mr. Green.

31,458. Was this your first election, or had you voted in 1863?—I voted in 1863 for Mr. Gower.

31,459. Were you working then under Mr. Green, or under somebody else?—I do not know who; I was working under the committee.

31,460. What did you receive in 1863?—I devoted the whole of my time in 1863, and I had 7*s.* 6*d.* a day.

31,461. How much did it amount to altogether?—I had 15*s.* on the nomination day and 15*s.* on the polling day.

31,462. How much altogether?—I cannot say exactly. I received 30*s.* every Saturday night, and the remainder when the election was over.

31,463. About 15*l.* altogether?—I cannot say exactly; I never kept any account.

31,464. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 7*s.* 6*d.* a day would be 2*l.* 5*s.* a week, and that at six weeks would be 13*l.* 10*s.*?—I think it would only be five weeks.

31,465. Then that would be 11*l.* 5*s.*, and 30*s.* for the nomination and polling days would make 12*l.* 15*s.*—That was near about it.

31,466. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you that?—Mr. Green and Mr. Rees were in the room at the time.

31,467. Was that your first election?—That was the first election.

31,468. The first time you voted?—Yes.

31,469. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was the 30*s.* paid for the polling and nomination days?—Yes, that was the agreement; 15*s.* for the nomination day and 15*s.* for the polling day.

31,470. In fact, you were paid double on the polling and nomination days?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS WAGHORN sworn and examined. *T. Waghorn.*

31,471. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A paperhanger.

31,472. What rent did you pay for your house?—18*l.* 4*s.*

31,473. Did you pay that by the quarter?—No; I always paid it weekly, because I won't have my rent go behind.

31,474. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

31,475. Were you on his committee?—No.

31,476. Did you work for him?—I was not asked by no one for my vote.

31,477. You were only asked to work, I suppose?—No; a man asked me which way I went. I said, "I shall go for Mr. Gower," and next time I met him he said, "How are you going on?" Says he, "Shall "I put your name down?" I says, "No committee." A week or two after he came to me one morning, and he says, says he, "Will you come down to the town "hall, we want you to do a little something for us." I says "Yes;" and I went down. Well, he give me some things, and I run out all I could. He never said what he was to give me, or whether he was to give me anything then; but the next day I was going home to my dinner, and he sees me, and he says, "If "you lose your time I shall pay for it." I said, "Very well." He never named no sum, whether sixpence, or a shilling, or a half-crown, or eighteenpence. I was there, perhaps, for a fortnight. Some months after the election—I never asked him, and should not if he had not come to me—he gave me 3*l.* I said, "Very well." I took no further notice of it. If he had not come to me I should not have gone to he. I never asked him for it, and did not care whether I had it or not. That is all I can tell you about that election.

31,478. That is all we want to know, I think. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

31,479. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

31,480. Did you work for Mr. Wilkinson?—Very little indeed.

31,481. Did you get anything for it?—Yes.

31,482. What did you get?—I had better tell you at the first onset, I never was canvassed and never asked by nobody for my vote.

31,483. What did you receive?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson sent me letters, and when I went home to my dinner I read them, and I said to my missus, "I shall vote for Mr. Wilkinson; it is no use their "troubling about it;" and I sat down and wrote a letter, as they wished me to send back, and I told him that if it run on my way on the polling day, I should not be biassed by nobody; and it went on five weeks, and they never give me a shilling, neither party, and never gave me a glass of beer, and I did not care about it. About three weeks before the polling day—I don't know as I ought to bring his name up now he's dead and gone—a man named Ireland came to me and said, "Will you come down this "morning?" I went down, and they asked me to stop on a day or two, and I stopped three days. On the Saturday a man said, "If you will come to "Laker's you will be paid for your time." I went up and had 5*s.* a day.

31,484. Where did he take you to?—To the "Warwick Arms," to be there if they wanted me.

31,485. You got 15*s.* for stopping at the "Warwick "Arms"?—Yes. Then the next week I was there Monday and Tuesday, I think—three days. I went down and told them I should have no more stopping there, for I was tired of it." They gave me 5*s.* for it. Then I was at work at Wray-park for Mr. Carruthers. He never said a word to me about the election, and I lost the nomination and the polling day, and a man said, "Your name is called out at the 'Swan;' they "want to see you." I went in, and there was the same man that paid me the other—a white-headed gentleman. He says, "What time did you lose?" I says "Two days." He says, "I shall give you 14*s.*" I said, "I shall be very well satisfied with that." So I took it; but then I did not get any wages, for I never had a glass of beer from any one, neither on the nomination nor polling day.

31,486. Who paid you the 14*s.*?—I don't know what his name is. His hair was about as white as my whiskers. It was at the "Swan;" the same gentleman as paid me the other two days.

31,487. You do not know who it was paid you?—I don't know whether it was Mr. James's brother or clerk, or who it was. It was a gentleman about your height that I mean.

31,488. In 1865 are you quite certain you received no more money than the 3*l.*?—Yes, I am; and I defy any man to contradict me.

31,489. Just so. Did you receive any money at all before you voted?—No.

31,490. Not a sum of 10*s.*?—Not to my knowledge.

31,491. Is there any other Waghorn on the list besides yourself?—No. I had a son working for them, but he was not a voter.

31,492. Did you know whether he received anything?—I cannot tell you that. I should think he was paid for his time. He was not a voter.

31,493. What was his Christian name?—Thomas, the same as mine. He was on some time for them, because when I gave up my work he went to work for them; but what he got paid I don't know.

31,494. Had you voted before 1863?—No, only those times. I tell you candidly, I did not hear anything about the 3*l.* till a long time after the election. I did not care whether he had given it to me or not, and I never waited for any offer; but, as soon as the names come out, I decided directly, and went to the poll the first thing.

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T. Waghorn.

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31,495. You did not refuse it?—No; but I should not have asked for it.

31,496. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Perhaps you would like to return the 3*l.* now?—Well, there is one thing about returning the 3*l.*, that I should not mind doing that—not a bit of it.

The witness withdrew.

Charles Parsons sworn and examined.

C. Parsons.

31,497. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

31,498. Working for Mr. Carruthers, I believe?—Yes.

31,499. What rent do you pay for your house?—About 17*l.* a year.

31,500. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

31,501. You were on his committee?—Yes.

31,502. Who put you on his committee?—I think Mr. Buckland put me on the committee.

31,503. Did you canvass and do all you could?—Mr. Buckland asked me at the first meeting that Mr. Gower had if I would go on the committee. I told him I was going to support Mr. Gower; that was the reason for being asked. That was previous to my seeing Mr. Gower at all.

31,504. Did he tell you you were to be paid for your services?—He told me if I was to do all I could I should be paid for my trouble; he never mentioned any sum.

31,505. What did you receive?—I received 3*l.* 10*s.* altogether.

31,506. From whom?—I had 1*l.* during the election and 50*s.* afterwards.

31,507. From whom?—From Mr. Buckland both times.

31,508. Did you call on Mr. Buckland after the election was over?—After the election was over I believe I saw Mr. Buckland in the town. He said he wished to see me, and I went into his office. That was three months afterwards. I thought it was pretty near time that there was something paid for the time I lost.

31,509. You expected 5*l.*, did you not?—No; there was no sum mentioned, not a farthing.

31,510. Did you not hear that 5*l.* was being paid?—During the time I was about there was some mention made that so-and-so would have two or three weeks; that is how it was arranged.

31,511. You were in Mr. Carruthers' employ during the whole of that time?—Yes.

31,512. You were paid by the day?—Yes.

31,513. How much were you paid?—5*s.* a day I was receiving at that time for the time that I worked.

31,514. Was anything stopped for the polling and nomination days?—I believe I lost four days that week. I was making seven days, and I only took three days' pay that week, that is all the time I made.

31,515. You were making seven days with overtime?—Yes, and I lost four days.

31,516. You did not work at all on the nomination day?—No, nor the day before I think.

31,517. You gave yourself Monday?—Whatever it was, I am sure I do not know exactly; and the time before I lost.

31,518. Had you a vote at the former election?—Yes.

31,519. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Wilkinson.

31,520. Did you receive anything at that election?—I received 2*l.* the day after polling. I was told there would be something for me, and I sent and had 2*l.*; I did not know anything about it before.

31,521. From whom did you receive it?—From Mr. Joyes.

31,522. You did not do anything at that election?—Nothing at all.

31,523. Had you voted before 1863?—Not before that; only at Mr. Wilkinson's election.

The witness withdrew.

W. Eve.

William Eve sworn and examined.

31,524. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

31,525. What rent do you pay?—I am rated at 14*l.* do not pay it as rent; the property is mine.

31,526. Freehold?—Yes.

31,527. On the freehold estate?—Yes.

31,528. What is the value of your house by the year?—About 20*l.*, nearly; from 18*l.* to 20*l.*, somewhere about that.

31,529. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

31,530. Did Mr. Gower come and canvass you?—Yes.

31,531. That was some time before the election of course?—I think seven or eight weeks.

31,532. Were you afterwards on the committee?—I was not on the committee.

31,533. Were you asked to be?—I was.

31,534. By whom?—Mr. Buckland; and I refused.

31,535. In spite of your refusal did you assist them?—Yes.

31,536. By canvassing?—I persuaded those men that I came in contact with.

31,537. And you went on during the election assisting them as well as you could?—Yes, all I could.

31,538. Were you paid anything before the election came on?—Yes.

31,539. How much?—10*s.*, in two instalments.

31,540. Two 5*s.* before the election?—Yes.

31,541. And how much afterwards?—50*s.*

31,542. 3*l.* altogether?—Yes.

31,543. From whom?—From Mr. Buckland.

31,544. Was this your first election?—Yes.

31,545. You did not go on the committee; so perhaps the Monson party did not come and canvass you?—Yes, they did.

31,546. Who came and canvassed you for the Monson party?—Mr. Corderoy saw me.

31,547. After Mr. Buckland did?—Yes. It was Mr. Gower that canvassed me.

31,548. After Buckland had been with you?—Yes. As far as Buckland and I are concerned we are often together.

31,549. After you and Buckland had talked about your assistance did Corderoy come to you?—Yes.

31,550. What did he come about?—He asked me for my vote; I told him I did not think I could give it.

31,551. Did he hold out any inducement; tell me what passed?—He asked me whether I would vote for Mr. Monson, and said he could do as much for me as the other party. I told him that that was no consideration to me.

31,552. Did he say what he could do?—He said if I liked to come on his committee I could have some money in my pocket if I liked to spend it, for my use.

31,553. Did he put any down?—No, I never saw any.

31,554. Did you ever see any of the Monson money?—No.

31,555. Then I need not ask whether you received any?—I did not on that side at all.

The witness withdrew.

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F. Peters.

13 Sept 1866.

FRANCIS PETERS sworn and examined.

31,556. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What rent do you pay ?—6*s.* a week.

31,557. Is it a weekly tenancy or monthly ?—Weekly.

31,558. What are you ?—A bricklayer.

31,559. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

31,560. For whom were you working ?—Who was your master ?—I was at piece-work.

31,561. Who gave it you ?—A builder named Francis.

31,562. Henry Francis ?—No, Francis of Merstham.

31,563. Was he a voter ?—No.

31,564. Did you work on this last election ?—Yes, I did.

31,565. What did you do ?—I was about a good many hours with them ; I was at the committee meetings every night.

31,566. Did you do anything else besides attend the committee meetings ?—No, I did not.

31,567. Those were all in the evening ?—I had about eight days to myself, that is, I lost eight days' labour at the time of the election.

31,568. In what way did you lose those days ?—I was about the town ?—I was not at work.

31,569. When you were about the town what did you do ?—I do not know that I did anything in particular.

31,570. Of course you got paid for it ?—Yes, I did.

31,571. What did you get paid for the nothing in particular ?—I got paid 4*l.*

31,572. Did you get your 4*l.* altogether ?—No, in three instalments.

31,573. Who paid you ?—Mr. Henry Green.

31,574. Had you had any conversation with Mr. Henry Green before about your work, and so on, being on the committee ?—Well, I had a conversation with him. He asked me who I intended to vote for, and I told him I intended voting for Mr. Gower. He said "Would you like to go on the committee" ? I said if he chose to put me on he could. He said if I went down of an evening, and there was anything to do, he would put me on the committee to carry out circulars, and so on ; but I never did carry out any.

31,575. Did he tell you at that time what you were to expect ?—No, I did not expect anything. There was no arrangement made.

31,576. No particular sum mentioned ?—Not a farthing.

31,577. Did he hold out any hopes that you would be remunerated for loss of time ?—If I was there he said he would satisfy me for what I did.

31,578. Some of the money was paid before the election, and some after ?—I received 1*l.* the first instalment, and 30*s.* afterwards. It was before the election that I received 1*l.*

31,579. When did you get the second 30*s.* ?—The following week.

31,580. After the polling ?—After the 1*l.*, and I received 30*s.* after the polling.

31,581. How long after the polling ?—It might be a month or six weeks ; I could not say for a week.

31,582. That made up your 4*l.* ?—Yes.

31,583. Did you vote in 1863 ?—No, I had not a vote then.

The witness withdrew.

W. Dewdney.

WILLIAM DEWDNEY sworn and examined.

31,584. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you a voter ?—Yes.

31,585. You are a baker ?—Yes.

31,586. What rent do you pay ?—30*l.* a year.

31,587. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

31,588. Were you on his committee ?—No.

31,589. Did you take any interest in working or doing anything for him ?—Nothing.

31,590. You did not canvass for him ?—No.

31,591. You did nothing ?—I did not canvass any one.

31,592. And you did not do anything for him ?—Not anything.

31,593. Did you vote at the former election ?—I did not.

31,594. How was that ?—Because I did not think proper to do so.

31,595. May I inquire why ?—I cannot exactly say why ; it did not suit me ; I did not think I would vote.

31,596. It did not suit ?—I thought I would rather not vote. I had no particular reason for not voting.

31,597. It was a very close contest between Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes, that might be one reason perhaps why I did not vote.

31,598. But the vote would be all the more valuable ?—It was not for the value of the vote at all.

31,599. I do not mean anything offensive ; but if there was a sharp contest a vote would be of great value to Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson ?—I understand your meaning.

31,600. You were canvassed very much I suppose ?—Not very much.

31,601. You were canvassed a good deal, I think ?—I do not think so ; not to my recollection.

31,602. On the polling day, when it was coming close, do you not recollect that they sent for you ?—Yes ; I did not go ; I did not intend to vote.

31,603. They would not know that, therefore they would be anxious to get every chance. Do you recollect who came to your house for you ?—No, I do not. I was not at home till late in the day ; I was out about my business. I did not interest myself about the election. I did not care whether I was at home or abroad.

31,604. How did you know that people had called ?—I was told by those in charge of the premises at home that they had been.

31,605. Who told you ?—I do not know. It may have been my wife.

31,606. You are a married man ?—Yes.

31,607. And you were in 1863 ?—Yes.

31,608. Do you recollect what time they called ? It was near 4, was it not ?—I do not recollect.

31,609. Your wife would remember ?—I do not remember what she said about it.

31,610. I think you were at home about a quarter past 4 ?—I think I was at home before that.

31,611. Half-past 3 ?—I cannot say.

31,612. Had they called before that time, do you recollect ?—Yes, I understood that several people had been there for me.

31,613. And waited there a good while ?—Yes.

31,614. I believe you expected they would call again ?—No, I did not know whether they would or would not ; I did not expect they would.

31,615. You thought it very likely they would call again ?—I distinctly told all I saw that I did not intend to vote, every one that came to me and asked me.

31,616. Or, if you voted at all, it would be very close upon the polling ?—No, I did not say that to my knowledge.

31,617. Do you not recollect that you said that if you voted at all it would be very close upon the hour ?—I do not recollect that.

31,618. Do you recollect their saying that if they called upon you again they would only call just a little before 4 o'clock ?—No I do not recollect.

31,619. Do you not recollect a message being sent to that effect ?—No.

31,620. That if they called again it would be only a few minutes before 4 if they wanted you ?—I have no recollection of it ; not the least.

31,621. I believe a carriage came ?—I do not know

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W. Dewdney.

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about that. There were several carriages about there; I do not know who they were after. I had my own carriage to take care off; my own trap.

31,622. You had seen several waiting?—I did not know whether they were waiting for me; I had made up my mind not to vote, therefore it was immaterial who was there.

31,623. Did you receive any message a little after 4 o'clock?—No, I do not remember receiving any.

31,624. About five minutes past 4?—No.

31,625. Saying that it was all up—that the election was over?—I have no recollection of that at all, I assure you.

31,626. Saying that it was too late or something of the kind?—No, nothing of the sort; I do not recollect it.

31,627. You received nothing this time, I suppose?—Nothing whatever.

31,628. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1865 you received nothing for your vote; is that what you say?—Yes.

31,629. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you see your brother that day a little before 4 o'clock? the polling day in 1863?—I might have seen him, perhaps.

31,630. Do you recollect going over a little before 4 o'clock?—Yes, I think I did.

31,631. Was that in reference to the election?—No; I was having a glass of wine at his own house.

31,632. Waiting there?—Yes, taking a glass of wine.

31,633. Was that the first time? We understand you had not been on good terms?—I had not been there much. We had not been on very good terms; nothing particular.

31,634. But you had a glass of wine that day?—Yes.

31,635. You recollect that?—Yes.

31,636. How long did you remain there?—I cannot say; I did not stop long, I think.

31,637. You remained there till you had heard that the election was over?—Yes, and then I went home, as near as I can recollect.

31,638. You had heard that, I think, a little after 4 o'clock?—I suppose it was over at 4.

31,639. Can you tell me what time you went to your brother's that day?—No, I cannot; I was not there long.

31,640. You were there about half-past 3 I think?—No, I could not have been there by that time; I am judging by the time I got home.

31,641. When you got home a message was left for you to go to your brother?—No such thing.

31,642. Why did you go to your brother?—Where should I go to?

31,643. I should have thought you would remain at home? Why should you go to your brother's at that time? He says you were not on good terms?—I was not on particular terms.

31,644. Why should you have gone to your brother's at that time?—Well, I might have been there a few times before.

31,645. The same day?—Not on the same day.

31,646. Was it not in consequence of a message left by your brother that you went to your brother's?—Not that I recollect; I have no recollection of that.

31,647. You remember that you went to your brother's at half-past 3, had a glass of wine with him, and remained till after the poll was announced?—Yes, I did that to get out of the way; I did not want to be annoyed by people soliciting votes.

31,648. You know that your brother had also announced that he did not intend to vote?—Yes, he said so.

31,649. Was it not arranged (I do not wish to mention names) that you and your brother should be together, and that if your terms were agreed to notice would be given about five minutes before 4 o'clock?—No such thing.

31,650. There was no arrangement of that kind?—On my oath, to the best of my recollection, there was no such thing; no arrangement at all.

31,651. You can go further than that; if there was such an arrangement you would not have forgotten it. Was there any arrangement of that kind?—There was no such arrangement.

31,652. Was there any arrangement of that kind?—No, I say not.

31,653. Not to the best of your recollection?—Not to the best of my recollection.

31,654. Was not any money mentioned?—No; I wished to keep out of the election altogether in every shape and way.

31,655. Were not the terms mentioned that you and your brother would vote for the same candidate provided you got 20*l.* a piece?—No, no such thing; nothing of the sort, to my recollection.

31,656. You will not go beyond that?—I do not understand what you mean.

31,657. Your recollection?—Well, I am satisfied I can swear positively that I never heard any such terms. I think if there was any such thing said in my hearing I should very likely hear it. Then I say I do not remember it, and I do not believe for one moment that there was.

31,658. Was anything said about your not voting?—Not that I am aware of. I said myself that I would not vote. I distinctly told those I saw at my house that I would not vote.

31,659. Was anything said about money being given if you did not vote?—Not to my recollection; certainly not.

31,660. I ask you point-blank; be cautious; was there not a sum of 5*l.* offered to you and your brother provided you did not vote at all?—Not to my recollection; certainly not; nothing of the sort.

31,661. No offer of the kind?—Not to the best of my recollection. If that was done I am positive I should recollect it.

31,662. Will you pledge your oath that no offer of the kind was made, that if you and your brother did not vote you were to have 5*l.* each?—I have no recollection of that; I can positively declare it.

31,663. You have no recollection?—No.

31,664. You recollect everything about the election?—On my oath I do not recollect anything about 5*l.* being mentioned.

31,665. You will not pledge your oath positively that such a thing did not take place?—I am satisfied in my own mind that nothing was said in my hearing about 5*l.* or any other sum of money.

31,666. Did your brother tell you?—No; I swear my brother did not tell me anything about it.

31,667. Who did?—I know no one that did; I believe no one did.

31,668. Was there not some arrangement made, some understanding with you and your brother that if you did not vote you were to have 5*l.* each, and that if you did vote you were to have 20*l.*?—Not any; I heard nothing of the sort.

31,669. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know a man named Relf?—Yes.

31,670. And Mr Goldsmith?—Yes.

31,671. You say these people had been talking to you that day?—I have said no such thing. I never saw Relf or Goldsmith to my knowledge that day. I do not remember seeing them that day.

The witness withdrew.

G. Stanford.

GEORGE STANFORD sworn and examined.

31,672. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A gardener.

31,673. What rent do you pay for your house?—10*l.*

31,674. Was that what you were paying at the time of the election in 1865?—Yes.

31,675. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

31,676. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

31,677. Who put you on the committee?—Job Apted.

31,678. Were you to give your assistance in the best way you could?—Yes.

31,679. Did he tell you on what terms you were to go on the committee?—No, not particular.

31,680. What were you to get?—He was to give me 5*l.*

31,681. He said so?—Yes.

31,682. Did you do any work for him?—No.

31,683. You only gave your vote?—That is all.

31,684. Were you paid any money before the election came on?—No; I had done three days' work, I think, for Mr. Durrant, why lives on the freehold.

31,685. At what?—Gardening.

31,686. During the election?—Yes, for Mr. Durrant.

31,687. In Mr. Durrant's garden?—Yes.

31,688. What money did you receive before the election?—That was about 17*s.*, or 17*s.* 6*d.*, that I got for 3½ days.

31,689. From Durrant?—Yes.

31,690. Apted promised you; what did he pay you altogether?—Not anything.

31,691. What was the full amount that you received?—I had 17*s.*, and 7*s.* besides, that is all.

31,692. The 17*s.* was for gardening?—Yes.

31,693. Not all of it. I find in his account 15*s.* for working?—I think it was 17*s.*

31,694. How much did you receive altogether?—I think it was 17*s.* 6*d.* I received altogether from Durrant.

31,695. Did you receive anything from Apted?—7*s.*; that is all.

31,696. What did Apted pay you the 7*s.* for?—I had a pair of shoes.

31,697. Why did he not give you the 5*l.*?—Well, I did not ask him for it.

31,698. What did he say about the shoes?—The 7*s.* was for the shoes.

31,699. You got a pair of shoes?—Yes; it was for my daughter.

31,700. That is the 7*s.*?—Yes.

31,701. You are sure?—I received no more money than 17*s.*, or 17*s.* 6*d.* from Durrant, and 7*s.* from Apted; that is all; nothing more.

31,702. You are put down in Durrant's account as having received 15*s.* for work?—It might be so, but I thought it was 17*s.* 6*d.*

31,703. That was working in the garden?—Yes.

31,704. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose the work was really required in the garden?—Yes.

31,705. True and honest work?—Yes, it was.

31,706. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you not get the 5*l.*?—I do not know, I am sure; I did not trouble about it.

31,707. You would not like to be supposed to give your vote for 7*s.* surely. We shall be compelled to put Mr. George Stamford down as a person bribed for a pair of shoes?—Well, Mr. Apted told me I did not want to pay for them then; that is what he said.

31,708. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Has he asked you for the money since?—No.

31,709. And you do not expect him to ask you?—I am sure I do not know whether he will or will not.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN MOODY sworn and examined.

J. Moody.

31,710. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A wheelwright.

31,711. A master wheelwright?—Yes; I employ men; wheelwrights and smiths too.

31,712. What rent did you pay for your house to give you a qualification at the last election?—I did not pay any rent. I lived in a house of my own. I think it was rated at 32*l.* 10*s.*

31,713. Part of the freehold company?—I bought it of them.

31,714. It is pure freehold?—It is pure freehold.

31,715. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

31,716. Were you on his committee?—No.

31,717. Did you receive any money on account of the election?—No.

31,718. Who canvassed you?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith.

31,719. No one else?—No one else.

31,720. You did not promise anybody else, with reference to the election, to vote for Mr. Gower?—No.

31,721. And you received nothing?—No.

31,722. Were you asked by the Monson party to vote?—I was asked some time previous to the election if I would vote for Mr. Monson, and I said no.

31,723. Were any overtures made to you by the Monson party?—No.

31,724. Is there another person of your name upon the register?—Yes.

31,725. Where does he live?—He lives about a quarter of a mile from me.

31,726. What is he?—He is a publican; he keeps the "Plough."

31,727. What is his Christian name?—William.

31,728. Did you take any part in the last election?—No; I only went and voted. I promised Mr. Gower when I came that I would vote for him.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE CROUCHER sworn and examined.

G. Croucher.

31,729. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A gardener.

31,730. What was your qualification at the last election?—My house is 8*l.*

31,731. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

31,732. Were you on his committee?—No.

31,733. Did you canvass for him?—No.

31,734. Were you to canvass for him?—No. I do not know Mr. Gower myself. He never spoke to me. I never attended any meeting.

31,735. Who did you tell that you were going to vote for Mr. Gower?—Durrant, when he called at the place where I was working.

31,736. I suppose Durrant called upon you, and asked you if you would vote for Mr. Gower?—He did. The first time I voted for Mr. Gower he called at my house.

31,737. That was in 1863, I suppose?—Yes.

31,738. As to the last election?—He brought his milk where I was at work, and he asked me how I was going, and I said, the same as I had done before.

31,739. Did he tell you that you would get paid for voting?—No.

31,740. Did you get paid?—Yes; I had 2*s.* 6*d.* before the election.

31,741. Who gave you the 2*s.* 6*d.*?—Durrant.

31,742. What was that for?—He said, "Get yourself a drop of beer."

31,743. Did you get any money after the election?—I had 10*s.* after the election.

31,744. Who paid you that?—Durrant.

31,745. Did he tell you what it was for?—No.

31,746. How long after the election did he give you the 10*s.*?—The same day.

31,747. After you had voted?—Yes.

31,748. Was that all you had in 1865?—Yes.

31,749. From anybody?—Yes.

31,750. In 1863 what did you get?—I do not recollect. I think it was 2*s.* 6*d.* I do not recollect any more in 1863.

31,751. Who paid it to you?—Mr. Durrant; he came where I worked.

31,752. He gave you 2*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes; he came there with his milk.

31,753. I suppose you had done nothing for the

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G. Croucher.

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2*s.* 6*d.*?—I had done nothing; I did not want to have anything to do with it.

31,754. Did you receive anything more than the 2*s.* 6*d.* in 1863, after you voted?—No; I do not remember anything. In fact, I do not remember anything after I have gone 100 yards, and I am obliged to go twice over the ground.

31,755. You cannot recollect?—I am obliged to go back again.

31,756. You recollect with regard to 1865 that you received 2*s.* 6*d.* and 10*s.*?—Yes; I voted for Mr. Monson between the two.

31,757. When did you vote for Mr. Monson, the election before?—Yes.

31,758. In 1859?—No, I think it was between the two. I was not asked a question at all about it.

31,759. Have you got anything to say about it?—No.

The witness withdrew.

C. Champion.

CHARLES CHAMPION sworn and examined.

31,760. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A smith.

31,761. A blacksmith?—Yes.

31,762. What rent do you pay for your house?—16*l.* a year.

31,763. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

31,764. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

31,765. How many weeks had you been on his committee?—Mr. Gower canvassed me just before he held the public meeting.

31,766. Four or five weeks?—Something like that.

31,767. Did you take an active part?—A little.

31,768. Did you canvass many men?—No.

31,769. Did you canvass some men?—I spoke to one man.

31,770. Who was it?—A man of the name of Thompson.

31,771. What is he?—A gardener, living at Sidlow bridge; that is the only man I asked.

31,772. You attended meetings?—One meeting; that is all.

31,773. I thought you attended the committee meetings?—I attended a meeting or two at Woodhatch.

31,774. What did you receive?—For my vote?

31,775. For what you did?—Nothing at all.

31,776. You gave your services gratuitously?—Yes.

31,777. You received nothing?—I received nothing.

31,778. Nothing at all?—Not for my services.

31,779. Did you receive any money at all?—I paid some money for refreshments; I was paid that again.

31,780. How much money did you receive?—I received 3*l.* from David Durrant.

31,781. That was for working, was it not?—No, for refreshment.

31,782. I thought you said you attended only one meeting?—Only one committee meeting here.

31,783. What other meetings did you attend?—There were meetings at Woodhatch.

31,784. How many did you attend at Woodhatch?—Two meetings.

31,785. Do you mean to say that you got 3*l.* for attending those two meetings?—No, I spent the money on the voters that were there. I was asked to take charge of them and give them some refreshment, and I did so.

31,786. Just recollect yourself, there must be some mistake?—No mistake on my part.

31,787. To whom did you pay the 3*l.*?—I paid over 3*l.* the first night.

31,788. To whom?—To Mr. Hodge at the "Angel."

31,789. How much over 3*l.* did you pay?—I think it was over 3*l.* 15*s.*; something like that.

31,790. You only received 3*l.* 15*s.* from Durrant?—I paid more, and I received the rest from Mr. Smith.

31,791. How much did you receive from Mr. Smith besides the 3*l.* from Mr. Durrant?—3*l.* Mr. Smith asked me if I would take charge of a little money.

31,792. How soon before the election was this?—Perhaps a fortnight.

31,793. And then you said you would?—Yes.

31,794. You had no objection to that?—Not a bit of it.

31,795. Then he gave you what; a cheque?—After the election he paid me.

31,796. I thought he asked you, "Would you have "any objection to take charge of some money"?—He told me he would send me down some.

31,797. That is not what you said?—I might make a mistake as to the words.

31,798. Did he not send the money down?—No; I took his word, and paid the money when they sent the men to have something to drink.

31,799. You paid 3*l.* 15*s.* to one man; to whom did you pay the other?—I cannot say to a few shillings; I was about on the nomination and polling days, and I spent some then.

31,800. Abont how much did you give to Hodge?—Perhaps I might have paid him another pound.

31,801. Was Hodge the person who had the pig?—I have read that in the papers.

31,802. He lives up the hill?—Yes, I live next door to him.

31,803. That accounts for 4*l.* 15*s.*; you cannot give any account of the remainder?—On the nomination and polling days I was fetching voters and spending money. I was to be reimbursed for all I spent.

31,804. That was borrowing money from you; Mr. Smith (that is Mr. Gower) borrowing money from you for the purposes of the election?—I did not take it as such; I took Mr. Smith's word that he would pay me.

31,805. Let me call your attention to what Mr. Durrant has put down: "C. Champion, Woodhatch, for work, 3*l.*"?—That is a mistake. I have heard that he put it down the same as he put Williams down; it is a mistake.

31,806. Who told you?—Thomas Williams, jun.; he put his name down for work in the same way.

31,807. They put you down as having received 3*l.* for work?—That is wrong; I never charged a halfpenny for any work whatever. What service I have done, as far as regards Mr. Gower, he was quite welcome to; I should only be pleased to do it again if he was to come forward as a candidate.

31,808. You were paid 3*l.* by Mr. Smith after the election?—Yes.

31,809. When were you paid the other 3*l.*?—Before the election I received that from Durrant. Durrant told me there was a party coming out of the "Angel," and he asked me if I would take the money and pay for him. It has been mentioned that they had something to take at the "Angel," and they did not know who paid for it; I believe I was the person who paid for it.

31,810. Had you voted at the previous election?—Yes.

31,811. In 1863?—Yes.

31,812. For whom?—Mr. Gower.

31,813. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

31,814. Did you work for him then?—No; I might canvass for him.

31,815. But you did not go about?—No; I lost no time.

31,816. You did not expend your own money?—Not a halfpenny then, and I never received a halfpenny.

31,817. When was the first time you voted?—For Sir Henry Rawlinson.

31,818. In 1858?—Yes, I suppose it was in 1858.

31,819. Was that the Doulton election?—Yes.

31,820. You received nothing then?—Nothing whatever.

31,821. You are put down as having received 3*l.*, not for money expended, but for work done; did you tell Mr. Durrant that the 3*l.* he gave you you had spent in treating voters at the "Angel"?—Yes; Durrant knows it as well as I do myself.

31,822. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He knew it when he paid you the money?—Yes, he gave it to me for that very purpose; he said he should not be able to come out himself, and would I look after them.

31,823. Was the money paid before you went to the "Angel"?—He gave me 2*l.* before, and then 1*l.*, because I told him I had spent more. I told him I had spent 1*l.* 15*s.* more.

31,824. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You say he knew that, and had no right to put you down so?—He had no right to put me down, and he knew that.

31,825. The 3*l.* you received from Mr. Smith, did you give him any account how you expended it?—No.

31,826. I do not think you say you expended all that 3*l.*?—Yes, I did. I was about the whole of the polling day; I brought up the voters, and treated some.

31,827. You expended every shilling of that?—Every shilling of it.

31,828. You gave no account to Mr. Smith?—No.

31,829. He said he would send you a little money when you spoke to him before the election?—He called me and asked me if I would take——

31,830. A little money to use in treating voters?—Yes, it was on that condition and no other; I would not take it on any other condition.

31,831. Not a farthing of that remained in your pocket?—No, it was all spent.

31,832. If that be so, you have been very much wronged?—It is wrong. Mr. Durrant can explain it.

31,833. I do not think he explains this?—He can explain that he has put that wrong.

31,834. You had no arrangement made with him?—None.

31,835. That it was to be put down for work?—No, no arrangement whatever.

31,836. You did not know it was for work until you were told?—Not till I was told. Williams told me that mine was down the same as his, for work, and I said, "That is wrong."

31,837. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know of more meetings being held at Hodge's than the one which you had and the one which Apted had? Were you at Apted's meeting?—Yes.

31,838. Did you know of any other meeting being held at Hodge's besides those two?—No, I do not believe there was. There were only two; one with Apted. Apted was in the chair; I was asked to take the chair, but I declined.

31,839. Who paid at Apted's meeting?—Apted brought the money down I believe, and I went in with him when he paid.

31,840. How much did he pay, about 5*l.*?—I think it was 3*l.* 10*s.*; he had a bill of that, I think, from Mr. Hodge.

31,841. Did Mr. Smith take no receipt from you?—No; I went to Mr. Smith to pay him some money, I said I had paid 3*l.* for the election, and he paid me the money, and said he was much obliged for the part I took.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE LUCAS sworn and examined.

31,842. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A baker.

31,843. Are you a master baker?—Yes, in a small way.

31,844. What rent do you pay for your house?—I do not pay rent; it is my own freehold.

31,845. Is it on the freehold land estate?—Yes, building with the assistance of the Building Freehold Land Society.

31,846. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower.

31,847. What is the value of your house?—It is rated at 14*l.* 10*s.*

31,848. And you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

31,849. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

31,850. Who asked you to go on the committee?—It was owing to a conversation that took place between me and Mr. Buckland some weeks previous to the election.

31,851. What was that conversation?—It happened during the time that there was much controversy as to whether Mr. Gower could come forward after the arrangement made with the late Mr. Wilkinson. About six weeks before the election I met Mr. Buckland and asked him if it was his opinion Mr. Gower would come forward, and he said "Undoubtedly," and I said I would vote for him if he did. He said he was very glad to hear it, and he said, as he intended to have a very efficient working committee, he should be very glad to have me on it. I said that of course my business occupied a great portion of my time, but what I could do I would.

31,252. Was there anything said about your being remunerated? What was done?—I received 3*l.* for my services, 10*s.* before the election and 2*l.* 10*s.* about five weeks after.

31,853. Who paid you?—Mr. Buckland. The first 10*s.* I received was in this way. I belonged to the band, and every Saturday evening we have the room below. I walked up the place, and saw Mr. Buckland and Mr. Apted in the room below, and I said, "What is going on?" He said, "We have not "taken any public houses, but have adopted the plan "of allowing a little money for working. Do you "want any?" I said I had no objection, money was always acceptable, and I took 10*s.*

31,854. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know where this plan was originated?—No.

31,855. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is the way you got your expenses?—Yes.

31,856. You got the 2*l.* 10*s.* some months after the election?—Yes.

31,857. That was not for refreshments?—No, it was for my services.

31,858. Had you done any?—Very little. I had attended all the meetings, and done what was required of me.

31,859–60. You attended meetings, and gave your services in that way?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was accorded for your services, he said?—Yes.

31,861. Not for your vote?—No.

31,862. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it paid five months after the election?—Thereabouts.

31,863. Had you made an application at all to Mr. Buckland for this money?—None whatever.

31,864. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he come to you, or did you go to him?—I met him in the street, as I very often do.

31,865. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had he the money in his pocket?—No, he told me if I would call upon him at his office I might receive something for my services; which I did.

31,866. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is Mr. Buckland?—He is secretary to a building society for one thing.

31,867. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The building society in which you have your freehold?—Yes, and he is a collector of rents.

31,868. I suppose a good many of your neighbours received money from Buckland in the same way?—Yes.

31,869. Do you know many of the voters belonging to this society?—No, I do not know a great many. I look pretty close to business.

31,870. Can you tell me whether most of them voted for Gower or Monson?—That I really cannot.

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G. Lucas.

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I never had any conversation with Buckland of any consequence. I told him I should like to vote for Mr. Gower, and I told him so the very first time.

31,871. Had you voted in 1863 ?—Yes.

31,872. For Mr. Gower ?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

31,873. Against Mr. Gower ?—Yes, but Mr. Wilkinson was now dead.

31,874. In 1863 what did you get altogether for your services ?—2*l.* 5*s.*

31,875. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

31,876. Who paid you ?—A stranger; I think it it was Mr. James; it was nine days.

31,877. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Nine days at 5*s.* a day ?—Yes.

31,878. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And you voted for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes.

31,879. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you a master baker then ?—Yes, but I had not long commenced business.

31,880. Had you many people working under you ?—No.

31,881. Then your time was a good deal taken up ?—Yes; I had a boy.

31,882. But you would not allow the boy to make the bread and spoil the batch ?—No.

31,883. I believe you had not much time for electioneering ?—No.

31,884. Had anybody told you before you got this 2*l.* 5*s.* you would be paid ?—No, I made application for employment on hearing rumours people would be paid.

31,885. What employment did you ask for ?—As messenger.

31,886. Did you really do anything ?—Yes, I really did. I called in at the committee room and took circulars as I went round

31,887. You delivered your circulars with your loaves ?

31,888. Those were your services ?—Yes.

31,889. That was a great addition to the price of your bread ?—Yes.

31,890. And I dare say you thought it was on account of your voting ?—I did not think much about it. I was only in a small way of business, and I thought I had a right to increase it.

31,891. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you deliver circulars last time ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

J. Sawyer.

JOSEPH SAWYER sworn and examined.

31,892. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A shoemaker.

31,893. What rent do you pay for your house ?—Mine is a weekly rent, but I am rated at 8*l.*

31,894. How much do you pay ?—6*s.* a week.

31,895. For whom did you vote ?—For Mr. Gower.

31,896. Were you on his committee ?—I was on his committee, his outdoor committee.

31,897. And you did all you could for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

31,898. What did you receive ?—1*l.*

31,899. Who from ?—From Mr. Green.

31,900. Was that before you polled or after ?—Three months after.

31,901. Had you received nothing before you polled ?—No, only he told me he would pay me if I worked well.

31,902. But you received nothing before you polled ?—Not anything.

31,903. Had you voted in 1863 ?—Yes.

31,904. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

31,905. And were you on his committee then ?—Yes.

31,906. What did you receive at that election ?—7*s.* 6*d.* a day.

31,907. For how many days ?—For 18 days.

31,908. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is that what you received ?—Mr. Rees and Mr. Green laid it down on the table.

31,909. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You voted before ?—I voted twice before in 1859.

31,910. And no money was going then ?—I did not see it.

31,911. You had not voted before ?—No, that was my first voting.

The witness then withdrew.

C. Murrell.

CHARLES MURRELL sworn and examined.

31,912. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A labourer.

31,913. What rent do you pay ?—12*l.* a year.

31,914. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

31,915. Were you on the committee ?—Yes.

31,916. Who put you on ?—Mr. Apted.

31,917. Did he pay you anything for going on ?—No, sir.

31,918. Nothing at all ?—No, sir.

31,919. Did he pay you anything for the work you did after you were on ?—Yes.

31,920. What did he pay you ?—30*s.*; he did not pay me the 30*s.*

31,921. I thought you said he did ?—Mr. Rose paid me the 30*s.*

31,922. Mr. Apted put you on the committee ?—Yes.

31,923. And Mr. Rose paid you ?—Yes.

31,924. Was this your first election ?—Yes.

The witness then withdrew.

G. Parfitt.

GEORGE PARFITT sworn and examined.

31,925. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—A gardener.

31,926. What rent do you pay for your house ?—I do not pay any rent.

31,927. Are you one of the freehold land society ?—No, I live rent free.

31,928. Then you are in service ?—No; I take under the reading-room in Nutley-lane.

31,929. Do you live in the house ?—Yes, it is rated at 10*l.* a year.

31,930. Have you got the exclusive occupation of that ?—I have the occupation of four rooms.

31,931. Are your four rooms rated at 10*l.* a year ?—That is what they are rated at.

31,932. Not the four ?—Yes, that is what they are rated at.

31,933. Are your four rooms rated separately ?—The reading-room is not rated at all.

31,934. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

31,935. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

31,936. Who put you on the committee ?—I had it done myself; I spoke to somebody; there was a meeting in the room in the hall.

31,937. Below here ?—Yes.

31,938. To make the matter short, did you receive any money either before or after the election ?—After.

31,939. Did you receive any money before the election, and before you voted ?—No.

31,940. From whom did you receive the money ?—Alexander Rose.

31,941. What did he pay you ?—2*l.*

31,942. What did he pay you for ?—I was set to work.

31,943. To work ?—Yes.

31,944. What did you do ?—I canvassed a little.

31,945. A very little?—Well, what I could.

31,946. And that was not much?—No, it was not much.

31,947. I suppose you did not succeed in getting many voters?—Not many.

31,948. Did you succeed in getting any?—I do not know that I did.

31,949. Did you make any overtures to any voters you canvassed? Did you promise them anything?—No.

31,950. Did Apted give you any authority to offer anything?—No.

31,951. Or to tell them if they came on the committee they would be paid for their time?—No.

31,952. And I suppose that was the reason you were not successful?—Very likely.

31,953. Did you vote in 1863?—No.

31,954. Who did you canvass?—I cannot think of anybody's name now.

31,955. If you did ask anybody, did they tell you they were canvassers also?—No, they did not.

31,956. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you the man on the register as William Parfitt?—Yes.

31,957. How is that?—They made a mistake in my Christian name.

31,958. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How soon after the election did you get your money?—Two or three months.

The witness then withdrew.

CHARLES CHARLES sworn and examined.

C. Charles.

31,959. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Charles?—A gardener.

31,960. What rent do you pay?—5*s.* 6*d.* per week.

31,961. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

31,962. Were you on his committee?—No.

31,963. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower himself.

31,964. Anybody else?—Mr. Smith was with him, and I promised to vote for him.

31,965. Did anybody else besides ask you?—No. Mr. Penfold once said, "I suppose you are on our "side;" he lives near me; and I said, "Of course "I am."

31,966. Did Mr. Penfold say you would be remunerated for your trouble?—No.

31,967. Nothing of that sort?—No.

31,968. Did you canvass for him at all?—Not at all, I did nothing for him at all.

31,969. I suppose you received something?—Yes, I did; about six months after the election Mr. Penfold presented me with 2*l.*

31,970. He paid you down this 2*l.* six months after the election?—Yes.

31,971. Had you voted before?—No, sir.

31,972. Was this your first time?—Yes.

31,973. How came you to go to Mr. Penfold?—I did not go to Mr. Penfold at all.

31,974. How came he to come to you?—He lives close to me.

31,975. He is a neighbour?—Yes.

31,976. I suppose he told you before the six months elapsed he should have a little money for you?—No; he never told me, and when it was presented to me it was a very agreeable surprise.

31,977. How did he present it to you?—"Charles, "here is a trifle for you," or "a little present," or something of that sort, and I thanked him for it.

31,978. For the election?—He did not say a word about the election.

31,979. Not a word about it?—No.

31,980. Of course you knew what it was for?—I guessed at that, but I took it as a present.

31,981. You knew it was about the election?—I did nothing at all.

31,982. You knew it was about the election?—I suppose it was so.

31,983. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose Mr. Penfold had never given you 2*l.* before?—No.

31,984. Nor since?—No, I wish he would; it would be acceptable.

31,985. You do not mean you would take it for your vote?—No, I only say if any one were to give me 2*l.* it would be very acceptable.

31,986. Then if another election was to come, and you were offered 2*l.* for your vote, I suppose you would take it?—No, I would not take 2*l.* for my vote or anything.

31,987. I suppose this 2*l.*, as a present, was very unexpected?—It was an agreeable surprise.

31,988. Did you vote in 1863?—No.

31,989. Or '59?—No.

31,990. This was your first time of voting?—Yes; I had been then about four years.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS TITCHENER sworn and examined.

T. Titchener.

31,991. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A labourer.

31,992. What rent do you pay for the house you occupy?—12*l.*

31,993. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

31,994. I believe you were on his committee?—Yes.

31,995. Who asked you to go?—Mr. Smith.

31,996. And he put you on?—Yes, sir; at least, I suppose he did.

31,997. You were employed a good deal in the election?—Yes.

31,998. You were an agent?—Nothing in particular but a canvasser.

31,999. Money passed through your hands for other people?—Yes.

32,000. And you accounted to some person for money you received; who was that?—Mr. Penfold I received money from.

32,001. Did you account to Penfold for the monies you paid?—I gave an account of them.

32,002. You did?—I gave him an account whatever I paid.

32,003. How much money did you receive altogether from Mr. Penfold?—I am sure I do not know, for I never took an account, but wherever I paid any money I took a little receipt and handed it to him.

32,004. You handed to him a bill of what you paid?—Yes.

32,005. But you have no account of what you received from him altogether?—No, for I never reckoned it up.

32,006. Now tell me this; did you receive as much as 15*l.* from him?—I might have done, but I never did reckon it up; I cannot tell the total amount I paid, but I know I paid some several times.

32,007. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It might be about that?—It might be, but I really cannot say, for I never kept any account.

32,008. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You gave in an account for your own services?—Yes, to Mr. Smith.

32,009. And was the whole account you sent in paid?—I received it.

32,010. I mean was the whole amount you claimed for your services paid?—Yes.

32,011. How much was it?—11*l.*

32,012. Mr. Smith paid it?—Yes.

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T. Titchener.

13 Sept. 1866.

32,013. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was for your own work?—Not exactly all my own work.

32,014. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What was it then, tell me?—I paid a man 2*l.* for the nomination day and polling day.

32,015. Did not that go into Penfold's account of monies that you had paid out of pocket, that you got from Mr. Penfold?—Yes.

32,016. You told me you sent in a separate account to Mr. Smith for your own services?—Yes.

32,017. Then you say you paid somebody 2*l.*?—I beg your pardon, I made a mistake, it was 9*l.*; that is what it was.

32,018. Did Mr. Smith pay that in a cheque or in money?—I think it was by cheque; I went to the bank, but it is so long ago I have almost forgetten.

32,019. Can you tell me to whom you paid the 2*l.*; do you recollect his name?—James Trussler.

32,020. You paid him 2*l.*?—Yes.

32,021. And who else?—Nobody else, unless it was for beer scores, refreshments.

32,022. Did you pay for refreshments?—Yes.

32,023. What did you pay for?—I paid a bill; there was an open air booth erected, and I paid the bill to Master Tyrrell's daughter, but I do not know what her name is.

32,024. How much did you pay to Tyrrell's daughter?—That I cannot recollect, for I did not keep any account of it.

32,025. Was it 5*l.*?—5*l.* or 6*l.*; something like that.

32,026. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For one night's bill?—Yes.

32,027. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) One night's refreshments?—Yes, and the expense of the booth; there was the putting up of the booth and things connected with it.

32,028. And who else did you pay?—I paid another biggish score down at the "Bridge" hotel, but I forget his name.

32,029. That is quite enough for me; what did you pay at the "Bridge" hotel?—2*l.* or 3*l.*, I think.

32,030. Shall I take it 2*l.* or 3*l.*?—Yes; it was somewhere thereabouts.

32,031. Who else did you pay?—I do not know that I went anywhere else; I do not recollect any other house.

32,032. Shall I say, "I do not remember going to "any other house"?—I do not remember.

32,033. Do you remember making any payments at any other house?—No, I do not remember e'er a one.

32,034. Then you do not recollect any payments beyond those you have mentioned?—No.

32,035. And these accounts you have told me of went in to Penfold?—I gave them to him, and he handed me the money.

32,036. Was this all before the election, or after?—It was all before the election.

32,037. Did you not receive any other money in respect of this election?—Mr. Penfold gave me a 1*l.* one day, soon after I came on the committee; he said, "You cannot run about without some money, when "you are canvassing some money is required."

32,038. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was for your own expenses?—Yes.

32,039. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was soon after you had been on the committee?—Yes, about a week after.

32,040. We have got from you the two scores you have mentioned; was that all the money you received from Penfold to pay out?—Yes.

32,041. Do you think you did not receive any more money besides that?—No.

32,042. Either before or after the election?—No, I do not remember receiving any money after the election, except what I received from Mr. Smith.

32,043. You are sure you did not?—Yes.

32,044. That you did not receive any money after the election, except from Mr. Smith?—No, sir.

32,045. Are you sure you did not receive any money for yourself besides what you have stated?—I am quite sure of it.

32,046. When was it after the election Mr. Smith gave you the cheque?—It was four or five months, or five or six months after that.

32,047. I should like to know the exact time?—I know it was a long time afterwards.

32,048. You say five or six months after; there might be snow on the ground, or something by which you could fix it?—I do not recollect the weather, but I am sure it was in winter time, though I do not know whether it was before or after Christmas; I know it was a long time after the election.

32,049. Have you any reason to think it was about Christmas time?—I do not know whether it was before or after.

32,050. Will Christmas remind you of it; had it something to do with Christmas?—No, not the least.

32,051. I suppose you are a master gardener?—No, I am an illiterate man, a labourer.

32,052. Do you recollect whether you were in employment at the time when the money came in?—When I received it from Mr. Smith?

32,053. Yes?—I am in work when I can get work, I job about.

32,054. You are not able to fix the time nearer than that?—No, I ain't.

32,055. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you make application to Mr. Smith for the 9*l.* cheque?—Yes, I called on him; Mr. Smith arranged with me and no one else; he asked me if I would go to work for him, and no one else.

32,056. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are on the wrong tack; when you had done the work did you ask Mr. Smith for the 9*l.* cheque?—I asked him according to the statement he made to me, that I was to be upon this canvassing; and then about a fortnight after I spoke to him he paid me.

32,057. What did he say, was it something like this, "Give me an account and I will pay you"?—I think he said, "Give me a bit of an account of it and I will "settle it." I am no scollard in particular.

32,058. Then he paid you about a fortnight after?—After I asked him about it.

32,059. This was not your first election, was it?—No.

32,060. In 1863 you had been "allowed" about the election?—Yes, I was "allowed" for it.

32,061. Were you on the committee?—Yes.

32,062. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

32,063. Who put you on the committee?—That I cannot tell.

32,064. Did you do what you could for him?—Yes, I worked hard.

32,065. Did money pass through your hands then?—No.

32,066. You did not receive money from other people to pay away?—No, not a penny.

32,067. Who paid you for your services on that occasion?—Mr. James.

32,068. Can you tell me how much?—No, I cannot.

32,069. Will the paper you have in your hand tell you?—No, that is only my summons.

32,070. Tell me exactly what it was Mr. James paid you?—I had about 5*s.* a day, and I was canvasing three weeks or a month.

32,071. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You would have 4*l.* 10*s.* or 5*l.*?—Somewhere thereabouts.

32,072. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that your first election?—No, sir.

32,073. At the great election of 1859, between Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson, had you voted then?—Yes, sir.

32,074. What did you receive for that election?—I had 5*s.* a day then.

32,075. And did that come to more than the 1863 election?—That I do not know.

32,076. You were for Mr. Wilkinson then?—Yes, sir.

32,077. You received *5s.* a day for how long?—It would be three weeks or a month.

32,078. May I say about *5l.*; I am putting it about?—I am sure I cannot say.

32,079. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Three weeks would be *4l. 10s.*?—It might be something like that, but I kept no account.

32,080. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There were two other elections in 1858, one between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson, and the first known as Doulton's?—Yes, Mr. Doulton's, I was on that.

32,081. What did you get paid for on Doulton's?—I think *5s.* a day; no, it was *7s. 6d.* a day.

32,082. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I thought the price was higher?—*7s. 6d.* a day; it was higher.

32,083. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Doulton.

32,084. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you get, can you tell me?—No.

32,085. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were 8 or 9 weeks?—I was on some little time.

32,086. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It would be something like *11l.*; it would be over that?—Well, I don't know.

32,087. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Seven or eight weeks would be *16l.* or *17l.*?—I never got it, though it would seem to be that from your statement.

32,088. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you get?—*5l.* or *5l. 10s.* Mr. Truman paid me, I think.

32,089. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How was it he did not pay you more?—He said he could not afford to pay me more, and I never got all the money.

32,090. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was after the election?—Yes.

32,091. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you get in 1859, the October election, between Mr. Wilkinson and the Hon. Mr. Monson?—I suppose I had something like *5s.* a day then.

32,092. You were not very likely to miss?—No.

32,093. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

32,394. Did you say you got about *5s.* then?—It might be something thereabouts, I cannot say exactly, I cannot say for certainty.

32,095. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said you gave *2l.* to some man for nomination and polling days?—Yes.

32,096. Who was it?—James Trussler.

32,097. Did you pay him before the election or after?—No, after; it was three or four months after.

32,098. Did you make out your account to Mr Smith, including *2l.* for Trussler?—I do not know whether I made it out in that way or not.

32,099. How came you to pay Trussler?—Because he would not be content with less than two days.

32,100. You promised him before polling?—The night before the election, or day or so before.

32,101. You paid Trussler the 2nd of January?—It was within a day or two of the time I received the money from Mr. Smith that I paid Trussler.

32,102. He has said you paid him on the 2nd of January?—I do not know whether it was in this year or the last.

32,103. Did you tell Mr. Smith you had *2l.* to pay to Trussler out of the cheque?—Yes, I believe I said something about it.

32,104. Be as exact as you can, we shall have to ask Mr. Smith about this; I wish to know whether you told Mr. Smith you wanted to pay Trussler for voting, and whether you told him so before receiving the *9l.* cheque?—I said at first *11l.*, and then I remembered myself, and said *9l.*

32,105. What was it in fact you did receive from Mr. Smith; was it not *11l.*? or did you receive two separate sums, *9l.* and *2l.*, from Mr. Smith?—All I received from Mr. Smith I had in one sum.

32,106. Was it not in the month of November you received the money from Mr. Smith, and was it not the 4th of November?—I do not remember the day of the month, nor yet what month it was in.

32,107. What was your account, *9l.*?—Yes.

32,108. Do you distinctly recollect it was *9l.*?—Yes, sir.

32,109. How can you recollect what it was Mr. Smith paid you; you say the cheque was *9l.*; did you get the cheque cashed and then pay Trussler the *2l.* out of the *9l.*?—No, I did not; I was right in the first instance of the sum I gave. I was thinking myself about it.

32,110. On the 4th of November Mr. Smith says he paid to you, Titchener, your account, *11l.*; does that bring it to your recollection?—Yes, that is right.

32,111. Then Trussler says on the 2nd of January you paid him *2l.*?—If I received the money on the 4th of November, I went and paid him a day or two after I received it.

32,112. Trussler may be wrong as to the day?—Yes.

32,113. Did you pay anybody else excepting Trussler?—No, not a penny.

32,114. Did you promise any money to anybody else except Trussler for nomination and polling day?—No, sir.

32,115. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How came you not to apply to Mr. Smith sooner; you are a labouring man and a poor man?—I heard several persons say there would be something some day or other, but I did not know when, and I left it trusting to his honesty as to when I should get it.

32,116. Had you a vote before 1858, Doulton's?—There have been so many elections, I forget; there is always a bother at electioneering.

32,117. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You yourself at the time of the election in 1865 kept a beer shop?—Yes.

32,118. Where was it?—At Earlswood-common.

32,119. Were there many meetings at your house?—There was one, attended by about half a dozen.

32,120. Who paid for the refreshments?—I do not know.

32,121. But I want to know?—I did not receive the money myself, they paid my wife. I do not know whether Penfold was there and paid himself.

32,122. Was he there, and did he pay himself?—He was there that evening; whether he settled with my missis I can't tell.

32,123. That is over and above anything you have been talking to us about?—Yes.

32,124. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long was this before the election, was it a week or ten days?—It was a week or more before the election; it was some little time before.

The witness then withdrew.

WILLIAM GROOM sworn and examined.

W. Groom.

32,125. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A wheelwright.

32,126. How much rent do you pay?—I occupy a freehold.

32,127. What is the value of your freehold by the year?—*11l.*

32,128. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

32,129. Are you anything besides a wheelwright?—No, I am not.

32,130. You do not keep a beer house?—No.

32,131. You did not keep a beer house at the election?—No.

32,132. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

TWENTIETH DAY.

W. Groom.

13 Sept. 1866.

32,133. Who put you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Mr. Apted asked me if I would have my name on the committee, and I said that I would.

32,134. And did you go on the committee?—Yes, I saw it on the list.

32,135. Did you do what you could for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

32,136. And could you do anything?—I was engaged.

32,137. What about?—I delivered circulars and attended the meetings.

32,138. Then you were a kind of messenger?—Yes, or whatever you like to call it.

32,139. I will call it messenger, if you agree to it? Who agreed with you to be messenger?—Mr. Durrant.

32,140. Did he tell you what you were to receive?—No, he gave me 2*l.* 10*s.* after the election.

32,141. Was that all you got?—Yes.

32,142. Was that your first election?—No.

32,143. In 1863 who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

32,144. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

32,145. Who put you on?—Mr. James.

32,146. And did you do about the same quantity of work for them that you did for Mr. Gower on this last election?—I lost eight days right off on the election.

32,147. What did you get for it?—3*l.*

32,148. Who from?—Mr. James.

32,149. Had you been on any election before?—Yes.

32,150. Had you been on the election of 1859; Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson were the candidates, and Mr. Wilkinson did not come down here himself?—I voted for Mr. Monson that time.

32,151. Were you on his committee?—No, I took no interest in the election.

32,152. Did you receive anything for polling or nomination day?—No.

32,153. Did you receive anything?—No, not for Mr. Monson? not at that election.

32,154. Then we come to 1858, when there was an election between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson; they were the same people, only Mr. Wilkinson came down then?—I was on Mr. Wilkinson's committee that time, and I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

32,155. You did not go on Mr. Monson's committee?—No, I took no interest in it.

32,156. What did you get for that election?—5*s.*

32,157. Who from?—I do not know the gentleman's name, but it was Mr. Wilkinson's agent.

32,158. Where was that?—At the "Swan."

32,159. He was a stranger?—Yes, I do not know the name.

32,160. Now there is one other election that you will recollect, Mr. Doulton's election?—Yes.

32,161. Who did you vote for then?—Sir Henry Rawlinson.

32,162. You voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson on Mr. Doulton's election?—Yes.

32,163. I suppose you had some offer from Mr. Doulton, had you not?—No, Mr. Doulton's people never canvassed me at all.

32,164. What did you get for that election?—Nothing at all. I voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson, and I promised him I would do what I could. I voted and went to my work again.

32,165. And that was all that happened?—I voted for Mr. Hackblock at the previous election before that.

The witness withdrew.

W. Wood.

WILLIAM WOOD sworn and examined.

32,166. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A painter.

32,167. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

32,168. What rent do you pay?—6*s.* a week.

32,169. Were you on his committee?—No, I was away from work at that time.

32,170. Who brought you to vote?—They came after me.

32,171. Who came after you?—Peat and Jordan.

32,172. Where did they find you?—At Brockholme.

32,173. And you came over and voted for Mr. Monson?—They fetched me over night.

32,174. What did you receive?—I received 5*l.*

32,175. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) From whom?—Mr. Peat.

32,176. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was all you received?—Yes.

32,177. Were you paid before you voted?—Two 15*s.* before I voted and the rest afterwards.

32,178. The rest on the evening after?—Yes.

32,179. That was not your first time of voting here?—No.

32,180. You voted in 1863?—Yes.

32,181. For whom?—Mr. Wilkinson.

32,182. Were you on his committee?—No, there was nothing mentioned about going on his committee.

32,183. But you did all you could for him?—Yes.

32,184. What did you receive for that?—5*l.*

32,185. From whom?—At the committee room of the "Swan."

32,186. From whom?—Mr. What's-his-name.

32,187. Well what was his name?—Truelove, I think, or Truman; I forget his name. I rather think it was his agent Dear.

32,188. You voted in 1859 also, did you not?—Yes.

32,189. For whom?—For Mr. Monson then.

32,190. I think no money was going at that election?—No, I never had anything.

32,191. Mr. Wilkinson was not down?—No.

32,192. Do you recollect the last election in 1858, in the October of 1858, when Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson contested?—Yes.

32,193. You voted for Mr. Monson, I believe?—I believe I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

32,194. What did you receive for that?—It was not much; I think it was about 30*s.*

32,195. From whom?—From some of his party; but I forget now who it was.

32,196. Now we will come to the first election in 1858, when there were a good many candidates, and among them Mr. Doulton and Sir Henry Rawlinson; for whom did you vote?—For Sir Henry Rawlinson on that occasion.

32,197. Did you receive anything on that occasion?—Yes, 30*s.* or something like that.

32,198. Do you recollect when the balloting was about, who were to be candidates on the Liberal side on that occasion?—Yes.

32,199. The electors were to ballot for the candidates, and I am afraid you got into trouble about it?—It was like it, but I do not know anything about it.

32,200. Who employed you?—Mr. Walters.

32,201. Was he the candidate?—He was the one that we put up.

32,202. What agent canvassed you and employed you, do you recollect?—I forget the man's name, I think it was Brown.

32,203. You were along with Brown, but was it not a man named Cross who employed you?—I think James, but I forget the man now.

32,204. You were joined with a man named Brown; tell me what you were doing with the committees?—He was a stranger, and I went where the voters lived with him; but I did not know what he was going to do.

32,205. Afterwards you found out?—I did not know it then.

32,206. What was he going to do?—He wanted to buy the ballot tickets.

32,207. That was Brown?—Yes.

32,208. In favour of Mr. Walters?—Yes.

32,209. Do you know at all what was the price put upon the tickets?—No, I did not go inside; Mr. Brown went inside the house.

32,210. Did you hear how they were going?—No.

32,211. Had he got many of them?—No, not many I think.

32,212. They were to be kept and put in the ballot box?—Yes.

32,213. Did you see any one give them?—I know one place where he got two afterwards, the Claxtons that was over at Redhill; he took Mr. Wilkinson and the other member away and left Mr. Walters there.

32,214. Can you tell me what he paid for them?—I do not know anything about it.

32,215. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He might have said it to you; you might have heard what was paid?—He never said auything about it to me; not a word.

32,216. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many days were you going about with him?—Only one day, in the evening, the night before the balloting.

32,217. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But you see you know how he worked it?—Yes, I saw afterwards; but I did not know how much he gave for them.

32,218. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you keep it up late that night?—No, we went back to the town, and it was quite early, when a policeman came and took us off to the Reigate.

32,219. That is an unpleasant reminiscence?—He heard we were buying the tickets up, and Younger and Mr. Truman, I believe, gave us in charge.

32,220. Do you know upon the search how many ballot tickets were found on your friend Brown?—I believe he pulled them out, but I do not know how many.

32,221. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He pulled a lot out; how many?—Not a great many; I do not suppose there were more than five or six.

32,222. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They were from about 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* a piece?—I do not know what he gave for them; I was outside.

32,223. Who came in on the ballot?—I believe Doulton did.

The witness withdrew.

William Groom recalled and examined.

W. Groom.

32,224. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You remember some men being brought over to you before the election, on the night before the election, in 1865?—No, they came of their own accord.

32,225. There were five, were there not?—Three were more than that altogether; we had a jovial party.

32,226. Just tell me how many; I can give you the names of four or five, but I cannot give you the names of the others; there was Warren, Balchin, Goddard, and Steer?—I do not know anybody of the name of Steer.

32,227. He is dead, poor fellow, so we will not say anything about him?—There was no such man of the name of Steer there.

32,228. Then it is my mistake; well, Jordan, Warren, and Balchin?—Yes, and Chitty and Harridan were in a few minutes.

32,229. He did not stay there long?—He stopped along with the rest.

32,230. He did not stay all night?—No, there were three stopped there all night.

32,231. Who brought them there?—Chitty brought Balchin, and the other two came of their own accord.

32,232. They came into the room where there were refreshments to drink?—We had some drink.

32,233. This was your own election?—Yes; I do not know that Mr. Monson or Mr. Gower had anything to do with it.

32,234. I suppose you have heard before this that Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower had something to do with it?—I have heard they had talked about it.

32,235. After they had had refreshment in the room; there is a passage, and then there is a room on the other side, is there not?—Yes.

32,236. They must enter the other room across the passage, and they went into it?—They got sleepy on the stool in the room where we were.

32,237. In the refreshment room?—Yes, and I told them they could go and lie down if they liked for an hour or two on the carpet.

32,238. That was in another room?—Yes.

32,239. Across the passage?—They had to go across the passage.

32,240. One room was, as you call it, right on the left hand, and the room where you put them into was on the other side?—Yes.

32,241. Who took off their boots?—They took them off themselves.

32,242. Who cleaned them that night?—They were not taken out at all.

32,243. They were taken off from the room to be cleaned?—They were not removed from the place where they took them off.

32,244. Where did they take them off?—On the stool where they sat.

32,245. Do you know who it was that proposed they should take them off before they went into the room to go to sleep?—I told them before they went on the carpet, I told them if they wanted to lie down they must take off their shoes.

32,246. It was because of the nice clean carpet that you did not want the dirty shoes left in?—Yes, I told them they should not go in with their dirty shoes.

32,247. That was a very good reason?—Then they took their boots off, and left their boots there, and went into the room with the carpet?—Yes.

32,248. There is a lock to the door?—Yes, but it was not locked.

32,249. How do you know?—I am sure it was not.

32,250. How do you know?—There were two or three of us about.

32,251. Oh, you did not go to bed then?—No.

32,252. That was better then a lock a great deal?—I was not going to bed when the men were all about.

32,253. Who came in in the morning?—Who came in?

32,254. Yes, the next morning was polling morning?—Yes.

32,255. Who came in that morning before they were up; before they got up and before they went out somebody came in?—There was a man of the name of Wilkins came in.

32,256. Are you able to tell me what time they polled in the morning?—Pretty soon after 8.

32,257. Who went with them to the poll?—I was in the same carriage as they were.

32,258. Did the carriage come up there for them? It came to the "Barley Mow" for them.

32,259. Your house is close by?—It is not a great distance off.

32,260. The carriage came down to the "Barley Mow," and then they were put into the carriage?—They got in there of their own accord.

32,261. I do not mean that they were in chains at all, they were their own masters as far as they could be; they got into the carriage, and who was in the carriage?—I came up with the carriage.

32,262. Who brought the carriage down, who was with it?—I do not know the coachman's name. I do not know who brought it down.

32,263. These men went up in the carriage to poll, and you went with them, and who else went?—I think Williams was with them.

TWENTIETH DAY.

W. Groom.

13 Sept. 1866.

32,264. What, Thomas Williams?—Yes.

32,265. Thomas Williams the younger?—Yes.

32,266. Who else?—I do not know that there were any more than me, Williams, and the coachman.

32,267. That was three to three then, you were all right, you were pretty safe?—They did not want any minding.

32,268. Did they breakfast after the polling or before, I know they breakfasted at the "Barley Mow"?—Before they polled they had some breakfast.

32,269. You went to the "Barley Mow," and they had some breakfast?—Yes.

32,270. I did not think you brought them back with the carriage?—Yes, they were taken to the freehold.

32,271. Goddard and Balchin and Warren were not brought back to the "Barley Mow"?—They rode to the freehold, just by.

32,272. You did not go with them?—Yes.

32,273. Then they got out to go wherever they pleased?—So they did before.

32,274. Before they got to the freehold they got down, and were allowed to go where they liked?—They went out from my house at 5 o'clock in the morning, and went to their own homes, I never saw them from 5 till half-past 6; I never saw them till I saw them at the "Barley Mow."

32,275. Who went across with them to the "Barley Mow"?—No one; I was not up.

32,276. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was all arranged, was it not, that you should meet at the "Barley Mow"?—Yes.

32,277. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Balchin lives near you?—Yes.

32,278. He was not at all the worse for beer that night?—Yes, he was when Chitty brought him in.

32,279. According to your account he took off his boots in order not to soil the carpet?—I say nothing about soiling the carpet, no more than that he took off his boots because he would not go in there with his boots on.

32,280. Why did not they go home?—They were all afraid.

32,281. What of?—They said they did not want to see Jim Brown.

32,282. Jim Brown was the ghost, and you were the protecting angel?—Yes.

32,283. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did they tell you that night they were afraid of Jim Brown?—I heard them tell me.

32,284. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you ever hear of John Brown of Carruther's?—That is the one they said they were afraid of; they said they had promised Gower, and they meant to vote for him.

The witness withdrew.

F. Bonny.

FREDERICK BONNY sworn and examined.

32,285. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A tailor and draper at Station-road, Redhill.

32,286. What rent did you pay for your house?—It is my own house.

32,287. A freehold; what is the value if you were to let it?—50*l.* a year.

32,288. I believe you exerted yourself a good deal on the last election?—I took a little interest in it.

32,289. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

32,290. And of course you were upon his committee?—No, I was never upon a committee at any election.

32,291. But you worked for Mr. Gower?—I did work for my own pleasure.

32,292. You canvassed a good many?—No, not many; only just round my own district.

32,293. Can you tell me at all any person you canvassed?—I canvassed just in my own district; Mr. Best; Clifton, the brewer, Stephen Clifton is his name, one of the most honest voters who ever voted; and Mr. Dulatre, my next-door neighbour; that is all; it was in my own street, and I never went out of it at the last election.

32,294. Did you not canvass anybody else at all?—No. There was a man of the name of Atkinson, who has given his evidence, whom I never canvassed at all, though he worked for me, because I would not do such a thing. I was not employed by any one individual at all, no more than I did my best for Mr. Gower.

32,295. You spoke to them upon your own responsibility?—I never saw any of the agents or any one connected with them.

32,296. How much did your workman receive?—From the Monson party they told me he had received 8*l.*

32,297. He showed you the 8*l.*, did he not?—No, he told me he had got it.

32,298. For whom did he vote?—He voted for Mr. Gower.

32,299. He received 8*l.* from the Monson party?—Yes.

32,300. You were aware that he had received 8*l.* before he voted?—Only by his statement.

32,301. Is there anybody else you remember?—No, nobody in particular.

32,302. Do you not remember any one else?—There was Peter Wornham, he polled for Mr. Gower; I never canvassed him myself to know which way he was going to vote.

32,303. He said you canvassed him?—I spoke to him about his vote.

32,304. That is what I mean; he was employed if you recollect?—He was employed by the Monson party, but I do not think he was employed by Mr. Gower.

32,305. He voted for Mr. Gower, did he not?—Yes.

32,306. Did he tell you what he got from the Monson party?—I think he said something like 4*l.* 10*s.*; I do not know; or that he had 30*s.* a week, or something of that sort.

32,307. You have not told me anybody, only Mr. Best the brewer, whom you got yourself to vote for Mr. Gower?—No one else; only those parties I met in the evening and advocated Mr. Gower's cause.

32,308. Who are the parties you met in the evening?—I do not know any of them.

32,309. Do you know a person named Miller?—No, I do not know him.

32,310. I made a mistake in the name; do you a person named Cook?—Yes, several Cooks.

32,311. I mean a person named Thomas Cook?—Yes, I know him very well.

32,312. You spoke to him about it, I think?—I never had anything at all to do with him.

32,313. He applied to you?—So he says in his statement, but he never applied to me for anything, and I never had anything to do with the fellow in my life.

32,314. Do not be in a hurry, you may have forgotten it?—No, I have not forgotten it.

32,315. Cook stated yesterday that he went to you, and that you had promised him money, in fact, and canvassed him?—I never did any such thing.

32,316. You know him?—I know him from being about the place; I have known him for years; he is a man that I would not deal with at all.

32,317. No such dealing?—No, I would not have such a communication with him.

32,318. You asked him to vote, did you not?—All his statement is false, every word of it.

32,319. Do not say that?—I am not going to tell you any story at all.

32,320. He referred to the election of 1863, I think, what he stated?—I have no recollection of offering him money; I saw him the same as I might see any one else.

32,321. I made a mistake, it was in 1863; I will not come to that yet. Can you tell me the name of any-

body who you canvassed in 1865 for Mr. Gower?—No, I took very little interest in it; I was never out of my own street.

32,322. You have only given me the name of Mr. Best?—I asked just a few round me.

32,323. Had you attended any meeting?—No, I had nothing whatever to do with them.

32,324. You had known that money was going on both sides?—Yes, I knew that, but I knew nothing about it.

32,325. You knew that money was going on both sides?—I had an idea that there was.

32,326. Do I understand you to say that you took no part at all in the election of 1865, beyond voting?—Nothing more.

32,327. No money passed through your hands?—Not a penny.

32,328. In 1865?—In 1865 Mr. Gower called upon me, and I told him not to call again, for I would vote for him. I told him that at the commencement of the election.

32,329. Did you recommend anybody for work or for employment, in 1865, who came to you?—No.

32,330. Who was the leading man in your district for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Green and Mr. Rees.

32,331. Was Mr. Green this time a leading man?—Yes.

32,332. Did you not recommend anybody to apply to Mr. Green for employment?—No, I never recommended any one, I had nothing to do with Mr. Green.

32,333. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or to anybody else?—Nor to anybody else.

32,334. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

32,335. Now I will call your recollection to the fact that Cook in 1863 made a serious complaint. Did you not canvass him for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—Not that I am aware of.

32,336. Just recollect?—I have no recollection at all, but I remember seeing him about the place, and hallooing and talking. As to that fellow—

32,337. Stop. We do not wish to hear anything said against men at all in their business. I am asking you, will you undertake to say you did not canvass him in 1863?—Yes, I will; I do not think I ever did canvass him.

32,338. Do you mean to undertake to say that you did not canvass him in 1863?—I have not the slightest recollection, nor any recollection of money or any offer or anything of the sort.

32,339. On whose committee were you in 1863?—On no committee at all.

32,340. Were you not on Mr. Wilkinson's committee?—I do not believe you will find my name on his list at all.

32,341. You were very active for him?—I was.

32,342. And worked very actively?—Yes.

32,343. Among others did you not canvass this man Cook?—No, very little; I had very little canvassing in 1863. I was with Mr. James, and worked from day to day the whole of the time with him.

32,344. How long did it occupy you, do you think?—Each day?

32,345. No, during the whole time you were with Mr. James?—Six or seven or eight weeks.

32,346. It was a very sharp contest in 1863?—Yes.

32,347. What remuneration or present did you receive for your services on that election?—I never made any agreement with Mr. James, and losing the election by so small a number I was very much put out. Mr. James came to me a fortnight after and wanted to know the reason I had not come to see him. I told him the election was lost, and I did not think it was worth seeing him. He said that was all nonsense, the money did not come out of Mr. Wilkinson's pocket; and he gave me a cheque for 25*l.*

32,348. If he had not been very ill he would have given you 50*l.*?—He would have given it me then if I had wanted it.

32,349. He said that it did not come out of Mr. Wilkinson's pocket?—Yes.

32,350. Where did it come from?—I should think from where most of it comes, the Reform club.

32,351. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) They were both reformers?—Yes; but that was not my business.

32,352. You did not suppose that the Reform club would send them money to fight one against the other?—You cannot tell how or what they would do.

32,353. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Wherever it came from it was no matter to you; you exerted yourself very much. I will call your attention to this: did you not canvass a man of the name of Cook?—No; I have not the slightest recollection of Cook more than of seeing him casually; I knew he had a vote. No money passed through my hands to get a vote.

32,354. The man said that he went to you and asked you for money. Do you recollect his coming to you and asking you for money after he had been out five nights?—He might have done. Sometimes the man is made drunk, and it is very likely I did kick him out. I have so many applications from that class of men for charity.

32,355. We are dealing here with all classes of people; we respect that man quite as much as we respect you?—It is quite right to. I know nothing whatever about the man, about asking him for his vote.

32,356. You say that you may have threatened him?—I might have done so, because he has got in my shop sometimes and has been annoying me to give him letters to take to persons for charity.

32,357. Have you been busy in any other election?—I have taken a little part; I have always gone for Mr. Wilkinson.

32,358. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have always gone for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

32,359. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you remember a person named James Burt?—I do not know that I do.

32,360. Now be very cautious with the answer you give me. I wish to deal fairly by you?—I know a William Burt and Thomas Burt.

32,361. Do you know James Bennet?—Yes.

32,362. There was a man named Richard Burt, was there not, upon the list of voters?—Yes, I believe there was William Burt and Richard Burt too.

32,363. Do you recollect speaking to him in '63 about voting?—Which Burt do you mean, William or Richard?

32,364. I mean Bennet now. Do you recollect speaking to him; he was not a voter?—I believe he was a voter. The register was made out so badly; there were four Burts on, and he lived in that district at the time the voting took place.

32,365. Do you recollect speaking to him about voting?—I spoke to him, and I said I believed he had got a vote; he said he believed not.

32,366. And he told you that he believed he had not? Now be very cautious in the answers you give us?—I will tell you the plain facts.

32,367. You offered him 30*s.* to go to vote?—I never offered any money at all, or ever paid it.

32,368. Did you not offer him money to go and vote? Did you not ask him to vote?—I never offered him any money.

32,369. Did you not ask him to vote after he told you that he had no vote?—I asked him to vote, and I believed he had got a vote.

32,370. Was that after he told you he had got no vote?—He only believed he had not.

32,371. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where was he?—He lives at Redhill.

32,372. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is he there now?—I believe so. I have not seen him lately.

32,373. Was that on the polling day?—I believe it was.

32,374. I ask you whether you did not tell him he might poll as Burt?—No, never; if you look at the register you will find the name.

32,375. Answer the question?—No, I never asked him to poll.

TWENTIETH DAY.

F. Bonny.

13 Sept. 1866.

32,376. Did you not offer him 30*s.* if he would do so?—I never offered him anything; I never gave a voter a single shilling, I believe, in all the elections.

32,377. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are not asked whether you gave; you are asked whether you offered anything?—No, I never offered.

32,378. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now let there be no mistake about this. You recollect speaking to him?—I recollect speaking to him, because he was working for me at the same time.

32,379. And pressing him to vote?—I told him that he had got a vote, as I thought and believed, on the register; as I read it, it must have been him, as he lived in the street there a twelvemonth previous. There were four Burts put on.

32,380. Did you ever know him to vote?—I do not know that he did.

32,381. And he did not vote at any other election?—I do not know that he did; he might not have been at the polling place. I never troubled myself this time.

32,382. Did you know a Mr. Monk on the register of voters?—I know a Mr. Monk.

32,383. Do you recollect whether he voted in '63?—I believe there was a Monk or two on the list that did vote, but I had nothing at all to do with them.

32,384. Had you to complain of any man for detaining some clothes of yours at the station office?—No; I can give you a statement of that. There was a man working in the station office at Redhill, and he was very busy about the election, and as the register was so badly got up he wanted to go and do this or that or anything else.

32,385. To do what?—He wanted to go and poll for anybody else.

32,386. There was a man at the station office who was so busy about the election that he wanted to go in the name of somebody else; that is so?—Yes; he said if they could not find a certain party that he would go and do this or that if they would pay him for it.

32,387. Is he there still?—He got discharged.

32,388. He came to you?—No, he was about the public house where the committee was held, at the "Warwick Arms."

32,389. He was about there saying that he would poll for any one whose name was on the register; that was what he said?—Something to that effect.

32,390. You being an active man, he spoke to you upon the subject?—No, because I was not active the day of the polling.

32,391. Was this the day of the poll?—It was.

32,392. Somebody gave him clothes?—I never gave him clothes.

32,393. I did not say you did?—I did not give him anything on that day. I gave him an old coat two or three days after, when he was in distress, and I believe there was a subscription got up for him.

32,394. Do you recollect his name?—I do not.

32,395. He came to you for charity; do you mean to say that, knowing this man was ready to personate another man at a poll, you a few days after that gave him a coat?—It was a week or two, or perhaps a month, after.

32,396. Do you mean that in a week or two you gave that man a coat?—Yes.

32,397. Anything else?—No, nothing else; it was an old one I had thrown off.

32,398. You say a subscription was raised for him?—Yes, I believe there was; I never subscribed to that, it was by the railway men; he could not get the furniture from where he lodged without paying the rent.

32,399. Did you not offer him, or was there not 3*l.* offered him, to go and personate a man named Monk?—Never.

32,400. In your presence?—No, because no one would trust the fellow.

32,401. In your presence and to your knowledge was not 3*l.* offered to him to go and personate a man named Monk?—Not to my knowledge.

32,402. Is this the first time you have heard of that?—The first time?

32,403. Yes?—I do not know that it is the first time.

32,404. When did you first hear that such a thing was abroad?—It was rumoured there and then.

32,405. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before you gave him the coat there was this subscription?—No, it was rumoured afterwards, it might be then, I really do not know; I should not know him again if I saw him; he is a perfect stranger to me; it was got up by the station master; I mean the other men, not the station master, but the other men; on the line there are 100 or 200; the subscription was to get up a few shillings or something of that sort; he wanted to get his furniture away from his lodgings.

32,406. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was rumoured there and then you had offered him the 3*l.* and gave him the clothes?—No, it was not.

32,407. What was rumoured?—A few days afterwards that this man had gone and polled; I do not know whether he did poll or not; I had nothing to do with it.

32,408. Did he poll?—I do not know.

32,409. Can you tell me his name?—No.

32,410. Can you tell me the name of the man for whom he polled?—I believe Henry Monk; there were two men on the list, and he said he was the Monk; he said his name was Henry Monk, and he should poll for Henry Monk, because his name was on the list.

32,411. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you recollect who he was going to poll for?—Yes, Mr. Wilkinson, I think.

32,412. You heard of that on the day of the polling, and you supported Mr. Wilkinson?—No, no more than that this man was busy about. I supported Mr. Wilkinson.

32,413. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was there?—He was there talking about polling.

32,414. And he came on the day of polling to you?—I saw him at the "Warwick Arms." I was there nearly all the day.

32,415. That was where you saw him?—Yes.

32,416. He came up to the committee and said, "I am Henry Monk, I am ready to poll for any one "who will give me 3*l.*"?—No, he did not say anything about 3*l.*

32,417. But he said for whoever would give him money?—I do not know he wanted money; there is no doubt he did.

32,418. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) No, nor anybody else. Did he ask for money of anybody else?—No, nobody else; and none of them gave him any, they were so disgusted with him.

32,419. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was the reason you gave him the coat, because you were disgusted with him?—No, it was only an old jacket I had thrown off; he came begging for one.

32,420. Are you at all related to the gentleman of the name of Bonny who keeps the public house here?—Yes, he is my brother.

32,421. Had you taken a part in the Doulton election of '58?—Yes, in the Doulton election I voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

32,422. And later in the year for whom did you vote?—Mr. Wilkinson; I always supported Mr. Wilkinson, and I never voted for Mr. Monson in any election.

32,423. Were you on Sir Henry Rawlinson's committee?—No, I do not think I was.

32,424. Did you canvass for him?—I did not on that election.

32,425. What did you receive on that election?—10*l.*

32,426. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You do not think you did do anything?—I worked for him the whole of the time; I went across on one occasion, I think, on that election to Major Parrott to see him about withdrawing or coming forward; I went with Mr. Nichols and Mr. Apted.

TWENTIETH DAY.

F. Bonny.

13 Sept. 1866.

32,427. Who paid you the 10*l.*?—I can hardly tell you who it was at that election.

32,428. Who was the agent?—I really forget; on Sir Henry Rawlinson's election I had a cheque for 10*l.*

32,429. It was a cheque, was it?—I think so.

32,430. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There was another election later in the year, in October '58, at which you supported Mr. Wilkinson; you were on his committee, I suppose?—I was not on any committee.

32,431. Then you worked for him?—Yes, just the same as usual.

32,432. What did you receive on that occasion?—15*l.*

32,433. In '63 you received 20*l.*, did you not?—25*l.* in '63; that was for my own services; I never promised or gave any one a shilling that I am aware of.

32,434. You received nothing this last election?—Not a penny.

32,435. How was that?—I had nothing at all to do with it further than that I supported Mr. Gower; I was not particularly fond of Mr. Gower, but I knew that Mr. Monson was brought out to oppose Mr. Wilkinson if he had lived; I had opposed Mr. Gower to the greatest extent at the previous elections.

32,436. You received nothing at Mr. Gower's election?—No.

32,437. And no money passed through your hands at all?—Not a penny.

32,438. Is your brother's house a Gower house or a Monson house?—I do not think that he let it to either of them at the last election.

32,439. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You mentioned three persons whom you canvassed; one was a person named Best?—Yes.

32,440. Was that William Best, ?—Yes.

32,441. He was called and examined yesterday?—Yes.

32,442. You canvassed also Stephen Clifton?—Yes.

32,443. Who did he vote for in '65?—Mr. Gower.

32,444. You canvassed also Mr. Dulatre; did he vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

32,445. Are they labourers?—No.

32,446. What are they?—One is a butcher and the other a brewer.

32,447. Stephen Clifton is a butcher?—No, a brewer.

32,448. What is Dulatre's Christian name?—Alfred.

32,449. What is his address?—Next door to me, Station-road, Redhill; Stephen Clifton has left there now, he is living at Leigh; he never had a penny piece for this or any other election.

32,450. He had not?—Not in any election.

32,451. We had Best here, and he is a most respectable man?—Yes, he never had a penny in any election; they never would do it on any account, neither Dulatre or Clifton; they are free and independent.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY,

W. Stevenson.

14 Sept. 1866.

Friday, 14th September 1866.

WILLIAM STEVENSON sworn and examined.

32,452. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Stevenson?—A builder.

32,453. Where do you live?—Freehold.

32,454. What rent are you paying for your house?—7*s.* a week.

32,455. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

32,456. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

32,457. Who put you on the committee?—Joseph Apted.

32,458. When you say Joseph you mean Job?—Yes.

32,459. Did you do what you could; did you do any work?—But a little.

32,460. You mean by that you did nothing?—Yes.

32,461. Then I may take it shortly you did nothing?—Yes.

32,462. Before the election did Apted pay you for what you did?—No, sir.

32,463. After the election did he pay you for what you did?—I got 50*s.*

32,464. Who from?—Job Apted.

32,465. Is this your first election?—Yes, sir.

The witness then withdrew.

JOHN MULLEY sworn and examined.

J. Mulley.

32,466. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What rent do you pay for your house?—20*l.*

32,467. What are you?—A cowkeeper.

32,468. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

32,469. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

32,470. Do you recollect who put you on?—I put myself on.

32,471. Were you asked by any one to go on?—No, sir.

32,472. But volunteered your services?—Just so.

32,473. Did you take an active part in the election?—Yes.

32,474. In canvassing and asking for votes?—Yes, sir.

32,475. What course did you adopt in asking a man for a vote, so as to persuade him to come and vote for your interest?—My system was to speak of the character of the candidate, to consider his character, and discuss it with the voters. I thought Mr. Gower was the most fit and proper person. I had in fact to inquire into the private character of Mr. Gower, and I thought he was the most fit and proper person to represent us.

32,476. Did you find those arguments sufficiently persuasive?—In some cases, not in all.

32,477. Could you give me an instance?—One a ta time, if you please.

32,478. I suppose there are not many you could persuade to vote for Mr. Gower on those principles?—If I had the list of voters I think I could tell you.

32,479. I suppose there were some who heard those arguments upon whom it had no effect?—There were some who wished to be set on to work and to be paid for loss of time; it was only the more dependent men.

32,480. I am afraid that class was rather numerous?—It is a large proportion.

32,481. Can you give us the names of any persons

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

J. Mulley.

14 Sept. 1866.

who wanted to be set to work?—Oh, I could give you several names.

32,482. I dare say you have got a little list?—What I have got here is entirely from memory, and therefore I will not be responsible for it; but I have handed to Mr. Smith a detailed account of all that I did, and expecting I was dealing with gentlemen I did not even keep a copy, and therefore what I have now is only from memory.

32,483. When did you hand the list to Mr. Smith?—Some time after the election, it might be three weeks or a month.

32,484. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you mention the names?—I gave Mr. Smith a detailed account of all my expenses, and he had in fact an account of all that I did.

32,485. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you put down the names of those who wished to be paid for their work?—Yes.

32,486. Did you put down what you actually paid?—I have put down monies I had paid to certain individuals.

32,487. My question was rather a broader one; can you give the names of those who required to be paid for their loss of time?—I can only give you those whom I gave money to.

32,488. But there were several beyond those you paid?—There were several, but I cannot give you an account of them; I gave my account to Mr. Smith.

34,489. Persons to whom you made promises?—Not actually promises, but if anything could be done for them it should be done.

32,490. Persons with whom there was a certain understanding?—A partial understanding.

32,491. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is a partial understanding?—I will tell you; mine is simply this. I would say to you for example: "If "anything can be done for you I will do it, you can "rely upon me." "Yes," you would say, you would depend upon me.

32,492. What is the meaning of depending; did it mean paying and receiving money?—If we could get it.

32,493. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is the plain English of it, is it not?—Yes, and you will get nothing else from me.

32,494. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was the *palm*?—Not much *balm*.

32,495. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But a good deal communicating to the *palm*?—I beg your pardon, I understood the gentleman to say *balm*.

32,496. You sent a list to Mr. Smith?—I gave a list.

32,497. Of persons who were to be paid?—Yes.

32,498. Did you tell Mr. Smith what those persons were to be paid for?—I think not.

32,499. Not?—I think not.

32,500. Will you now give us the list as you have recently recollected it?—Yes.

32,501. You can refer to the paper in your hand?—Yes, I will.

32,502. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is that a list of?—It is a list of sums of money which I paid to certain individuals who did work for Mr. Gower. The first I have got in my list is Atkinson, John; I paid him 2*l.* The next is Butcher; I paid him 2*l.*

32,503. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is his Christian name?—I do not know.

32,504. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where does he live?—In Reeves'-cottages.

32,505. What is his Christian name?—I do not know.

(*A voice in Court.*) "Henry."

32,506. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The next?—Dealing.

32,507. Do you know his Christian name?—Robert, I think.

32,508. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where does he live?—Tower-street, West-street.

32,509. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much?—2*l.*

32,510. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Give me the next?—Hanscombe (I have seen it Anscombe, but I have got it Hanscombe) 1*l.* The next I have got on my list is Scarlett; his Christian name, I think, is John, but I am not sure; 3*l.*, West-street, Redhill.

32,511. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you in the Redhill district?—Yes.

32,512. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where is Scarlett?—West-street, Redhill. Then Westlake; his Christian name I do not know.

32,513. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is he a butcher?—No, a tinman. 1*l.* High-street, Redhill.

32,514. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) These are all persons you have paid?—Yes. H. Bicknell, West-street, Redhill, 1*l.*

32,515. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know his Christian name?—No, sir. Then Johnson, Reeves'-cottages, 3*l.*; Smith, Reeves'-cottages, 2*l.* It is James Smith, who has been examined. Then I paid to Mrs. King, of the "Sussex Arms," for a dinner, which was given to the policemen; she is landlady of the "Sussex Arms."

32,516. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Policemen have no votes?—No, but I have given an account, for I paid it.

32,517. That is right; you paid it?—Yes; it is a just claim.

32,518. You used the word just?—I suppose you admit it.

32,519. Has Mrs. King a husband?—No, she has had one, but he is deceased.

32,520. Have you any more names?—No; you must remember I am talking from memory. If I had the account I gave Mr. Smith I should be able to explain every item.

32,521. Just so. I see there are various and different sums paid to these men; how do you account for that?—I account for it in this way; most of them had some influence and interest, and they are respectable men, men who worked hard for Mr. Gower's cause, and I do not think there is one of them that would not have voted cheerfully; still there was the loss of time on the nomination day, polling day, and so on, and they spent a good deal of time in the evening.

32,522. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Smith asked why they were different in amount, one man being 1*l.*, another 2*l.*, and another 3*l.* Why were they not paid the same sums?—There might be two or three reasons as to the money I gave; it would depend on the assistance they gave, what their duties were, and what the deserved.

32,523. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was the arrangement when you canvassed these men that they should have any specific sum?—I think not; I understood there had been an arrangement made with some three or four of them by a party on Mr. Gower's committee, but that had nothing to do with me. I do not think I named any specific sum at all.

32,524. You say there was no specific sum named?—Not with me; I think not.

32,525. Did you hear it rumoured about that 5*l.* was about the sum they would expect?—I think I heard that Mr. Rees had promised 4*l.* 10*s.*; I remember that, but that was not my promise.

32,526. Now we will take Hanscombe, that is, John R. Hanscombe. Did you promise to him the sum of 5*l.*?—No.

32,527. Or 3*l.*?—No.

32,528. Not the specific sum of 3*l.*, and 5*l.* if others had as much?—I might say that; I might say, if others had as much, that I guaranteed to get him as much as other people.

32,529. Will you undertake to say that with regard to Hanscombe it was not arranged between you and Hanscombe, before voting, that he should have 3*l.*, and 5*l.* if the others had as much?—I do not believe it was.

32,530. I have a reason for asking that.—I do not believe it was; I believe I told him whoever was put on the committee to work should be paid the same as others were paid, but I do not know that I promised any sum at all.

32,531. You give your evidence most properly. Hanscombe said this, "I received only 1*l.* from "Mr. Mulley, and I was promised 3*l.*, and I was to "have 5*l.* if the others got 5*l.*; but I never received "any more than 1*l.*"?—That is quite right.

32,532. That is Hanscombe's account of your canvassing him?—I might have told him that if it ran 2*l.* or 3*l.*, or 5*l.*, I should pay him what the others had, but I do not remember I promised him any specific sum; I do not know that I promised him, but I might have.

32,533. You did say it might be 2*l.* or 3*l.*, or 5*l.*?—Yes, according to what I got for him. I believe it was my general arrangement with parties.

32,534. After drawing your attention to the specific evidence of Hanscombe, I am going to ask you this; remember the evidence has been given before us?—Yes.

32,535. Then I suppose that this was likely to be your usual way of canvassing. I will say, with regard to Westlake, that a fortnight before the election you spoke to him, and said you would do what you could for him?—Most likely.

32,536. I mean that was the style in which you would do it?—Yes, most likely. I was well aware that they could not neglect their duties and be using their influence on electioneering matters for nothing, so I thought it right to encourage them.

32,537. The neglect of work, so far as you understood it and showed to us, was very small?—Yes.

32,538. There was in truth no neglect of work?—No. Do I understand, Mr. Smith, Mr. Commissioner O'Brien to tell me that he wished I would confine myself to facts?

32,539. I did not hear the observation.—I beg to state I do so, for that is the case.

32,540. Quite so. Tell us this: do you recollect canvassing a man of the name of James Tyrrell?—It is such a difficult job to me to tell the names of the people I canvassed; I believe I canvassed everybody in the eastern ward.

32,541. You would not have recommended him to Mr. Smith, because he voted for Mr. Monson, but you did canvass him?—I believe I canvassed every one, not only the middle class, but also gentlemen; being known as I am, I never met with a man who voted but I used my influence for Mr. Gower; it is Tyrrell, a carman working for Joseph Hall.

32,542. He is brother of Jabez Tyrrell, who was with a coal man?—I canvassed both of them, and their father too.

32,543. Your father canvassed both of them?—No, not my father; it was their father I canvassed.

32,544. Did you canvass them in the same way; you say they voted for Mr. Monson?—I believe James Tyrrell I canvassed.

32,545. I think you canvassed James Tyrrell twice?—Yes, very likely; I saw a great many of them five or six times. I used means to persuade them to vote for Mr. Gower; what I mean is legal means. Mr. Gower's politics and mine agreed, and I had inquired into his private character. I had an opportunity of knowing his servants, and they gave an excellent character of him.

32,546. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We are not here to hear his private character?—I am talking to this gentleman.

32,547. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Everything you say with respect to Mr. Gower I have no doubt is well deserved by him?—I think so.

32,548. Yes, but as you were a canvasser, it is supposed to diminish just a little the character of Mr. Monson. It is not fair to Mr. Monson.—I cannot say a word against Mr. Monson.

32,549. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If we get to speculating we shall never get on.—I will answer you everything you have to say.

32,550. Now, do you recollect speaking to Mr. Westlake?—I do not know, I am sure; I know the man, and I canvassed him.

32,551. Did you work at all with Denton?—I knew him, and that is all.

32,552. Mr. Denton is a neighbour of yours?—Well, not clearly allied; he lives somewhere apart.

32,553. Did you tell Denton he should have the same as the rest?—No.

32,554. You did not tell him that?—No.

32,555. Did you tell him he would have the same as the rest?—I may have; I will not say I did not.

32,556. There was a person of the name of Scarlett at the same time present; that is a name you mentioned?—I do not believe that if ever I spoke to Mr. Denton, Scarlett was with him; I believe he was by himself alone.

32,557. Then I will take it as a general question. With all the classes of men constituting men of the labouring classes, in canvassing, had you to offer to pay them for their working; and some of them, I believe, you did pay afterwards?—My general impression, and what I tried to impress upon them, was to get them to work for Mr. Gower's cause.

32,558. We have heard their statement of their work. Do you know whether the other people, of Mr. Monson's side, were also offering money to the voters for work?—Oh yes, it was a general impression about it. It was often told to me that they were offering such large sums that there was no chance for us. On one occasion I went up to Mr. Laker and saw him, and told him what I had heard. I told him that I wanted to see Mr. Gower. Mr. Gower came, and I told him we should lose the election; that Mr. Monson's party were using such heavy sums in bribery, and paying such large sums, that if we did not advance a little we should lose the election.

32,559. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you tell Mr. Gower that?—A few days before the election.

32,560. Before the polling?—Before the polling Mr. Gower came to me.

32,561. To whom did you tell that first?—I told Mr. Laker.

32,562. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it he who told Mr. Gower?—I went to Mr. Laker, because I thought it most likely he would see Mr. Gower.

32,563. Did you see Mr. Gower yourself afterwards?—Yes.

32,564. I think what you said was, that if they did not advance a little?—Yes; or I might say, exert themselves a little.

32,565. Did you use the term exert or advance?—I cannot say; but it has the same application. I would not undertake to say which.

32,566. They may have different meanings?—Yes.

32,567. You said, I wish to draw your attention to it, you used the term advance in the first instance, and then said exert. You might have used both terms probably?—I might have used them both; but I should apply merely the same meaning to them myself.

32,568. Give me your definition of what you meant in this interview by advance or exert?—I simply meant that I understood Mr. Monson's party were offering sums from 5*l.* to 7*l.* or 10*l.*, and that we were doing nothing of the sort.

32,569. What did Mr. Gower say?—Mr. Gower said he was very much obliged for the good feeling I had in his cause, that he met them in every way that was fair, but that with regard to bribery he could not meet them in every way, and he would rather give up the contest than sell himself to bribery; that was in the street, the High-street.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY

J. Mulley.

14 Sept. 1866.

32,570. Then you brought to Mr. Gower's knowledge that the other party, the Monson party, were in fact bribing?—I told him that they were bribing our voters.

32,571. But, at the same time that you told Mr. Gower that the Monson party were bribing your voters, did you also tell him that you had been promising the men that they should be paid?—No.

32,572. If you did not tell him that you were paying, did you tell him that any of his canvassers were paying the men?—No; he repudiated that altogether.

32,573. I am only asking you what you said to Mr. Gower?—No, I did not tell him. I have told you all I said to him; and he shook hands with me, and bid me good-bye.

32,574. If you did not tell him that you were offering or going to pay, or that others were offering or going to pay, why did you use the term "advance?" Advance what, it must have been money?—Yes. I told him the others were offering certain sums, which I had been told, and unless we did the same we should lose the election.

32,575. Others, of the Monson party?—Yes; and I told him if we did not do the same we should lose the election.

32,576. Unless you advanced on the Monson party?—Unless we advanced or competed. He said he was willing to give up the contest rather than sell himself to bribery.

32,577. Was that the only conversation you had with Mr. Gower with reference to further exertions?—Yes; he never would encourage it, and he never did encourage it, not with me. I had several interviews with him.

32,578. Were you present in the room in the hall below here at a committee meeting, when Mr. Gower made a speech?—No, never in this hall, but at the hall at Redhill I was.

32,579. You did not attend here?—No, no where; but at Redhill.

32,580. Did you hear of Mr. Gower making a speech, in which he said that all those who worked for him should be paid and paid well?—I heard Mr. Gower say, referring to bribery, that it was not his intention to bribe any one.

32,581. That you have told us?—But that all those who worked for him and had legal claims should be paid.

32,582. And paid well. We have had it from so many witnesses?—Then I must give in.

32,583. You were not here?—I am referring to Redhill, not here.

32,584. You were not here?—No.

32,585. I only want to know whether you heard him making the speech before the election?—I only heard what he stated at Redhill. He only thought that those who worked for him should be paid; that all who worked should be paid, and paid well for their legal claims.

32,586. There would be no occasion to make that kind of speech, because, of course, he would pay all legal claims?—I do not recollect anything more than that.

32,587. I want to know whether that was not specially mentioned?—I know he mentioned, on one or two occasions at committee meetings, that he would not bribe any one; he led every person to understand that.

32,588. That is a term which we all understand, bribe. I only want to know whether you did not hear it mentioned by anybody before the election?—I heard so, but I did not believe it.

32,589. That he made that speech here?—Yes.

32,590. You heard of it before the election?—Yes.

32,591. Was it before or after you heard that that you had the conversation with Mr. Gower which you have mentioned?—I think I had heard of it before I had the conversation with Mr. Gower, because the conversation I had with Mr. Gower was only a very few days before the election, some four or five days, because I know I was anxious about it.

32,592. Is there anything else in the election of 1865 which, in your judgment, you ought to inform us of, as to the conduct or management of it, or the paying of monies?—There is no more paying of monies that I had to do, with only the detailed account I have given to Mr. Smith; as I said before, if I had it here I should be able to explain every item in it.

32,593. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We have not got what Mr. Mulley himself had?—I had nothing. You do not allow me to make a statement, and therefore I must hold back.

32,594. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I am now asking you for the purpose of disburdening your mind with reference to the election, whether you have anything of importance to tell us that you think the Commissioners ought to be informed of?—I have something of importance with reference to myself, that is, some canvassers have received 30*l.* and another 10*l.*, and so on; and it has been mentioned that I did a great deal more work than other gentlemen did for Mr. Gower's cause. I wish to state that I never received or asked for anything like the money I expected; I am money out of pocket.

32,595. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In what way did you expect money; did you expect any other money?—A great deal.

32,596. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Tell us, if you please, in what way?—I went several journeys; I went to Norwood, and to London, and to Guildford. Perhaps you will not allow me to tell you of the election of 1863.

32,597. By-and-by we will?—Well, in the election of 1865 I wished to show a good bold front to the enemy, and I took parties about with me; when I took a man a mile or two of course I had something to drink. Gentlemen who ride in their broughams may have a glass of wine at home, but other men who walk about expect something to eat and drink. I paid for all those things. I could not expect that men would come with me to protect me, and that I should not have to pay for the glasses of ale.

32,598. What do you mean by protection in your canvassing; did you ever meet with violence?—That would rather refer to 1863.

32,599. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I will take it, Mr. Mulley, that you paid for refreshment in 1865?—For refreshment and journeying expenses in 1865.

32,600. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you pay for any refreshment of an evening at any of the houses where there were meetings?—No, not at meetings. The committee room was at the town hall, Redhill.

32,601. I know that Mr. Gower repudiated all public houses, and would not have his committee advertised at a public house, but did you attend any of the public houses or beer houses when there were refreshments supplied to the voters?—Only amongst my own immediate friends.

32,602. Will you be good enough to tell me any of the houses you attended in that way amongst your immediate friends?—Only as they fell in my course. The "Wheatsheaf," the "Royal Oak," and Toplis's, all of them were attended by me, and I gave them a glass of ale and paid for it myself.

32,603. Did you ever preside at the meetings, or take the chair?—Well, there was never what I should call a meeting at a public house.

32,604. I will not call it a meeting, but an assemblage of persons?—Yes, I have been there once in the way, and have considered myself as chairman; there have been only two or three, or three or four, or a dozen present.

32,605. That would vary in numbers?—That would vary in numbers.

32,606. Upon those occasions would you pay for what you had in the room?—Yes.

32,607. Would that be the class of refreshments that you speak of when you say you paid for refreshment ?—Yes, it was mixed up with it.

32,608. What do you think you expended in that way ?—I cannot tell; Mr. Smith has got a detailed account of it, but I cannot tell myself.

32,609. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you give us any idea of the amount ?—No.

32,610. About ?—A very few pence for myself; I am a very moderate man, and I wish all my friends were so.

32,611. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you send in your account in to Mr. Smith; did you ever hear from the landlord of the house that they were paid ?—I paid them myself.

32,612. Did you not get the money from Mr. Smith to pay them ?—No, I paid them out of my own pocket.

32,613. At the time ?—At the time.

32,614. And you have not been paid by Mr. Smith ?—I have not been paid by Mr. Smith; there is some money you understand that I am still minus of.

32,615. I am coming to that; I want to see what you expended, I do not want the exact number of the houses, but for how many houses do you think you have sent in an account to Mr. Smith for monies expended in those houses ?—Oh, I dare say about five.

32,616. Then I suppose they were not all for one day in each house, there might be other meetings ?—No meeting that I know of, but of parties whom I met, with whom I conversed.

32,617. I am afraid I used a wrong term, I mean an assemblage of voters ?—No, I think not, not on Mr. Gower's side.

32,618. On your part ?—On my part; no, I think not, I think not. Do you mean with reference to one night.

32,619. We will take the "Wheatsheaf," were you there more than once ?—Yes.

32,620. Several times ?—Yes.

32,621. That is what I mean ?—I was there five or six times, perhaps.

32,622. How close up to the day of polling, do you recollect, was the last meeting, or the last assemblage of persons treated by you ?—I think it was about the night before the nomination.

32,623. Now on the night preceding the election did you have several of those entertainments ?—Well, it amounted to this; when we had a committee meeting, afterward I might want to go and see a party that I could only see in the night to ask him for his vote, and to press him and give him a reminder, and so on, to keep him up to his word, and perhaps we might go to the "Wheatsheaf," and amongst four or five we might have a bottle of beer or ale; we would drink it and go away, and I paid for it.

32,624. You said sometimes there were a dozen there ?—Sometimes.

32,625. Then you acted as chairman, and took the responsibility of paying ?—That would occur perhaps after I attended meetings at the town hall: they would refer to me and say they wanted a glass of ale, and they would say they had got no money to pay for it, would you stand a glass ?

32,626. The meetings down below, in the town hall, were all dry meetings ?—I am referring to Redhill, I do not mean here.

32,627. That was the way in which it was done ?—Yes.

32,628. Do you recollect the meetings in the chapel ?—What chapel ?

32,629. The chapel here ?—No.

32,630. It may be a hall, but I mean what we call the chapel to the freehold ?—No, I know nothing about it.

32,631. It is used for chapel meetings ?—Is it the Primitive Wesleyan chapel ? I do not know anything about it.

32,632. We have been told there was a meeting there, I thought you might have been present ?—No, I do not know anything about it.

32,633. Were you present at the meeting at Redhill when Mr. Apted was in the chair, the night before the writ came down ?—No.

32,634. I can draw your attention probably to it in this way—Apted spoke of the writ coming down; it was expected the following day ?—No, I do not remember.

32,635. Did you know of any of your fellow canvassers going to the houses of refreshment and treating their friends in the same way that you did these voters ?—No.

32,636. You were not aware of that ?—No.

32,637. It is a circumstance, I suppose, very likely to have happened ?—It might have done.

32,638. You were all canvassing pretty well on the same principle, on the same scale ?—Yes.

32,639. Have you anything further to say in reference to the election of 1865 ?—No, I think not.

32,640. Be good enough to tell me the amount which you eventually received from Mr. Smith for any purpose or purposes in reference to the election of 1865 ?—I think 42*l.*; I won't be positive.

32,641. We will take it, as nearly as you can recollect ?

32,642. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) About 40 guineas ?—I think it was 42*l.*

32,643. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you receive that 42*l.* from Mr. Smith in one lump sum, or at various times ?—Various times.

32,644. But you received monies from him prior to the election ?—No, I think not.

32,645. All subsequent ?—All after the election, I think.

32,646. When was the first sum of money paid after the election ?—I could not tell, I think some few days after the election. They were aware that I did expend a great deal of my own money, I made a representation to that effect.

32,647. You voted in 1863 ?—Yes.

32,648. For whom did you vote in 1863 ?—For Mr. Gower.

32,649. I presume you took an active part in the election of 1863 ?—Yes, I did.

32,650. You placed yourself on the committee in some way, did you not, and canvass ?—Yes, I won the election for him. If it had not been for me he would not have got in; I carried 11 men with me, and that won his election.

32,651. How did you get those 11 men ?—They were friends of mine, generally speaking, and what is termed ocular demonstration, by persuading them. Mr. Wilkinson was no doubt a very good man, but his political principles did not agree with mine, and therefore I advocated Mr. Gower's cause.

32,652. Did those 11 men come up simply by those persuasions ?—I think so. I believe they did.

32,653. At what time of the election, do you remember, did you bring them up; what time did they poll ?—At various times. Some here and some at Redhill. I did not bring them up. They polled just as it happened. This time I brought them up, and went and fetched them.

32,654. Did you find they came up friendly to the whip ?—I did not go to them; they went voluntarily.

32,655. I thought you went to them ?—I considered them as friends of mine. A good many of them came up willingly.

32,656. I misunderstood you. I thought you went for them ?—I did this time, but not the last time. I brought them to the town hall.

32,657. That is why I referred back to 1865. I wanted to know whether you found that those you went after came up kindly ?—Oh, yes, they did not want any of my attendance.

32,658. They did not want more persuasions ?—No, I think not.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

J. Mulley.

14 Sept. 1866.

32,659. Well now, in reference to that election of 1863, just give me, first of all, your general statement?—I have no particular general statement to make. I used no monies in 1863. I canvassed for Mr. Gower, and I used all the means in my power to get him in. As I said before, his political principles and mine accorded, and that is why I did all I could to assist him and get him elected. I thought he was the proper party. That is all.

32,660. You used no money in 1863. Did you use any promises?—No. I think I might be excused one moment. I had through my hands 10*l.* in 1863, but it was simply handed from Apted through me to another party; but I had nothing to do with it more than you might say, "Just give that 10*l.* to so-and-"so."

32,661. Who was the other party?—Job Apted gave it to me to give to a man named Clark.

32,662. Do you recollect Clark's Christian name?—Yes, it was William.

32,663. Was there only one William Clark on the register?—I think that was all.

32,664. What is his address? Is he still on the register?—Yes, I think so.

32,665. Is it the Brighton-road?—Yes, at the present time; not then.

32,666. Did you give the whole of that 10*l.* which you received from Job Apted to Clark?—I did.

32,667. Did you know what the 10*l.* was for?—No; I only knew it was supposed to be used in electioneering matters; for no specific reason.

32,668. How came Apted to give the 10*l.* to you for you to give to Clark?—Well, I cannot tell exactly. Apted and me had always been on friendly terms; and I think Clark wanted this for some electioneering purpose or another, and he handed it over to me to give it to him.

32,669. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did William Clark vote this time?—Yes, he voted for Monson this time, but he voted for Mr. Gower last time at the election of 1863.

32,670. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that the only transaction which you had had in the year 1863 with reference to money?—With reference to money matters? Yes, sir.

32,671. Did you attend any of the refreshment meetings or assemblages in 1863?—Committee meetings you mean, I suppose.

32,672. Well, I will call them committee meetings, if you like, first. Did you attend them?—I attended them all.

32,673. We a little misunderstood one another just now as to the meaning of meetings. I call them assemblages not meetings?—I attended a good many.

32,674. What class of meetings were they? what style?—I think I might say they were generally very respectable.

32,675. But was there much refreshment going on, that is what I want to know?—I think there were refreshments going on; what was fair and reasonable. I do not think there was any excess; I did not see any at all events.

32,676. Do you know who paid for those refreshments?—I do not.

32,677. Did you have any refreshments on those occasions yourself?—I could not say that I had not any. On one or two occasions I think I did; but, generally speaking, I paid for my own refreshments.

32,678. But sometimes not?—On one or two occasions, but very rarely though.

32,679. You knew a great deal about elections. I suppose what you did not pay for would go down in the general bills?—The general account.

32,680. It would go down in the election account? Certainly it would.

32,681. Did you notice whether that was very generally adopted by the company?—I think it was.

32,682. They did not pay for the refreshments, and it went down to the general account?—I think it was so in the committee rooms.

32,683. I suppose you were at some of the larger meetings in 1865 where refreshments were going on, when Apted was in the chair, or Joyes?—No.

32,684. Then I suppose you principal men generally arranged to divide yourselves over the borough, in order to take charge of different companies?—No, Apted was never chairman where I was.

32,685. Just so; and I suppose you were never chairman where Apted was?—Perhaps not.

32,686. You generally divided yourselves over the borough?—Yes, we may have done so.

32,687. Of course it would be a waste of strength for you great guns to go into one room. I believe we call them cannons here?—Well, I am a peaceable man, I am.

32,688. Did you notice whether there was any difference with regard to treating in 1865 and 1863?—Oh dear, yes.

32,689. There was a great difference?—Oh, yes.

32,690. In which election, according to your notion, was there the greater amount of treating?—It was tenfold in 1863 on both parties; not our party alone, but both parties.

32,691. There was a great deal more drinking in 1863?—Oh dear, yes; there is no comparison between the two.

32,692. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say it was on both sides?—Yes, on both sides.

32,693. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your opinion as to the general tone of bribery at each election? I call it now in plain, honest English bribery. I mean paying a man when he does no work?—I know what you mean. I don't hold it to be bribery, because I think a man ought to be paid for his work; but still I know what you mean. I do not think there was any comparison between this election and that of 1863. I should think the other doubled it quite in the expenditure—the general expenditure.

32,694. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) May I take it, "What you call bribery," may I say it in that way?—No, what you call bribing.

32,695. I mean what I call bribing. I won't take it down without your assent?—Thank you, sir.

32,696. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Twice as much (I will call it) paying for loss of time?—I quite believe that. I think I can make that statement.

32,697. If it was not considered bribery before, I think they will consider it bribery now?—Perhaps they will, sir.

32,698. You were on the winning side that time, were not you?—Yes, sir, I was then, and I hope to be on the winning side next time.

32,699. Quite so. Then if there was twice as much of payment in 1863, you know, the biggest amount would be paid by the Gower side?—I do not know that.

32,700. The winning side would have paid most?—That did not always follow, because we got a few men of better principles that did not care about it. Take myself, for example; I had nothing in 1863.

32,701. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had nothing in 1865?—Nor yet in 1863.

32,702. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The only transaction, as I understand, that you had in 1863 was that you passed 10*l.* to William Clark?—Yes.

32,703. You don't think now, after that statement, that those 11 pure men that you brought up won the election?—Well, Mr. Gower only won by 7;

if the 11 had gone on the other side he would have lost it.

32,704. Don't you think paying twice as much in 1863 had a little to do with it?—I won't say they never received money; but I never paid them.

32,705. Could you give me the names of those 11 men?—Well, that is a difficult job for me.

32,706. Did you influence more than 11?—Oh dear me, I cannot tell.

32,707. Then why did you specify those 11?—I consider that they being acquainted with me, and so on; they said on account of my voting for Gower they should go the way I did.

32,708. But then, you see, in canvassing you had got a great many more promises beyond those particular 11?—Very likely I got promises, but they did not fulfil, for Mr. Gower. They went for Wilkinson. When the time came they were on the other side.

32,709. Did the numbers who promised you fall off to 11?—Oh, I could not tell; I should think not. The reason I simply said 11 was that I have on various occasions counted up 8 or 10 or 11.

32,710. If you can inform us who they are, we shall be very much obliged to you?—If I was at home and had a list of the names I could tell you. Amongst them I think I might say there were several perhaps that might be claimed by other canvassers, you know.

32,711. You say you could probably get those 11?—Most likely I could.

32,712. Perhaps you will be kind enough to let us have the list by-and-by?—I think I have got the list at home. I thought perhaps it was not worth noticing, as I don't want to bring up old grievances. I can supply from memory part of them.

32,713. Perhaps you may be able to furnish the names; we will postpone that subject at present. Now, were you concerned at any previous election to 1863?—Well, I canvassed and worked a little for Mr. ——

32,714. I beg your pardon; let me first ask you whether there is anything else with regard to the election of 1863 that you can inform the Commissioners of, anything material in the conduct of the election?—I think not. I only wish you to understand that I worked as hard as I could, and never had remuneration in any form whatever, either directly or indirectly.

32,715. I do not suggest that. You have given your evidence very properly. Now, with regard to the previous election, the one before 1863, the one in 1859. Mr. Wilkinson was put up at the last moment?—I think in 1859 I was very unwell. What little influence I used was at home in my room.

32,716. There were two elections in 1858; there was one in October, upon the resignation of Sir Henry Rawlinson; did you take part in that election?—I think not.

32,717. Between Monson and Wilkinson?—I did a little. That was the present Lord Monson. I think I did a little canvassing, but did not vote. I did a little canvassing for Lord Monson and also for Mr. Doulton when he came.

32,718. I will go to that presently, but I will ask you a general question with regard to that October election of 1858. Did you notice, did it come to your knowledge in any way, that there was any bribery or treating or paying for services?—Oh, yes, I believe. I know nothing positively, but I believe it was generally understood that such was the case, as was described by me at other elections. I had nothing. I had no treating or anything of the sort.

32,719. I may take it from your answer, that there were general statements made on both sides in October 1858 as in 1865 and 1863?—I think so.

32,720. Now, there was another election in 1858, a general election. Did you vote on that occasion for Mr. Doulton?—I did not vote; I canvassed for him.

32,721. Is there anything you have to say in reference to that election?—I have not anything to say, I think, that would interest you at all. I simply canvassed.

32,722. We have heard a great deal about that election; I want to know what is your view of it?—Well, my view is not a very flowery one. I really think there was bribery used then to a great amount, but I had nothing to do with it.

32,723. I am not saying that you had anything to do with it; I am merely asking your general knowledge of that election?—I can only speak from what I heard and saw.

32,724. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Not from your own knowledge?—No, only what I heard and saw.

32,725. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you about much in that election of 1858?—Yes, I was generally about the town a good deal.

32,726. In the evenings and by day?—Yes.

32,727. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Shall I say that it was extensive, because we know there was bribery?—Well, I think it was far more extensive than anything that has been since.

32,728. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Doulton, you know, came down as a perfect stranger?—Yes.

32,729. Did he canvass you?—No.

32,730. Who was it canvassed you?—I will tell you the reason I exerted myself for him. I was a gentleman's bailiff.

32,731. Who was the gentleman?—Mr. Alexander. And Mr. Doulton came to this gentleman.

32,732. Did Mr. Alexander support Mr. Doulton?—Yes.

32,733. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that Mr. Alexander of the Priory?—No; Mr. George Alexander of 40, Lombard-street, bill broker.

32,734. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you see Mr. Roupell at the time?—No, I think not.

32,735. I only wanted to know whether he canvassed you or not?—No.

32,736. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I did not understand you to say that the account which you sent in to Mr. Smith after the election of 1865 specified the particular persons to whom you had paid money? — Everything, sir; a proper detailed account.

32,737. Oh, I have no doubt it was a very proper account, but did it specify the names?—Generally speaking, I think I might have lumped two or three together.

32,738. Should I see them stated if I found his account?—Yes, to Thompson, and Johnson, and Phillips, so much. Oh, yes, I think all the names.

32,739. I see, exactly. Now then, were there any other persons to whom you had paid monies than those that occurred to your memory when you told us their names?—I cannot remember any more.

32,740. I suppose you would be fully correct if you say there were one or two more?—I think not.

32,741. I dare say you are quite correct?—I won't be positive.

32,742. At any rate, I may take it there would not be much difference?—No.

32,743. Besides that you paid certain sums of money out of pocket, you have explained to us how in a very natural way, going about. Did you put that in your account?—I did.

32,744. Are you able to tell what that amounted to? Unfortunately we have not the account here?—I can give it pretty accurate. In 1865 I think I expended 49*l.* 15*s.*

32,745. Well, I will come to that. But you mention these names of people, and then you say there were certain sums which you paid, which would be

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smaller sums, such as for giving a man his beer when he went with you?—I have added a few things together; a glass of beer, a bit of bread and cheese, and so on. I have added them all together, perhaps a few shillings.

32,746. That would be in one item, "Sums expended"?—It would be in one item.

32,747. Can you tell me what it amounted to?—No, I have not the accounts at all. I gave the particulars and account to Mr. Smith of what had been done with it.

32,748. I suppose 5*l.* would cover that?—I do not know.

32,749. Say 6*l.* then?—I could not give you any definite sum.

32,750. May I say, "Probably about 5*l.* or 6*l.*"?—Yes; you may say that for example.

32,751. I won't say it if you don't think it is sufficient?—I won't substantiate it, because I am not certain.

32,752-3. "The sums which I expended in 1865 "may have amounted to about 5*l.*, more or less." Will that do?—That will not include my travelling expenses at all, you understand.

I quite understand that.

33,754. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 49*l.* 15*s.* you said altogether?—That was the expenditure, I think.

32,755. That included the expenditure and the monies you paid the men? That included all?—Just so.

32,756. Now, tell me about how much your own travelling expenses would be?—I really cannot tell you. I have got no more items of it. I handed over to Mr. Smith an account, which I thought he would have handed over to you.

32,757. Shall I put them down at another 5*l.*?—I cannot tell.

32,758. Very well, I shall put it down as "6*l.* "perhaps." Then that, I think, is nearly all you know?—If you see the account, you will find there are some small sums advanced by me to one or two individuals who said they had influence with certain other individuals. Perhaps they would say, "It is no "use for me to go and see them; I have got no "means of walking there, and I have got no means "of going there in any other way. I can't go with-"out having a glass of ale on the road, and when I "get there I must treat the man to another glass." You will see cases of handing over small sums, a few shillings to one or two individuals. My own expenditure was very moderate.

32,759. I will allow for that. I want to know whether you did not get anything for your own services?—No, I did not.

32,760. One would have expected it, you know; something for services or time lost, or whatever it might be headed—services performed for Mr. Gower. Was there no item, or anything included for that?—No.

32,761. Not in the account specified?—No.

32,762. Now, I want to give you an opportunity of explaining that; I do not quite understand it. You see the exact sums—but I won't take them as exact sums—are something like this; there is 19*l.* paid to people out of pocket; then there is 6*l.* which is paid for travelling expenses—about 6*l.*; and then there is about 5*l.* paid in small sums. These amount altogether to 30*l.* Now that is your account, as well as I can make it out, if I had to send it in for you?—Yes.

32,763. Then you say you received 49*l.* 15*s.*?—No, sir, no.

32,764-5. I beg your pardon. Then I am wrong?—It was 42*l.*

I have got that in the first instance.

32,766. You afterwards gave us 49*l.* 15*s.*?—No, sir, 42*l.* I think.

32,767. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then you see that leaves 12*l.* over on the account?—If I had known that you had not got Mr. Smith's account I would have gone to him and asked him for it; and then I should be able to explain it all to you—every farthing. Mr. Smith has got the detailed account of every farthing I expended.

32,768. You say, "I cannot account, at present, "for the difference between 30*l.* expended and 42*l.* "paid me." Are you quite sure you cannot tell that?—Have you got the 2*l.* to King?

32,769. Yes, I have.—The detailed account which Mr. Smith has got I am prepared to substantiate and prove.

32,770. That is what I am giving you an opportunity of doing now?—I cannot do it without the account.

32,771. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Will you kindly let me have the list of names you spoke of, presently?—I will do so.

32,772. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When you told Mr. Gower that the other side were employing voters, did you ascertain that from the voters you canvassed?—I ascertained it partly from men on our own side.

32,773. From men you canvassed?—From men who had already participated in our cause. We stuck to our own party, and one would say, "Well, the other "party is going on, and so-and-so had so-much offered "to him."

32,774. That is what I mean. They came to you and told you they were offered so much. That is what you meant?—That is what I meant.

32,775. I see no reason at all why the 10*l.* or 12*l.* which was unaccounted for should not have been given to you for your own services?—Ah, but independently of that, I am 13*l.* out of pocket for the two elections.

32,776. But you did work, besides?—Yes, and I employed a man two or three days a week.

32,777. What is the reason you have not been paid?—I have never been even paid the money I expended. I never asked for anything for my services.

32,778. According to your principles there would be no reason at all why you should not be paid. You ought to be paid?—I ought to be paid the money I expended, and I do not see why, if other parties had money for their services, I should not, but I have never asked for it.

The witness withdrew.

W. Moody.

WILLIAM MOODY sworn and examined.

32,779. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Moody?—I am a publican.

32,780. And you keep the—what?—The "Plough" inn, at Earlswood.

32,781. Which party used that house at the election?—The Monson party.

32,782. I suppose you voted for Mr. Monson?—I did, sir.

32,783. Were there many meetings held at your house?—Two or three meetings. I would not say for certain how many.

32,784. And I suppose you supplied the beer and refreshment at them?—I supplied it.

32,785. Were you paid for your room? What had you for the use of it?—I had 25*l.* for my rooms and expenses.

32,786. You were a canvasser?—No.

32,787. Did not you canvass at all?—No.

32,788. What were the expenses?—For refreshment they had.

32,789. You were paid that separately?—No.

32,790. Look here! I believe that is your handwriting (*handing a statement of account to witness*)? I do not wish to take you in?—That is my handwriting.

32,791. Look at it?—I know it is mine.

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32,792. Well, it is put down here, you know?—Five and twenty pounds I think.

32,793. For committee room and "canvassing." Here it is?—Well, perhaps it might be.

32,794. Do attend. I call your attention to it?—Well, if it is for "canvassing," it is a mistake. I never canvassed at all.

32,795. Do be cautious. Look at it again?—(*After looking*) Well, it was under a mistake. I never canvassed.

32,796. Just attend now. If people are making out an account, if they are writing out an account a short time after the event has occurred, they do not make mistakes of that sort?—It is quite right; it was a mistake what I said just now.

32,797–8. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How did the mistake arise, that you should call it canvassing instead of refreshments?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) No; he says now that it was a mistake, and that it is canvassing?—I suppose it was for canvassing.

32,799. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you canvass any voters?—Only one man, that is all.

32,800. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are returned in the list of canvassers, and received 20*l.* as a canvasser. How much did you receive for the refreshments?—Nothing at all. The account was sent in, and that is the money I received.

32,801. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are returned in the return of canvassers 20*l.*, and you sent in your own bill for committee room and canvassing 25*l.* I want to know what the refreshments were that you supplied?—I do not know.

32,802. Who would know; your wife?—Well, if a gentleman comes to my place and has a glass of ale and pays for it, I am not supposed to know all about it and to keep an account. That is the amount which I received altogether.

32,803. You received something as publican for the refreshments which you supplied during the meeting? Who paid that?—I do not know.

32,804. Did one man pay for the whole?—No; it was paid as it was served in.

32,805. Who served it in?—My wife.

32,806. We understand it was supplied freely; very well, let there be no mistake. These items here contain no item of the kind. Who paid the 25*l.*?—Mr. Nichols.

32,807. Who did you canvass? You were put down on the list of canvassers?—I told you I only canvassed one voter.

32,808. Who?—A man named Best.

32,809. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Thomas Best?—No; William Best.

32,810. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I do not complain of it?—You asked me to give it.

32,811. What did you pay him? What did you promise him?—I did not promise him anything at all. Mr. Nichols engaged with him. He was to have 30*s.* a week, and 2*l.* at the finish of the election.

32,812. Did you send him to Mr. Nichols?—No, I did not. He was engaged by Mr. Nichols, and to be paid by me.

32,813. Then besides the 20*l.* that you received for yourself you received some money for Best?—5*l.* I told you.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I did not hear it.

32,814. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How did you pay him, from Mr. Nichols?—I paid him in two 30*s.*, and my wife paid him the 2*l.* after the election was over.

32,815. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. Nichols gave you 5*l.* to give to Best; is that all the money that passed through your hands?—Yes; all after the election.

32,816. Were you engaged in the election of 1863? Did you vote?—No.

32,817. You had no vote?—No.

32,818. Nor in any previous election?—No.

The witness withdrew.

ISAAC CHARLWOOD sworn and examined.

I. Charlwood.

32,819. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that a brother of yours whom we had here yesterday?—No; there is a person of the name of Charlwood, a carpenter, but he is no relation to me.

32,820. Where do you live?—In the Brighton-road, Redhill.

32,821. What is the value of the house for which you vote?—I am rated at 22*l.*

32,822. What are you, Mr. Charlwood?—I am a coal merchant.

32,823. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

32,824. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—No.

32,825. You were not?—No.

32,826. Did you ask any one to put you on the committee?—No; I had nothing to do with it further than voting.

32,827. Tell me who canvassed you?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith.

32,828. You say that you live in a house which is rated at 22*l.*?—Yes.

32,829. Were you asked to go on the committee?—No.

32,830. Did not you take part in the election?—No.

32,831. Not at all?—Not at all.

32,832. Who do you say canvassed you?—Mr. Gower, and Mr. Smith was with him. I promised him five or six weeks before the election.

33,833. Were you at all canvassed by Mr. Monson?—No. Mr. Monson called at my house, but I said I was not at home, and did not see him.

32,834. Well, but there is some mistake about it, because I do find you on the committee list?—Not that I am aware of.

32,835. Oh, there is no mistake about the name; here it is, "Isaac Charlwood, Brighton-road"?—I was not aware that I was on.

32,836. Did you take any part in the election at all?—Not at all.

32,837. Then you cannot give me much information about it?—I cannot give you any information.

32,838. Then I do not think I need examine you. You were called as being on the committee, and we thought perhaps you had taken an active part?—No, I did not take an active part.

32,839. It is owing to that circumstance that you have been called. How could your name have got on?—I cannot tell. I was not aware that I was on the committee. It might have been put on by somebody.

32,840. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) No doubt they were very glad to have your name?—Perhaps so.

32,841. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) One imagined, you know, seeing your name on the committee that you took an active part, having sanctioned it with your name, but as you say you did not take an active part we will not trouble you any more?—Thank you.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN CHEAL affirmed and examined.

J. Cheal

32,842. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I believe you are an estate agent?—I am a general agent.

32,843. And what are you rated at?—24*l.* 10*s.*

32,844. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

32,845. Were you on the committee?—I canvassed

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for Mr. Gower, but I do not know whether my name was down or not.

32,846. Who asked you to canvass for Mr. Gower?—I do not recollect that any one did. I think, if I remember right, that Thomas Buckland, Job Apted, and myself met in the market-square accidentally. We heard that Mr. Gower was coming in, and we waited for him to arrive, and when he arrived they went into the "White Hart" with him to discuss the matter about canvassing.

32,847. Did not you go into the "White Hart" too?—No, I did not.

32,848. You stayed outside? You assented, at any rate, I suppose, to your name being put on the committee?—I do not remember that.

32,849. No doubt they did it. Did you do much canvassing?—I did what I could.

32,850. Did you succeed in getting many votes?—I cannot say.

32,851. Did you get any?—That I could not say.

32,852. Did you take much trouble about it at the time?—Not very much.

32,853. Before the election came on did you pay any money out of pocket, either when going about travelling or when you were talking to voters, and so on?—I do not recollect paying for anything on Mr. Gower's account. When I have been out with Mr. Buckland and Mr. Apted we have had refreshment, and one or the other of us has paid for it, but nothing on account of Mr. Gower.

32,854. I am not speaking of that. Did you pay any money out of your own pocket for travelling, or anything of that sort?—No I do not recollect paying anything of that kind.

32,855. Did you send in any claims for travelling expenses?—Not for the last election.

32,856. I am speaking of the election of 1865 only?—Yes.

32,857. Did you send in after the election any claim to anybody?—I do not recollect anything of the kind.

32,858. But if you did would you not recollect it?—I believe I did not.

32,859. Did you receive anything before the election at all?—No.

32,860. After the election did you receive any money?—No.

32,861. I am to understand you then to say that you received nothing at all for the election of 1865?—Nothing on Mr. Gower's account.

32,862. What do you mean by "Mr. Gower's "account"? On whose account did you receive it?—I received nothing at all for the borough election. Most of my time during the general election was taken up with the county election.

32,863. Never mind that. Did you receive nothing at all on account of this election, the borough election of 1865?—No, nothing at all.

32,864. Now, in 1863 did you take an active part in the election?—Yes, most of my time was spent during that, I think, in canvassing for Mr. Gower.

32,865. You say, "I worked hard for Mr. Gower"?—With the exception of two days.

32,866. Were you on the committee on that occasion?—I do not remember whether I was on the committee or not.

32,867. Who did you vote for at that election?—Mr. Gower.

32,868. Did you send in any claim, whatever you choose to call it, showing that you expected to be paid?—Yes; I forget the exact amount; I think it was 10*l.* odd; it was 10*l.*, and I think there were some odd shillings.

32,869. That was in 1863. What did you receive?—I think it was 5*l.* odd that I received. Mr. Smith sent me a cheque, and I believe there were some odd shillings. I had a note (I have searched, but I cannot put my hand upon it at present) stating that that was all he could afford for my services.

32,870. 5*l.* odd?—Yes, I think there were some odd shillings.

32,871. I dare say you recollect the election of 1859 very well. Who did you vote for in 1859; that was between Mr. Wilkinson and the Honourable Mr. Monson?—I think in 1859, if I recollect——

32,872. That was the general election?—I think I was unwell, and they fetched me up in a fly, and the horse broke down, and they left me there till after 4 o'clock; when the other fly came up it was too late, because it was after 4 o'clock.

32,873. Then you charged, I suppose, travelling expenses in two flys?—That was all I got.

32,874. In 1859 then you did not vote?—No. That was the cause of it, or else I should have voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

32,875. Now, going back to 1858, the last election in October was between Monson and Wilkinson, who did you vote for then?—I voted for Monson at one election; I do not recollect the date of it.

32,876. Who opposed him? Only one person, Mr. Wilkinson?—I forget now who his opponent was.

32,877. But there was only one? At the previous election there were several people, at Doulton's election, the one before that; but I am now speaking of the one next after Doulton's election, between Monson and Wilkinson?—I think it must have been that election, but I cannot say for certain. I know I voted for Monson. I remember meeting him in the hall.

32,878. Did you work for him?—No. I was in business at the time as a grocer, in Mead-vale.

32,879. Now tell me what you received for that election, if anything?—I received nothing at all.

32,880. What did you do in the former election, the one before that?—I think I was living in the parish, but had no vote.

The witness withdrew.

J. Miller.

JOHN MILLER sworn and examined.

32,881. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your qualification?—From 20*l.* to 30*l.*

32,882. You say from 20*l.* to 30*l.*?—Yes, I think it would amount to that; it would cost me about that.

32,883. Then is your house freehold?—No, leasehold.

32,884. What rent do you pay?—Well, it is my own, as far as the lease goes, till the expiration of the lease.

32,885. If it is upon a lease it is upon a rent probably?—A very small rent.

32,886. What is the rent?—1*s.* a year; it would cost me about 25*l.* to rent.

32,887. What are you?—A teadealer and tobacconist.

32,888. You were on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes, my name was on the committee.

32,889. Did you vote for Mr. Gower at the last election?—Yes.

32,890. Did you take an active part in that election?—Yes, I think I did.

32,891. And you canvassed voters?—No, I did not canvass.

32,892. In what way did you take an active part?—Only in argument.

32,893. Were your arguments sufficiently persuasive to gain votes?—I do not know; I cannot say that. I cannot say how powerful they might have been.

32,894. Where did you make use of your arguments?—In my own house and in my travelling about amongst different parts of the constituency and other places; not only in Reigate. I travel about a good deal.

32,895. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You travel

round in your business?—Yes, I travel with my own goods.

32,896. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you used your arguments I suppose you asked parties which way they would vote?—Well, I do not know; but occasionally I might say, "Which way are you "going?"

32,897. Did you never say anything more than that?—Well, I don't know, I am sure; I might.

32,898. Supposing your arguments did not succeed in persuading them to vote for Mr. Gower?—I do not remember that I persuaded any persons to vote for Mr. Gower.

32,899. You did not actually persuade them?—I am certain that I never persuaded any one.

32,900. Then your canvass was not successful?—I do not know, I am sure. I told you just now that I did not canvass further than in argument.

32,901. By asking them to vote for Mr. Gower?—No, by arguments in favour of Mr. Gower; political arguments.

32,902. And do you mean to say when you used political arguments you never asked them which way they were going to vote?—I might have asked them which way they were going to vote; but I never asked them to vote.

32,903. Supposing they said it was doubtful, what then?—It had nothing to do with me particularly.

32,904. The real object of your argument, you know, would be to try and persuade parties to vote for Mr. Gower?—Well, you can take it in that way if you choose. My arguments were not to persuade, but in favour of.

32,905. Then I understand you never asked anybody directly to vote for Mr. Gower?—I believe I did not. I do not remember asking anybody directly to vote for Mr. Gower.

32,906. Did you ever try to persuade any of them to vote indirectly?—No, I never tried to persuade anybody to vote indirectly.

32,907. By holding out any promises of what they might get supposing they canvassed or worked for Mr. Gower?—No, I was not empowered to do so.

32,908. You did not put any on to work?—I was not empowered to do so.

32,909. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But a good many did put them on who were not empowered to do so?—I do not know anything about that. I went in for purity of election. That is my principle.

32,910. So did Mr. Henry Francis, on the other side?—I know him.

32,911. Well, I will take you at your word. Then I think I may understand from that that no money ever passed through your hands?—Not a copper; nothing connected with the election. Money has passed through my hands, of course, every day.

32,912. No, no, I mean with reference to the election; no promises were ever made by you?—No promises whatever.

32,913. We like to get sometimes a gentleman of your tone in the box to ask him a general question. I suppose you saw a good deal of what was going on in the town with regard to the election?—I do not know about that; I did not go purposely. I never lost any time; I was generally about my business, excepting the nomination and polling days; that is the only time I was away from my business.

32,914. It is merely for the purpose of putting a general question to you; whether you noticed anything with regard to the election of 1865 that induced you to think that money was flying about and refreshments being given?—Well, I do not know anything about money flying about at elections further than there is at any other time.

32,915. I mean in an improper way; either by bribery direct or by colourable payment?—I never saw any money for bribery.

32,916. I do not put it to you in that way, because I do not suppose that you did receive money in that way; but did you notice the general tone of the election?—Yes, I noticed the general tone.

32,917. Well, what was your opinion of the general tone of the election?—Well, my opinion, sir, if I have any opinion at all, my own opinion is that we had to work against money.

32,918. Your opinion is that you had to work against money?—Yes, that is my opinion.

32,919. Were not you aware that they were also working with money on your side?—No, sir, I was not.

32,920. Or promises?—No, I did not know it.

32,921. Were you in the election of 1863?—In the election of 1863? yes.

32,922. Did you take part in that?—No, I gave my vote.

32,923. Have you anything to say with regard to the general conduct of the election of 1863?—No, I did not take an active part in that election, except in argument I did occasionally in favour of the candidate I supported.

32,924. That was Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

32,925. How long have you been a voter in this borough?—12 or 13 years, I think. I remember all the elections.

32,926. You remember the election of 1858, the February election. Did you take any part in that when Mr. Doulton was put up?—Yes, I took more part at that election than in any other.

32,927. Who were you interested in at that election?—Sir Henry Rawlinson.

32,928. If you took more part in that than in any other, perhaps you will give us your notion of the general conduct of that election?—There was curious conduct that time, and particularly the polling day.

32,929. Give me your general notion of the conduct of that election?—I was smothered in mud on the polling day.

32,930. Was that the only *dirt* you knew about?—That was plenty too.

32,931. It was quite enough for you?—Yes.

32,932. Perhaps that was the only dirt that stuck to you?—Yes; it washed off, afterwards.

32,933. In the election of 1858 did you notice that there was money flying about?—I did not see any.

32,934. You heard of it?—Yes; there was general talk.

32,935. Had it a good reputation, that election?—Oh I don't know, I am sure.

32,936. I can see by your smiling about it that you really have some idea?—We had an opponent.

32,937. Who did you call your opponent, the real opponent?—Well, I think Doulton was the principal one, though there were several candidates I believe on that election.

32,938. He was the real opponent?—I believe he was the principal one.

32,939. What were the principal weapons he used against you?—I cannot say positively, you know, I believe it was beer.

32,940. Beer or money?—Well, money buys beer; that is all I know.

32,941. Was it by ordinary report that you knew money was being offered and paid for votes?—That is all we can get at an election, ordinary reports.

32,942. Well, what was the general notion in the borough as to money being paid away pretty plentifully?—It was generally understood that he paid his men well for carrying boards and such like. He employed nearly all his voters. The principal part of his voters were carrying boards.

32,943. You mean all those men who were labouring men and voters were carrying boards?—I do not know whether they were labouring men; I think the porters were generally labouring men.

32,944. And then these boards, I suppose, had simply got a bill on, "Vote for Doulton!" or something

TWENTY-IRST DAY.

J. Miller.

14 Sept. 1866.

like that?—Well, I dare say it was something like that.

32,945. Did it not appear to you that all that labour was merely colourable labour?—I was not experienced in electioneering at that time.

32,946. You have been more experienced since. Don't you think now that it was mere colourable employment?—Oh, yes.

32,947. You have not much doubt about it?—I only heard, I never knew, what they were paid.

The witness withdrew.

J. Brooker.

JOHN BROOKER sworn and examined.

32,948. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A gardener.

32,949. What rent do you pay for your house?—12*l.* a year.

32,950. Who did you vote for at the last election?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

32,951. Were you on the committee?—Yes.

32,952. Who put you on the committee?—I think Mr. Buckland put me on.

32,953. On any terms?—No.

32,954. Did you do any work?—No, I attended the committee every night; the meetings that were held down below.

32,955. Evening meetings?—Yes.

32,956. Were you paid anything before the election was over?—No.

32,957. Were you paid anything afterwards?—Yes, I was paid for the nomination and polling days. I was paid 30*s.*; that is all I received.

32,958. Who paid you?—James Ede.

32,959. When did he pay you?—A good bit after the election.

32,960. Do you know why Ede came to pay you, it was not he who put you down on the committee?—No, I cannot tell why it was. I am a young beginner in electioneering.

32,961. Had you voted at any election before?—No, I had not.

The witness withdrew.

W. Finch.

WILLIAM FINCH sworn and examined.

32,962. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

32,963. What do you pay for rent?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

32,964. For whom did you vote?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

32,965. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

32,966. Who put you on his committee?—Mr. Buckland.

32,967. Did Mr. Buckland ask you to go on the committee, or did you offer you services?—Mr. Buckland asked me.

32,968. When he asked you did he tell you whether you would receive anything or might expect anything for your services?—No, nothing of the sort.

32,969. Did you do more than attend the committee? Did you attend the committee?—I did attend the committee down below.

32,970. In the hall?—Yes.

32,971. Often?—Yes, and once at Redhill.

32,972. The committee meetings were in the evening I suppose?—Yes, after Mr. Gower had addressed the voters.

32,973. The voters or the committee?—It was the committee. There were voters as well.

32,974. Were you present when Mr. Gower made the speech in which he said that those who worked for him should be well paid?—No.

32,975. But you had heard of that speech?—Not before it was mentioned this morning.

32,976. What were you paid?—30*s.*

32,977. And no more?—No more.

32,978. What did you receive the 30*s.* for?—The nomination and polling days. I lost two days.

32,979. That was 15*s.* a day?—That is what Mr. Buckland gave me.

32,980. Mr. Buckland gave it to you?—Yes, somewhere in the latter part of November.

32,981. Your usual earnings being 5*s.* 6*d.* a day?—No, 5*s.*

32,982. Were those all the monies that you received?—No, I had 5*s.* for being out one night.

32,983. Who paid you that?—Robert Lake.

32,984. Were you out that night?—That was the nomination night.

32,985. The day before the polling?—Yes.

32,986. What part of the town were you guarding?—Walking up and down the town and up the lane as far as Reigate-heath.

32,987. Did anything happen to disturb your quiet walk?—No, nothing.

32,988. Were there many of you out watching that night?—There were four or five that I was with; I can't say exactly.

32,989. They were out, I suppose, in different parties, dispersed over the borough?—Yes.

32,990. Were those all the monies you received?—Yes, those were all the monies I received.

32,991. Had you voted before?—No.

32,992. Not at any previous election?—No.

32,993. I understand you never canvassed anybody?—No, I never troubled myself.

32,994. Except in attendance at the committee?—No.

The witness withdrew.

Stoneman.

JOHN STONEMAN sworn and examined.

32,995. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A builder.

32,996. Upon your own account?—I am a carpenter and joiner and builder.

32,997. What rent do you pay for your house?—12*l.* a year.

32,998. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Gower.

32,999. Were you on his committee?—I was canvassing for him. That (*handing a document*) is a copy of the bill I sent in.

33,000. Who engaged you as a canvasser?—Mr. Featherstone put me on the canvassing.

33,001. It says, "John Stoneman, canvassing for "Mr. Gower, for the borough of Reigate, five weeks "at 2*l.* 10*s.* a week," that is 12*l.* 10*s.*?—That is right.

33,002. Then you put down "Bennett, 3*l.*; Man-"ning, 4*l.* 10*s.*; Hind, 4*l.* 10*s.*, and Laker, 15*s.*" What is Richard Bennett? we had him, I think?—Yes, he is a carpenter.

33,003. You paid him 3*l.*?—No, no; I gave in that list to Mr. Smith.

33,004. You had arranged with Bennett that he was to have 3*l.*?—What I could get; I did not arrange anything at all.

33,005. How did you come to put down 3*l.*?—If I could get that I should pay him.

33,006. Do you know he was paid afterwards?—I do not think he was paid by Mr. Gower. I believe he received something from Mr. Monson.

33,007. He received something from the Monson party?—And that he gave back again, I think.

33,008. You promised him when you canvassed him, I suppose, that he should get the same as the others?—He came to me and said that the Monson party had promised him, but he would rather vote for Mr. Gower; if I would get the same as the others he would rather

vote for Mr. Gower, and I said I would do what I could.

33,009. Did he tell you what he was offered?—No, I believe he received 2*l.* 10*s.*, and that he gave back again.

33,010. Now about Manning; what Manning was it?—He is a carpenter.

33,011. Why should you put down 4*l.* 10*s.* for him?—Because he come to me about three weeks or so.

33,012. Then did you arrange that he was to have 30*s.* a week for three weeks, and then he promised to vote?—Yes.

33,013. And the same with Hind, and then he promised to vote?—Yes.

33,014. Did Manning vote for Gower?—I believe he did.

33,015. Do you know what money he had?—He had no money at all, I think. I did not pay him. I believe he had 30*s.* on the Monson side.

33,016. Do you know whether Hind had any money?—I do not know. I never gave him any at all.

33,017. Then Laker; did you pay him 15*s.* out of your own pocket?—No, I never paid none of them.

33,018. And Mr. Smith paid you 3*l.* for yourself. Do you know the Christian names of Laker and Hind?—Richard Laker.

33,019. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that Laker of the public house?—No, he is a shoemaker. I do not know the Christian name of Hind.

33,020. Is it William?—I think it is.

33,021. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is he?—A guard, a railway guard. He lives on the railway.

33,022. You received none of the money for these men?—No.

33,023. These were the sums you had agreed on, and which you thought yourself bound to give? What monies did you receive?—I received 9*l.* 10*s.* for myself, and you will see by the account the way I received it.

33,024. 3*l.* from Mr. Smith, 1*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Green, and then 3*l.* more from Mr. Smith after the election?—5*l.* after the election.

33,025. Had you entered into any agreement with any one to pay you 2*l.* 10*s.* a week?—No, I had no agreement. I went to Mr. Featherstone and asked what he thought I ought to charge, and he said he considered for the work I had done; I had lost the whole of my time at the election.

33,026. This was before the election?—Yes; I lost the whole of my time.

33,027. At that time you had not lost it, but you were about losing it?—Mr. Featherstone said he thought I ought to have 15*l.* for the trouble I had taken.

33,028. Now, besides these men who you say did not vote—— ?—Yes, Bennett did vote. They all voted for Gower.

33,029. Did you canvass any others?—Yes, I canvassed several others. I canvassed Feldwick.

33,030. You did not succeed in getting a promise from him?—Not Feldwick.

33,031. What did he say?—He said he did not like either one of them.

33,032. You knew what that meant?—I knew what he meant by it.

33,033. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you think he meant by it?—I thought he wanted some canaries.

33,034. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Yellow boys?—Something of the sort.

33,035. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Golden guineas?—Yes.

33,036. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he vote?—Yes, for Monson.

33,037. Did you canvass anybody else?—I canvassed Mr. Prince, I believe. He would not take anything, not any amount, for his vote; and a man of the name of Bailey.

33,038. Do you know his Christian name?—Edward Bailey; and Burge a stonemason, I canvassed him.

33,039. I suppose it was the same story with Bailey?—No; he was going to vote for Monson.

33,040. Who was the next?—Burge.

33,041. What is his Christian name?—Richard, I think. I never promised him anything.

33,042. Was he working for Mr. Monson?—No; he was working for Mr. Carruthers.

33,043. But I mean working in the election?—I do not know which way. I wanted him to come to Gower's side. He did vote for Monson, I believe.

33,044. He would not give you any promise?—No.

33,045. Did he give you to understand anything?—No, not at all.

33,046. Do you know where Burge is now?—No, I do not.

33,047. He was working for Mr. Carruthers then, was he?—Yes, I believe he is now.

33,048. Did you canvass anybody else, anybody that you met?—No.

33,049. I only refer to men that you think would be liable to be influenced?—No, not at all.

33,050. Had you been a canvasser at former elections?—This is the first time I have been a voter, but I took some little part in the other elections since Doulton's election.

33,051. Had you been canvassing for Doulton?—I took the balloting at that time. I came here and brought the ballot box in and screwed it down, so that they should see there was nothing in it.

33,052. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you say about Feldwick? Did you say you canvassed him?—Yes.

33,053. What is his name?—Edward.

33,054. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He is the man who said he had not made up his mind?—Yes, neither party did not suit him.

33,055. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did he vote for?—I think he voted for Monson.

33,056. Neither of these men, Bennett, Hind, Manning, or Laker, were paid by you?—No.

33,057. But you sent their names in?—I sent them in to Mr. Smith.

33,058. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When Featherstone put you on as canvasser, did he give you instructions how to canvass?—No.

33,059. Did you ever receive any instructions how to canvass?—No; I was to do what I could for Mr. Gower.

33,060. Then was it a suggestion of your own mind that you should offer these men money?—I asked Mr. Featherstone what I should do with these men. He said that I was to do what I could, and return it to Mr. Smith.

33,061. I mean before the voting?—This was before the voting.

33,062. Your instructions from Mr. Featherstone were, that you were to do what you could with the men, to offer them money, and return it to Mr. Smith? Did he tell you in what shape to return it to Mr. Smith?—No, he did not say what shape. I put it down as for work done.

33,063. That was merely colourable, fictitious, work?—They did do a little work, the same as the others had done.

33,064. I am sure you will give me a plain, straightforward answer; was it for purely fictitious work?—Well, I suppose that is what it was.

33,065. It was merely colourable?—They attended the committee rooms and carried circulars, or anything of that kind.

33,066. Well, but all that matter of carrying out circulars was merely colourable work?—It was done just the same as the others.

33,067. These circulars not being required?—When there was a committee meeting they were required to be taken out.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

J. Stoneman.

14 Sept. 1866.

33,068. Simply to the members of the committee?—Yes.

33,069. Who were composed of the labourers of the town of Reigate?—Of Redhill.

The witness withdrew.

CHARLES ORAM sworn and examined.

C. Oram.

33,070. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A grocer's assistant.

33,071. Were you a voter at the last election?—Yes.

33,072. What rent do you pay for your house?—12*l.*

33,073. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

33,074. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

33,075. Who put you on his committee?—Mr. Joyes, Mr. William Joyes.

33,076. What relation is William Joyes to Frederick?—Brother, I think.

33,077. Did you at all canvass for him or do any work for him?—I canvassed casually in the time which I had to spare.

33,078. Did you receive any remuneration for it?—No.

33,079. Neither before or after?—No, not for anything.

33,080. Did you receive any money at all with reference to the election?—Yes.

33,081. How much?—1*l.* 10*s.*

33,082. For what?—I received 1*l.* 10*s.* for being a check clerk, and the balance of 9*s.* was paid to me for services rendered at the "White Hart" hotel.

33,083. You were paid for being a check clerk; that is quite legitimate; what services did you render at the "White Hart"?—I prepared some polling cards and circulars, and many things else.

33,084. You had been engaged at that?—I had been engaged at that.

33,085. You had to attend to your business as clerk in the day; you prepared his polling cards and addressed his letters?—Yes.

33,086. What work did you do; any work at all?—No.

33,087. Did you receive anything before the election?—No.

33,088. What did you receive after the election?—30*s.*

33,089. Who from?—Joyes.

33,090. William Joyes?—Yes.

33,091. Was this your first election, in 1865?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

G. Blaver.

GEORGE BLAVER sworn and examined.

33,092. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What rent do you pay?—I am the owner of my own house.

33,093. What is about the yearly value?—18*l.* or 20*l.* I am rated at 14*l.* 10*s.* and assessed at 17*l.*

33,094. What business do you carry on?—I am an attorney's clerk.

33,095. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Gower.

33,096. You were on his committee?—I was, and I never received anything.

B. Boorne.

BENJAMIN BOORNE sworn and examined.

33,097. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A stationer.

33,098. What rent do you pay for your house?—26*l.* a year.

33,099. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower at the last election and before.

33,100. Then you voted for Mr. Gower in '65 and in '63?—Yes.

33,101. You were on his committee in '65?—I was not at all, neither with or without my consent.

33,102. You are Benjamin Boorne of Brighton-road?—Yes.

33,103. Then you personally were not aware that your name was placed on the committee?—I never saw it on myself, I am certain.

33,104. In July '65 you see it's (*showing witness*)?—It was put on without my knowledge and without my being asked for it.

33,105. Is it for the first time you now see your name on the committee?—The very first; I state it on my solemn oath. I never saw the list before; that is the perfect truth, as I am a living man here. Mr. Gower called on me as canvasser, and urged on me to work for him, but he never asked me to go on the committee. I am surprised that my name is on.

33,106. Then I need hardly ask you whether you took any active part in that election?—I each time gave my vote free.

33,107. And received nothing before or after?—No. I supplied them with stationery, to tell you the truth, and it has been stated that I charged more for my stationery because I gave my vote, but it was not so; I am always glad of business, as every man is, but I charged reasonably, and did not put on a shilling.

33,108. You have now had an opportunity of saying that it is not true. In '63 I suppose you gave a free and honest vote?—I did, without any consideration at all.

The witness withdrew.

S. Burberry.

STEPHEN BURBERRY sworn and examined.

33,109. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A gardener.

33,110. What rent do you pay?—20*l.*

33,111. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

33,112. You were on his committee, I see?—I did not know I was. I suppose I was, but I did not give any authority about it.

33,113. Who put you on the committee?—I do not know.

33,114. Who asked you to be on the committee?—I do not know anything about it.

33,115. Will you tell me who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes; Mr. Gower came to me himself.

33,116. That was a good long while before the election; after that, did not somebody come and talk to you, and hope you would vote for him?—No; I told Mr. Gower I should vote for him; I promised him.

33,117. Did not any of his agents come and remind you about it?—They did come, I believe, and bothered me.

33,118. Who was it?—I do not know who it was.

33,119. I wish you would remember?—There were several came and bothered me. I know I promised my vote.

33,120. I suppose it was one of them put you on the committee?—I never ordered them.

33,121. Did you attend any meetings at all?—No, never.

33,122. You only gave your vote?—I gave my vote freely.

33,123. Who did you go to the poll with?—I went up myself; they came in a carriage and fetched me up.

33,124. Who fetched you?—I cannot tell you now.

33,125. I do not mean the man who drove the carriage, but who was the owner, who was inside?—I believe it was Champion, Charles Champion.

33,126. Was any offer ever made you at any time?—Never. I promised Mr. Gower.

33,127. No offer was made to you at all?—None.

33,128. Was no offer of money after made to you?—Never.

33,129. It was not suggested by anybody?—No; they came and canvassed me, and I told them that I had promised my vote.

33,130. After the election did anybody come to you and say that they were much obliged?—Never.

33,131. I may very safely ask you then whether you received anything at all for your vote?—I never in my life did.

The witness withdrew.

G. Barrett.

George Barrett sworn and examined.

33,132. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

33,133. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you voted?—20*l.*

33,134. You employ men, I suppose?—No; I have left off my trade.

33,135. You have retired now?—Yes; at least, not exactly.

33,136. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes, for Mr. Gower.

33,137. Did you take much interest in the election?—No, not a great deal, because I did not know any one much.

33,138. You were on the committee?—Yes; they said they would put me on, and I said they might put me on where they liked.

33,139. Who put you on; to whom did you say that?—I think it was to Mr. Buckland and Mr. Dann.

33,140. Did you canvass anybody at all?—No; I was too late in the field.

33,141. When were you put on?—I do not know.

33,142. A short time before the election?—Two or three weeks before. I cannot say exactly when.

33,143. Did you attend many meetings?—Only two, or three, or four.

33,144. Did Mr. Buckland promise you anything for your exertions?—No.

33,145. Did he say you would receive anything?—No.

33,146. And you did not receive anything?—Yes, I received 1*l.*

33,147. Who from?—Mr. Buckland.

33,148. When did you receive it?—Between four and five months after the election.

33,149. How did it come to you?—I met him in the town one day, and he said, "Oh, I have to pay "you for your little trouble." I went out eight weeks, after the election I was out for eight weeks.

33,150. Therefore he did not find you before. Tell me, had you voted at a previous election?—No.

33,151. This was your first time?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

J. Child.

James Child sworn and examined.

33,152. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

33,153. What do you pay for your house?—12*l.*

33,154. Did you vote for Mr. Gower last time?—Yes.

33,155. Had you voted in any election before?—Yes, in '63.

33,156. Who put you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Mr. Gower himself asked me if he might put my name on his committee.

33,157. You went?—I went.

33,158. That was a short time before the election?—I think it was five or six weeks before.

33,159. Did you attend any meetings?—I attended four or five committee meetings.

33,160. Were you acting under any of the agents, or were you an agent yourself?—Oh no, I had nothing to do at all.

33,161. Did you act under any one of the agents?—Not more than attending the committees, and to bring them information if I could about the voters.

33,162. On whose committee?—Mr. Penfold's.

33,163. Then I will call it attending Mr. Penfold's committee. Where was that at?—Mead Vale.

33,164. Were you a canvasser?—No.

33,165. Was there any arrangement made that you were to receive anything for what you did?—None at all.

33,166. Did you receive anything before the election?—Nothing.

33,167. After the election did you go to Mr. Penfold?—No.

33,168. Did he come to you?—Yes.

33,169. And did he give you something?—He gave me 50*s.*

33,170. Mr. Penfold gave it you?—Yes.

33,171. That was all that you got from anybody?—Yes, that was all.

33,172. In 1863 had you been on the committee?—I do not know whether my name was on the committee or not, I was away from Reigate at that time.

33,173. You could not do any good for anybody?—None at all.

33,174. You voted?—I come to vote.

33,175. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

33,176. Did anybody pay your expenses of coming?—Corderoy did.

33,177. Where did you come from?—West Wickham.

33,178. Over here?—About four miles from Croydon.

33,179. Was it after the election he paid you?—Yes, some three or four months.

33,180. How much altogether did he pay you?—50*s.*

33,181. That was the same as this year; was that your only other election?—That is all.

33,182. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What were your actual expenses in '63; you say you came from four miles away?—Four miles from Croydon; it is about 15 miles from here.

33,183. Did you come by rail?—No, in a carriage and pair.

33,184. You could have come down by railway?—We could have done so; there were three of us.

33,185. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not pay for the carriage hire?—No.

33,186. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did they send for you?—Yes.

33,187. Who were the other two?—Stephen Jordan and George Knight.

33,188. You got 50*s.*; did the other men get paid?—I cannot tell you.

33,189. You were brought free by carriage and were given 50*s.*?—I was paid 50*s.* for my loss of time and expenses.

The witness withdrew

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

14 Sept. 1866.

T. Cook.

THOMAS COOK sworn and examined.

33,190. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—I am servant to the British Land Company. I am employed in making roads.

33,191. *The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you a surveyor?—No, I am clerk of the works.

33,192. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Of the British,—what?—The British Land Company.

33,193. That is what is called the freehold?—Yes, it is freehold; there are two companies: the National Freehold Land Society, and the British Land Company.

33,194. What rent do you pay for your house?—I live in my own house.

33,195. One of the freehold houses?—Yes.

33,196. What is it worth a year?—It is rated at 17*l.* a year.

33,197. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

33,198. And you were on his committee?—No, I was never on his committtee; if my name is on, it is more than I know of.

33,199. You never authorized any one to put it on?—No.

33,200. I can only tell you that they did put it on?—It was not on that I know of. I never attended any of their meetings.

33,201. Did you take any active part at all?—Not at all.

33,202. Then I think I need hardly ask you, you never received anything?—Not at all. I think I have voted for these 30 years.

Mr. Commissioner Smith remarked that a strange liberty had been taken with the witness' name, and that if his name had not appeared on the committee he would not have been called.

The witness withdrew.

A. Cottingham.

AMBROSE COTTINGHAM sworn and examined.

33,204. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you follow any business?—No.

33,205. What rent do you pay for the house you occupy?—15 guineas.

33,206. Fifteen guineas a year?—Yes, it is a freehold.

33,207. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

33,208. Did you know you were on his committee?—I did.

33,209. Did you exert yourself for him?—I did nothing for him.

33,210. You merely voted?—It was agreed betwixt Mr. Smith and me. I did not want to have my name on, and I told him I did not know anybody here, and I had no influence. He said he wanted to get as many independent men as he could as voters to go on the committee, and I assented.

33,211. You did not take any other part?—None whatever.

33,212. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were quite independent?—Yes, I received nothing.

The witness withdrew.

R. Crawley.

RICHARD CRAWLEY sworn and examined.

33,213. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A baker.

33,214. Here or at Redhill?—Reigate-heath.

33,215. What is the rent you pay for your house?—I live in a freehold.

33,216. Do you know what it is worth by the year?—I am rated at 12*l.*

33,217. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

33,218. Who put you on Mr. Gower's committee?—I did not know that I was on.

33,219. You were on the committee; you did not know it?—I did not.

33,220. Not when you were put on; you found it out afterwards?—Somebody told me my name was on.

33,221. Did you interest yourself about the election and do what you could?—No.

33,222. Not at all?—No.

33,223. You did nothing but vote?—No.

33,224. Did you not know who it was who put you on the committee?—Apted asked me for my vote; whether he put my name on the committee or not I do not know.

33,225. Did he say anything to you in particular when he asked you for your vote?—He said, should he put my name on, and I told him I did not care which way it was.

33,226. Did you give quite an independent vote?—Yes.

33,227. Perfectly?—Perfectly.

33,228. I may state it in the widest sense?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

W. Best.

WILLIAM BEST.

33,229. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were examined yesterday?—Yes, but I met Mr. Cheals, and he told me.

33,230. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Something was said on this question. Were you canvassed by Mr. Moody?—No.

33,231. Or ever asked by any body to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

The Chief Commissioner stated that it was another Mr. Best who was wanted.

W. Dodd.

WILLIAM DODD sworn and examined.

33,332. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were on the committee?—Yes.

33,233. What are you?—A labourer.

33,234. What rent do you pay?—The house is rated at 18*l.*

33,235. Is it a freehold?—Yes.

33,236. And you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

33,237. Did you exert yourself or do any work for Mr. Gower's cause?—No, I had not time to do it.

33,238. Did you get anything for your services?—Yes, I had 30*s.*

33,239. Who paid you?—Mr. Penfold.

33,240. Do you know what the money was for?—No.

33,241. Did you not vote for him; I dare say you thought it was for that?—I dare say it was.

33,242. You have not much doubt?—No doubt.

33,243. Had you voted before?—Yes.

33,244. Where did you attend any meetings or committees, if you did attend any in '65?—Attending meetings at the last election?

33,245. Yes; were you in Mr. Penfold's neighbourhood?—Yes.

33,246. Did you attend any house with Mr. Penfold where there were refreshments?—I used to attend the British school-room at meetings.

33,247. Did you attend there?—Yes.

33,248. You did not do very much there I suppose?—No; we did what we could for Mr. Gower.

33,249. That was not very much, was it?—I cannot say, I know nothing about it.

33,250. For whom did you vote in '63?—Mr. Gower.

33,251. Were you on his committee then?—Yes.

33,252. And you voted for him?—Yes.

33,253. What did you get then?—*2l.*

33,254. Who paid you?—Corderoy.

33,255. Had he previously promised you the *2l.*?—Yes.

33,256. When he promised you the *2l.* what did he say, that it would be for you if you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

33,257. Had you voted before?—Yes.

33,258. When was your next time of voting previous to that, was it in '59?—I cannot say, for Sir Henry Rawlinson I voted once, and twice for Mr. Monson.

33,259. In '59 there was Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson?—I voted twice for Mr. Monson and once for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

33,260. That would be in '58; at which of the two elections?—I cannot tell you.

33,261. You can tell me whether it was the great election when Mr. Doulton was down?—Yes, I voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson then.

33,262. Did you have anything for voting then?—Not a farthing.

33,263. Had you at any other election received money in reference to voting?—Not a farthing.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN GOWER sworn and examined. *J. Gower.*

33,264. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A gardener.

33,265. A working gardener I suppose?—Yes.

33,266. What rent do you pay for your house?—It is a freehold.

33,267. What is the value of it?—It is rated at *9l.*

33,268. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

33,269. You were on his committee?—I believe I was.

33,270. Did you work for him much; I mean exert yourself?—Yes, I did in the evening, and so on; I did not lose much time.

33,271. Were you out watching at all?—Yes, one night.

33,272. You were out watching and canvassing?—I lost some time.

33,273. Who paid you?—No one; at least, I had *5s.* for my night, when I was out one night, it was the night before the election.

33,274. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was from Legg?—Yes.

33,275. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who canvassed you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower himself.

33,276. Anybody else?—No.

33,277. Did you canvass any one?—No, I do not know that I canvassed any one; I talked it over to a few gardeners about the election.

33,278. Did you not know that a great many of them were getting money?—I heard talk about it, but I never saw any myself. I only got *5s.*; of course I heard they were getting money.

33,279. Did you not apply for some?—No.

33,280. Why did you not apply?—I was never promised any, and I heard that they were not getting of it free, so I did not apply for any; some did apply.

33,281. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And were refused?—Yes.

33,282. And you thought that might be your fate?—Yes.

33,283. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who put you on the committee?—I do not know.

33,284. Who applied to you besides Mr. Gower himself?—No one else.

33,285. Then you had no one to apply to in particular?—No.

33,286. Was this the first time you voted?—No, I voted for Mr. Gower at one election before.

33,287. And were on his committee then?—I do not recollect whether I was on his committee.

33,288. Was it in '63?—Yes.

33,289. Did you receive anything at that election?—I was employed then as messenger at the "White Hart."

33,290. How much did you receive?—I was two weeks, at *5s.* a day.

33,291. *3l.*?—Yes.

33,292. Who paid you?—Mr. Smith.

33,293. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it *3l.* you received?—I think it was; I was not on all the time.

33,294. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that the first time you voted?—That was the first time.

33,295. You did not apply to Mr. Smith at all at the last election?—No.

33,296. You had heard the report that money was tight, and you did not want to be refused?—I did not expect any in particular.

33,297. I take it that you were out that night for the *5s.*?—Yes, I was.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE HEWETT sworn and examined. *G. Hewett.*

33,298. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A shopman.

33,299. Do you live in a freehold house, or what?—No.

33,300. What rent do you pay for your house?—*5l.* rent; I have to do all repairs, and am rated at 13*l.* 10*s.*

33,301. You voted for Mr. Gower, did you not?—Yes.

33,302. Did you get put on the committee?—I understand I was.

33,303. Who put you on?—I do not know who did.

33,304. Who told you about it?—I saw my name on the committee list.

33,305. I dare say the person who told you you were on had put you on?—I saw it myself posted up.

33,306. Did you not ask who had put you on?—No.

33,307. Who asked you for your vote?—Mr. Gower.

33,308. Which of the agents talked to you about it?—None at all.

33,309. Did you take an active part about the election; did you do what you could?—Not in the least.

33,310. Were you promised anything if you did anything for the party?—Not at all.

33,311. Did you receive anything?—Nothing at all.

33,312. Neither before or after the election?—Not at any election I have been at.

33,313. How many elections have you been at here?—Three.

33,314. Have you given quite independent votes?—Entirely independent.

33,315. You have given all independent votes?—Yes.

33,316. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you a shopman in Reigate?—Yes, at Mr. Larmer's the corn merchant, just by here.

The witness withdrew.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

J. Heather.

14 Sept. 1866.

JAMES HEATHER sworn and examined.

33,317. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A tailor.

33,318. Anything else besides a tailor?—No.

33,319. Nothing besides a tailor; not a hatter?—No.

33,320. It is the other Heather then who is a hatter?—I do not know.

33,321. What rent do you pay for your house?—10 guineas.

33,322. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

33,323. And you were on his committee?—I was.

33,324. I suppose you know as a fact that you were on his committee?—Yes.

33,325. Some gentlemen were put on without their knowledge; do you know who put you on his committee?—I cannot say.

33,326. Who canvassed you then?—Mr. Gower.

33,327. I will simply ask you, did you give your vote as an independent and free vote?—Mr. Smith asked me to attend committees, and also to work on the day of polling.

33,328. Did Mr. Smith send you anything for it?—Yes.

33,329. What did Mr. Smith send you?—*2l.*

33,330. Did you have a shop of your own?—I do not have a shop, but I work for myself.

33,331. Have you persons working under you?—No.

33,332. How long after the election did Mr. Smith send you the *2l.*?—It might be six weeks, or more.

33,333. Had you asked him for it, or did he send it to you?—I applied for it for the time I lost.

33,334. I suppose in attending upon these committees you did no more than the others did?—I advanced the cause as far as laid in my power.

33,335. You told me that Mr. Smith asked you to attend the committees, and then you asked for the money after?—I could not give my time to it.

33,336. What time was occupied by your attendance on the committees?—I could not say now.

33,337. Only the evenings, I suppose?—That was the time I ought to have been at work. I ought to have been at work at the time I attended committees.

33,338. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you voted before?—Yes.

33,339. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote in '63?—Yes, I did.

33,340. Did you receive anything in '63 for your services?—No.

33,341. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

33,342. Had you voted in any election before '63? Yes.

33,343. When?—Previous to that I think I voted in '59.

33,344. I suppose you received nothing then?—Yes.

33,345. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that the first time you received any money?—No, I received money at one election when I took charge of a carriage on polling day.

33,346. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Here?—Yes.

33,347. Do you recollect who were the candidates?—Mr. Wilkinson was one, and I think the present Lord Monson was one.

33,348. Then it would be in October '58 that you had charge of a carriage?—Yes.

33,349. What did you have for that?—I cannot remember exactly what it was, but I think it was a sovereign.

33,350. You had a vote though?—Yes, I had a vote at that time.

33,351. Who paid you?—I do not know, I cannot recollect; I have tried to remember since this set out has been on, but I cannot recollect.

33,352. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was on the polling day I suppose?—Yes.

33,353. You went with the carriage to bring up the voters?—Yes.

33,354. To look out the voters and bring them up to poll?—Yes.

33,355. You were not driven, or anything of the kind?—No.

The witness withdrew.

R. Humphrey.

RICHARD HUMPHREY sworn and examined.

33,356. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

33,357. What rent do you pay for the house which you occupy?—It is freehold.

33,358. What is the value of it?—*5s. 6d.* a week.

33,359. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

33,360. And you were on his committee?—Yes.

33,361. Did you do work for him besides voting?—No; all I did do was, if I knew anybody who had not promised their votes, to go and ask their votes.

33,362. You did nothing beyond that?—No.

33,363. Who put you on the committee?—Mr. Smith.

33,364. Mr. Smith the solicitor?—Yes.

33,365. Had you voted for Mr. Gower before?—Yes.

33,366. Did you receive anything after the election?—Yes.

33,367. What did you receive?—*2l. 10s.*

33,368. You had not voted before?—No.

33,369. You received it from Mr. Smith?—No, it might be three months after the election Mr. Penfold brought it to me.

33,370. You voted for Mr. Gower at a previous election?—Yes.

33,371. Out of the same house?—Yes.

33,372. What did you receive at the previous election?—*5l.*

33,373. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who from?—Mr. Smith.

33,374. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Smith himself paid you the *5l.*?—Yes.

33,375. How soon after you had voted, about?—Some time after the election.

33,376. Three or four weeks?—It might be more than that; six weeks or two months.

33,377. When Mr. Penfold paid you, how came he to pay you?—I do not know.

33,378. Did he send for you?—No, he brought it to me.

33,479. Did he say he came from Mr. Smith?—No, he did not say from whom he came.

33,380. How did he know Mr. Smith had canvassed you?—Mr. Gower canvassed me with Mr. Smith.

33,381. Had you and Penfold any communication?—No.

33,382. Did he speak to you or you to him before he paid you the money?—No.

33,383. He merely spoke to you as one of the men employed?—Yes.

33,384. Had you voted before 1863?—Yes, I had, for Mr. Monson twice; Lord Monson as it is now. It was '58 or '59.

33,385. Did you receive anything for that?—I received *5l.* of Mr. Monson for the election in 1859.

33,386. Who paid it on Mr. Monson's behalf?—Mr. Hart.

33,387. Had you done anything?—No more than I told you when I promised the vote. I was on the committee.

33,388. In 1858 what had you?—I do not remember whether I had anything then.

33,389. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes, twice.

33,390. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And, voting

in '59, most likely you did in '58 ; most likely you worked then ?—I do not remember.

33,391. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you think you had something then ?—I believe I had something, but I cannot say what.

33,392. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you remember the Doulton election ?—Yes ; that was the first time Mr. Monson put up.

33,393. And Rawlinson ?—I voted for Rawlinson when he put up.

33,394. And you had nothing for that ?—No, nothing for that.

The witness then withdrew.

WILLIAM EDWARD LOVELAND sworn and examined. *W.E.Loveland.*

33,395. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A gardener.

33,396. What is the rent you pay for your house ?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week and rates ; I am rated at 10*l.*

33,397. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

33,398. Who put you on Mr. Gower's committee ?—I believe Mr. Job Apted did.

33,399. Did he tell you what would be the good of going on the committee ?—I told him it would be no good at all, but he asked me to go on.

33,400. Did you do what good you could for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

33,401. Did you do much ?—I never did any great things at all.

33,402. Did you try ?—Yes.

33,403. How did you try ?—By asking people to vote for Mr. Gower.

33,404. Was anything said to you about money ?—There never was a word told me about any.

33,405. Did you receive any money before the election ?—No.

33,406. Did you receive it after ?—Yes, 30*s.*, pretty near up to Christmas.

33,407. From whom ?—From Mr. Buckland.

33,408. About Christmas ?—It was a little before Christmas.

33,409. Did you apply for it ?—No, sir, I did not apply for it in particular, but I heard there was some gathering, and Mr. Buckland said he thought I might as well have a little as any of the rest, and so I had 30*s.*

The witness withdrew.

JOSIAH MATTHEWS sworn and examined. *J. Matthews.*

33,410. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—Jobbing gardener.

33,411. What rent do you pay ?—13*l.* a year.

33,412. For whom did you vote ?—For Mr. Gower.

33,413. And you were on his committee ?—Yes, I believe so. I gave my name at the British school.

33,414. Who did you give your name to ?—Several. There were several present, as there might be here.

33,415. Who was acting as chief man ?—Mr. Hewett was there, and Apted and Buckland.

33,416. All the chiefs were there ?—Yes.

33,417. Did you render much service to those gentlemen ?—I took a few circulars out, and stuck up some bills.

33,418. You stuck up some bills ?—On the end of my own house.

33,419. Only on the end of your own house ?—No, sir.

33,420. For all these services, of course, you got very well rewarded ?—Not so very well.

33,421. There was the hire of your walls for your bills ?—Yes.

33,422. What did you get ?—I spent a good deal of time one way or other.

33,423. What did you get ?—I did not get anything till I promised my vote to Mr. Gower.

33,424. After that you got something ?—I got what I charged.

33,425. What did you charge ?—I charged 2*l.*

33,426. Did you get it ?—Yes.

33,427. Who paid it ?—Mr. Mazden.

33,428. Who did you send in your bill to ?—Mr. Mazden got it, I expect.

33,429. Did you send it to Mr. Mazden ?—I receipted a paper. I did not send any bill.

33,430. I thought you wrote out an account ?—No, I did not write out any account, but I signed a bit of paper.

33,431. Did he write out a bill ?—No, I gave him a receipt.

33,432. Did you vote in 1863 ?—Yes.

33,433. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

33,434. You voted for Mr. Wilkinson that time ?—Yes, I thought he was a staunch Liberal, and I thought Mr. Gower was the same.

33,435. Of course he paid you handsomely ?—No, he did not pay me more than I charged.

33,436. What did you charge ?—The two days that I spent, the polling and nomination day.

33,437. What did you charge ?—10*s.*

33,438. 10*s.* a day ?—No, 5*s.*

33,439. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you ?—Ephraim ; I think he was a stout man.

33,440. Was it the man working at the Asylum ?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Well, that is Ephraim.

(*The Witness.*) I wish it to be understood I did not engage to accept a job until after I had promised my vote for Mr. Gower.

33,441. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you speaking of the last time ?—Yes.

33,442. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How came you to send in your bill if you did not expect to get anything ?—I rendered my services. You would not expect to walk about and convey messages for nothing ; you would not like to work for nothing I dare say.

33,443. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you vote before 1863 ?—No.

The witness then withdrew.

WILLIAM MORLEY sworn and examined. *W. Morley.*

33,444. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A gardener.

33,445. A working gardener ?—Yes.

33,446. What rent do you pay for the house for which you voted ?—14*l.* 14*s.*

33,447. Is it your own house ?—No.

33,448. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes, sir.

33,449. You were on his committee ?—I saw my name was on.

33,450. Do you know who put it on ?—No.

33,451. Did you do much for him besides voting ?—No.

33,452. Nothing at all ?—No.

33,453. I suppose you lost the polling day and nomination day ?—Lost it ?

33,454. I mean you did not work during those days ?—I worked in the morning at my own work.

33,455. Did you receive anything ?—Nothing.

33,456. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Not anything ?—No.

33,457. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Not before or after the election ?—No, I voted quite independently.

33,458. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that your first time ?—Yes.

33,459. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Does that apply to all the elections ?—I only voted once.

The witness then withdrew.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

H. Mitchell.

14 Sept. 1866.

HENRY MITCHELL sworn and examined.

33,460. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A hay-binder and thatcher, a jack of all trades, and master of none.

33,461. What rent do you pay for your house?—I do not pay any rent at all.

33,462. Is it freehold?—Yes.

33,463. What is the value of it by the year?—About 15*l.*

33,464. Did you vote for Mr. Gower at the last election?—Yes.

33,465. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

33,466. Who put you on his committee?—Mr. Durrant.

33,467. Did you do what you could?—Yes, I did.

33,468. Were you able to do any good to the cause?—Yes, of course; several people gave their votes to him, which I do not think they would if I had not said anything to them.

33,469. Then you did do what you could?—Yes.

33,470. Did Durrant ask you to do work?—Yes, he asked me to work for him, and of course I did.

33,471. Did any money pass through your hands to pay any of the people?—No.

33,472. None at all?—Not a farthing.

33,473. Durrant did not give you at any time any money to pay away?—No, sir.

33,474. Were you paid anything before the election?—No, sir.

33,475. After the election did you apply for what your services had been worth?—I asked him if there was anything allowed for what was done, and he said if he got anything for us I should be paid the same as the rest were; that was the agreement in the first place, that if there was anything allowed for our time I should share the same as the rest.

33,476. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said that was the agreement in the first place?—Yes.

33,477. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In the first place?—Yes.

33,478. After the election was over did he hand you any money?—No; he said he could not give me any money.

33,479. Had you asked him before whether he had got any money?—No.

33,480. After?—No.

33,481. Not after?—No; he said he could not get any money.

33,482. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We could not get any money?—No.

33,483. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you get it from anybody else?—I did not get it from him.

33,484. Did you apply to Mr. Smith?—No, I never applied to anybody.

33,485. Did you receive any money from Mr. Smith?—No, I never asked Mr. Smith.

33,486. Did you receive money from some one after the election?—No.

33,487. Nothing?—No.

33,488. Nor before the election?—Yes, before the election.

33,489. Before the election you received what?—I received 2*l.* from George Grutchfield.

33,490. What was that for?—Because he wanted to draw me from the Gower party; he said they could give me more money.

33,491. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) To the Monson side?—Yes, he did.

33,492. Then did he give you 2*l.*?—Yes; and I could have had plenty of money; I could have had 20*l.* if I liked.

33,493. Who from, from Grutchfield?—Yes.

33,494. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that your first election?—No.

33,495. In 1863 who did you vote for?—That was the election before?

33,496. Yes, who did you vote for?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

33,497. What did you receive on that election?—I was on the committee, and canvassing, and I received 2*l.* for it.

33,498. 2*l.* 5*s.*?—No, 2*l.*

33,499. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you not receive any more?—No, I did not receive any more, but Mr. Langridge paid me 1*l.*, and he said Mr. Wilkinson would make me a present of 3*l.*, because my wife had just died, and I understood by one of the agents afterwards he had had it, though he never gave it to me; that is Mr. William Langridge.

33,500. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did you receive the 2*l.* from?—From Mr. Langridge I understood.

33,501. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How much did you understand Langridge had?—I understood from one of the agents Mr. Wilkinson gave him 3*l.* for me.

33,502. And he kept it himself?—Yes, but I only heard that.

33,503. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not quite understand whether 2*l.* was all you received in 1863 from the other side?—Yes.

33,504. We will go back again; you voted before that?—Yes.

33,505. Do you remember how you voted in 1859?—I voted for Mr. Monson once, but I forget when it was; and I voted for Mr. Rawlinson.

33,506. Do you remember the election before, when Mr. Wilkinson was put up and did not come down here himself?—I did not vote for him then.

33,507. Who did you vote for?—I think it was Mr. Monson.

33,508. Tell me shortly what you got for that?—3*s.*

33,509. I will not trouble you about that. The previous election in 1858; there were two elections in that year. First, there was the Doulton election in that year, and some time after came the contest between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson, and Mr. Monson got in?—I voted then for Mr. Monson.

33,510. What did you get for that?—I do not think I got anything at all. Oh! I think that was when I got the 3*s.* I never got anything before; at least, that was the time.

33,511. Had you received at any election anything before that?—No.

33,512. Nothing out of the Doulton election?—No, sir.

33,513. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said you received 2*l.* from Grutchfield?—Yes.

33,514. To vote for Mr. Monson?—No, not to vote for Mr. Monson.

33,515. What was it then?—It was to draw me off from the other side, not to vote for the other side.

33,516. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is much the same thing?—No, not at all. I told him I had promised to vote for Mr. Gower; he said, "You had "better go our way, we can give you a deal more "money than the other side. You may have as much "money as you please to ask for."

33,517. He gave you 2*l.* to draw you on?—Yes.

33,518. That was not sufficient to draw you on?—I thought it would do for a bit of wet.

33,519. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You knew you would get more?—No, I did not. I did not care if I did not. I knew I could have had anything I liked, as I said before.

33,520. You still voted for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Grutchfield came over and saw me on the polling day. He told me there was no chance for his side for getting more money, and then he said, "I "would try and get what I could get from the "Gower side."

33,521. That day you went and saw one of the Gower people?—He said Monson had got no money.

33,522. Grutchfield was on Monson's side?—Yes, but he said all the money was gone, and he said, "I "should not like to hinder you, and if you can get a "1*l.* from the Gower party you may go and do so."

33,523. My question is, did you see any one of

the Gower people that morning?—No; I was at work till between 1 and 2 o'clock.

33,524. When did you see Grutchfield?—He came to my house, and he had been once before. I was out, but my missis told me of it.

33,525. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have told us about Grutchfield wishing you to apply for more money from the Gower party?—Yes.

33,526. You wish to contradict Grutchfield?—I do contradict him.

33,527. Let me see how Grutchfield puts it; it is not in the way you put it. "On the morning of the "election Mitchell asked me if there was a chance of "any more, and I said no."—That is a story; he cannot come before my face and say that.

33,528. You have told us you could have had plenty more money from Grutchfield?—Yes, I could have had.

33,529. Just before the election; the morning of the polling?—Yes.

33,530. Bearing that in mind, that you now say you could have had plenty more money if you wanted it, did you not say on the morning of the election, or had you not more money on the Gower side?—No, I will take my oath I did not.

33,531. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not intend to vote for Mr. Monson?—No, I did not, and he knew I did not.

33,532. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then Grutchfield said he knew they had lost the day, and I said I would go and get what I could the other side?—Yes, I saw that in the paper.

33,533. Did you see Grutchfield the morning of the polling?—Yes, because he came to my house and told my wife that he did not wish to confine me to them; he came to let me know how things stood, and if anything could be got from the other party he would be sorry to be in my way.

33,534. Did you see Mr. Grutchfield when he saw your wife?—No; he came to my house after I got home.

33,535. Before you went to the poll?—Yes; he saw me come home or heard I was at home, and then came to advise me himself. I then came here. I said, "I do not see it."

33,536. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did Grutchfield give you the 2*l.*?—Before the polling.

33,537. How long before the polling?—I cannot say.

33,538. A week or a fortnight?—I think it was a fortnight or three weeks.

33,539. A fortnight or three weeks before the polling he gave you 2*l.*?—Yes.

33,540. And at the time you received the 2*l.* did you intend to vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

JOHN SNELLING sworn and examined. *J. Snelling.*

33,541. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

33,542. What rent do you pay for your house?—6*s.* 6*d.* a week.

33,543. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower.

33,544. You were on his committee?—Yes.

33,545. Did you do work for him?—No; nothing at all.

33,546. Did you attend any of the meetings, any of the committee meetings?—No, not at all; not any.

33,547. Who put you on the committee?—Mr. Smith himself.

33,548. Did you receive anything?—No; nothing whatever.

33,549. Before or after the election?—No; nothing at all.

33,550. You gave a thoroughly honest and independent vote?—Yes; I promised Mr. Gower when he came.

33,551. Were you offered anything at all on the other side?—Yes, on the other side I was.

33,552. Who came to you on the other side?—Mr. Monson and Mr. Nichols came to my house and asked me for my vote. I told them I had promised my vote to Mr. Gower, and I should not break my word.

33,553. Did anybody else come to you?—Nobody.

33,554. I thought somebody promised you?—Yes, but not at my house; it was Mr. Green, at the "Castle."

33,555. What did he promise you?—On the polling morning I was in his house for a pint of beer; he had some 5*l.* notes in his hand, and he said, "If "you will go and give your vote for Mr. Monson, and "will come back here, I will give you one of these "or I will have my —— head blown off."

33,556. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is John Green?—Yes.

33,557. Was that on the morning of the polling?—Yes.

33,558. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that in the little back room?—Yes.

33,559. Were there a good many people there at the time?—There were only four present at that time; John Green, James Apted, George Charles Beale, and myself.

33,560. Were they present when he said that?—They were; and that is all that were there.

33,561. And like an honest man you went and voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes; and I said if he had offered me 20*l.* it would make no difference.

33,562. I hope you voted at former elections?—No; it was my first election.

33,563. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) This was your first election?—Yes.

33,564. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was John Green made use of that expression?—Yes.

33,565. Did you see James Apted have a roll of notes in his hand?—No.

33,566. Did Green appear to have many?—He had three or four. He said if I would go and vote for Mr. Monson, and then come back, he would give me one of those or he would have his —— head blown off.

EDWARD WELLS sworn and examined. *E. Wells.*

33,567. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A publican of the "Rose and Crown," Reigate.

33,568. What is the rent?—25*l.*; and the rateage 24*l.*

33,569. Did you vote for Mr. Gower?—I did.

33,570. You were on his committee?—I believe my name was on his committee.

33,571. Who put it on?—I cannot tell.

33,572. Who do you suppose put it on?—I have no idea, not the slightest.

33,573. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you attend the committee meetings?—There was a committee room at my house.

33,574. How many committee meetings were held there?—I can hardly tell you.

33,575. Was there one every night?—Perhaps three nights a week; the rooms were engaged from the 8th of May.

33,576. Was anything stated at the time the rooms were engaged, as to what you were to be paid for them?—Not at all.

33,577. At the meetings at your house did the committee people constantly attend?—They were the committee meetings.

33,578. But did certain people come in who were not committee people?—Not into that room.

33,579. But into the house?—Very likely.

33,580. Did you attend the committee meetings yourself and take the chair?—No.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

E. Wells.

14 Sept. 1866.

33,581. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose it was exclusively for the committee ?—It was. The committee room was engaged by Mr. Smith.

33,582. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you receive from Mr. Smith for it ?—10 guineas; that was only for the committee room.

33,583. Do you know when you received the 10 guineas ?—I do not.

33,584. After the election did you send in an account ?—I did to Mr. Smith, 39*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

33,585. How much did he pay of it ?—He paid the whole of it. I received 42*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*, for there was 3*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* due for refreshments supplied to Mr. Smith's clerk while he stopped at my house.

33,586. I would not trouble you with that. Then 39*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* was your account ?—Yes.

33,587. Tell me how it was made up ?—28*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* for refreshments, and 10 guineas for the room.

33,588. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The committee occupied the room ?—Yes.

33,589. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was the whole of it paid ?—Yes; I received it from Mr. Smith.

33,590. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose the account went in to Mr. Smith as for refreshments ?—Yes, I sent my bill in in the usual way; it was from the 8th of May up to the 28th of August.

33,591. With the usual class of items, brandy and water, gin and water, and so on ?—Yes, separate items in the usual way.

33,592. I do not know whether you have got it before you ?—No.

33,593. Do not suppose we intend to catch you. I thought you might have had it before you. You treated it as a regular mercantile transaction ?—Yes.

33,594. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you let your rooms on a previous occasion ?—I had.

33,595. Had you a vote in 1863 ?—I had.

33,596. What did you receive in 1863 ?—I really cannot tell you. I do not know now.

33,597. Cannot you tell me about ?—I really cannot tell.

33,598. What was it for ?—For refreshments.

33,599. Were you not paid for your own services ? No; I never took any part myself at any time.

33,600. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Would it be about the same amount as the last time ?—It might have been, but I really could not tell.

33,601. Looking at your book, would that tell you ?—I have no account but of the last.

33,602. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you any account of any previous election ?—No, I have not.

33,603. Did you get a payment in 1859 ?—I think they had a committee room at my house.

33,604. Do you know what you received ?—No.

33,605. Could you find it for us ?—I have no account.

33,606. Perhaps your wife keeps it ?—I have not one, unfortunately.

33,607. I thought you could refer to your book ?—No; I have no account.

33,608. You cannot tell what you received on any previous election ?—No.

33,609. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you charge in the same way ?—Just in the ordinary way of business.

33,610. Was it Mr. Gower's committee that was at your house in 1863 ?—Yes.

33,611. And you sent in your account in the same way as you did in '65 ?—Yes, with the items as before. Refreshments so much day by day.

33,612. I ask you these questions because we have had instances of bills being sent in as for canvassing ?—I did not.

The witness then withdrew.

J. Wesley.

James Wesley sworn and examined.

33,613. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you of the freehold ?—Yes.

33,614. What are you ?—A labourer.

33,615. What rent do you pay for your house ?—I live in my own house, about 14*l.* or 15*l.* a year value.

33,616. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

33,617. You were on his committee ?—Yes.

33,618. Who asked you to go on the committee ?—Mr. Buckland.

33,619. When he asked you to go on the committee did he ask you to vote for Mr. Gower ?—He said, "Of course you are with us," knowing that I was, I dare say, with Mr. Gower's party. He said, "We shall "want you, you being a useful man, to assist us."

33,620. Did he tell you what you were to expect if you did assist ?—No, nothing at all.

33,621. Did you give your services ?—I attended committee meetings, and also canvassed the voters.

33,622. What did you get for it ?—50*s.*

33,623. Who paid you ?—Mr. Buckland.

33,624. For whom did you vote in '63 ? was it for Mr. Gower ?—No; for Mr. Wilkinson.

33,625. Each time ?—Yes.

33,626. That was on the same side as Buckland ?—I do not know.

33,627. He appreciated your services ?—I do not know. I suppose he did.

33,628. In 1863 did you get anything for your services ?—In 1863 Mr. James, of London, was the agent. I did all I could for Mr. Wilkinson, but never made any engagement before the election, and after the election was over Mr. James sent me three guineas, but I never asked for any at all.

33,629. Had you voted before ?—Yes; Mr. Hackblock was the first. I voted for Mr. Wilkinson each time, I think.

33,630. Did you vote for Sir Henry Rawlinson at that election ?—I did not vote at all the time when Mr. Wilkinson came out at this town.

33,631. In 1858 did you take any part in the election, when Sir Henry Rawlinson and Mr. Doulton were here ?—I was for Mr. Wilkinson.

33,632. He was balloted out, and did not go to the poll ?—Yes.

33,633. After the balloting out did you go to the poll ?—No; I was asked to go on Doulton's committee.

33,634. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you told you would be paid for it ?—Yes; I was offered 10*s.* a day.

33,635. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) To be on Doulton's committee ?—Yes.

33,636. And you did not take it ?—No.

S. Webb.

Samuel Webb sworn and examined.

33,637. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Webb ?—A pork butcher.

34,638. What rent do you pay for your house ?—10 guineas a year, rated at 15.

33,639. Where do you live ?—In Park-street, just below where you lodge.

33,640. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

33,641. The time before for whom did you vote ?—I voted for Mr. Monson the time before.

33,642. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee ?—Not Mr. Gower's; I was on Mr. Monson's.

33,643. I think you were also on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No, I was not. If they put me on it was unknown to me.

33,644. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are of Park-lane ?—Yes.

33,645. Then you were on Mr. Gower's committee ?—I never had any knowledge of it.

33,646. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you canvass for him ?—No.

33,647. Did you receive anything ?—I never received a farthing.

33,648. I am very glad of it, and to see you are a neighbour of mine; and you never received anything at any time ?—Never.

33,649. And always gave an independent vote ?—I gave my honest and independent vote, and if everybody had done as I did there would not have been all this bother.

The witness then withdrew.

MATTHIAS WEBB sworn and examined. *M. Webb.*

33,650. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A pork butcher.

33,651. Are you any relation to the last witness ?—A son.

33,652. Do you live with your father, or separate ?—With my father.

33,653. How is it you have got a vote ?—We are partners; I do not know how it was.

33,654. The house is only worth 10 guineas a year ?—I was on, and so I voted.

33,655. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

33,656. You were on his committee ?—Not that I am aware of.

33,657. You were ?—I believe my name was there.

33,658. Did you not attend any committee meetings ?—No, only one at the hall.

33,659. That was a public meeting ?—Yes.

33,660. Who asked you to be on ?—Nobody as I know of; Mr. Gower asked me to vote.

33,661. After that did not any person ask you to go on the committee ?—Not that I am aware of.

33,662. You do not remember ?—No.

33,663. Did you receive something before the election ?—No, sir, not a farthing.

33,664. Did you receive something after ?—Two months, or something like four months, after I received 2*l.* from Mr. Buckland.

33,665. Was that all ?—That was all.

33,666. About four months after the election ?—It might be three or four.

33,667. Was that your first election ?—Yes, that was the first.

33,668. You did not vote at any previous election ?—No.

33,669. Did you tell your father what you did ?—No, some time after that I heard other men were getting money, and I asked Mr. Buckland if there was any chance for me; he said he would see, and about a fortnight after that he gave me 2*l.*

33,670. Did you tell your father of it ?—I did.

33,671. Did he make any remark about it ?—No.

33,672. Did he know you were going to apply to Mr. Buckland ?—I might have mentioned it to him.

33,673. What did he say ?—I do not recollect that he said anything.

33,674. I dare say you did not carry it to the partnership accounts ?—No, I put another sovereign to it and bought myself a coat.

33,675. Another time don't you think it would be better to follow your father's example ?—Well, perhaps it would.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES EDWARDS sworn and examined. *J. Edwards.*

33,676. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—Wheelwright and carpenter.

33,677. What rent do you pay for your house ?—15*l.* a year, and I have to repair. I am rated at 32*l.* a year.

33,678. You were on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No.

33,679. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You do not know it, you mean ?—I did not know that I was, I never attended.

33,680. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you authorize your name to be put on the committee ?—No.

33,681. Perhaps you will be surprised to find your name in this long list ?—I gave no authority.

33,682. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—I did.

33,683. Was yours a free and independent vote ?—Quite so.

33,684. And without receiving anything before or since ?—I have never received a halfpenny in my life; I have been 50 years on the list, and I always gave a free and independent vote, and I never received a halfpenny in my life.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN CARDEN sworn and examined. *J. Carden.*

33,685. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ? Foreman in a builder's shop.

33,686. You pay rent ?—Yes, 25*l.* a year.

33,687. And you voted for Mr. Gower ?—No, Monson.

33,688. Were you foreman to Mr. Carruthers ?—Yes.

33,689. At the time of the election ?—Yes.

33,690. Which way did Mr. Carruthers vote ?—For Mr. Monson.

33,691. Did Mr. Carruthers canvass you ?—No, he did not.

33,692. I believe he had a good many men in his employ ?—Yes.

33,693. Did you go on Mr. Monson's committee ?—Yes, I did.

33,394. Who asked you to do so ?—No one, I asked to be put on.

33,695. Did you think you could carry a good many men of Mr. Carruthers ?—No, I did not think that. I did what I could.

33,696. When you asked to be put on did you think you had influence, as foreman, to carry a good many men with you ?—I do not know that. I meant to do what I could in the cause.

33,697. Amongst the men at home ?—Yes.

33,698. Did you have much success with the men ?—There were some four or five.

33,699. You got four or five to vote for Mr. Monson ?—Yes.

33,700. Did you tell Mr. Carruthers so ?—No, I did not.

33,701. Did you not ?—No.

33,702. Before you voted did you not make any report to him at all ?—I might have done that, I do not know that I did. We had a shaky one with us.

33,703. Who was the shaky one ? was it Gibbs, mentioned by Mr. Carruthers ?—Yes.

33,704. What did you say about it ?—I told him I thought Gibbs was likely to leave us, and if he chose he might speak to him.

33,705. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) "To leave us" ?—To go to the other side.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

J. Carden.

14 Sept. 1866.

33,706. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did Mr. Carruthers do about it?—I believe Mr. Carruthers spoke to him. I do not know what he said.

33,707. What did Gibbs do?—He went on the other side.

33,708. I suppose you had two or three conversations with Gibbs?—No, I never canvassed Gibbs at all, I never asked him.

33,709. Why not?—I did not think there was any principle in the man at all; I would not have tried if it had been the last man.

33,710. All the the time of the election you did what you could?—Yes.

33,711. Who were the four or five men you succeeded with?—Elias Redman; he is still now in Reigate, Nutley-lane.

33,712. Who did he vote for?—Mr. Monson; you would find him in the list sent down yesterday.

33,713. Did you receive money to pay to the people?—I never paid a farthing to any one.

33,714. And were you asked to do so?—They never offered me; I did not do it in that way.

33,715. I suppose you spent a good deal of time about the election?—Not particularly about that, except the nomination and polling day.

33,716. Did you spend any of your own money?—Yes, I did.

33,317. How much?—About 30*s.* before I had any. I might have spent more than that.

33,718. When did you receive any money?—I received 2*l.* and 1*l.* about three weeks before the election. I received 2*l.* first from Mr. Nichols, and 1*l.* from some person from Nichols.

33,719. And after the election?—I received 2*l.* from Mr. Nichols some time after.

33,720. Was that all the money you received?—From anybody; I had none from any one else.

33,721. Did you send in any account to Nichols?—No, I did not have any account.

33,722. Did you write out an account on a bit of paper?—No, I merely said I must have some money to go about and keep the men together.

33,723. That was 3*l.*?—Yes, but there was the polling day and so on.

33,724. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Explain what you mean by "keeping the men together"?—We used to walk about at night and give them refreshment.

33,725. The men in your yard?—Yes, and several men about the yard.

33,726. You do not do that but at elections?—I do not take them out to treat them, so as to keep them together.

33,727. In 1863 how had you gone?—This was my first vote.

33,728. You are still with Mr. Carruthers?—Yes.

33,729. Are you aware of any of Mr. Carruthers' men not being summoned?—Waters, perhaps; but if you went through their names I might tell; I do not know though.

33,730. I wish you would tell me the name of one?—I did not know they had got a summons, nor they me.

33,731. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say Gibbs was a shaky voter; was Gilbert?—I did not know anything about Gilbert, he was a carpenter.

33,732. There was a person of the name of James Brown in Mr. Carruthers' service?—Yes.

33,733. But not a voter?—I think not a voter.

33,734. Were you aware of Brown's canvassing the men for Mr. Monson?—No, I was not aware of it.

33,735. And offering them money?—No, I never spoke to James Brown in my life. I have seen the man.

33,736. Did you know the fact from Mr. Carruthers?—No. I had a little talk about it, but not to take any notice of it; he was working away from me, at a job two miles off.

33,737. Had you nothing to do with supervising Brown at all?—No, I take the whole of the yard and nothing else; I do not know.

33,738. Was Banks working in the yard?—He was a plasterer's labourer, and worked in the same manner; he would be beyond my control, mine are all joiners and carpenters.

33,739. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you paid by the week or yearly salary?—By the week.

33,740. You received as much the week of the election as any other week?—No; I lost two days, and had a deduction of 12*s.*

33,741. Were all the men's wages stopped?—Yes. I think on the polling day, the nomination day they went back.

33,742. Do you remember a certain number of men being discharged?—Yes, I do.

33,743. What time of the year do you think it was?—I can hardly tell you; I can tell you what for.

The witness withdrew.

T. Penfold.

THOMAS PENFOLD sworn and examined.

33,744. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A builder.

33,745. I believe you have taken an active part in the election for this borough last time?—This last time, but not before, have I taken an active part.

33,746. What rent do you pay?—I have my own tenement.

33,747. What is the value of your tenement?—Rated at 19*l.* a year.

33,748. You took, I believe, a very active part in the last election for Mr. Gower?—I cannot say so.

33,749. I will put it to you?—I cannot say, I do not know how to define an active part. I was chairman of one of his committees.

33,750. That is what I call taking an active part; you were chairman of one of his committees, did you canvass upon his committee?—With Mr. Gower.

33,751. You went about with Mr. Gower?—Yes.

33,752. You never canvassed separately?—I never went out with that intention.

33,753. I am asking you whether you canvassed separately. Did you ask men to vote in Mr. Gower's interest in Mr. Gower's company?—I might have done; what I mean is, I did not go out with the express intention.

33,754. Did you canvass men otherwise than when you canvassed in Mr. Gower's presence?—Yes.

33,755. Did you canvass many men?—I never did canvass except with Mr. Gower, then I introduced Mr. Gower to them or the voters to Mr. Gower.

33,756. I am speaking of when you were alone; did you not speak to men when you were not in Mr. Gower's company?—Very few indeed.

33,757. Can you tell me any you canvassed when you were not with Mr. Gower?—No, I could not.

33,758. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Could you tell us any?—No; I might have spoken to them, but as to the matter of canvassing, I did not canvass them.

33,759. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You asked them for their votes?—That is a thing I do not believe I ever did during the election.

33,760. Did you pay money for their votes?—Yes; if you come to paying for the votes, I have a list of payments.

33,761. Never mind the list at present; where did you get the money?—From Mr. Smith.

33,762. How soon before the election did you receive any money from Mr. Smith?—I cannot be accurate as to the time, but I should think about a month.

33,763. You were not in Mr. Gower's company then I apprehend ?—No.

33,764. How came you to receive money from Mr. Smith a month before the election, if you were not a canvasser ?—To pay certain amounts, certain bills that were brought in and accounts brought in.

33,765. I beg you to be cautious ; do you mean to represent that before polling day accounts were brought in ?—There might be.

33,766. Mr. Penfold, do not imagine we are dealing with "mights" at all, when we have a man like you in the box ?—I should think it was a month or it might be three weeks, I cannot say to a day.

33,567. When did you receive the first money from Mr. Smith ?—I cannot say.

33,768. How long before the election ?—I say, to the best of my recollection, it was three weeks or a month.

33,769. For what ?—For expenses of committees, something like that, or for paying the men.

33,770. How much did you receive at first ?—I believe it was 5*l.* at first.

33,771. Was that by cheque ?—Yes, all by cheque.

33,772. What was that for ?—I do not remember now for what the first payment was made.

33,773. Did Mr. Smith say anything to you when he paid you the 5*l.* ?—He said he would pay me 5*l.*, as I should want it for the committee.

33,774. Who asked you to be chairman, was it Mr. Gower ?—No.

33,775. Who made you chairman ?—I forget now.

33,776. Then Mr. Smith handed you over 5*l.* At what meeting were you chairman ?—The district was Mead-vale, or you may take the whole district in ; there were three districts.

33,777. Were you chairman of the three districts ?—No.

33,778. Of which were you chairman ?—At Mead-vale, you may say.

33,779. He gave you 5*l.* ; for what purpose ?—In delivering out circulars or spending money for voters.

33,780. Do not tell me about delivering out circulars, tell me what you received the 5*l.* for ?—I paid it out ; payments were made to men for refreshments and for work.

33,781. Did you say to Mr. Smith, "I want 5*l.*" ?—No. I believe there was some money wanted for some purpose, I cannot say what now, and I asked Mr. Smith, and he said, "Well, I will pay you."

33,782. That was the 5*l.* ?—Yes.

33,783. That is very indefinite ; we will take it that the money went for some purpose, but you do not know what. What was the next money ?—I do not know.

33,784. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you mean to say that you gave Mr. Smith no purpose in particular ?—He had it all.

33,785. At the time you got 5*l.* ?—No.

33,786. I cannot believe that Mr. Smith would give you 5*l.* in so reckless a way for nothing ?—For nothing ? I have got accounts here which I paid.

33,787. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When was that made (*referring to a paper witness had in his hand*) ?—I do not know, it is an account I got from Mr. Smith ; it is not my own.

33,788. When did Mr. Smith send his account ?—I should say about the third or fourth day after the Commission was opened.

33,789. Did you go to Mr. Smith's office ?—I went to Mr. Smith's office, I believe, two or three days before this Commission sat, to ask Mr. Smith.

33,790. Two or three days ?—It was in the evening, I will not say exactly when.

33,791. Before we began sitting ?—Yes.

33,792. You had received the summons then, I suppose ?—No.

33,793. You went to Mr. Smith's office ; for what purpose ?—To get a copy of these accounts.

33,794. A copy of what accounts ?—Of the sums that had passed through my hands and the money paid to me.

33,795. Then you got a copy of the accounts as between you and Mr. Smith ?—No, I had one.

33,796. This is not at all a copy of the accounts between you and Mr. Smith ; you do not know who made it out ?—No, I do not.

33,797. When did you get the first 5*l.* ?—I will not be certain that it was 5*l.* ; but I believe to the best of my recollection that it was 5*l.*

33,798. I want now, first of all, the account as between you and Mr. Smith. Did Mr. Smith give you an account of the monies that you got for him ?—I gave Mr. Smith an account ; at least, when I say an account, it was ticked on a slip of paper the items I had paid.

33,799. I am asking you about the account ; how much did you receive altogether ?—100*l.* 10*s.* passed through my hands.

33,800. Is there any account between you and Mr. Smith of the 100*l.* 10*s.* that passed through your hands ?—No.

33,801. What I want to know is, if you kept no account of it, how do you know that it was not 120*l.* or 130*l.* ?—The amount of money I can recollect.

33,802. I do not understand this. How could you understand the accounts between you and Mr. Smith if there are no written documents of any kind ; surely, when Mr. Smith gave you money you gave him an acknowledgment for it ?—No.

33,803. You tell me you had 100*l.* 10*s.* altogether ; in what way did you receive it. You have some mode of making out the account ; how did you receive those sums ?—I believe it was 20*l.* and two 25*l.*s. I do not know whether it was three 25*l.* s.

33,804. You are a man of business, have you no books about this ?—No, I have not.

33,805. But why not of the monies you received for which you were made answerable ?—I had no reason, I did not expect to be called upon for anything of the sort.

33,806. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not expect to be called upon for an account of the money you received ?—Not at that time, to give Mr. Smith an account.

33,807. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now take it at 100*l.* 10*s.*, as the money you were to account for ; did all the money pass through your hands ?—Yes.

33,808. Of course you will be able to give me an account of the 100*l.* 10*s.* that passed through your hands ; is that all that you received altogether ?—That is all the money I believe that would come into my account.

33,809. Did you receive anything for yourself ?—No, not anything.

33,810. I do not understand ; what do you mean ? Were you not paid anything at all ?—No.

33,811. I beg you to be cautious ; were you not to receive 25*l.* ?—No.

33,812. You never received a farthing ?—I never received anything ; I never agreed for anything.

33,813. I do not say you did agree for anything. You say you never received a farthing for all that work ?—No.

33,814. Is that your handwriting (*handing paper to witness*), or was it made out by your knowledge ?—No, it is not.

33,815. Whose handwriting is that ?—I do not know ; it looks like a lawyer's clerk, it is not mine.

33,816. Did you ever see that before ?—No, not to my recollection.

33,817. But did you ?—No, I never saw that before.

33,818. You see you are put down there for 25*l.* for canvassing ?—I never had it.

33,819. Now we will see ; that is a paper you handed me to-day ?—Yes.

33,820. Did you ever give Mr. Smith a detailed account of how you expended the money ?—Yes, at the time.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

T. Penfold.

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33,821. In your own handwriting?—No, not a written account like that.

33,822. In whose handwriting?—It was in little items I gave it to him.

33,823. Item by item?—Yes, when I wanted money I went to him.

33,824. Did you give any written account?—No.

33,825. Did you give any separate slips of paper to Mr. Smith, of the monies you expended?—Yes.

33,826. Of all the monies you expended?—Yes, of all the monies I expended; I do not think I set down every man's name.

33,827. Did you give him an account of all the monies you expended?—Yes.

33,828. How much did you expend?—I expended all of it.

33,829. That will not do?—I never had anything for myself.

33,830. How much did you expend?—There is a mistake in the account you have got. I do not know what the account is, but there is a mistake of 5*l.*; and there is another man or two I paid money to.

33,831. How much money did you expend?—The whole of it; when I say I expended it, I mean it passed through my hands.

33,832. To whom did you pay it? I will take you through every item; now the first item?—Will you allow me the list?

33,833. Certainly not. To whom did you pay it?—When people brought their accounts, I paid them.

33,834. Tell me the first one you paid?—I cannot go into items like that; that is, I believe, a true account.

33,835. You received from Mr. Smith 100*l.* 10*s.*; give me any one item expended?—Bills were brought into me, and I paid them.

33,836. Bills were brought in; you have them?—No.

33,837. Where are they?—I have not got them.

33,838. Where are they?—I do not know whether Mr. Smith has got them.

33,839. Did you hand over every bill that was brought in to you that you paid to Mr. Smith?—Yes.

33,840. Did you pay any sum of money except two bills that you handed over to Mr. Smith?—Yes.

33,841. Whom did you pay? Give me one name?—There were several beershop scores.

33,842. Give me an item?—There was 9*l.* was paid for booth making in the open air.

33,843. You see you recollect that?—Yes, it is there; the paper will refresh my memory.

33,844. Go on?—And a bill I paid to Mr Legg, the beershop keeper.

33,845. How much was paid for it?—Without my list I cannot tell.

33,846. That is nothing at all, that is not to refresh your memory, that is not your own?—No.

33,847. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not make out the account?—No.

33,848. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How can you tell us? How can you refresh your memory?—I have nothing else but that to refresh my memory with; when people brought me these bills I paid them, and I handed over to Mr. Smith exactly the payments I made.

33,849. What men did you pay? Give me the names of the men?—Before the election, or do you mean during the election?

33,850. I do not confine myself to before or after or during the election; give me the men you paid?—A man of the name of Risbridger, before the election.

33,851. How much did you pay him?—2*l.*

33,852. Go on?—James Childs, 2*l.* 10*s.*; Richard Humphrey, 2*l.* 10*s.*; Frederick Cook, 30*s.*; Robson, 2*l.*; Dodd, 2*l.*

33,853. Dodd is not in your accounts?—No more is Robson.

33,854. Where does Robson live?—In Mead-vale.

33,855. Why did you not put them down?—I do not know; I put them down at the back, a few names.

33,856. Show me any?—At the back I put them.

33,857. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Frederick Cook is a voter, I suppose?—Yes.

33,858. Who else was there?—George Elsett, and George Mewett, and a man named Parsons.

33,859. Henry Parsons?—Yes, and Charles Charles.

33,860. Do you remember how much you paid them?—2*l.*, I think, and I think I paid Edward Comber 2*l.*; I do not remember any more.

33,861. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That will make about 24*l.*; it will make 24*l.* or 25*l.*; go on, that is very far from 100*l.*?—You must bear in mind that I have my business, and that in electioneering matters——

33,862. I know no business that you were acquainted with, only receiving money from Mr. Smith, and paying it away, at present; go on?—We paid away to men for nomination and polling day, to a quantity of men; at least, when I say "we" I should say the money came from my hands.

33,863. How much money came from your hands on polling and nomination day?—25*l.*

33,864. Were there any voters among them?—I do not think there were any voters.

33,865. Can you give me any other voters at all?—Mazden engaged 20 or 30 of them, and sent them to me, and I paid them the money; and there were some of Jackson and Shaw's men, I believe, from London.

33,866. Do you know of Mr. Toplin?—That is a mistake; it is written Toplin instead of Taplin.

33,867. What is Mr. Taplin's Christian name?—I do not know.

33,868. Where does he reside?—The "Bridge" hotel; he keeps a public house.

33,869. Is he there now?—I think he has left the neighbourhood now. I do not know whether he is there or not.

33,870. What did you pay for him?—I do not know what it was; I paid his bill I believe. Titchener paid most of his accounts.

33,871. Who gave the money to Titchener?—I did.

33,872. Can you tell me what money you gave to Titchener?—He brought me the accounts, and I paid him those accounts.

33,873. Can you tell me how much money?—No, I cannot. There were four I had of those houses, and four or five meetings at each house.

33,874. How much did you pay Titchener for the purpose of paying these accounts?—2*l.* for his own purposes.

33,875. For the purpose of being paid away?—He gave me the bill, and I gave him the money, and he brought a receipt back to me.

33,876. He gave back the bills to you paid?—Yes.

33,877. Did you make any memorandum of those bills?—No.

33,878. What became of them?—I do not know.

33,879. You know what became of them?—No, I do not.

33,880. What did you do with them?—I left them with Mr. Smith I believe.

33,881. Will you pledge yourself to that, that you took every one of those bills?—I did; I took them to Mr. Smith.

33,882. You took all of those bills mentioned to Mr. Smith?—Yes.

33,883. As you received them?—I did; and I handed them to Mr. Smith and showed them him, and got more money.

33,884. Then you handed them over to Mr. Smith and kept no further account?—No.

33,885. Did you pay a man named Church anything?—Yes; I paid him 14*s.* and something, and I remember Apted saying he had got the same size from him. He brought his bill here for Apted to pay him; it was 14*s.* 7*d.*

33,886. You mean he presented the bill twice over?—Yes.

33,887. Is that William Church?—Yes; at least, I do not say he did, but at the time it was said so.

33,888. For what?—I should think most likely for bread and cheese, when the open-air meeting was out upon the common.

33,889. What did you pay Robson?—2*l.* I believe.

33,890. And Elsett?—Elsett? 30*s.* I believe it was, but I will not bind myself to the accuracy of the accounts.

33,891. What else?—Frederick Cook, 1*l.* 10*s.*

33,892. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you pay Edward Comber?—2*l.*

33,893. What did you pay Taplin? I should like to know; do you recollect?—I do not. It was something like 4*l.* or 5*l.*

33,894. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now, I call your attention to the bill; it was 25*l.* You were put down as a canvasser from——; perhaps you would like to see it yourself?—I know that.

33,895. Now, I see you are put down as a man who was canvassing, and who received a portion of three-eighths of 30*5l.* The agents who received it were Charles Thomas Smith, principal canvasser, Job Apted, Joyes, Mazden, Durrant, Buckland, and others, 30*5l.*; they put you down as having paid you 25*l.*?—I never had it.

33,896. Did you ever apply at all to Mr. Smith? I see the first item was the 10th of June, and you were engaged from June up to July. Do you mean to say that you never applied to Mr. Smith for any settlement of your account as a canvasser and as an agent?—No, I never applied for any money whatever.

33,897. You never applied for any money whatever?—Not for my own purposes.

33,898. And never received any?—No. At the time of the petition, when Mr. Smith wrote to me, some time after the election——

33,899. Have you that letter?—No.

33,900. Have you it at home?—Very likely I may have.

33,901. I should be very glad to see that letter. Now, tell me what you were going to say with reference to the petition?—It was that about Mr. Smith. I had heard so much about it the last time, I could not put up with it any longer. He said, "You "will help us out, and you will be paid for your "labour." That is the only promise that was made with reference to the petition.

33,902. The petition for what?—With respect to Mr. Gower.

33,903. You were engaged from the 10th of June up to the end of July at work paying men, seeing payments made, and receiving money. Do you mean to say you did all that gratuitously?—I did.

33,904. Then you mean to say that if Mr. Smith charged it in the account as 25*l.* paid to and received by you he was telling what was untrue?—Yes; he was if he charges that 25*l.*

33,905. And if he was charging his principal with 25*l.*, and he was paid the money, that is then a simple matter of fraud?—Yes.

33,906. You see the difficulty you place Mr. Smith in?—So has he me by putting accounts against me I know nothing about.

33,907. Can you give me any other names of the men you paid. I like to see a man who is giving his services gratuitously. Now can you give me the name of any other man?—That I paid?

33,908. Yes; do you know any of the men at all at work?—No.

33,909. How came they to select you as paymaster if you did not know any of the men?—Mr. Smith asked me to do it, and I did it.

33,910. What did he say when he asked you to do it; remember, we shall have Mr. Smith in the box?—I do not remember the exact words, but the meaning was, "I will pay any payment you make in "respect of the work." "You can try," he said, and I said I would, and I did. I do not know that anything further was said.

33,911. Mr. Smith asked you to pay for monies that were expended?—Yes.

33,912. Had you expended monies before that?—I had paid it out of my own pocket.

33,913. Could you give me a notion of how much you had paid out of your own pocket?—Not more than a 1*l.* or 2*l.* at a time.

33,914. 1*l.* or 2*l.* is very considerable to my mind. Then you can give us no explanation, from your being at work from the 10th of June till the 11th of July, paying these monies and receiving money and going about from one to another?—I did not go about.

33,915. You can give us no other account?—No.

33,916. Had you ever been employed before?—Only on the election of 1863.

33,917. For whom?—For Mr. James.

33,918. Were you paid anything at that election?—Yes, 5*l.*

33,919. What was that for?—That was for canvassing.

33,920. How long had you been a canvasser?—I should think a fortnight or three weeks.

33,921. Who paid you?—Mr. James.

33,922. Himself?—Yes.

33,923. And did you canvass then?—Yes.

33,924. Did you pay any monies then?—Yes.

33,925. How much?—4*l.* passed through my hands.

33,926. From whom did you receive it?—From Mr. James on the polling day, I think it was.

33,927. Who did you pay it?—To Finch, or Groves or Groom; he came from Farnborough.

33,928. You paid 2*l.* to each?—Yes.

33,929. Anything more; any other money?—No.

33,930. Had you been engaged on any other election?—No.

33,931. Then you received 5*l.* from Mr. James?—Yes.

339,32. And you received no money at all from Mr. Smith?—No, not of my own.

33,933. Now, again I will give you an opportunity of explaining. Did you ever apply to Mr. Smith for any kind of settlement of accounts?—Never.

33,934. You were quite content to let matters rest?—I was.

33,935. Did you ever apply to Mr. Gower?—No.

33,936. Or to any one in his behalf?—No.

33,937. Do I understand that you were quite content to let matters rest as they were?—Yes.

33,938. Quite content?—Yes.

33,939. I want to know how you can satisfy me that you received 100*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Smith; how could you satisfy anybody?—From memory.

33,940. From memory?—Yes, it was all paid in cheques. I recollect the amount of money.

33,941. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was all paid in cheques, was it?—Yes; therefore I think it could be proved from the bank.

33,942. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How can you satisfy me of the money you paid away, or how can you satisfy anybody; I do not say myself?—By the account Mr. Smith sent me as being correct.

33,943. Account of what?—The account that I handed you.

33,944. We have it proved that it is not accurate. Mr. Smith could not send it as correct. You have proved here to-day it is not correct?—The whole was taken from memory. There are more men I have not given you the names of.

33,945. I should be very much obliged to you if you would give me another name of a man who you paid?—Whom I paid?

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33,946. Yes; that is just what I want?—Have you got all those that were in the list?

33,947. Yes; now another name?—Be kind enough to read over the list.

33,948. Cannot you give me some name. It only amounts to 24*l.* or 25*l.* amongst those you have men-mentioned?—I cannot give another.

33,949. You have no means of refreshing your memory with the names of the men?—No. I thought I had paid two men; one of the name of Bristowe, another of the name of Ely, but they have given evidence that I did not, which I am bound to believe.

33,950. How much did you think you had paid them?—2*l.*

33,951. That has been denied?—Yes.

33,952. Who has denied it?—I think Mr. Mulley paid them. A man named Heather, I think I paid him, but he did not mention anything about it in his evidence. I saw Heather one night, and I asked him if I had paid him any money; he said, "No:" but there are two or three other men, but I cannot say when a twelvemonth has passed over who they were.

33,953. You have no means of helping us at all?—I wish I had. I had no fee or reward, and I have no feeling but of telling the truth. I wish you to know that I had no account more than the account I got from Mr. Smith.

33,954. You have nothing but this?—No.

33,955. Did you ever see the account before; that is a copy of the one you produce?—No, not all in one; it was in different items when I saw it.

33,956. In what way?—Two or three different papers when I saw it, at the time when we settled the accounts.

33,957. When was that; was it after the election you went to settle the accounts with Mr. Smith?—I should think a fortnight.

33,958. I asked you that several times over; when was it?—I will not say within a week.

33,959. I will not ask you to tie yourself, but it was about a week after you went to settle an account with Mr. Smith?—Yes.

33,960. Was there an account of monies received and expended taken then?—Yes.

33,961. How much was found coming to you of the monies received and monies expended at that time, a fortnight or a week after the election; that was what I was inquiring of you all the time?—He had not paid me all the money then. When I went to him about a fortnight after the election I received between 70*l.* and 80*l.*, I will not say exactly, and I asked Mr. Smith, as there was a report that the men were going to be paid, I asked him if he was going to pay the men whom I had seen down on his committee; he said yes, all those who worked of course should be paid. I gave him a list of the names of the men who ought to be paid; I did not receive the money then, but he sent me the money a month or six weeks after that.

33,962. That was not settling accounts between you and Mr. Smith?—That was the whole that ever we had. The last cheque I took I had to see that these men were paid. I had no list, and that is how I account for this; but when he sent me a cheque for the amount I believe he told me there was something like 4*l.* or 5*l.* due to me, or 2*l.*, at this time, a fortnight after the election.

33,963. A fortnight after the election you settled accounts?—Yes.

33,964. Was that the time you got the cheque?—No.

33,965. Some time after?—Some time after.

33,966. You settled the account with Mr. Smith about a fortnight after the election, and about a month after you received a cheque?—I believe it was nigh September when I received a cheque.

33,967. You say there was something about 4*l.*?—There was.

33,968. Do you mean now that you and Mr. Smith settled accounts, and then he said, I suppose, "You "may keep the 4*l.*" ?—No, there was 4*l.* due to me.

33,969. I beg your pardon, 4*l.* in your favour?—Yes.

33,970. Have you been paid that?—Yes; in this cheque which came afterwards it was included with his men. I stated to you about that settlement. I say we settled up the accounts afterwards, at the time I submitted this account to him with these men's names.

33,971. There was 4*l.* due to you of the money?—Yes. I should say I received something like 70*l.* or 75*l.*

33,972. There was 4*l.* due to you; what cheque did you receive after that; what was the amount?—I cannot tell you; I believe 30*l.* 10*s.*

33,973. Will you tell me any of the men whom you paid out of the 30*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes; all those men I have given you the names of, and Bristowe.

33,974. Can you give me the date of the cheque; you did not pay the men till October?—No; when I asked Parsons he said it was in March.

33,975. Who did you ask?—I was asking Parsons, to refresh my memory; some tell me it was in September, some in October, and some in March.

33,976. And you mean to say you had been owed 4*l.*?—I did not say 4*l.*

33,977. Well, betwixt 4*l.* and 5*l.*?—We will say so.

33,978. He sent it you in October?—Yes.

33,979. Then in October you received 26*l.* 10*s.*, deducting your 4*l.*?—I will not say for certain 4*l.*, but I believe it was; I had a cheque.

33,980. That was the mode in which you and Mr. Smith settled accounts?—That was it.

33,981. That was 4*l.* of the money you had expended on Mr. Gower's behalf?—Yes.

33,982. That was due to you, and then you received a cheque for 30*l.* 10*s.*, and that 30*l.* 10*s.* you paid away?—Yes.

33,983. There was no statement after that?—No.

33,984. You cannot give me any fresh names; if you think you can give me fresh names to-morrow, do?—I shall be unable to come to-morrow, but I will endeavour to see whether there is any one in the neighbourhood that I have not got on the list.

33,985. You knew that the money was all for bribery, did you not?—That list is a list of the money that was expended; I do not know all of it.

33,986. Take the list; what do you think of it?—Well, I asked Mr. Smith if those men should be paid. I thought that if there was money to be had they might have it, they had been at work, those were the men I knew of.

33,887. I will test your credit by what I am now asking you; do you mean to tell me that you did not think that money was for their votes?—No doubt the object was to get their votes; of course that was it.

33,988. That was the object?—I had never promised them for the election. I think with regard to some of those men that they never expected anything, I must say that in justice to them.

33,989. Did you send in the names to Mr. Smith on speculation?—Yes.

33,990. You sent the list in on speculation?—I did.

33,991. How were you connected with sending in the names?—By being on the committee there.

33,992. You told me you did not speak to one single man about his vote?—No.

33,993. How came you to send in the names to Mr. Smith in October, if you did not canvass them or agree with them?—I heard there was money being paid away.

33,994. How came you to send in those particular names?—Because I thought they were men entitled to payment, and by seeing them on the committee.

33,995. You saw a great many other committee men?—Yes; those men in particular I saw.

33,996. Am I to understand you now that you took those names capriciously, because you saw them?—Yes; and they brought information.

33,997. What information?—Of the voters.

33,998. Tell me any one of them who brought information?—I cannot.

33,999. You took their names capriciously, because you thought they were entitled to some money?—Yes.

34,000. That is the explanation you give?—Yes.

34,001. Had you paid any man before you received the cheque for 30*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, I believe I paid Risbridge 2*l.*

34,002. Any one else?—Yes, I paid a voter of the name of Mewett; he was paid 3*l.* or 4*l.*

34,003. Before this cheque for 30*l.* 10*s.* came to you had you paid any of the men besides the list you gave. You say now you paid 2*l.*?—Yes.

34,004. Any one else?—This was before the election.

34,005. Was there any one else you paid before the election?—I believe I gave Titchener 4*l.*

34,006. That is about 8*l.*; go on, any one else?—We sent some one down to Cranley to see Mewett; we paid him his expenses.

34,007. Taking that at 4*l.* makes the 8*l.* Is there any one else you paid?—No. There were many shillings I spent at that sort of thing, but I do not remember what.

34,008. I do not know whether you are aware that you make out the whole amount you paid the men at a little over 20*l.*?—After the election?

34,009. Yes?—It was more than that, it was two or three and twenty.

34,010. It was about 20*l.*?—Have you got Allen?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Yes, John Allen.

(*The Witness.*) Have you got Thomas Best?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Yes. I will tell you the names, "John Allen, (*reads names*) Thomas "Titchener."

(*The Witness.*) Have you got Dodd? I thought I saw 20*l.* as against Dodd.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You saw 20*l.* here, no doubt you did. Now, look here, there must be some mistake if that is made out at all.

(*James Childs.*) I beg to state that it is not true, and that Childs was paid after.

34,011. Have you been examined?—Yes.

34,012. How soon after was it paid?—Some time after, I do not recollect when.

(*The Witness.*) I know nothing of the account, it is not of my own making.

34,013. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I will just ask you this, Mr. Penfold, while you are upon that; did you in fact pay Hewett?—There is a man of the name of Hewett.

34,014. Did you pay him?—Not him.

34,015. Hewett?—Mewett, you mean.

34,016. No; did you pay Hewett?—Oh, yes, I paid Hewett over 2*l.*

34,017. Which Hewett?—George.

34,018. Will you undertake to swear that you did pay him?—Yes.

34,019. Do you know a man named Peat?—Can you give me the Christian name? there are several Peats in our neighbourhood.

34,020. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was a man who had been paid a good deal of money?—Oh! Richard Peat you mean.

34,021. You know him?—Yes.

34,022. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want you to answer me a question. Can you explain this to me; I see in this account produced here to-day there is given an account by Mr. Smith of 94*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, which you paid away; according to your own statement you paid 100*l.* 10*s.*: it does not tally?—No.

34,023. You say you received 100*l.* 10*s.*, and there is paid away 94*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*?—There is a mistake of 5*l.*

34,024. There is a little mistake of 6*l.*; is there any accounting for that?—I believe there is a man or two in the list I have not accounted for. I believe there is 5*l.* mistake somewhere on the nomination day; that would be 25*l.* instead of 30*l.*

34,025. You say Henry Mewett was paid by you?—No, I found the money.

34,026. Who paid him?—Farley.

34,027. Did you pay George Hewett?—Yes.

34,028. Through your own hands?—I believe so; I think I can recollect paying Hewett.

34,029. He did not tell us so?—He has been paid.

34,030. You mean the man called here as a witness?—Do you mean the man with a cast in his eye?

34,031. That is Joseph?—George is in Mead-vale, he has left the neighbourhood.

34,032. Where is he?—He is working in London; he went away with Jackson & Shaw's men.

34,033. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It is perfectly inconsistent with the account received; you are put down by Mr. Smith as having received 25*l.*?—I assure you I did not.

34,034. However if you wish to or can explain this statement you can come here on Monday. You will attend here on Monday.—If you have me here a month you will not have a falsehood from me. Will you allow me the account. (*It was handed to the witness.*)

Adjourned till 11 o'clock the following day.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

Saturday, 15th September 1866.

WILLIAM FEATHERSTONE sworn and examined.

34,035. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter and builder.

34,036. Where at?—Warwick-town, Redhill.

34,037. Do you pay a rent for your house?—Yes, sir, 19*l.* a year.

34,038. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

34,039. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

34,040. I believe you took rather an active part in that election?—I did.

34,041. Were you one of the persons who paid money, or through whose hands money passed?—Only a small sum passed through my hands.

34,042. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. Green the builder.

34,043. Henry Green?—Yes.

34,044. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Of Redhill?—Yes, sir.

34,045. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive any money except from Mr. Green?—No.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

W. Featherstone.

15 Sept. 1866.

34,046. Received nothing at all from any one else?—No, sir.

34,047. How much money did you receive from Mr. Green altogether to pay away?—I am not certain of the sum, it was only one man I paid money to. I acted as canvasser, messenger, and clerk; in fact, I was engaged to him as assistant.

34,048. What monies were you engaged to pay away?—I do not know the sum, I took him a receipt; he knows the sum.

34,049. If you do not know the sum say so?—I do not know the sum.

34,050. Give me some notion how much money came from yourself, but only to pay away?—4*l.* 10*s.* and 2*l.* 15*s.*; I am not certain whether that was the amount or no.

34,051. Did you receive from Mr. Green any more monies to pay out?—No.

34,052. Are you quite sure?—Yes.

34,053. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said you paid to one man?—Yes, Mr. Brockwell; he keeps a beer shop at Redhill; I think his Christian name is George.

34,054. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much did you pay him?—I think those are the sums I paid.

34,055. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And he was the only person you paid?—Yes.

34,056. What for?—Refreshments supplied to watchers and voters.

34,057. How much money did you pay to Brockwell of Redhill?—I am not certain as to the amount.

34,058. How much? I do not want to tie you to any exact sum?—That sum.

34,059. What sum; you have not stated the sum?—I gave Mr. Green the receipts, and I believe those sums were 4*l.* 10*s.* and 2*l.* 15*s.* I am not certain of the amount.

34,060. Both to Mr. Brockwell?—Yes.

34,061. Did you pay anybody else anything?—No.

34,062. Is Mr. Brockwell of Redhill a voter?—He is.

34,063. Do you know what his Christian name is? George.

34,064. Did you receive those sums of 4*l.* 10*s.* and 2*l.* 15*s.* at different times from Mr. Green?—Yes, sir.

34,065. For what purpose did you receive them?—It was to pay some refreshments.

34,066. Did you tell Mr. Green you would pay Brockwell, or did he tell you; did he say, "Here, "take the monies and go and pay Brockwell"?—He told me to go and get Brockwell's accounts, and I did so; and I took them to him, and he told me to go and pay them.

34,067. You paid no more money?—I paid 5*s.* 6*d.* out of my own pocket to a man who did not vote.

34,068. Did you send in an account of the 7*s.* 6*d.* afterwards?—No.

34,069. After the election what money did you receive for yourself?—I received two sums for myself of 30*s.*, and 10*s.* expenses to London.

34,070. Who did you receive them from? Mr. Green.

34,070*. Were those two sums of 30*s.* to cover the expense you had incurred?—As part payment of my services I should say.

34,071. Did you receive any other monies of any account from Mr. Green?—Not before the election, afterwards I did.

34,072. After the election how much did you receive from anybody?—I received 7*l.* from Mr. Green to make up the 10*l.* to pay me for the work I had done.

34,073. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received 10*l.* or 10 guineas?—Yes, altogether, after giving me 10*s.* to go after a voter in London.

34,074. Are you quite sure that was all the money you received?—Yes, it was all the money I received for electioneering purposes of any kind whatever.

34,065. Did you receive any other money at the time from any election agent?—No, sir.

34,076. You quite understand my question?—Yes, whether any other money passed through my hands; and I say it did not.

34,077. Nor for yourself?—No.

34,078. Did you give any receipt to Green for monies?—I gave him a stamped receipt for 7*l.*, the balance of the 10*l.* which it was agreed should be paid me for my services, and I gave him a stamped receipt for 7*l.*, the balance.

34,079. Did your bill say, "Balance due," meaning the 3*l.*?—I believe it stated balance, I do not know that it mentioned the 3*l.*

34,080. Have you got a brother, Thomas Featherstone?—No, I have no brother, I have an uncle.

34,081. Which side was he on at the last election?—With Mr. Gower.

34,082. Did you work at all with him?—No.

34,083. Mr. L., did he take an active part?—Yes.

34,084. And canvassed?—Yes, he was deputy chairman on Mr. Gower's committee at Redhill.

34,085. Your Christian name is what?—William.

34,086. And your father's?—John.

34,087. Is a voter?—Yes, he did not vote at the last election.

34,088. Did he aid in the last election?—I think not; in the previous election he did.

34,089. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you taken part in any former election?—Yes.

34,090. Had you been a voter?—Yes, sir, in 1863 I was a voter.

34,091. Was that the first time you had any vote? Yes.

34,092. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

34,093. Did you work for him?—I did.

34,094. Tell me whether you were on his committee?—My name was placed on his committee.

34,095. Were your services much the same on that occasion as on the last occasion?—Yes.

34,096. What money passed through your hands in 1863?—None at all.

34,097. You were not employed to pay people?—No, sir.

34,098. How much money did you receive before or after the election?—None at all; I worked with my father, I assisted him: as he had done formerly when elections were going on where there were very active agents, such as Mr. Hart and Mr. Morrison, they would send him to come and receive his money, so he waited to see if Mr. Smith would act in the same way. He did not, and he sent in an account, when Mr. Smith said the account not having been received within the month he could not receive anything.

34,099. Do you know whether it was discharged?—No, it was not.

34,100. Was your account mixed up with your father's?—Yes.

34,101. What was your account?—I think it was five weeks, at 7*s.* 6*d.* a day.

34,102. Somewhere about 11*l.* or 11 guineas?—Yes, it was. I have no doubt Mr. Burt, the solicitor here, would be able to give you an account of it, for some time after the election, when my father found he could not get paid, he placed the bills in Mr. Burt's hands, in order to get the money if possible.

34,103. He did not succeed?—He said there was some statute of limitation which perhaps would compel Mr. Smith to pay the money. It appeared to me at that election those who did not do much work got paid and those who did work did not.

34,104. Had you been at previous elections?—I had not, but I assisted my father.

34,105. Had you paid any money out for your father?—No.

34,106. Attend to this question; had any money previous to the election of 1865 passed through your hands?—No, sir.

34,107. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take any part in Doulton's election?—I assisted my father for Rawlinson against Doulton; my father was opposed to my uncle on that occasion, and I know got a great deal of abuse because he worked for Sir Henry Rawlinson; he was called an old Tory, and got very much abused. My uncle was chairman to Mr. Doulton's committee, and my father was opposed to him in that election, he being for Sir Henry Rawlinson, and he suffered a good deal of abuse for it.

34,108. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you give me the name of any one you canvassed?—Several.

34,109. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Let us have them?—I canvassed the two Thorpes.

34,110. You may mention those you canvassed who voted for Mr. Gower?—There was David Thorpe, Charles Henry Alcock.

34,111. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes, he did.

34,112. I only asked for those who voted for Mr. Gower; who else?—Henry Potter, Henry Johnson, Edmund Worsell, Jesse Holden.

34,113. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where does he live?—Garden-row; in fact, the list is innumerable. If I had a list of voters I should run through the names, otherwise I will do the best I can.

34,114. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) All these names are put on the committee list?—Some were and some were not.

34,115. How did you distinguish as to those who should be on the committee and those not?—I believe it was left to the judgment of Mr. Smith and Mr. B. who should be on; if not, I took them toMr. Gower. I used to say to the voter, "You had better come with me to the committee meeting at night;" and if Mr. Gower was there I used to take him up.

34,116. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I wish you would mention to us one name?—If I had a list of voters I could.

(*A list of the voters was here handed to the witness.*)

34,117. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who was the paymaster in your district?—Mr. Henry Green.

34,118. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you canvassed these men did you as a rule tell them they would get paid for their time?—Nothing of the sort.

34,119. You only asked them to come on the committee and their vote?—Yes, I told them the reasons why I wished them to vote for Mr. Gower or for Mr. Wilkinson against any one else.

34,120. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Look over the list and tell me any one you canvassed for any candidate?—Charles Cearn, I asked him one time.

34,121. Where does he live?—He lives down in Bridge-road; I spoke to him about it.

34,122. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And he voted for Gower?—Yes, he did I believe.

34,123. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Go on, and tell us who else?—Thomas Funnell of Hollis-row.

34,124. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) If you think of any other names on looking the list over will you tell us?—Yes.

34,125. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You do not find any one else?—I cannot in a hurry.

34,126. Do you think that you could give us the names of those you convassed if you looked over the list?—Yes.

34,127. Do you think you can do it this morning beiore you go?—Yes, certainly.

34,128. Only these who were voters?—Yes.

34,129. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Those who voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

Alfred Knight sworn and examined.

34,130. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you, Mr. Knight?—Master tailor.

34,131. And you were on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

34,132. What rent do you pay for your house?—45*l.*

34,133. You voted for Mr. Gower?—I did.

34,134. How came you on the committee? were you asked?—I do not know I am sure; I do not know that I authorized any one; I do not think I did, and I found my name on the committee.

34,135. You have no recollection of having authorized any one to put it there?—No.

34,136. Did you take an active part on the committee?—No, not particularly.

34,137. Did you canvass any voters?—I did.

34,138. Who did you canvass?—Mr. Charles Smith, who was then living at Little Hampton, and I believe is now.

34,139. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is he?—A draper.

34,140. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had he a residence?—He was on the register for a house in Birkhead-lane.

34,141. He had lost his vote?—I was not aware of that.

34,142. Did you inform the committee?—Yes, Mr. Smith asked me to go and see him.

34,143. And he is a solicitor?—Yes.

34,144. Of course he would know whether he was entitled to vote or not?—I do not know.

34,145. Did you pay Mr. Charles Smith of Little Hampton anything?—I paid him by post-office order 1*l.* 11*s.* The first class return fare is 11*s.*, and I gave 1*l.* for loss of time in coming away from his business.

34,146. And if he had travelled on his own account I suppose he would have come second class?—I do not know I am sure.

34,147. Did you canvass anybody else?—No, sir.

34,148. Or pay anybody else?—No.

34,149. Did any other money pass through your hands?—Yes, I had a cheque from Mr. Smith for 3*l.* I paid the 1*l.* 11*s.* out of that cheque. I was check-clerk.

34,150. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You acted as check-clerk?—I did.

34,151. You were entitled to a guinea?—Yes, for my expenses at Little Hampton. I put them down at 7*s.*, and I know they came to more, and the 3*d.* for the order I paid out of my own pocket, and I understood he could not think of coming to vote without being paid for his loss of time.

34,152. And you acted as check-clerk?—I did; sometimes I have been paid two guineas for it, and I put down a guinea, and so I make up the 3*l.*

34,153. You received nothing else?—I did not.

34,154. And no other money passed through your hands?—It did not.

34,155. Did you take any part in the election of 1863?—No, I had no vote.

34,156. You remember what was called the Doulton election?—Yes, I remember it very well.

34,157. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were check-clerk here at Reigate?—Yes.

34,158. Was it in this hall?—In the public hall, No. 2 poll booth; what I did was to send a list every hour of those who voted to Mr. Gower's committee room; slips they are called, a book with slips.

34,159. I believe there was only one voting place?—There were two poll booths in our place.

34,160. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were check-clerk?—Yes, at one of the two booths, and I was there from 8 o'clock in the morning till 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

34,161. How many check-clerks were there at your part?—I do not know.

34,162. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On your side, Mr. Gower's side?—I do not know. There was Blather and Mr. John Pitter.

34,163. Who else?—On the other side?

34,164. No, on your side. What you did was to send

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

A. Knight.

15 Sept. 1866.

up the state of the poll to certain individuals of the committee ?—Yes.

34,165. Did you send up the name of every voter ?—I did.

34,166. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) A transcript of the poll book ?—Yes.

34,167. Do you know whether there were any other check-clerks ?—Yes, on the Monson side, in the opposite corner, there were two, I know. Henry Joyes was one.

34,168. Was William Joyes another ?—No.

34,169. Can you tell me how many there were ?—No ; we could see, of course, but I never counted them.

34,170. How many were there in the other booth of Mr. Gower's ?—I do not know who was employed for Mr. Gower on one side or Mr. Monson, I saw Mr. Burt there for one.

34,171. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understand you were employed from 8 o'clock in the morning until 4 in the afternoon ?—Yes.

34,172. Acting as check-clerk ?—Yes.

34,173. In the manner you have stated ?—Yes.

F. W. Killick.

FREDERICK WILLIAM KILLICK sworn and examined.

34,174. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—Foreman to a painter and house decorator.

34,175. Painter and house decorator ?—Yes.

34,176. For whom ?—For the executors of my late uncle, Richard Killick.

34,177. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you voted ?—11*l.* I paid, but I have moved since.

34,178. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Monson.

34,179. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

34,180. And did you canvass for him and work for him ?—I worked for him, but I do not think I canvassed any one.

34,181. For about how long do you think you worked for him ?—From the latter end of May till the time the election came off.

34,182. That would be five or six weeks, the whole of June till the 11th of July ?—Yes.

34,183. What did you receive a week ?—Do you mean my wages ?

34,184. Did you receive anything for going to the election ?—No.

34,185. What did you receive ?—I continued my regular employment.

34,186. Did you receive anything at all before the polling ?—No, not before the election.

34,187. How much did you receive after the election ?—2*l.*

34,188. From whom ?—James Nichols.

34,189. Your name is Frederick, is it not ?—Yes.

34,190. Is there another Frederick Killick ?—I should not think there is another voter of that name.

34,191. Just recollect, did you not receive more than 2*l.* from Mr. Nichols ?—No.

34,192. There is no other voter of that name ?—I believe not. I think there is a man named Killick in the place ; I think he is a labourer, but I do not know whether he is a voter ; I do not think he is.

34,193. Did you receive 5*l.*, because I have it here, and it is right I should tell you ; I have here "Frederick " Killick, 5*l.*" ?—No.

34,194. When were you paid ?—I think some time in the autumn.

34,195. About November ?—It might be about that time.

34,196. You are put down here as having received 5*l.* ; what do you say to that ? look at it (*a paper was handed to witness*). That is put down as a payment made by Mr. Nichols ?—That was what I received for myself ; but there were expenses included in going about.

34,197. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which made it up to 5*l.* ?—Yes.

34,198. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then I will take this down, that Mr. Nichols paid you 5*l.* ?—Yes.

34,199. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am very much surprised at a gentlemen of your appearance behaving in that way ?—It was somewhere about that altogether.

34,200. It grieves me, it frets me, to see a gentleman of your appearance, to see you in the box and not recollecting the money you received ; you said 2*l.*, did you receive 5*l.* ?—Somewhere about that.

34,201. We will take it that you received 5*l.* for your services ?—No, not for my services. 10*s.* of that I paid to a man named Bennett.

34,202. For what ?—I had orders to pay him.

34,203. Then 4*l.* 10*s.* you received ; you see 5*l.* is put down to you ?—Yes.

34,204. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What Bennett was it ?—Charles Bennett.

34,205. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you sure you did not receive 10*s.* in addition to the 5*l.* ? You are put down as receiving 5*l.*, and I have Bennett put down as having received 2*l.* besides ?—I do not know anything about that.

34,206. Now the effect of your evidence would be to make Mr. Nichols surcharge or overcharge his employer 2*l.* ; that is it. It would be a severe imputation upon Mr. Nichols. Now you know that Mr. Nichols put down Bennett for 2*l.* ; I ask you again, I give you another opportunity of explaining, did you not receive the 5*l.* for yourself ?—For my services and expenses.

34,207. For yourself, services and expenses of yours ?—Yes.

34,208. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Bennett came here and he proved he had received 2*l.* from Mr. Nichols ; so far as that goes the account is quite correct ; I dare say you have read it ?—I saw it when you handed it to me.

34,209. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you voted before ?—Yes, in 1863.

34,210. For whom ?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

34,211. Had you worked for him in the same way ?—Yes.

34,212. What did you receive ?—I think it was somewhere between 2*l.* and 3*l.*, but I do not know exactly what it was ; there were some odd shillings.

34,213. From whom did you receive it ?—Mr. James.

34,214. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it 2*l.* 10*s.*, do you think ?—I cannot say exactly, but I think it was some odd shillings.

34,215. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose that was your first election, was it ?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

W. Baggaley.

WILLIAM BAGGALEY sworn and examined.

34,216. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—I am in the building line.

34,217. You are a builder ?—Yes, a carpenter.

34,218. What amount do you pay ?—20*l.*

34,219. Do you pay it by the week ?—No, by the quarter.

34,220. Do you go on a month's notice or a quarter's notice ? — Half a year ; I must give a quarter's notice to them from the time that I take it, and I have got of course to leave from the time I take it.

34,221. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

34,222. Can you tell me who canvassed you ?—Mr. Gower.

34,223. You were on his committee, were you not ?—Yes.

34,224. Did you take an active part in the election ?—Yes, I did.

34,225. I may say you worked pretty hard?—Yes, I neglected my own business.

34,226. What did you do about the election?—I canvassed.

34,227. Did you canvass any person in particular?—I asked a great many, and persuaded some.

34,228. Who did you persuade?—I can scarcely tell you.

34,229. I will take one, if you please; I want the name?—There is one man of the name of Woodman.

34,230. Do you mean Woodman a farmer?—No, of Mead-vale.

34,231. Then it is another man; what is his Christian name?—I think it is Richard.

34,232. Who else?—Another man of the name of Hopper.

34,233. Not Hooper?—No, Hopper.

34,234. What is his Christian name?—I do not know.

34,235. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is he living here?—At Mead-vale.

34,236. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There is another man?—I canvassed those two in particular. I cannot say exactly any besides, but a great many.

34,237. Can you mention any other name than Hopper and Woodman?—I cannot.

34,238. Nothing further?—No further than this, I did all they did.

34,239. Did they vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

34,240. Did any money pass through your hands?—Yes.

34,241. You were a committee man; who gave it to you to pay?—Mr. Penfold; Mr. Penfold was the chairman.

34,242. How much money did Penfold pay you to disburse, to pay it to men?—I paid a little bill, I think it was 1*l.* 17*s.*, for refreshment.

34,243. Who to?—To a man of the name of Tyrrell.

34,244. Was that for your own refreshment?—No.

34,245. 1*l.* 17*s.*?—I think it was 1*l.* 17*s.*, but I will not be quite sure.

34,246. I am not going to bind you down to all the figures, I only want to know generally. What else?—Then after the election——

34,247. But during the election did you pay any other money out of pocket, either of your own or what Mr. Penfold gave you?—No, I never paid anything more. I might have paid a trifle out of my own pocket.

34,248. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) These refreshments had been served out to voters?—We had a little meeting; of course we did not expect to meet without some little refreshment.

34,249. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you pay this 1*l.* 17*s.* in the first instance, and then go to Penfold?—No, he gave me the money for it beforehand.

34,250. Beforehand?—Yes.

34,251. Did he give you any money at all?—I think he gave me 2*l.*, I am not quite sure; I returned the balance and gave him the bill.

34,252. Did you say who you paid the bill to?—No; Tyrrell of Hollis-row.

34,253. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you sure of the amount?—Well, I am not quite sure, because I never took that particular account.

34,254. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You think that you returned the balance?—I returned the money, whatever I had, and paid the bill and handed the bill to Mr. Penfold, and returned him the money, the balance.

34,255. Are you sure the amount of the bill was 1*l.* 17*s.*, or might it have been 1*l.* 7*s.*?—It was more than 1*l.* 7*s.*, I believe it was 1*l.* 17*s.*

34,256. Are you quite certain of the money that he paid to you?—No, I would not be sure.

34,257. He paid you over a sum of money to pay these bills with?—I am not quite sure that it was 2*l.* or 3*l.* he gave to me.

34,258. Are you quite sure it was 2*l.*?—It was quite as much as 2*l.* I will guarantee.

34,259. You are not quite sure of how much you returned?—No, I am not quite sure, I have forgot the amount. Penfold had the receipt, and I returned him the balance, but what it was I cannot say.

34,260. Was that all the money you received from Mr. Penfold?—No.

34,261. What else did you receive from Mr. Penfold?—After the election I received 4*l.*

34,262. But before the election?—That is all before the election, I never received a farthing more before the election.

34,263. Well, after the election?—Some time after, it might have been Christmas, I received 4*l.*

34,264. From whom?—From Penfold.

34,265. He is a builder?—Yes, he and I work together.

34,266. What was the 4*l.* for, for your services?—No, to pay two men for their services.

34,267. To pay who?—Woodman and Hopper.

34,268. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The men you had canvassed?—Yes.

34,269. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive any more than the 4*l.* after the election?—No.

34,270. What did you receive for your own services?—Nothing.

34,271. Did you not send in any account to him?—No, I never did.

34,272. How was that?—I do not know I am sure, I left it to him to give me anything he thought proper.

34,273. Who did you say that to, who did you leave it to?—I do not know any one in particular.

34,274. Who did you intimate to, you would not condescend to send any account, but you left it to them; who did you communicate with?—Not any one in particular.

34,275. At a committee meeting, or anything of that?—We had no meeting after.

34,276. In what way did you leave it to them, that is all I want to know of you?—I knew that Mr. Gower had promised to pay every one who worked for him.

34,277. How did you know it?—I heard him say so.

34,278. Where?—In the "White Hart." He said every one that is willing to work for him he was willing to pay.

34,279. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that in a committee room?—Yes, a committee room. He said he did not wish any one to work for him without being paid. I heard him say that in the "White "Hart," but that he would not allow a bribe to be given or a public house to be taken.

34,280. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are quite certain that was at the "White Hart"?—Yes.

34,281. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When was that, was it a good while before the election?—Something like a fortnight before, I believe.

34,282. Were you in the committee room at that time?—Yes.

34,283. Had you before that given your assistance?—Yes.

34,284. And having heard that, and expecting to be recompensed, did you after the election tell anybody, or say to anybody, you expected to receive money as you had been working?—I have spoke to Job Apted, of course. I did not say how much I should have. I did not send in any account, or anything in fact. I made some long journeys, which took half a day, to see them, and I thought I was entitled to something as well as the others.

34,385. What did Apted say to you?—He said after it was settled he had no doubt I should be paid, or something to that effect. I never troubled anybody.

34,286. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) After the election, after the petition was settled?—Yes.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

W. Baggaley.

15 Sept. 1866.

34,287. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you ever received anything ?—Not a farthing.

34,288. Was this your first election ?—I had a good cup of tea after the polling day, at the "White Hart," and that is all I did receive.

34,289. We will excuse that; did you vote in 1863 ?—No, I had not got a vote.

34,290. Was this your first vote ?—Yes.

34,291. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say that you canvassed those two men in particular ?—They were neighbours of mine.

34,292. When you canvassed them did you make any promise that they should be paid for loss of time ?—I said I had not the least doubt but what the committee would recompense them for the time they lost.

34,293. And thought probably that would be the interpretation of Mr. Gower's words ?—Yes, I did not expect that these poor men could lose their time, and therefore I said there would be some recompense after the election; it was a certain thing.

34,294. Did you tell Mr. Penfold you would go and canvass them ?—Yes; but though I canvassed them, they did not canvass me.

34,295. Did Mr. Penfold give you any communication how you should canvass them ?—No, not to make any offer.

34,296. Not to make any offer ?—No, not the least; I used my own judgment.

34,297. Did Mr. Penfold hold out any promise to you if you got on the committee ?—No, he did not know my name was on the committee; I promised my name in the first place.

34,298. You might have heard about it before you heard Mr. Gower's speech. You heard it rumoured that the men should be paid for their loss of time ?—It is a general thing, of course; if I spend half my time and neglect my business, of course I expect to be paid. You would not like to sit here all the day, and not be paid.

34,299. I suppose you were not surprised to hear that Mr. Gower made that speech, that those who worked hard should be paid ?—I was not surprised, he was a straightforward gentleman.

34,300. Were you present in the committee room at this hall when Mr. Gower made a speech of the same sort ?—I was not here, it was at the "White Hart."

34,301. That was when you heard it ?—Yes, that was at a committee meeting at the "White Hart," a private committee meeting.

34,302. The room down below here was held as a private committee room, was it not ?—Yes, but it was not there.

34,303. You were not present ?—I was not present, only at the "White Hart."

34,304. There were half a dozen or a dozen men who heard the speech below, as well ?—I did not hear that; it was at the "White Hart."

34,305. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I heard you say you had a kind of connexion with Mr. Penfold; you worked with Mr. Penfold ?—We worked together.

34,306. You and Mr. Penfold ?—Yes.

34,307. Had you seen Mr. Smith at all, had you any communication with him ?—No, I never mentioned it to him, neither about money or anything else.

34,308. Had you any dealing with Mr. Penfold except with reference to the election ?—No.

34,309. Not any connexion or business ?—Well, we did jobs together, he took the brick work, and I took the carpenters' and joiners' work; we are doing a job now at the Union together, and other jobs we do.

The witness withdrew.

W. Featherstone.

William Featherstone recalled.

34,310. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You wanted to add something to your evidence, about a statement made by a man named Scougall ?—Yes, Thomas Scougall.

34,311. Shall I tell you what he said ?—Yes, if you please.

34,312. What he said was "I know Featherstone, "that is William Featherstone; he is of the same "trade as myself, and received 1*l.* from Green after "the election."

34,313. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then he says, "Featherstone told me if I voted for Mr. Gower I "should be paid for my time" ?—I deny it *in toto.* I never told him anything of the kind. It is reported in the paper that he said he was in my pay, and I had promised him for his time; I never did anything of the kind.

34,314. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say the statement about promising is not true ?—It is not.

34,315. He did not say anything was paid ?—No, he made a statement that I had promised to pay him for his time.

34,316. That, you say, is not true ?—It is not.

34,317. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you make any proposition that if he worked he should be paid ?—No.

34,318. That they would be allowed for their loss of time ?—No, I had no authorization to do so. The man said "They are both Liberals, I see many have got "jobs on the election, and I should like one;" I said I had nothing to do with that, I did not have anything to do with setting the men to work. He said "They "are both Liberals, it does not signify which gets in." I said "It does signify, I should like you to vote for "Mr. Gower."

34,319. Did you hold out any inducement ?—I did not.

34,320. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were paid yourself ?—I worked all the time.

34,321. Do not put on such a virtuous air of indignation at the question.—I was called on, and promised my vote, before I was asked by Mr. Gower to assist them, and I had no expectation of being paid.

The witness withdrew.

M. Wicks.

Mark Wicks sworn and examined.

34,322. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A baker; but I have been out of business for the last 12 months.

34,323. What do you pay for the rent of your house ?—The house is my own.

34,324. What would it amount to if you were to let it ?—I am rated at 10*l.*

34,325. Then it would be 12*l.* or 15*l.* Did you vote for Mr. Gower at the last election ?—No.

34,326. For whom did you vote ?—No one at all.

34,327. You did not vote at the last election at all ?—I did not.

34,328. You had a vote at the last election ?—I had a vote, but I did not give a vote.

34,329. You voted in 1863, I believe ?—I did, for Mr. Gower.

34,330. I believe Mr. Durrant canvassed you, and asked you to vote; do you remember that ?—Mr.

Leveson Gower and Mr. Charles Smith canvassed me, and I promised them my vote.

34,331. And then you saw Mr. Durrant afterwards?—I saw Mr. Durrant afterwards.

34,332. And I believe you worked a good deal for Mr. Gower?—I worked all through the election as a canvasser.

34,333. And worked hard. What did they pay you?—I believe I received somewhere about 6*l.* through the election, and after that Mr. Smith paid me 5*l.* for my services throughout the election.

34,334. That was the election of 1863?—Yes.

34,335. You received 5*l.* from Mr. Smith after?—I did.

34,336. And when it was going on you received something like 6*l.*?—Yes. I cannot say exactly what it was, I never kept any account.

34,337. After it was over Mr. Smith was so satisfied with you he paid you 5*l.*?—He did.

34,338. How is it you did not vote at the last election; were you out of town, out of Reigate?—No, I was at home; I did not vote because I thought I would not.

34,339. Well, I will not ask you any more about it.—I think a person in a little business had better be out of it.

34,340. Had you voted before 1863?—I voted once for Mr. Wilkinson, I do not know what election it was in.

34,341. Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson were the candidates?—Yes, I think it was then; I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

34,342. Do you recollect whether you were on his committee?—No.

34,343. Did you work for him?—I did no work for him.

34,344. And received nothing, I suppose?—I received 1*l.* for my day.

34,345. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You do not know when that was?—No, I do not recollect any date, nor time, nor nothing of that sort.

34,346. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is all you can tell us?—That is all I can tell you.

34,347. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you the 1*l.* when you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Mr. Charles Smith.

34,348. On this last election of 1865 you say you did not vote?—No.

34,349. You took an active part about it, I think?—I did not.

34,350. From what you say I thought you got a vote or two?—I did not. I told people who asked me I should not vote for neither side; that is it; that is the bottom of it.

34,351. Did you succeed in getting anybody to vote?—No; I never tried at all.

The Witness after he left the box informed the Chief Commissioner that he thought he had made a mistake, and that it was not Mr. Smith who paid him when he voted for Mr. Wilkinson, but Mr. James.

CHARLES SPENCER sworn and examined. *C. Spencer.*

34,352. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A watchmaker.

34,353. What is the rent of your house?—Mine is a freehold house.

34,354. On the freehold?—No; in Lesbourne-road.

34,355. What is it rated at?—10*l.*

34,356. Then it would be worth about 15*l.* a year?—Yes.

34,357. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

34,358. Were you on his committee?—Yes, I believe I was on his committee.

34,359. Did you attend the committees?—I attended several in this hall, but not all in this hall.

34,360. Did you work for him?—I did not give up any employment; I interested myself at odd times for him.

34,361. Just as the chance fell in your way?—Yes.

34,362. Did you not go out of your way to look for the chance?—No.

34,363. Then you voted?—Yes.

34,364. Did any money pass through your hands on account of the election?—Yes.

34,365. Through your hands?—I received 1*l.* after the election.

34,366. What was that for?—For what I did.

34,367. Up to the present moment you have told us you did nothing?—I did nothing more than interest myself in what was required.

34,368. Is that as it fell in your way?—Yes.

34,369. You received 1*l.* for that?—Yes, and I attended nomination day.

34,370. What did you do then?—I forget what I did; I did nothing more.

34,371. You voted and went back to your business, I suppose?—Yes.

34,372. Who paid you the 1*l.*?—A man named William Eve, a gardener.

34,373. How long after the election did he pay you?—I think it was in November. I went in one morning, and he said, "I have got 1*l.* for you;" I said, "Indeed;" and he said it was for paying my expenses of the election, and he said it was intended to be paid me for my trouble.

34,374. Did Eve tell you where he got the money?—No, he did not.

34,375. Did you tell Eve when he paid you the 1*l.* that you had done nothing?—I did do what I could; I used my influence and pressed people as much as I could to vote for Mr. Gower; I told them that Mr. Gower was the best man.

34,376. You are a very respectable man, living in your own freehold house worth 15*l.* a year, with a good business; do you think that you were entitled to 1*l.* for simply speaking to two or three voters in that casual way?—I do not know that I was; I did not expect anything.

34,377. Do you not think that it was more a payment for your vote than for what you did?—I do not think that. If a person had offered me payment for my vote I should never have voted for him.

34,378. You have no objection to receive 1*l.* some time after?—I understood they were satisfied my services were worth 1*l.*, and I received it.

34,379. Who did you represent your trouble to? Did you make any claim?—No, I did not make any claim at all; and I did not expect anything at all.

34,380. Did you vote in '63?—I did.

34,381. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

34,382. Were you on his committee?—No.

34,383. Did any money pass through or come into your hands at that election?—No.

34,384. Neither to pay away or receive?—No; I never received any money before this at all.

34,385. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received this 1*l.* from Eve; I want to know who Eve was acting under; I want to know where he got it from?—I do not know.

34,386. I dare say you know who he was acting under?—He was of course acting for Mr. Gower.

34,387. But you cannot tell me which of the agents he was acting under?—No, I cannot.

34,388. He was examined yesterday, and I know who paid him himself; but I want to know where he got the money from; he was not an agent?—No, he was not an agent.

34,389. I should like to know who he received the money from?—I cannot tell you.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

C. Spencer.

15 Sept. 1866.

34,390. I want to know who he received the money from; who he was agent to, to pay it again?—I cannot tell you; I did not ask him.

34,391. You cannot help me at all about Eve?—No, I cannot.

34,392. You are sure it was from Eve?—Oh, yes; he was examined the day before yesterday.

34,393. Yes; I have found his evidence. You received nothing when you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—No.

The witness withdrew.

R. Dealing.

ROBERT DEALING sworn and examined.

34,394. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—I am a labourer.

34,395. What rent do you pay for your house?—4*s.* a week.

34,396. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

34,397. At the last election?—Yes.

34,398. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

34,399. And worked, I suppose, in the usual way way for him?—I used to work and attend the committees.

34,400. What did you receive?—I received 2*l.*; 1*l.* before the election, and 1*l.* five or six weeks after.

34,401. From whom did you receive the 1*l.* before the election?—Mr. Mulley.

34,402. Did you receive the other 1*l.* from him afterwards?—Yes.

34,403. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received 2*l.* from Mr. Mulley?—Yes.

34,404. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When he canvassed you did Mr. Mulley tell you you were to be paid for your time?—He told me I was to be paid for my time.

34,405. For your loss of time?—Yes.

34,406. Had you voted before?—No.

34,407. This was your first time?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

W. Longhurst.

WILLIAM LONGHURST sworn and examined.

34,408. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A house decorator.

34,409. What rent do you pay for your house?—16*l.* a year.

34,410. Do you pay it by the year?—No; weekly.

34,411. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

34,412. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

34,413. Did Mr. Green canvass you for him?—Yes.

34,414. Mr. Green of Redhill, the builder?—Yes.

34,415. And I suppose you knew Mr. Green in the way of business before that; had you ever been working under him?—Yes.

34,416. When Mr. Green canvassed you, what did he tell you?—He told me I was to prepare and make ready to assist him in carrying out the election as before, and that I was to be paid for my services.

34,417. Did he tell you how much?—No; he did not.

34,418. Were you in his employ at that time?—Do you mean worked for him in business matters?

34,419. Yes?—At that time?

34,420. Yes; at that time?—No.

34,421. You were to prepare to go to work as before; I mean, about the election?—Yes.

34,422. Then you had gone to work at the previous election?—Yes.

34,423. Did he tell you with what you would be recompensed?—No, he did not.

34,424. Did you get any votes?—No, I did not.

34,425. Did you do any work?—Yes, I did.

34,426. What sort of work?—I did several different jobs; I was at the committee rooms preparing the polling papers one whole week.

34,427. You attended the committees?—Yes; and I have the notices to attend in my pocket now, if you would like to see them.

34,428. Was there any money given you by Mr. Green, or anybody else, to pay away to the voters or for refreshments?—There was none given to me to pay away.

34,429. That is what I am speaking of. Did you receive anything for yourself before the election?—Yes.

34,430. How much did you receive?—I received 1*l.* at one time and 1*l.* 10*s.* the second time.

34,431. Were they both before the election?—Both before the election, the 2*l.* 10*s.*

34,432. Was that from Mr. Green?—Yes.

34,433. How much did you receive after the election?—Nothing at all; I have not received a halfpenny.

34,434. Now, the previous election you received 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Before.

34,435. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For voting?—Yes; a week before the election came off.

34,436. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that before you had done the work you have spoken of; making out the poll books?—Yes, that was before; because the week before the election I was preparing the polling papers.

34,437. When you received the 2*l.* 10*s.* you had done nothing?—Oh, yes; I decidedly had.

34,438. What had you done?—I had been employed from the 8th of May.

34,439. Doing what?—I was employed to post some bills, to post the committee bills, and one thing and another on the town hall; in fact, I was at his call and beck; I was supposed to stand at his call.

34,440. You are not an ordinary bill sticker, a practised bill sticker?—No.

34,441. Was sticking the bills on the town hall worth 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

34,442. How long were you employed bill sticking on the town hall?—It was chiefly the committee bills at the town hall, but also at other places.

34,443. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I thought you were a house decorator?—Yes.

34,444. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you call that house decorating, sticking up the bills?—Yes; it was outside decorating.

34,445. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was all the money you received in '65?—That was all the money I received.

34,446. Now we will go back to 1863; do you recollect whether you had been on the committee then?—I do not know whether I was on the committee or not.

34,447. You worked a good deal, I think?—I did.

34,448. Under whom?—Under Mr. Green, I believe.

34,449. How much did you receive from Mr. Green in 1863; you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

34,450. How much did you receive from Mr. Green in 1863?—I cannot say exactly.

34,451. About?—It might be 8*l.* or 9*l.*, but I could not say exactly; I cannot remember it.

34,452. You cannot tell me the exact sum?—No; I cannot.

34,453. It was rather more than that?—Well, perhaps it may have been.

34,454. Did you receive in January, in the first instance, 30*s.*?—I never put it down.

34,455. Tell me whether you think this is right; first, 1*l.* 10*s.*, and after that 8*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*?—I think that 8*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* is correct.

34,456. And you received 1*l.* 10*s.* in January before?—Yes; I think that is right. I believe I received a little before.

34,457. I dare say the account is correct then. Was that your first election?—Yes.

34,458. Are you sure that that was all the money you received, so far as you can recollect?—So far as I can remember.

The witness withdrew.

HENRY BUTCHER sworn and examined.

H. Butcher.

34,459. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What do you give for your house?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

34,460. Is it determinable by the week or the month?—It is paid weekly.

34,461. But when or how is the tenancy determinable?—I think at a week's notice.

34,462. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

34,463. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

34,464. What are you?—Do you mean my present occupation? I am a shoemaker.

34,465. Were you a shoemaker at the time of the election?—I am a hawker at present.

34,466. A hawker now, and a shoemaker at the time of the election?—No, at that time as well.

34,467. Who asked you to go on the committee?—I volunteered to go; Mr. Mulley proposed it.

34,468. Did Mr. Mulley speak to you about voting for Mr. Gower?—He asked me which way I had made up my mind to go, and I told him I had made up my mind for Mr. Gower.

34,469. Did he say anything more to you about it?—He spoke in his favour.

34,470. Did he say anything in your favour?—Do you mean with reference to payment; anything of that kind?

34,471. Yes?—He said I should be paid for my time.

34,472. Did he tell you what you were to get?—No; in fact, he said that if there was anything I should have the same at the others.

34,473. How long before the election was that?—I cannot say exactly, but I should think about a month.

34,474. Did you work?—I attended committee meetings.

34,475. Where did you attend committee meetings?—At the town hall, Redhill.

34,476. What else?—I did the best I could to persuade the people.

34,477. Can you tell me any one individual whom you did persuade?—I believe I persuaded Bicknell; we were both proposed on the committee at the same time.

34,478. What were your persuasive observations which induced Bicknell to come?—Just before that time there had been an extract from the *West Sussex Times* to show Mr. Gower's votes, which I thought showed him to be a consistent Liberal, and that was the reason.

34,479. I will assume that you had a great respect for Mr. Gower and his principles, but together with those arguments did you use the other argument to Bicknell that if he came on the committee and worked he would very likely be paid, as you were going to be paid?—No, I did not know that I should be paid.

34,480. But acting upon your prospects of being paid?—I could not do that, because I did not know.

34,481. Did you see Bicknell after you had seen Mr. Mulley?—I believe it was.

34,482. Did you tell Bicknell what Mr. Mulley had told you?—I forget whether I did.

34,483. Did you take Bicknell to Mr. Mulley?—No.

34,484. Did you take Bicknell money?—When we went to the committee rooms we went together, and saw Mr. Mulley at the door, and he placed us on the committee.

34,485. Do you know whether Mr. Mulley said anything to Bicknell, the same as he said to you?—No, not in my hearing.

34,486. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

34,487. What did you get paid?—2*l.*

34,488. Who paid you?—Mr. Mulley.

34,489. What was that paid for?—Nomination and polling day, and attending committee meetings, and so on.

34,490. Who asked you to go on the nomination day? did you go of your own accord?—I went of my own accord.

34,491. And for your own amusement. When you went to the nomination did you expect to be paid for it?—Of course I expected to receive something; the same as the others, I said before, if there was anything.

34,492. There was a very large attendance, was there not?—I do not know how many there were.

34,493. Did it not cross your mind that if every one there was paid it would be rather expensive to the candidate?—I never thought anything about that.

34,494. Did you vote in '63?—Yes.

34,495. Who for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

34,496. Were you on his committee?—No.

34,497. Did you attend the nomination and polling days?—I did not.

34,498. You only voted?—That was all.

34,499. What did you get for it?—Nothing at all.

34,500. Had you voted before?—No, I had not.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS BARKER sworn and examined.

T. Barker.

34,501. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—I am a hostler, I keep the "Warwick Arms" tap.

34,502. What rent do you pay?—14*l.* 10*s.* I believe would be about the rent.

34,503. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

34,504. And you voted for Mr. Gower at the last election?—Yes.

34,505. Were you on his committee?—No. Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith canvassed me, and I told them I did not want to be put on the committee, but that I would do all I could for them.

34,506. You did work for him?—I did, all the time.

34,507. For about how long?—About six weeks.

34,508. How much did you receive afterwards?—Mr. Smith gave me 2*l.* after the election.

34,509. Did he give you anything during the election?—No.

34,510. Did you receive any money at all during the election?—No.

34,511. How long after the election was over did you receive the 2*l.*?—About two months.

34,512. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I suppose that was a cheque, was it not?—Yes.

34,513. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think it was two guineas?—I think the cheque was 2*l.*

34,514. Oh, yes, I see now, I think you are right; you sent in your bill, I think, for two guineas, that is it?—Yes.

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34,515. You sent in your bill, as a professional, for two guineas, and they took off the shillings ?—That is right.

34,516. That was not at all right of them; you voted before ?—No.

34,517. You never had voted before ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

J. Scarlett.

JOHN SCARLETT sworn and examined.

34,518. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you? —I keep a little shop.

34,519. At Redhill ?—Yes, and I am a little farmer.

34,520. What do you pay for your house ?—6*s.* a week.

34,521. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

34,522. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

34,523. Who put you on ?—Mr. Mulley.

34,524. Did Mr. Mulley tell you so ?—He asked me for my vote, for whom I intended to vote, and I told him "For Mr. Gower," and he said, "That is right; "would you like to be on his committee ?" and I said "Yes."

34,525. Did he tell you what would happen besides ? —He asked me if I would help them to canvass, and so on.

34,526. And you said you would ?—Yes.

34,527. What did he tell you would happen if you did ?—He said I should be paid for my loss of time.

34,528. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And I suppose you did canvass ?—I went about with him.

34,529. With Mr. Mulley himself ?—Not always, but when I had an opportunity of going about.

34,530. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you ever have occasion to go as a guard with Mr. Mulley, to take care of him ?—I did not go about as a guard.

34,531. Did you ever accompany him in a time of danger, when you went as a guard with him ? sometimes he might be going in a dangerous neighbourhood, and did you ever go with him to help him ?—No.

34,532. Did Mr. Mulley pay you anything before the election ?—No, nothing at all.

34,433. Nothing at all ?—Nothing at all.

34,534. What were you paid after the election ?—I was paid by the time, and he paid me 3*l.* after.

34,535. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose while you were canvassing he treated you ?—Nothing more than a glass of ale; sometimes he paid, and sometimes I paid.

34,536. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I suppose he was not close about it; if you were thirsty you had a glass of beer ?—A glass of beer would satisfy me all day.

34,537. When you were out with him did he refresh you with a glass of anything ?—A glass of ale, nothing more.

34,538. Was this your first election ?—Yes.

34,539. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 3*l.* ?—3*l.*

34,540. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you quite sure about the amount ?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

J. Peters.

JOHN PETERS sworn and examined.

34,541. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you? —A bricklayer.

34,542. What rent do you pay for your house ?—10*l.*

34,543. By the week, or how ?—Quarterly.

34,544. For whom did you vote at the last election? —I did not vote at all.

34,545. Were you on the committee ?—Yes.

34,546. Whose committee ?—Mr. Gower's.

34,547. Did you take any part in the election before the polling day ?—I did what I could amongst my friends; if I saw any of them I asked them which way they were going.

34,548. Did you take an active part in that way ? —No, not in particular.

34,549. Were you to have anything for your services ?—Yes; I was to be paid for my time.

34,550. Did you apply to anybody to be paid before the election ?—I never asked for anything, I received 10*s.*

34,551. Who paid you the 10*s.* ?—Mr. Buckland.

34,552. When was that, before the election ?—I think it might be somewhere about two or three days before, or two or three days after, I am not certain.

34,553. How came Mr. Buckland to pay you the 10*s.* ?—For what I had done, I suppose; I had given him information of persons who had not promised their votes.

34,554. You got information of persons who had not promised their votes, and then did you give that information to Mr. Buckland ?—I gave it in to the committee.

34,555. Then, in fact, you were taking somewhat of an active part before the election ?—Yes.

34,556. Perhaps you will be good enough to explain why you did not vote ?—My business called me away.

34,557. Where did it call you to ?—To London.

34,558. When did you go to London ?—On the Friday evening after the nomination.

34,559. I am speaking of the election of '65, the nomination was on a Tuesday; were you at the nomination ?—Yes.

34,560. Did you take part in the nomination and hold up your hand for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

34,561. Did you go away on that evening ?—Yes.

34,562. What was the business that took you to London ?—Only my trade.

34,563. You are a bricklayer ?—Yes.

34,564. What did you go for ?—For materials.

34,565. What were the materials ?—Tiles.

34,566. What for ?—For a wall.

34,567. To put some tiles on some walls ?—Yes.

34,568. Or some tiles on a roof ?—Tiles on walls.

34,569. Are there any people in Reigate who deal in tiles ?—No.

34,570. Or in Redhill ?—No.

34,571. Or anywhere nearer than London ?—No, not that I am aware of.

34,572. Was it a matter of absolute necessity that those tiles should be got on nomination day ?—I was to get them and to do the work as soon as possible.

34,573. Who asked you to do that ?—Mr. Simpson.

34,574. What! Mr. Simpson of Wray Park ?—Yes.

34,575. Was it work for him ?—Yes.

34,576. What work was it at Mr. Simpson's for which you wanted the tiles so particularly ?—A dairy.

34,577. A dairy ? Was it a new dairy that was being built ?—No, an old one.

34,578. What was the matter with the tiles ?—The floor never had been tiled before.

34,579. Was the dairy occupied as a dairy ?—Yes, at the time I was working there.

34,580. At the time you were at work ?—Yes.

34,581. Were you at work there before you went for these tiles ?—No; I might have been, but I do not know of it.

34,582. Had you been working at these tiles a week before ?—No.

34,583. Then the first intimation you had of any tiles being wanted was on the nomination day ?—I think on that day; I ought, in fact, to have gone on the nomination morning, but I stopped.

34,584. When did you receive the order to go for the tiles?—I think the night before.

34,585. Did you go up to see the place where you were to put the tiles on?—No, because I had had an order before, only I had not got materials.

34,586. How long before had you had the order?—A fortnight, I should say; it might have been longer, it might have been two months.

34,587. From the time when you had received the first order?—He had not made up his mind whether he would have them done with tiles or not.

34,588. When you received the order a fortnight or a month before, about the tiles, did you go up and look at the dairy to see what was required?—When Mr. Simpson first spoke to me about it he thought he would have it done with tiles, and wanted to know how many it required, how many it would take.

34,589. That was a fortnight or a month before?—It might have been two months, but he did not give any order to say he would have it done at that time.

34,590. Did you go up to see the building?—Yes.

34,591. Was the building used for any purpose?—It was a dairy.

34,592. For which part was it that these tiles were required?—He had not quite made up his mind he should have the tiles or not.

34,593. There was some roof on it, was there not?—It was in his own house.

34,594. You mean attached to his house?—Yes, on the basement.

34,595. Was it a lean-to?—No.

34,596. Where were these tiles to be, on the floor?—No, on the wall.

34,597. What, all round?—Yes, white tiles.

34,598. All round the walls; then the dairy was to be lined with tiles. Now you were spoken to about this some two months before; from that time till you were asked to go to London by Mr. Simpson for the tiles, had he been to you about the matter, had you heard anything more about it?—Not till I had the order down.

34,599. Who brought the order?—I am sure I do not know who brought it.

34,600. Was it one of Mr. Simpson's own men?—I do not know.

34,601. Was it by note?—There was a note.

34,602. To you?—To my own house.

34,603. Have you got that note?—No.

34,604. From whom did that note come, was it from Mr. Simpson?—Yes.

34,605. Himself?—Yes.

34,606. Was it signed by Mr. Simpson?—He wanted to see me about the tiles.

34,607. Did you go to him?—No, I did not go to him himself; but he said that he had made up his mind to have it done, and of course I went to see about the tiles.

34,608. Then you went to London about the tiles?—Yes.

34,609. What else was there in the note?—Nothing else in particular that I know of.

34,610. Was it a note that urged you to go and get the tiles?—I was not urged more than that an order was given to say that he should like to have the work done immediately.

34,611. Was that the only reason why you went to London?—That was the only reason.

34,612. How long did it take you to get the tiles?—It was two or three days before they came down.

34,613. Where did you go to or give the order?—To Mr. Richardson's and several places, to find out where I could get them cheapest first.

34,614. At what time in the day did you succeed in getting the tiles?—About 2 or 3 o'clock.

34,615. In the afternoon?—Yes.

34,616. What time did you go away?—I went over night.

34,617. You went over night; what train did you go by?—Somewhere about 8 or 9 o'clock.

34,618. At what time in the day did you get the note from Mr. Simpson?—I do not know exactly what time.

34,619. I think you told me that it was the evening before the nomination day?—Yes, I believe it was.

34,620. Why did you not go on the nomination day?—I did intend going, but I missed the 4 o'clock train, and I started that evening.

34,621. Why could not you have gone the day after the polling?—Because I thought I had better go at once.

34,622. You had been taking an active part for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

34,623. You were at the nomination?—Yes.

34,624. Why did you not postpone going to London?—I thought I should have been back soon enough for the voting.

34,625. Is that your only explanation?—Yes.

34,626. Did anybody else see you about these tiles?—No.

34,627. Did anybody see you about these tiles, and speak to you about them, the night before the nomination?—No.

34,628. Or upon the nomination day?—No.

34,629. Then you did not care for voting for Mr. Gower?—Oh, yes, I did.

34,630. But you knew that Mr. Simpson was a Monson man?—I did not know that he was.

34,631. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Which way did he vote?—I do not know at all; he asked me, about a month before that, which way I was going. I told him I was going for Mr. Monson, and he said, "I "have partly promised mine to Mr. Monson, but," he said, "I do not think I shall vote."

34,632. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then you got this order about the tiles the night before the nomination day?—Yes.

34,633. Now you had seen this apartment of Mr. Simpson's two months before; can you give me no better reason why you forsook your friend Mr. Gower and went to London?—I did not forsake him.

34,634. Did you vote for him?—I did not forsake him, and I did not vote for him; I intended to get back in time.

34,635. But you did not?—I did not get back.

34,636. You might just as well have gone the next day if you had liked?—I do not know about that.

34,637. Were you paid anything for your services by the Gower party?—10*s*.

34,638. Was that all you got?—That was all, and I did not expect that.

34,639. Did you vote in '63?—No.

34,640. Have you taken any part in any of the previous elections?—No.

34,641. This was the first time you voted?—It was the first time I had a vote.

34,642. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just attend to a few questions I want to put to you, and answer them carefully. You knew this old dairy of Mr. Simpson's, did you not?—Yes.

34,643. You had had the measure of it, and had surveyed it, had you not?—Yes.

34,644. If you had not, you could not have ordered tiles for it?—No.

34,645. Then after that Mr. Simpson held his hand a bit and could not make up his mind?—He said he had not made up his mind.

34,646. That is exactly what I am saying. Had you sent in a contract for the doing of the work to Mr. Simpson?—No.

34,647. Pray be cautious about this, for it is material. Had you told Mr. Simpson what you would do it for?—No.

34,648. I do not mean you had written it on paper, but had you surveyed the premises, and said what you would do it for?—I might have said near what it might be.

34,649. What did you say the expense would be?—I do not know.

34,650. You know the dairy, you have got it in your mind's eye at this moment, and you were to

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get the tiles and put them in it; about what was it to cost?—I cannot tell you.

34,651. Can you not recollect what you told Mr. Simpson would be the cost of doing it?—I do not recollect it.

34,652. You can go over it in your own mind, you knew the dairy, and having surveyed it you can tell me now from recollection what it would cost to get the tiles and put them round?—I do not remember the sum.

34,653. Did you take the size at the time and put it on paper?—I really do not know.

34,654. It is not long ago, it was the '65 election?—I always employed a man to take all my measures.

34,655. Who was that man?—A man of the name of Briggs.

34,656. Did Briggs take all the measurements of the dairies?—Yes.

34,657. And did he give to you an account of what it would cost to do what Mr. Simpson wanted?—He told me the number of tiles I should want for it, that was all.

34,658. I suppose you told Mr. Simpson?—No, I do not recollect that I did.

34,659. Pray be cautious, I want an answer to this question, but I do not wish to press you at all unfairly; did you or not tell Simpson about what would be the expense of it. I used the word "about." Could the whole thing be done for 8*l.*?—I do not know.

34,660. Could the whole thing be done for 20*l.* should you think, putting it in round numbers?—I should think it would be more than 20*l.*

34,661. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you done the work?—Yes.

34,662. When did you do it?—As soon as we got the tiles down, about a week after.

34,663. A week after the tiles came down?—Two or three days after I went.

34,664. Directly you got the tiles down did you go to work?—As soon as we got the tiles.

34,665. The very next morning?—As soon as they were delivered.

34,666. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now, tell me whether it would cost 25*l.*?—I cannot tell you exactly.

34,667. "Not exactly;" that is not what I wish to know. I do not press you to tell me exactly, but about what do you think it could be done for?—I cannot remember now at all what it cost.

34,668. Do you suppose that it would cost to do what you wanted 25*l.*?—It might have.

34,669. Do you think it would cost 30*l.*?—No.

34,670. Do you think it would come to as near 25*l.* as anything you could hit upon?—I cannot recollect.

34,671. Are you not able to say now whether 25*l.* would do the job?—No, I am not able to say, I cannot say.

34,672. Now then tell me this, you went to London; did you bring down the tiles, or did you order them?—I ordered them.

34,673. What did the tiles cost?—I do not remember that.

34,674. I will tell you why I am asking you about it, because I am going to call Mr. Simpson, and Briggs may be called too; what did the tiles cost?—I do not know what they did cost.

34,675. Who did you order them from?—From Rozier's.

34,676. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Does he live at Lambeth?—Yes.

34,677. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You ordered the tiles at Rozier's; do you order them by the gross or how?—By the 1,000.

34,678. How many tiles did you order?—I do not remember how many there were.

34,679. Did you order tiles for this particular job, or did you order a lot of tiles generally?—It all depends upon whether we have got anything to do.

34,680. Do not hurry yourself in the least, but I really do want answers to these questions, for they are not at all idle ones. Did you give an order to Rozier's for a quantity of tiles generally, or did you give an order for just the quantity wanted for this job?—Only for what was wanted for this job.

34,681. How much were you to pay Rozier?—I do not know, whatever the quantity was, I do not recollect the amount.

34,682. You do not remember?—No.

34,683. Who did Messrs. Roziers credit, you or Mr. Simpson; who was it put down to?—I think it was put down to Mr. Simpson.

34,684. Then of course it was for that job only if he was to credit Mr. Simpson?—He was to I believe.

34,685. Then I suppose he put it down in a book; of course it was a regular order?—Yes.

34,686. There is no doubt at all about that, and of course we can get Rozier's account. Now, cannot you tell us how much the orders was to Rozier's?—I do not remember.

34,687. When did the tiles come down?—About two or three days after.

34,688. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you come down?—I came down on Wednesday, on the next day.

34,689. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Wednesday was the polling day, you were not here then?—Yes, I came back on the Wednesday.

34,690. What o'clock did you get here?—About half past 5 or 6 o'clock on Wednesday evening.

34,691. Did you do the work, the job for Mr. Simpson?—Yes.

34,692. When did you set to work at the job?—After we got the tiles.

34,693. No doubt after, but how soon after the tiles came down?—I believe we began to work the same day they came down.

34,694. Two or three days after you went to work had you finished the job?—Yes.

34,695. You did it yourself?—Not all of it.

34,696. Your assistant, a man, helped you, but it was in your hands, I mean it was your job?—Yes.

34,697. Were you ever paid for it?—Oh, yes.

34,698. How much?—I do not know.

34,699. Remember it is your own account?—I cannot tell, I have other accounts.

34,700. You did a job and were paid by Mr. Simpson; he paid you?—Yes.

34,701. It was not long ago, only a little before this time twelvemonth; how much did he pay you for the job?—I do not remember at all.

34,702. I suppose you gave a receipt for the money?—Yes.

34,703. When you were paid by Mr. Simpson you gave him an acknowledgment on paper?—Yes.

34,704. A receipt?—Yes.

34,705. How much was it for?—I do not know how much, because there were other goods.

34,706. This was specified in the bill; you know you were a customer, and would have a proper bill; be kind enough to tell me how much it was for. I will ask you once more?—I do not know.

34,707. Is that all you can tell me?—Yes.

34,708. I am going to ask you another matter; you were here on the nomination day?—Yes.

34,709. Who did you talk with particularly on the nomination day, did you see Mr. Simpson?—No.

34,710. Did you see Mr. Nichols that day?—No.

34,711. Not at all?—No.

34,712. Who were you talking to belonging to the Monson party; do not say no to it?—No one particularly that I know of.

34,713. Well, tell me generally?—I had no conversation at all respecting the election.

34,714. I do not say you had; which of the Monson party had you any conversation with about anything?—Ne'er a one.

34,715. Had you any conversation with any of Mr. Gower's party?—Yes, I believe I had.

34,716. Who did you have conversation with of the Gower party?—Mr. Buckland, I believe.

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34,717. He had paid you 10*s.* before that ?—Yes.

34,718. You can remember somebody on Mr. Gower's side; now, tell me somebody you talked with on Mr. Monson's side?—I did not talk with any one about anything particular.

34,719. I did not say anything in particular, but you remember Mr. Buckland?—Of course; he was on my side.

34,720. Very well, if you say so I will not contradict you. I want to know what time of day it was you got the letter from Mr. Simpson ?—That I do not know.

34,721. Who left the letter ?—I cannot tell you.

34,722. Now, pray bear this in mind: do you remember a man coming up to you and saying, "I say "Peters, I have got a letter for you" ?—No, I do not.

34,723. Or something like that ?—No.

34,724. Do you remember a man coming to you and saying, "Here is a letter for you," and handing you a letter ?—No.

34,725. How did you get the letter; it was not left by post?—It was left at my house.

34,726. When ?—The night before.

34,727. Who brought it?—I do not know who left it.

34,728. Was it left in your hands? Are you quite sure that it was left the night before ?—Yes, I think so; I believe it was.

34,729. You have not got the letter ?—No.

34,730. Are you married?—Yes.

34,731. Was it left with your wife?—Yes.

34,732. Do you think she has got the letter ?—I cannot say.

34,733. Do you think you can find it?—Of course, if I have got it I can.

34,734. Are you prepared to say positively that it was left the night before the nomination?—I think it was.

34,735. But you would not like to pledge your oath to it ?—Yes.

34,736. Did your wife receive the letter ?—Yes.

34,737. What is her name ?—Caroline.

34,738. Did you see Mr. Simpson himself on the nomination day ?—No.

34,739. Was he here ?—I do not know; I never saw him.

34,740. Had you got the letter in your pocket when you went to the nomination ?—I do not know that I had.

34,741. What house did you go into after the nomination was over ?—I went into the "Little "Crown."

34,742. Did you go into the "Grapes" ?—No.

34,743. Who keeps the "Little Crown" ?—Wells.

34,744. Did he vote for Mr. Monson or Mr. Gower ?—I believe for Mr. Gower.

34,745. Did you go into any of Mr. Monson's houses ?—No.

34,746. What was the last time you saw Mr. Simpson ?—It might have been two or three weeks before the election.

34,747. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said before it might be two months ?—I saw him two or three weeks before.

34,748. When you saw him two or three weeks before did he speak to you about the dairy ?—No; it was before that.

34,749–50. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You cannot tell me what you told Mr. Simpson the dairy would come to, nor you cannot tell me what he paid for it ?—No, I cannot here.

The Court adjourned for 20 minutes.

E. Comber.

Edmund Comber sworn and examined.

34,751. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

34,752. What rent do you pay for your house ?—24*s.* per month.

34,753. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

34,754. Were you on his committee ?—Not to my knowledge.

34,755. Are you one of four brothers ?—I be, sir.

34,756. You and one of your brothers voted one way, and the other two voted the other way; is that right ?—That may be right. I voted for Mr. Gower. I cannot tell about the others particularly.

34,757. It may be so ?—Oh, yes; from my knowledge it is.

34,758. Who put you on Mr. Gower's committee ?—I do not know that I was on.

34,759. I misunderstood you then; I beg your pardon. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower ?—No one.

34,760. Not at all ?—No.

34,761. Did not your brother ask you ?—No.

34,762. Not the brother who voted for him; did not he ask you ?—No one never asked me.

34,763. What was the name of your brother, his Christian name, I forget what it was, who voted for Mr. Gower ?—If either did, it was John; not to my knowledge; I don't know.

34,764. Did John ask you to vote ?—No.

34,765. Nobody asked you at all?—No one asked me for my vote.

34,766. Did any one ask you to do some work for Mr. Gower, to do what you could for him?—Not at all.

34,767. And did you do what you could for him ?—I never done anything; only for the two days I come up on the nomination, and likewise the polling day.

34,768. Who asked you to come up on the nomination day?—No one in particular; only it was a regular thing for the men I was working with, and I went accordingly.

34,769. Don't you recollect whether any one invited you to come particularly ?—No, they did not.

34,770. Did you receive any money at all to pay away to anybody ?—Not at all.

34,771. Not to get a vote ?—Not a vote.

34,772. Were you paid any money yourself?—I was paid 2*l.* in the following October.

34,773. What for?—Well, I took it as a remuneration to the two days I gave.

34,774. By whom were you paid the 2*l.* ?—By Mr. Thomas Penfold.

34,775. After the election ?—Yes, about three months after the election; that was the time.

34,776. When?—In October or the beginning of November.

34,777. Was this your first election ?—No, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

34,778. Was that all the money you received, 2*l.* ?—That was all, sir.

34,779. In 1863 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson; who asked you then to vote ?—On which election ?

34,780. On the election of 1863 ?—On Mr. Wilkinson's election ?

34,781. Yes.—Mr. Norman Wilkinson, I promised him; that is a brother of Mr. Wilkinson's.

34,782. Did you go on the committee ?—I cannot say whether I was or not.

34,783. Did you work and do what you could for him ?—I did not.

34,784. You did nothing ?—I did not; I come the two days.

34,785. And what did you receive that year for that ?—10*s.* I was paid 5*s.* a day for the two days.

34,786. By whom ?—Mr. Rose, of Mead-vale; Ephraim Rose, I believe.

34,787. Was that after the election ?—That was after, one month or two.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

E. Comber.

15 Sept. 1866.

34,788. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you asked for that 10*s.*?—Not at all.

34,789. Had you asked for the 2*l.* which you received in 1865 from Thomas Penfold?—No.

34,790. He volunteered to pay it?—Yes; I never asked for it, and he never promised it.

34,791. Was that your first election?—Mr. Wilkinson's was my first.

The witness withdrew.

EDWARD PENFOLD sworn and examined.

E. Penfold.

34,792. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A mason.

34,793. Master or man?—I have been in business for about six months.

34,794. For yourself?—Yes; for about six months.

34,795. What rent do you pay for your house?—It is a freehold house.

34,796. It is on freehold, or what?—Lesbourne Lands.

34,797. Is that a pure freehold or on the Freehold Land Society estate?—What do you mean, the house?

34,798. There is a Buckland Society; a freehold land society?—Yes; I am a shareholder of that society.

34,799. And some years hence the property will be your own?—Yes; when I have paid for it.

34,800. What is your house rated at?—11*l.*

34,801. That will make the house about 14*l.* a year value?—Perhaps it would. There is a piece of ground adjoining.

34,802. We know what the class of rating is; they deduct a fifth. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower.

34,803. Were you on his committee?—I believe I was, the latter part of the time.

34,804. Did you take an active part in the election?—Not very.

34,805. Did you attend on the nomination day?—Yes.

34,806. And the polling day?—Yes; I assisted in bringing up voters to the poll.

34,807. On the polling day?—Yes.

34,808. I suppose that Mr. Gower's supporters did the best they could, as they usually do at an election? I suppose there was a great deal of excitement going on?—Yes.

34,809. Did any money pass through your hands for the purposes of the election?—No.

34,810. Not for payment to anybody?—No, not for payment to anybody.

34,811. Did you any receive anything else?—I received 30*s.* from Mr. Buckland three or four months after the election.

34,812. How long after the election?—Three or four months; I won't be certain.

34,813. How much did you say you received from him?—30*s.*

34,814. Was that all?—That is all.

34,815. Are you sure?—Quite positive.

34,816. What did you do during the election except attending on the nomination and polling days?—Nothing previous to that.

34,817. Nothing at all?—No; no canvassing; ordinary conversation during my work.

34,818. Had you made any claim at all on Mr. Buckland or Mr. Smith, or any of the party?—No.

34,819. It was purely voluntary?—I accepted it as a recompense for the two days.

34,820. Understand me, it was purely a voluntary payment on the part of Mr. Buckland; you did not ask him for anything?—I did not ask him for anything.

34,821. Although that was a voluntary payment, had you been expecting anything?—I expected I should be paid for the two days.

34,822. What gave rise to that expectation?—From hearing the rumour. I did not hear Mr. Gower say so himself, but I heard that Mr. Gower said that every one that worked for him should be paid for their time.

34,823. I think very probably that is all you have to tell us. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

34,824. For whom did you vote?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

34,825. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

34,826. Did you take any part in canvassing or anything of that sort?—About the same thing that I did in the last election.

34,827. That was no canvassing, but simply attending the nomination and the polling?—And getting up voters on the polling day. I had a list given to me in my district, and I had to see that they polled.

34,828. Did you receive anything in 1863?—I received 3*l.* some time after.

34,829. Who paid you, do you recollect?—Mr. Buckland brought me a cheque from Mr. Smith.

34,830. Had you made any claim?—I had asked to to be paid for my loss of time on that occasion.

34,831. To whom had you made that application?—Mr. Buckland.

34,832. Did Mr. Buckland tell you that you should get something, or that you might expect something?—I forget whether he did or not.

34,833. How soon after you made the claim to Mr. Buckland did you get the 3*l.*?—Some time after the election.

34,834. That was in 1863?—In 1863. I can hardly tell you how long.

34,835. Was it more than a month?—It must have been.

34,836. Was it more than a month after the election do you think that you made the claim, spoke to Mr. Buckland about your being recompensed?—I should think it must have been two months.

34,837. Two months after you spoke to Mr. Buckland?—I think so; I won't be certain, it is so long ago.

34,838. Had you voted before 1863?—No.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN EDWARDS sworn and examined.

J. Edwards.

34,839. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—I am an outfitter and general clothier.

34,840. What rent do you pay?—I am rated at 23*l.* 10*s.*

34,841. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

34,842. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—I believe I was.

34,843. Were you on from the beginning?—I believe I was.

34,844. Did you take an active part?—Yes.

34,845. On behalf of Mr. Gower?—Yes.

34,846. And you had been an active supporter?—I believe so.

34,847. Did you canvass for Mr. Gower?—I believe not.

34,848. What do you mean by an active part?—I attended the committee meetings; I was in the town hall, I think, every day writing out circulars and addressing them, and so on.

34,849. At whose request did you undertake that duty?—At nobody's request.

34,850. Was it Mr. Gower?—I was not canvassed by Mr. Gower or any of Mr. Gower's party.

34,851. You took it at your own instance?—Yes, I suppose so. I was never asked by anybody; I was never offered any money to do it, and I attended there daily.

34,852. Did you ever receive anything ?—Nothing.

34,853. Have you never received anything since ? How long were you occupied ?—I suppose it was about seven weeks, and I was there every day.

34,854. You received no recompense of any kind ?—Nothing at all.

34,855. Is the same thing true of other elections ?—I have not voted for Reigate before since Colonel Parrott and Mr. Hackblock's time.

The witness withdrew.

RICHARD EASTON sworn and examined.

R. Easton.

34,856. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A labourer.

34,857. What rent do you pay for your house ?—9*s.* a week.

34,858. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

34,859. Do you occupy all the house yourself?—No, I let a part of it when I can.

34,860. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee during the last election ?—No, sir, I was never at all on the committee.

34,861. Did you work for Mr. Gower and do what you could ?—No, I never interfered myself about it.

34,862. Who asked you about it ?—Mr. Green asked me if I would vote for him.

34,863. Well, what did you say ?—I did not give any answer at first; then I give my word afterwards.

34,864. But you did not go to work ?—No.

34,865. Did you receive any money to pay away ?—No.

34,866. Did you receive any yourself before the election ?—No.

34,867. None ?—No.

34,868. Did you come here on the nomination and polling day both ?—Yes, both of them.

34,869. And what did you receive after the election ?—Nothing.

34,870. Nothing at all ?—No.

34,871. Are you sure you did not receive anything ?—No, sir, I did not receive nothing myself.

34,872. No, not yourself; but you said you never received anything ?—All that was paid on the election was 1*l.* for my boys.

34,873. But you told me you received nothing ?—They received that, sir.

34,874. But did you not receive it ?—No.

34,875. Did not you get it first ?—No.

34,876. Was not it paid to you ?—No.

34,877. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did the boys give it to you ?—No.

34,878. What had they been doing ?—They were employed for two days.

34,879. For what ?—To go about.

34,880. What ages are your boys ?—One was 22, and the other 17.

34,881. Were they roughs ?—Yes.

34,882. They were a couple of roughs, were they ?—Yes.

34,883. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much did they receive ?—10*s.* each.

34,884. Who from ?—Mr. Green paid one.

34,885. Did you know they were engaged as roughs ?—Well, I knew they had no vote.

34,886. Did you know whether they were engaged as roughs ?—Well, I do not know what they were called, whether it was roughs or what it was.

34,887. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you know they were engaged to kick up a row; to shout, to make a noise and a disturbance for the two days ?—I suppose that is what they were engaged for. I know nothing about that.

34,888. Did you go with them ?—No, I had no hand in it.

34,889. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you in the election of 1863 ?—No, this is the first one.

34,890. I want to know this; were you aware that your sons were engaged before the election ?—The nomination day I think was the first.

34,891. I say, do you know that they were engaged for Mr. Gower ?—I do not know who they were engaged by.

34,892. Did they tell you who engaged them ?—Mrs. Apted engaged one and Mr. Green the other.

34,893. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not mean that Mrs. Apted engaged one of your boys in that way ?—It was she that spoke to him. I had no hand in it at all.

34,894. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How long before the election did they tell you this; that is what I want to know ?—Not a day before the election came off, the nomination day.

34,895. Did you know it the day before ?—I did not know nothing about it till the nomination day.

34,896. Then they did not tell you the day before ?—No, they never told me nothing about it.

34,897. Who was it told you that they were to receive 10*s.* ?—I believe that is what they got each.

34,898. Answer the question, if you please ?—They didn't know what they were going to receive.

34,899. Who was it told you that they would be paid ?—No one.

34,900. Nobody told you ?—No.

34,901. Had you any conversation with Apted about it ?—I do not recollect that ever I spoke to Mrs. Apted at all about it.

34,902. Did you ever have any conversation with Mr. Green about it ?—No.

34,903. Did you see them paid ?—No.

34,904. Did you receive the money for them ?—No.

34,905. Who did receive the money ?—They received it themselves.

34,906. How do you know they received it ?—That is what they told me.

34,907. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who do you say employed one; Mr. Green, was it ?—Yes.

34,908. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you sure that 10*s.* was the price they got ?—I believe so.

34,909. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It is put down as 30*s.* What I was anxious to know was, did not you yourself receive it ?—I never received no money, sir; I am no scholar myself, but——

34,910. But what ?—Mr. Apted did take a sovereign off my account.

34,911. He took a pound off your account for boots ?—Well, I owed 1*l.* for boots, but whether it was crossed off the bill or not I cannot say.

34,912. You have not been applied to by Mr. Apted since for the money ?—No.

34,913. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not expect to be applied to ?—Well, I never had a receipt, so that he could come on me for the money.

The witness withdrew.

EDWARD BROWN sworn and examined.

E. Brown.

34,914. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What business are you ?—A carpenter and builder.

34,915. What rent do you pay ?—I pay 15*l.* a year.

34,916. Do you live in Reigate or Redhill ?—Redhill.

34,917. For whom did you vote ?—I voted for Mr. Gower at the last election.

34,918. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

34,919. How long had you been on the committee ?—I cannot say.

34,920. About how long ?—I should say about six weeks.

34,921. Did you vote for him ?—Yes.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

E. Brown.

15 Sept. 1866.

34,922. Did you canvass much for him?—I did; at least, not a great deal, either.

34,923. I mean those around you?—Yes.

34,924. And did you attend many of the meetings?—I did not attend many meetings; they are things I do not require to attend, public house meetings. I attended a meeting on the "common," and likewise one at the town hall.

34,925. How many did you canvass?—I was promised four, and got four.

34,926. You asked a great number?—Oh yes.

34,927. What are the names of the four?—Benjamin Brown, my brother, and Mr. George Clapson, and Mr. John Longers.

34,928. That is three; what is the other?—Mr. John Jupp.

34,929. Did you receive anything during the election, when the election was going on, for canvassing?—Yes.

34,930. How much did you receive?—*5l.*

34,931. That was during the election?—During the election.

34,932. Did you receive anything afterwards?—No.

34,933. That is all you received altogether?—That is all I received for my services.

34,934. Who paid you?—Mr. Buckland.

34,935. Was it before or after the election?—As near as I can guess, about a fortnight.

34,936. Did he pay it to you in one sum?—He paid it at once. I did not know as I was going to have anything.

34,937. Tell me, had you voted at the former elections?—Since 1856, I think; since I have been at Redhill.

34,938. In 1863 who did you vote for?—In 1863, let me see, that was——

34,939. Wilkinson and Gower?—I voted for Wilkinson.

34,940. Were you on his committee?—I suppose I was.

34,941. What did you receive for that election?—Nothing at all; I never received one halfpenny before this time.

34,942. Did you know how much these men received whom you canvassed? Did any money pass through your hands?—No.

34,943. You did not get money to pay them?—No.

34,944. Do you know at at all how much they received?—I do not know as they received anything.

34,945. You knew, I suppose, that persons who lost their time, and were on the committee, would be paid?—Some of them worked for me; and they came here on the nomination day, but I never stopped their time. I found I was losing by electioneering, and so I told Mr. Buckland when he canvassed me. I said, "I have been a loser by the elections ten or a "dozen times through my men going away, and I did "not like to stop their time."

34,946. If they came to the poll?—No.

34,947. In canvassing these men did you tell them they would be paid for loss of time, or anything of that?—No.

34,948. You never deducted anything?—Not I, sir.

34,949. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you live at Redhill?—I have lived there for 15 years.

34,950. Your business is carried on there?—Yes.

34,951. Do you know any instances in which the time of men employed by a master was deducted for the nomination and polling days, if they attended?—No.

34,952. Did you ever hear of any?—No.

34,953. Do you know of any instances in which they were allowed their wages just the same besides your own case?—I do not; I took no interest in it before.

34,954. You do not know of instances either way?—No.

34,955. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You only acted upon what you thought was right?—That is all I did do. I did not intend anything else; I would not care whether I voted or not. Mr. Gower came to me when I was on Reigate-heath for my vote; I said, "I have not made up my mind to vote," I said, "I am obliged to work pretty hard, and can not "afford to lose much time."

34,956. What did Mr. Gower say?—He did not say anything but that he should like to have my vote and interest, and I said most likely I should vote for him if I voted for anybody at all.

The witness withdrew.

C. Redman.

CHARLES REDMAN sworn and examined.

34,957. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A joiner.

34,958. What rent do you pay for your house?—20*l.*

34,959. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

34,960. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

34,961. You pay a rent of 20*l.*, perhaps you can tell me what is the average rating of the town? How much in the pound?—No, I cannot tell you that.

34,962. The poor rates?—No; I do not know.

34,963. I thought perhaps you might?—No.

34,964. You were on the committee, how did you get on; were you asked, or did you volunteer?—I was placed on first, but I agreed to it afterwards when I saw my name on.

34,965. Who did you speak to to agree to it, to give your agreement to your name being on the committee?—Mr. Nichols or Mr. Green.

34,966. What took place between you and Mr. Nichols about your being on the committee?—Nothing took place.

34,967. But something must have taken place, you know?—I saw my name on the committee, and did not know before that it was there.

34,968. Then you say nothing took place between you and Mr. Nichols?—Nothing at all.

34,969. Then how was it that you intimated to him that you were agreeable to your name remaining there?—I saw my name on the list, and he said, "Are you agreeable to it?" and I said "Yes." Of course I was agreeable.

34,970. Who did you work for?—Mr. Carruthers.

34,971. Do you know James Brown?—I know him personally.

34,972. Did he speak to you about working for Mr. Monson?—No.

34,973. Did you work with him at all?—No.

34,974. Did you know he was working for Mr. Monson?—I understood so by hearsay, nothing more.

34,975. Did you work at at all for Mr. Monson, trying to get votes, and so on?—I did not canvass.

34,976. Did you ask for votes?—I was to do the best I could for Mr. Monson's interest.

34,977. Who asked you to do that?—I spoke to Mr. Nichols.

34,978. Was that upon the first occasion?—No, afterwards.

34,979. Well, how soon after you had spoken to him about your name being on the committee did you have this conversation about doing the best you could for Mr. Monson?—I could not say, it might have been a few days.

34,980. What took place at that interview?—I had no conversation with Mr. Nichols during the election, neither upon voting nor anything else.

34,981. You just told me that you had two conversations with Mr. Nichols?—Only on those slight occasions, nothing more.

34,982. It might not be a slight occasion when Mr.

Nichols asked you to do work, to do what you could for Mr. Monson?—That was all that passed; nothing more.

34,983. But you know if you worked for him you would be giving up your time?—Yes.

34,984. You would expect to be paid for your time?—I was to receive the same as the rest, I understood.

34,985. Mr. Nichols told you so?—Yes.

34,986. And that was at the second interview?—Yes.

34,987. You voted for Mr. Monson; did you receive anything?—3*l.*

34,988. Who paid you?—Mr. Nichols.

34,989. When?—I cannot say, it was some little time after the election, a week or two after, perhaps.

34,990. He did not tell you at the time what you would be paid, I suppose?—No.

34,991. What had you done for the 3*l.*?—Various things, nightwork part of the time, and attending on the nomination and polling day, and getting voters, and so on.

34,992. How much did you put down for the nomination and polling day?—Taking the time altogether, I commenced just at the onset, five or six weeks. I was at work at night sometimes.

34,293. You were at work, for Mr. Carruthers?—I could work night and day too.

34,994. You do not often do that?—Not often.

34,995. And I suppose you attended once or twice at committees?—Yes.

34,296. Was there a great deal of refreshment going on?—Very little refreshment.

34,997. Some?—I did not get any.

34,998. Perhaps you did not attend many of the meetings?—Not a great many.

34,999. Or else you might have got more refreshment, you know. Did you succeed in persuading anybody to vote for Mr. Monson?—No. I did not put myself up as a canvasser at all. Of course I did my best among my shopmates, and so on.

35,000. Did you succeed in getting your shopmates?—I cannot say now.

35,001. That was the only way in which you lost time, you kept on your work for Mr. Carruthers?—Yes.

35,002. Did you vote in 1863?—I had no vote.

35,003. Did Mr. Carruthers deduct anything for the nomination and polling day?—Oh, yes.

35,004. He did?—Yes.

35,005. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you sure of that?—Yes.

35,006. How much did he deduct?—We were paid for our labour; whatever work I did that week I was paid for, that was all.

35,007. Oh, you were not paid by the day.

35,008. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were paid by the hour, I suppose?—Of course if I work the whole day I am paid for the day.

35,009. How much?—Of course there was the nomination and the polling day.

35,010. Then you did not go near the place at those times?—I understood I was almost commissioned to go out and get the voters together, and do the same as the rest.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN PETERS recalled and examined.

J. Peters.

35,011. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you got those accounts, Peters, now?—The bill for the tiles was sent in to Mr. Simpson.

35,012. Can you tell me how much it was?—No.

35,013. First of all can you tell me by your books what you valued the job to Mr. Simpson at?—No, I cannot. (*The witness handed in his day book.*)

35,014. Never mind them. How much did Mr. Simpson pay you for the job? Will your books tell you that?—Each job is not kept separately, there is other work going on at the same time.

35,015. Was it intermixed in the book?—Yes; I could not get at it very well.

35,016. Do you know about when it was?—I do not know the date.

35,017. I see it is carried on to the ledger, at page 8. In the month of June you have got down that Mr. Simpson paid you 57*l.*, odd; do you know what that referred to?—You will see all the bills are delivered in the year.

35,018. (*Mr. Commissioner OBrien.*) That is it. You delivered a bill in June for 57*l.* odd, do you know what that referred to? I see there is an account in your book against Mr. Simpson for the month of June, commencing in May, and it appears that the bill went in for the whole, whether paid or not. That the bill went in in the month of June for 57*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*, and you sent in a bill to Mr. Simpson in November that year for 54*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* Can you tell me when Mr. Simpson paid you a bill after the election?—No, I cannot; my book will tell you there.

35,019. Will it?—I think so.

35,020. I think you have got rather heavy accounts.

35,021. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell me what that cross means, that the bills have been paid, or merely entered in the ledger?—Been paid.

35,022. And that has been made at the time they were paid?—I put that cross.

35,023. When; lately?—As soon as I received the money, you know.

35,024. Then look here; can you tell me this; there is a cross against of 57*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*; does that tell you when it was paid?—No.

35,025. That is in the 88th page of your ledger?—Ah, then that would be in the ledger.

35,026. Then I am afraid we cannot tell when they would be paid without the ledger?—I draw the money by instalments, weekly, you know.

35,027. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And when it is paid you put a cross to it?—When it is all paid.

35,028. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you are working by the week you draw it weekly?—Yes, most weeks I do.

35,029. I understand that; but how could you have a bill against him for 57*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* if he pays you weekly?—That is the amount of the bill.

35,030. You could not do 57*l.* worth of work in a week?—No, but that is the amount as the bill was delivered for the whole.

35,031. We would rather have seen the ledger?—I have got the ledger with me.

35,032. Oh, have you. Let me look at it then.

35,033. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did anybody speak to you on the day of nomination before you went to London?—No.

35,034. On the part of Mr. Monson?—No.

35,035. When you have got a job which you wish to carry out do you generally go to London overnight?—Not always.

35,036. Did you ever do it before?—Oh, yes, I have gone before. I have gone on a Saturday.

35,037. And spent Sunday there?—Yes.

35,038. Were did you sleep the night in London?—I slept at my brother-in-law's.

35,039. You mentioned the name of Briggs as being the person who took your measurements. Did you see Briggs on the afternoon of the nomination?—I believe I did.

35,040. Did you see Langridge; did you go to Langridge's?—No.

35,041. But you saw Mr. Briggs. Did not he say something about going to London? He voted for Monson?—I do not know who he voted for.

35,042. Don't you recollect that he talked to you about the election?—I do not recollect anything of it.

35,043. What did take place?—I don't know that there was anything took place.

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J. Peters.

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35,044. Not between you and Briggs?—No.

35,045. Did not he mention to you about these tiles?—I don't know whether he did or whether he did not.

35,046. Did you tell him that you were going to London?—Very possibly I might.

35,047. Did you?—I don't recollect whether I did or not.

35,048. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understand you to say that this was not the only occasion when you had an order for work that you went to London. You went frequently before when you wanted to give an order for goods, you went before over night in order to get it ready by the morning?—Sometimes.

35,049. That is, there was nothing unusual in your doing it?—No.

35,050. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know Mr. Simpson's handwriting?—I cannot say that I should.

35,051. I mean I suppose you have had letters from him, orders?—Oh, yes.

35,052. Then don't you know his handwriting pretty nearly when you see it?—I couldn't swear to it.

35,053. I am not going to show you anything to look at, or anything of that sort; but supposing you got a letter from Mr. Simpson, you would know his handwriting pretty nearly, would not you?—I don't know that I should.

35,054. In whose hand writing was the letter that you got just before the nomination?—Mr. Simpson's, I suppose, I don't know.

35,055. Did you ever see Mr. Simpson again after the election before you began the work?—I don't recollect whether I did or not; I don't remember it.

35,056. Did you go and commence the work on getting these tiles without any further communication with Mr. Simpson?—Oh, no.

35,057. You must have seen him?—I must have seen him before I done it.

35,058. Do you believe you did see him before you began to work? If you did, do you recollect what took place between you and Mr. Simpson in reference to these tiles? Did you tell him that you had got the tiles?—I don't recollect at all whether I did or not.

35,059. To whom did you charge your expenses to London?—No one; I always get a little commission from parties where I deal to pay my expenses.

35,060. It cost you something to go to London; who did you charge that to?—I never did charge it.

35,061. But you would not go to London on business for nothing, would you? Tell me, who did you charge your expenses of going to London to?—No one.

35,062. You did not?—No.

35,063. How did you get repaid then? Repaid?

35,064. Yes?—I had the profit of my own business.

35,065. The profit on the tiles?—Yes, and anything else that I might do.

35,066. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not receive anything beforehand from anybody?—I only received 10*s.*, and that I received from Mr. Buckland.

35,067. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) If I understand you, when you left you thought you would vote for Mr. Gower?—Of course I was going that way.

35,068. And if I understood you rightly, too, if you had executed the order in sufficient time and come back in sufficient time you would have voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes,

35,069. There was nothing to influence your mind at the time of the nomination till you came back; no undue influence?—No one ever influenced me.

35,070. I mean neither by money nor anything else?—No money and no words.

The witness withdrew.

W. Clark.

WILLIAM CLARK sworn and examined.

35,071. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A house painter.

35,072. What rent do you pay for your house?—20*l.*

35,073. For whom did you vote?—I did not vote at all at this election.

35,074. Not at all?—No.

35,075. Did you take any part in the election?—Yes.

35,076. Were you on either committee?—No.

35,077. What part did you take in the election?—I did all I could on behalf of Mr. Monson.

35,078. You are on the list of voters?—Yes.

35,079. And you did all you could for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

35,080. Why did you not vote for him, then?—Well, I was not wanted.

35,081. Who told you you were not wanted?—Why, I came up late in the afternoon, and I found he stood no chance, so I went away.

35,082. Was that your simple reason?—Yes.

35,083. Did you receive anything for your services?—Yes.

35,084. How much?—I received 35*l.* altogether.

35,085. From whom did you receive those monies?—From Mr. Nichols.

35,086. All?—Yes.

35,087. After the election?—No, all before.

35,088. Did you receive that money in different sums?—Yes.

35,089. When did you first begin receiving money?—About a fortnight or three weeks before the election.

35,090. What sum did you receive then?—5*l.*

35,091. What were you to do with that money?—Nothing; it was for my services.

35,092. And did you retain it all?—Yes.

35,093. You did not pay any of it away?—No.

35,094. How long were you engaged?—About five weeks.

25,094. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you mean to tell us you received 35*l.* for your services?—Yes; 10*l.* was owing for a former election.

25,096. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say there was 10*l.* owing for a former election, the election of 1863?—Yes.

35,097. Was it 5*l.* that you received first, or 10*l.*?—5*l.*

25,028. What was the first 5*l.* paid for, for work or for the former election?—The first was 10*l.* for the former election. I received it in two 5*l.* notes.

35,099. How long before the election?—Three weeks before the election.

35,100. How came you to receive those two 5*l.* notes for the former election?—I sent in a claim to Mr. Smith for 10*l.* balance due to me.

35,101. That was in 1863?—That was in 1863.

35,102. But you were not paid it?—No.

35,103. Then you made a claim upon Mr. Nichols?—Yes, he engaged me in the election before.

35,104. That time he was for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

35,105. When you went to him for the 10*l.*, I want to know how you asked him for it?—I told him there was 10*l.* due on the former election, and I should not go to work till I had got it. He referred me to Mr. Smith, who referred me to Mr. Nichols. Mr. Nichols said I ought to be paid, and he paid me.

35,106. Then he belonged to the other side, so that Mr. Monson was to pay Mr. Gower's debt of 1863?—Yes.

35,107. You told him you would not go to work till you got it?—Yes.

35,108. He paid you in two 5*l.* notes, and then you went to work heartily for Mr. Monson?—Yes, and no mistake.

35,109. In what way did you work for Mr. Mon-

son?—Anybody that asked me for money, I sent them to Mr. Nichols.

35,110. Anybody asking for money you sent to Mr. Nichols. Will you be good enough to give me the names of them, of those who asked for money and whom you sent to Mr. Nichols?—Davey, a man named Davey, I sent.

35,111. What is Davey?—A carpenter, of Redhill.

35,112. Anybody else?—Bennett.

35,113. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is his Christian name?—I think it is John.

35,114. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know Davey's Christian name?—No, I do not.

35,115. Anybody else?—My memory does not serve me well enough.

35,116. If you cannot give me any other names will you tell me, roundly, how many persons did you send to Mr. Nichols to be paid on account of the election?—I might have sent perhaps 30 or more. I was no use my canvassing without money, and I had none.

35,117. So you sent them to Mr. Nichols?—I referred them to Mr. Nichols.

35,118. Do you think if you were this afternoon to look through the list of voters you could give me the names on Monday morning? I should like the names of the 30 or 40 that you sent to Mr. Nichols?—I might be able to give a proportion.

35,119. Will you be good enough to do so, to be here at 11 o'clock on Monday morning and do so. I will just ask a few questions more. You expended none of the 35*l.* in paying voters?—No.

35,120. Did you have it all before you voted?—I never voted.

35,121. Why did not you tell us that? Oh yes, you said it was because it was too late?—If I had been there I should have voted for Mr. Monson.

35,122. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did not you come?—I had no particular reason for not coming.

35,123. Had Mr. Gower's party been to you?—No.

36,124. Did Mr. Smith know that you got the 10*l.*?—No.

35,125. Would this be the first time that he would know it?—I think so, in fact, I do not think I told anybody till to-day.

35,126. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you aware that Mr. Nichols has been repaid that money by Mr. Smith?—No.

35,127. Or by Mr. Gower?—No.

35,128. Are you sure that 10*l.* was the exact sum?—To the best of my recollection. I would not swear. It might have been 10*l.* and a few shillings.

35,129. I suppose the account was for services?—Yes; for three months I neglected my business, and did nothing else but electioneering.

35,130. How much time did you give in 1865?—Five weeks.

35,131. I suppose you went on with your business and attended to this in the evening?—No, I gave the whole of my time to it as I did before.

35,132. Did you give Mr. Nichols receipts?—No.

35,133. Not for the 10*l.*?—No.

35,134. How frequently did you receive the monies?—I received all in the three weeks.

35,135. At what rate?—5*l.* each time.

35,136. At what rate per date? Was there no agreement?—No, I was to have 25*l.* if I went to work.

35,137. Why did not you take it all at once?—I did not get it; I had it by instalments.

35,138. Did you get 5*l.* each Saturday night?—I might have had two 5*l.* notes in the week.

35,139. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Might I inquire, for the benefit of future candidates, how much is owing to you now?—Well, I am settled with now, sir.

35,140. You have got no back rent in case a new election should take place?—Not till the 29th; I shall have a quarter then.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

W. Clark.

15 Sept. 1866.

Adjourned till Monday the 17th September.

TWENTY-THIRD DAY.

Monday, 17th September 1866.

TWENTY-THIRD DAY.

J. Shepherd.

17 Sept. 1866.

JOHN SHEPHERD sworn and examined.

35,141. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Mr. Shepherd?—A plumber.

35,142. At the last election you were living here, were you not, at Redhill?—Yes, I was.

35,143. What rent did you pay for your house?—17*l.*

35,144. Did you pay it by the week, or how?—By the week.

35,145. And a week's notice?—A week's notice.

35,146. Did you vote for Mr. Monson at the last election?—I did.

35,147. I believe you took an active part in that election?—Yes, sir.

35,148. And you were on Mr. Monson's committee? I was.

35,149. I think you exerted yourself principally at Redhill?—Yes.

35,150. And at Redhill it was a good deal among the railway men?—No doubt.

35,151. Are you able to tell me how many voters there were among the railway men at the last election?—I cannot tell the exact number.

35,152. Nearly?—About 30, I think.

35,153. I suppose you canvassed most of them?—Yes.

35,154. Taking it to be 30, more or less, how many men promised to vote your way?—I think about 18.

35,155. Do you know which way the others voted; whether the residue voted for Mr. Gower, or whether some did not vote at all?—Some did not vote at all, I believe.

35,156. Perhaps you can recollect how many, it will help us if you could?—No, sir, I do not know how many voted for Mr. Gower; I cannot say.

35,157. You think you succeeded in obtaining or secured, whatever you call it, about 18?—About 18; I am not certain as to the precise number.

35,158. I do not wish to tie you down exactly, but tell us as nearly as you can recollect; we have had a certain number of men here. Do you recollect Tilden Barham, and paying him 4*l.* 10*s.*?—I do.

35,159. Are you able to recollect him in particular?—Yes.

35,160. Can you tell me whether Tilden Barham returned you the money?—He did.

35,161. Daniel Boscawen, do you remember paying him?—Yes.

35,162. Tell me if I am wrong in any of these names; William Boulton, did you pay him 4*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

35,163. George Cheyney?—Yes.

35,164. And George Carter?—Yes.

35,165. I want to know where you received the money from that you gave to those men?—I received the money at Mr. Langridge's.

35,166. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) From whom?—It was left there for me by Mr. Nichols.

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35,167. How much did you receive?—I received 99*l.* altogether.

35,168. Was that all before the election?—All before the election.

35,169. And was all of it for you to pay away?—It was all to pay away.

35,170. Was that paid to you at once?—No; I received it at three different times.

35,171. Did you receive anything after the election was over?—I did.

35,172. After the election was over you received how much?—5*l.*

35,173. Was that all?—That was all.

35,174. From Nichols at Langridge's?—Yes, from Nichols of the "Grapes."

35,175. That is 104*l.*?—Yes, 104*l.*

35,176. Now as to the sums of money there will be no difficulty; was the exact sum you received altogether 104*l.*?—Yes; I received 2*l.* to go to Berkshire to see after a voter down there.

35,177. 2*l.* besides the 104*l.*?—Yes; it was to fetch a voter of the name of Smith from Berkshire, he had been in business at Redhill as a leather currier.

35,178. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was his address, Redhill?—Yes, Redhill, on the Brighton road.

35,179. There are several Smiths at Redhill, look down the list and tell me which it is?—770 on the register I think is the Smith.

35,180. Had William Smith left for town?—No, he was residing at Wokingham in 1866.

35,181. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was Smith a railway man?—No.

35,182. You are able to be accurate about the amount of money you received?—Yes.

35,183. 99*l.* and 2*l.* before the election, and 5*l.* afterwards?—Yes.

35,184. Was the 5*l.* for some other expenses you had incurred?—Yes, for the expenses I had incurred and been put to in going backwards and forwards.

35,185. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that the 2*l.* plus the 99*l.* and the 5*l.*?—I had 33*l.* each time, and I had 2*l.* after that before the election.

35,186. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That makes 99*l.* and 2*l.* besides the 5*l.* you received after the election for your personal expenses?—Yes.

35,187. Was that paid by a cheque?—No, five sovereigns.

35,188. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was the other money paid by cheque or money?—Money.

35,189. All was paid by money?—Yes, all paid by money.

35,190. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How was the former money paid, I mean the 99*l.*; in what sort of money?—In gold.

35,191. I suppose they were left rolled up in parcels?—They were in a bag.

35,192. I think you said you had 5*l.* I did ask you about that; you are sure it was 5*l.*?—Yes, quite so.

35,193. What did you receive for your own time and trouble?—Not any more.

35,194. Was that to reimburse you?—I did not have anything at all for myself only the 5*l.* I have named, and that was for my expenses.

35,195. You had been working from the early part of the election?—Yes.

35,196. Do you mean to say none of that went to reimburse you?—Not anything.

35,197. Then I am afraid you have not been paid anything?—I was not paid anything for myself.

35,198. The 5*l.* was to reimburse you?—Mr. Nichols gave me the 5*l.*; in fact I did not expect it, but he said, "It will reimburse you the trouble and "expense you have been at."

35,199. You have been engaged from the early part of the election; did it not surprise you you were never remunerated for your services; you must have given up much time to it?—No, only in the evening.

35,200. You probably were in good business; how did you get repaid for the time you lost?—That repaid me for all the time I lost.

35,201. How much do you consider out of all the money you received, leaving out the 5*l.* and the 2*l.*, how much of the 99*l.* went to remunerate you for your trouble?—With the expense and trouble I expended, I suppose, 16*l.* and received that back. I expended 16*l.* out of the 99*l.* for the expenses or thereabouts, and this 5*l.* came unexectedly.

35,202. You had already received over and above your expenses?—No I had not.

35,203. After you had repaid yourself money of pocket, did about 11*l.* remain with you?—No, sir.

35,204. Can you tell me accurately the persons to who you paid money?—I can tell you every one.

35,205. I do not know whether you have any list?—I have got a list.

35,206. Tell us the names; let me have the names?—J. Compton, 4*l.* 10*s.*, Robert Young, 4*l.* 10*s.*

35,207. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where does Compton live?—I think in Rees-cottages.

35,208. Redhill?—Yes.

35,209. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Robert Young near Brighton-road, is that the man?—That is the man.

35,210. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have mentioned Robert Young; give me another?—Nye, Ladbrook-cottages, 4*l.* 10*s.*

35,211. Go on, give the list?—John Goldsack, Ladbrook-cottages.

35,212. Never mind the address?—James McMillan, William Smith.

35,213. Is that William Henry Smith?—I believe it is; William Bowen, Hayward, William Balchin, Peter Wornham, Lambert, I think it is John Lambert, Benjamin Hewett, Towes.

35,214. How do you spell it?—Towes or Towse, I do not know which.

35,215. What is his Christian name?—I forget.

35,216. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) John Towes, West-street, 821, is that the man?—I think that is where he does live, where he has his vote from; Tilden Barham, J. Donaldson.

35,217. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Barham, 4*l.* 10*s.*, I suppose?—Yes, Henry Taylor, Cheyney, Burlton, John Whitear, Thomas Ingram, and Thomas Bates.

35,218. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you got another?—Only myself.

35,219. I think you will find that you have paid George Carter?—Yes, I did.

35,220. There is another man, David Boscawen, did you pay him?—Yes, Boscawen and Carter too.

35,221. You paid also Robert Young, Peter Wornham, and Henry Hewett; you paid them all the same, I think?—Yes.

35,222. In addition to those, did you pay yourself 4*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, I kept that for my common expenses.

35,223. Was that out of the 99*l.*?—Yes; I have mentioned that there are two men I have not put down I had better tell you all about them.

35,224. Whitear was paid by you through McMillan?—I paid him myself, but those two I forgot. I received 9*l.* before the election. I forgot to put down these two names. I ought to have given you George Carter and David Boscawen instead of Whitear and Burlton, but I received the 9*l.* from Mr. Nichols and paid them afterwards. That was all at once on the day of the election.

35,225. On the day of the election you paid Whitear and Burlton and Boscawen?—No, Burlton and Whitear.

35,226. They were in the list?—They were in the list. I received the money all at once for those two.

35,227. Where did you get the money from?—From Mr. Nichols.

35,228. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That 9*l.* is besides the 106*l.*?—Yes, it was besides.

35,229. You are clear about that?—Yes, there were 24 voters I paid; I made a mistake in saying 22, for I paid 24 each of them 4*l.* 10*s.*

35,230. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What I want to know is, you paid the men 4*l.* 10*s.*, did you include yourself among them; did you hand yourself over 4*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, I did.

35,231, Now then, I want to refer to what I asked you before; what did you get for your own services?—I got 5*l.*

35,232. That was for expenses?—Nothing more than that at any time.

35,233. But besides the 4*l.* 10*s.* for yourself, I am not referring to that now, you only received 5*l.*; that places you on the same terms as the other railway men. Besides that did you not receive anything for your work?—Only this 5*l.* after the election.

35,234. Then I will tell you how the account stands. You paid away, including yourself, 108*l.*

35,235. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You paid 24 men besides yourself?—No; 24 including myself; I paid 23 men and myself.

35,236. *The Chief Commissioner.*) You received before the election exactly the same as the other men, and you received to pay away 99*l.*, 2*l.*, and 9*l.*, making 110*l.*?—Yes, I think that is right.

35,237. I am not now going to that, but you have paid out of that, according to your own account, 100*l.*?—108*l.*

35,238. Oh, and 2*l.* you paid besides, that would make it 110*l.*; that would make it exactly right; you have paid to 24 men 108*l.*, and you have received 110*l.*, but the 2*l.* went to the man in Berkshire?—Yes, for the expenses.

35,239. Your account, according to that, is quite right, but you received after for yourself 5*l.*?—Yes.

35,240. The amount you paid to Tilden Barham, as stated to us, he paid you back; is it correct that he returned it to you?—Yes.

35,241. Did that sum go to recompense you for your trouble?—It did.

35,242. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You put yourself in the place of Tilden Barham?—He gave me that on the morning of the election.

35,243. You took that as your 4*l.* 10*s.*?—No, certainly not.

35,244. What became of it?—I kept it myself.

35,245. Was the 4*l.* 10*s.* part of the 5*l.*?—No.

35,246. What became of the 4*l.* 10*s*?—I kept that myself.

35,247. Doing the work that you were engaged on had you been to any expense?—Yes, I had.

35,348. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In what?—In attending the different committees and going about from place to place. I had to spend money with the different parties, and all that sort of thing.

35,249. I dare say if you were canvassing you had got to what we call treat them, and give them some beer?—Just so.

35,250. That was covered by a portion of the 5*l.* which you received after the election?—The money after the election was given to me for my trouble.

35,251. Can you tell me at all what your expenses out of pocket, in the shape of necessary treating in order to secure the vote, would be?—I could not exactly say, but it amounted to almost every halfpenny I had.

35,252. Of the 5*l.*?—Not of the 5*l.*, but of the money which I received before the election.

35,253. You see the money which you received for your own trouble amounts exactly to 14*l.*; you received 5*l.* and two 4*l.* 10*s.* that is exactly 14*l.*?—Yes.

35,254. Now I want to ask you are you clear that after the election you received only money from Mr. Nichols?—I did not.

35,255. Did you receive from any other person or from Mr. Nichols anything for yourself?—Not a fraction beyond the 5*l.*

35,256. From anybody?—Not a single halfpenny from any one.

35,257. Previous to the election did you receive any money from any other person?—Not any.

35,258. You have told us all?—I have told you all.

35,259. Before you got the money from Mr. Nichols did you tell him that you should require it, and how you would require it. Did you give him notice, and say in this way, "By to-morrow I shall "want 33*l.*," you know you received three 33*l.*?—No, there was an arrangement that they should be kept together, and have a committee amongst themselves, and they were to have this money to pay their expenses. The committee room was held at Langridge's, and the money was given to me to distribute amongst them equally to keep them together.

35,260. Were the railway men paid at Langridge's always?—No.

35,261. Anywhere?—Anywhere, at different places.

35,262. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you not take it and pay them all yourself?—I paid them all.

35,263. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There was not a settled place for them to receive it at?—No, I paid them as I happened to meet or see them.

35,264. Was it Mr. Nichols who came to you and asked you to go to work?—No, certainly not; I saw Mr. Nichols in the first place.

35,265. Did you say I can be of use to you?—Yes, possibly I did.

35,266. Something to that effect; I mean you said you were ready to go to work; I suppose Mr. Nichols knew you before?—Yes.

35,267. He was the person who asked you to go to work?—There was no one else.

35,268. I want to know how Mr. Nichols came to make you the first payment; did you go to him and say I have secured so many voters and I shall want money for that?—Certainly; the money for the men all went together.

35,269. You had not at first money to pay them?—Certainly not.

35,270. How did you get it; did you go down to Mr. Nichols, and say I shall want money to-morrow morning, or something like that?—No, the money was sent over to me at Langridge's, and I was to receive it there; it was all arranged previous to that.

35,271. But did Mr. Nichols make the first advance, the first 33*l.*?—I told Mr. Nichols there were so many of them in favour of Mr. Monson and they would require a little for their expenses as they had a committee amongst themselves. They used to meet there frequently and they wanted something to reimburse them. I told Mr. Nichols about them and he said he would give it them.

35,272. Then he sent down to Langridge's 33*l.*?—Yes.

35,273. That was the first sum?—Yes.

35,274. And the exact sum?—Yes.

35,275. How did he come to give you the exact sum of 33*l.*, it is an odd sum?—He told them he should allow so much for expenses and they might divide it equally amongst themselves, it made 30*s.* each.

35,276. And when more money was wanted it came?—It did not come till the proper time, the time it was to run, that was over the week.

35,277. After that election did you go to Mr. Nichols himself and ask him for the 5*l.*, or did Mr. Nichols volunteer to give or send it to you?—I saw him in Reigate afterwards. The men wanted the same sum for the week of the election. They were not pleased, I believe, with the money, they wanted more; they wanted to be paid for the week or part of the week of the election, and he would not pay it; he told me so.

35,278. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you ask him for the money?—I asked him for the money, I was deputed to do so by the men.

35,279. When the election was over?—Yes, and he said he would not allow it, he could not pay any more, he would not pay it. "Well," I said, "they are not "at all satisfied, and I understand that you promised "them." He said, "I never did, and I cannot pay it." And then he said, "Here is a present I will make you "for your trouble;" that was five sovereigns all ready

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screwed up in a bit of paper, and he handed them to me when I went to him.

35,280. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told him they were not satisfied?—I told him they did not seem at all satisfied, and he said he could not help it.

35,281. You had five sovereigns which were ready wrapped up in a bit of paper?—Yes.

35,282. Was this your first election in which you have taken an active part?—No, I took an active part in the election of 1863.

35,283. Were you a committee man in 1863?—Yes, I was on the committee; I went on the committee.

35,284. Were you at the same place, at Redhill?—Yes.

35,285. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

35,286. Did you receive money to pay away?—No, I did not receive any money.

35,287. What did you receive for yourself on that occasion?—Nothing.

35,288. On Mr. Wilkinson's election did you receive any money to pay away to people there?—Not a halfpenny.

35,289. What did you receive for yourself?—Not anything.

35,290. Am I to take that in the fullest sense of the term?—I did not receive anything.

35,291. Do you mean you never received anything before the election, or you never received anything either before or after?—I did not take any interest in particular.

35,292. Do you mean that you received no money before the election, or no money either before or after the election?—Not any.

35,293. Neither before nor after?—I think not.

35,294. That is what I want to bring you round to my question; I was not pointed enough very likely. I do not mean any before the election?—I believe I did. I received 30*s.* from John Wilkinson.

35,295. Who is John Wilkinson?—He is a plumber at Redhill.

35,296. Was that before the election?—No, I think it was after, but I am not certain. Yes, it was after the election.

35,297. How came he to pay you the 30*s.*?—He was employed on the committee in some way and I was with him and he put me on his list to watch certain parties in Mead-vale, and he paid me 30*s.* for doing it.

35,298. Do you remember anything else you received after the election?—No, I did not receive anything after.

35,299. Are you sure about that?—Positive.

35,300. Did you receive at any time any money, I will not specify before or after?—Not at any time besides the 30*s.*

35,301. You are clear about that?—Quite clear.

35,302. Neither from agent or committee man or head agent?—Not through any source whatever.

35,303. Have you been in any previous elections?—No, I have not.

35,304. You had not voted before?—Not before Mr. Wilkinson's election.

35,305 That is the last election in 1863?—Yes.

35,306. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) David Boscowen did?—He did.

35,307. Do you know how that was?—I cannot tell you, I do not know at all.

35,308. Had he said anything to you about receiving more than the 4*l.* 10*s.*?—Not a word. He received his money in the committee room, and he was a little bit queer at that time. He said he would vote for Mr. Monson.

35,309. Was that the night before the election?—No, it was the induction of the committee. He came several times and he received the money as the others did.

35,310. I do not want to go through his history, but did he say anything to you before he changed his mind and voted for Mr. Gower?—Not a single word.

35,311. There is a man of the name of Peter Wornham; he voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

35,312. He received the 4*l.* 10*s.* also?—He did.

35,313. Did he say anything to you before changing his mind?—Not a word.

35,314. He promised to vote for Mr. Monson and received the 4*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Monson, and then voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

35,315. Before he voted for Mr. Gower did he not come to you and ask you for more money than the 4*l* 10*s.*?—He grumbled about it, but he did not ask for more.

35,316. He said, "I told Shepherd that if they did "not pay to the last 30*s.* my contract was broken."?—He did not.

35,317. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He grumbled?—He grumbled, saying that others were getting paid.

35,318. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He got the same money as the other men?—I mean the other party.

35,319. You say you went to Mr. Nichols after the election when he paid you 5*l.*; you then said the men wanted to be paid more money?—Yes.

35,320. Did not something take place before the election week with reference to their being paid more?—There was a sort of paper drawn up and they appointed me to go to Mr. Nichols to ask for their expenses for nomination day and polling day.

35,321. And for the extra week, so as to make up 8*l.* per vote?—I almost think Mr. Nichols promised them that he would pay them for the week, that he would have no half week.

35,322. You think he did so?—Yes.

35,323. And for the nomination and polling day too?—No. They were not satisfied and they held a meeting then.

35,324. You may have been told by these men that they went to Mr. Nichols beforehand. I want to know whether you had any knowledge of the fact?—Yes.

35,325. Had you any knowledge of the fact that the men also went to the Gower party and offered to go with him if they would pay 8*l.* a vote?—I only have knowledge of one man, Hayward.

35,326. Have you not a knowledge of the fact that Hayward was a sort of deputation from all the other men?—I believe not.

35,327. Were you present at any of the meetings where it was discussed among them that they should go, or that Hayward should go?—I was not.

35,328. You used the term and I think it has not not been explained sufficiently. You said, "I told "Mr. Nichols there were so many men, and he gave "me so much money for their expenses;" what do you mean by the expenses?—They formed themselves into a committee.

35,329. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At Langridge's?—Yes, and they used to meet there; and they were paid to keep them together, so that it should not cost any money out of their own pocket.

35,330. Shortly then, they used to meet at Langridge's to drink, and this money was to go for that?—They were to exert themselves and try and induce certain people they knew to vote for Mr. Monson.

35,331. Do not talk of exerting themselves. You had got them all?—Oh, no, certainly not; it was not simply the railway men, it was to induce others. If a man had a personal friend he was to try and induce him.

35,332. The inducement would be this: they would say, "Well, I have got 30*s.* a week for my expenses; "all I have got to do is to go to Langridge's of an "evening and enjoy myself; you can get the same "if you vote for Mr. Monson." That was the exertion they used?—No.

35,333. What do you mean by expenses?—They were to be kept together; they all meant to vote for Mr. Monson, and they met at Langridge's on purpose to be kept together, and they had expenses allowed

them for meeting there; that is what I mean. There is an account in the paper, I see, that Balchin's answer to a question put to him was that he gave the money back to me because he did not think it was right to take the money; at the time he gave the money to me he was grumbling and negociating for more money.

35,334. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Answer for yourself. Did you give the names of the men to Mr. Nichols as well as the number?—Yes.

35,335. You did?—I did.

35,336. Did you ever tell Mr. Nichols that Barham repaid you the 4*l.* 10*s.*?—I did.

35,337. When?—After the election I told him.

35,338. Be cautious; before you received the 5*l.*?—Certainly not.

35,339. When did you tell him you had retained the 4*l.* 10*s.*?—A day or two after Barham had told him.

35,340. You did not tell him till Barham had seen him?—No.

35,341. What was your position with regard to the railway?—I was a plumber on the railway.

35,342. Had you a contract?—No, I was employed by the railway as a working plumber.

35,343. And you got hold of all these railway men; you were the medium for giving 30*s.* a week to all the railway men?—I paid them.

35,344. You were the medium?—I was not the medium at all.

35,345. You were indeed; and you gave it to men who were out with their engines, engine driving?—There were only two or three engine drivers.

35,346. Did you remain with the railway company long after the election?—Yes, I left the railway company in September.

35,347. How long had you been with them?—A twelvemonth ago I left.

35,348. How long had you been with them?—I had been about 10 or 11 years with the railway company; 10 years.

35,349. Did any one else in the railway, do you know, know these men were in the receipt of money?—Do I know whether they knew.

35,350. Yes; whether the station master or any one in authority of the railway men?—Not that I am aware of. I do not know that they did or not; very likely they might have.

35,351. They did not know it through you?—Not through me; it would not have mattered much if they had.

35,352. Why do you say that? Tell me why you say that? Do you think the railway people would be content to have you in their employ who was corrupting 22 or 23 of their servants they had placed confidence in?—I beg your pardon; I was not corrupting them at all.

35,353. Let us not mistake terms. You were giving them money for immoral and dishonest purposes, for nothing else in the world. Do you mean to say that those in authority at the railway, if they had known that, would have allowed you to remain in the company?—I cannot say.

35,354. You are a man of some position, and had been 11 years in their employ?—Only as a workman.

35,355. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Some of these men were receiving 30*s.* a week for their wages, and some of them receiving under a pound, plate layers; you knew that?—I did not know what money they made.

35,356. Do you think it was a proper sum to give, you call it giving it them for their expenses?—It is not right to pay men anything.

35,357. You say it was for their expenses; tell me the honest truth; was it not, in fact, buying their votes?—I believe it would amount to that.

35,358. I wanted to know your view; of course I have my own view, but I want to know what your construction of it is?—It would amount to that.

35,359. In plain truth you meant it for direct bribing?—I did not intend it to be so; at the same time others were paid. It is not me exactly; I was only deputed by the rest of the men. It happened to fall to my lot.

35,360. You were the agent to pay?—Yes.

35,361. I want to know what is your opinion as an honest man about it; was it not direct and positive bribery?—I believe so.

35,362. You believe so?—I believe so.

WILLIAM CURTIS BURT called, sworn, and examined. *W.C.Burt.*

35,363. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you, Mr. Burt?—Solicitor.

35,364. Were you on the committee?—No.

35,365. For whom did you vote?—Not any one.

35,366. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think it is not in reference to the last election that you are here?—No.

35,367. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take part in any prior election?—Yes, that of Wilkinson and Gower.

35,368. In what year?—1863, I think.

35,369. Were you a freeholder at that time?—I was.

35,370. And a voter?—And voter, in respect of my occupation.

35,371. For whom did you vote then, Mr. Burt?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

35,372. Did you take an active part for him?—Yes, I canvassed the whole of the parish of Reigate on the west of the turnpike road.

35,373. I will ask you one general question. Have you any information to give us with reference to that election of 1863?—I believe it was conducted in an unsatisfactory manner. I believe there was a great deal of bribery, and a great deal of intimidation; in fact, everything that there ought not to have been.

35,374. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And I suppose, treating?—No doubt of it, to a very great extent.

35,375. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that, according to your view, as much on one side as on the other?—Equally so.

35,376. You have used three terms, "intimidation," "treating," and "bribery"?—Yes, I have.

35,377. Equally on both sides?—Yes.

35,378. Be good enough to confine your attention to the first term, "intimidation." In what way do you explain that?—I only know from what I heard during the election.

35,379, The common rumour?—The common rumour.

35,380. The common rumour of the election?—Yes, it was.

35,381. I think we may very fairly take from you what was the common rumour?—Only that various parties were insisting on their servants voting as they required them to do. They were canvassed very severely by their masters, and it was stated that many people would have voted differently, but they were compelled to vote as they did in consequence of the observations made to them by their superiors and masters.

35,382. Over what class of masters do you intend us to form that opinion?—I believe generally.

35,383. From the highest to the lowest?—I do.

35,384. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are speaking generally, of course?—Yes, I have nothing within my own knowledge.

35,385. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are speaking of what was the general rumour and impression in the borough?—Yes.

35,386. Not only with yourself, but among those with whom you conversed?—It would not refer to myself, because whenever I went near a tenant of mine I invariably passed his house without canvassing him.

35,387. You misunderstand my question. What I want to know is, do you form that opinion from what

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you observed yourself, and from what you gathered from conversation with others?—From what I gathered in conversation with others; from people who have told me when I have canvassed them.

35,388. I think I ought to go further with the question, because it is a very serious charge. Can you, in any possible way, recollect any individual whom you canvassed, and from whom you received such an observation?—Well, I cannot. It never occurred to me that an inquiry of this sort would take place, and it was a mere passing matter of conversation. I cannot charge my memory. I can only charge my memory with one fact, which is somewhat personal to myself, as I will explain presently. I canvassed some person behind the park. I saw his wife. She told me she was certain her husband would not vote for Mr. Wilkinson, for Mr. Phillips, a gentleman since dead, had been very kind to her. That is the only fact I can remember.

35,389. That we can quite understand. Persons may be kind, like Mr. Norman Wilkinson. We have heard that Mr. Norman Wilkinson was excessively kind to all the poor persons. And one cannot help saying, under such circumstances, "Well, I will sup-"port the gentleman who is so kind to me." That may happen with the purest possible motives?—It may, but it happened at a singular time.

35,390. We will not discuss that. Now with regard to treating?—I think it was universal.

35,391. Were you about the town at all in the election of 1865, although not on the committee?—No, only in my office; I did not interfere at all.

35,392. Then you are not able to say whether in 1863 there was more treating than in 1865?—I saw certainly a great deal more of it in 1863. In fact I saw nothing of it in 1865 beyond the merely shouting, and the people about public houses that appeared to be drunk.

35,393. In your mind it was very general in 1863?—No doubt of it.

34,394. Now with reference to bribery?—That has been very much confirmed by what I have heard since I have been in this Court. I have suspected, and I think I have made the observation frequently that I believed out of a constituency of 840 in 1863 400 were bribed; and I still believe so.

35,395. I have noticed that you have been very frequently in Court and listening to the evidence?—In the early part of the Inquiry I have.

36,396. Has the evidence which you have heard before this Commission tended at all to shake your previous opinion?—No, it has confirmed it.

35,397. Have you taken any part in previous elections?—Only that of Colonel Parrott and Hackblock.

35,398. But that was a very long time ago?—It was.

35,399. I do not think we propose to go into that. We decide to stop with 1858. Now, let me ask you, you have watched the evidence which has been given before this Commission, and probably have read it in the public papers?—I have.

35,400. Though I am not able just now to turn to the point, I think once or twice your name has been mentioned by a voter?—I think only once I have noticed it; by a man named Dewdney.

35,401. On what day was he examined?—I think it must be Friday. Friday or Thursday certainly.

35,402. Do you wish to make any observation with reference to that?—No; his observation was perfectly true. I canvassed him, and he refused to vote for Wilkinson; and I immediately left him.

35,403. Is there any information which you can give us which you think would be worthy of placing before the Commission?—I can only give you this, that I am very sorry to say that I believe a great system of bribery and corruption has existed in Reigate for a long time. I am sorry to say so, but I cannot deny the fact.

35,404. Can you give any date as to when bribery and treating first began in Reigate?—I believe it first began with Mr. Hackblock; and I will give you my reasons.

35,405. I am afraid we ought to ask you that question. Will you be good enough to state your reasons for saying so?—Colonel Parrott was the first candidate who attempted to break into the Somer's family in the representation of Reigate. He was very much opposed by the more respectable parties, and he stood that election without any chance of success. A second was about coming off. Mr. Hackblock proposed him on the former occasion, and had acted for him apparently as his friend for two or three years; but about a fortnight or so before the next election Mr. Hackblock turned round, and instead of acting as his friend and supporter he opposed him in that election, and was returned. And I cannot imagine a thing of that sort to have happened unless there had been some extraordinary exertions used to bring about that state of things.

35,406. In 1857 Mr. Hackblock was returned as against Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Yes, that was the election.

35,407. Major Parrott had opposed Mr. Somers Cocks in 1852, the previous election?—Yes, he had.

35,408. Then before that you say the representation was entirely——?—Entirely in the Somers family since the Reform Act. Previous to the Reform Act in the Hardwicke and Somers families, each having half the borough.

35,409. No further than upon general information, you believe that Colonel Parrott did bribe?—No.

34,410. Not bribe?—Colonel Parrott did not bribe.

35,411. Then what did he do?—Retired. And I know as a fact that Colonel Parrott's expenses in that election amounted to 64*l.*; and I believe that Mr. Hackblock's amounted to 2,000*l.* I think from that circumstance there must have been something more than ——

35,412. I see. Then Major Parrott was not returned in 1857?—No, he never was returned.

35,413. He did not go to the poll?—Not on the second occasion.

35,414. But left the battle to be fought between Mr. Hackblock and Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Yes.

35,415. And on that occasion you say Mr. Hackblock's expenses were how much?—It was generally reported that his expenses were 2,000*l.*, Parrott's being 64*l.*

35,416. Do you know what Sir Henry Rawlinson's expenses were then?—I do not know.

35,417. You simply judge from the amount of money which Mr. Hackblock spent?—It was the general report.

35,418. Can you tell me what has been about the average expenses of an election in Reigate?—I only know from the returns that are made by the candidates; but they are generally reported to have been very much in excess.

35,419. Reported to have been in excess of the returns?—Yes.

55,420. I think that is all you have to say?—Yes, but there is one observation I should like to make. It has been said in the town that I offered to buy, when I was canvassing for Mr. Wilkinson, an old-fashioned dresser; that I offered 5*l.* for it. I did do so, but my explanation of it would be this: For months previously I had instructed a man whom I have seen in the hall, I do not know whether he has been examined, to look out for me an old-fashioned thing of that sort that I might convert into a book-case for my library. In canvassing I saw what I took to be an old oak dresser that I thought would exactly answer the purpose, and I bid the man's wife 5*l.* for it. The man said, "It is not oak, it is only "dark from age," and I did not buy it. I instructed him to continue to look out, and he did not succeed. I find by a bill dated in 1863 that I had delivered to me from a furniture broker in the town here, a "book "case stained and varnished, 8*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*"; showing

h at my offer to buy the dresser was not colourable, but a *bonâ fide* transaction.

35,421. To whom was the offer made?—To the wife of an elector. It has been stated in the town, and I wish to give this public explanation.

35,422. In consequence of having heard it in the town you anticipated that it might come out in evi-evidence; and that is your explanation in case it should?—I do not care whether it does or not. I only wish to say I would not do myself what I despise in others.

35,423. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you were on the committee, and worked a great deal?—No, not on any committee.

35,424. Are you aware in 1863 of any particular instance of money being paid to any voter?—No, I never was present, or saw any money pass. I never knew any money pass, but I had a strong suspicion.

35,425. I do not mean that you paid it yourself, but did you know of any?—No, I never saw any, and I never heard any bartering; and I never knew of any bartering. At the same time I strongly suspected that it was going on; and for that reason the moment I had done my canvassing I went home, and never attended any evening meeting at all, and never attended any committee.

35,426. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. James acted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Mr. James was the principal agent, and I took one half of the parish. He did not canvass himself. I had one half of the parish assigned to me to canvass myself.

35,427. Who were the principal agents in 1863?—Mr. James.

35,428. But who was under Mr. James and under you?—I really do not know.

35,429. The working men?—I do not know at all. I never attended the committee, and I would not mix up myself with them at all. I did what I could in canvassing.

35,430. Had you anything to do with money being paid out to agents?—Not a farthing; I never saw a farthing; and never knew a farthing pass.

35,431. You had nothing to do with money?—Nothing whatever.

35,432. You never saw it pass from the candidate to the agent?—Not from the day the election was talked of till this moment.

35,433. You did not on that occasion sign any cheques?—Never; only a receipt for my fee.

35,434. For which you were retained beforehand?—I was.

35,435. I want to know, not what the amount was, but was the amount fixed beforehand?—It was.

35,436. I do not wish to know how much it was?—I will tell you if you like.

35,437. I do not wish to know; but I have a reason for asking, the amount was fixed beforehand?—It was.

35,438. Can you tell me in the election of 1863 what was the fee paid to the sub-agents?—I know nothing about it.

35,439. I thought you might have heard?—No; I studiously avoided anything of the sort.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS PENFOLD recalled and examined.

35,440. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What day were you examined?—On Friday.

35,441. Have you been able to get any other account?—Yes, I have endeavoured to do so, and to get what information I could.

35,442. I hope this is from your own memory?—I should wish to state one thing.

35,443. You may state everything you wish?—I was taken by surprise the other day about that 25*l.*, and I may have made some errors in my answers, and I should be very sorry to tell you an untruth.

35,444. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was that in reference to?—I think it was in reference to Mr. Smith. I have been told since that I said I never gave him any account. I did.

35,445. You did not say so.—I have been told that I did; but I did not recollect myself.

35,446. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said you sent him the account.—That's right.

35,447. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I will tell you exactly what you said: "I gave on slips of paper "separate accounts of the money I expended, and I "gave them in to Mr. Smith. Bills were brought to "me, and I handed them over to Mr. Smith."—That's right.

35,448. Those are the words you said?—That's right.

35,449. That is as plain as possible. You specified that you put them on separate pieces of paper?—Yes, I did, as they were brought to me.

35,450. There is no mistake about that, that is what you said?—That is correct, if that is so; but that is what I was told.

35,451. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You make your account now 92*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* as having been expended?—Yes, that's right.

35,452. Out of 100*l.*?—Out of 100*l.* 10*s.*

35,453. Is this from your own memory?—Yes, and from my pocket book.

35,454. From your own observation?—I gathered it from people that I have paid money to.

35,455. You have put down here, "men employed "nomination and polling day, 25 men, 25*l.*" Could you give me the names of those men, "25 men, 1*l.* a "day"?—No, not 25; they are 50.

25,456. You are speaking of the "roughs"?—Yes

35,457. Are there any voters among them?—Not one, I don't think; because I kept them distinct.

35,458. Then you need not trouble yourself about that. One other question: when did you receive from Mr. Smith an account that he gave you 100*l.*?—I have never seen it. I never had any account. It was from memory that I have that, and when I went to Mr. Smith to inquire and make myself certain.

35,459. It was from memory?—At least from memory; and I asked Mr. Smith somewhere about a week or so previous to this inquiry.

35,460. That is what I wanted to know. You asked Mr. Smith about a week previous to the inquiry?—No, he sent for me. He wanted a copy of the account which detailed what I had paid.

35,461. And he gave you that; then he told you that he paid you 100*l.*?—100*l.* 10*s.*

35,462. Very well. It was then he told you that?—Yes; I asked him the amount. I recollect I asked him if that was so; and he told me, "yes, it was by the accounts.

35,463. Then that would merely give a balance of 8*l.* as against you?—Yes.

35,464. That would be the money you received for yourself?—No; I never received anything.

35,465. Then that remains on account?—I cannot account for any more. I have no doubt I may do so in time. I cannot account for every shilling. I have found out that I paid two boys half-a-crown each for doing circulars, one of the name of Fielder, and one of the name of Matthews.

35,466. I cannot understand how it is you are put down 25*l.*, as an agent, you know. The account is substantially the same.

35,467. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The account you produce this morning and the other are substantially the same?—The other is from memory and this pocket-book.

35,468. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.* In making it out there is substantially no difference between them. I cannot account for your being put down still as having received 25*l.*?—I have seen Mr. Smith this morning, and he says it is a mistake; he will explain that.

35,469. I am glad to hear that. I could not

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account for it.—I have seen him because I did not feel very pleasant here on Friday afternoon.

35,470. It is quite right that you should have an opportunity of explaining, because it is put down in two places your having received 25*l.* You see it here (*showing the document to witness*). Is this in Mr. Smith's handwriting or his clerk's?—I fancy it is his clerk's.

35,471. You say he will explain about that?—Yes, I fancy he will.

35,472. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I see here, "Voters paid for services during the election." This is the account you produced this morning, and I see a name in it which I do not see in the other?—Yes; it is very probable.

35,473. "Robson, 2*l.*" Who is Robson?

35,474. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is he in the old bill, or in the new?—I paid him, I expect.

35,475. Is it George Robson, Mead-vale?—That is it. I may, perhaps, be allowed to say that Edsall and Frederick Cook, two names you see there, I paid them for Buckland.

35,476. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that the "Cook, 1*l.* 10*s.*"?—That's right. I paid him 30*s.*

35,477. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You paid 30*s.* each?—Yes.

35,478. For Mr. Buckland?—Yes.

35,479. Do you know where Frederick Cook lives?—I think at Ashford, in Kent.

35,480. Where was he at the time?—I think Woodland-road.

35,481. I see you paid 3*l.* 10*s.* to Brand for refreshments. He is the man who keeps the inn?—He keeps the hotel. Titchener paid the man, I handed the money to him.

35,482. I want to know how you got Brand's account?—Titchener brought it to me.

35,483. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is one of the accounts you handed to Mr. Smith?—Yes.

35,484. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you pay any money to Titchener for which he did not give you an account?—Yes, 2*l.*

35,485. What was that for?—Canvassing expenses.

35,486. That is what you mentioned to us the other day?—Yes; and Farley, I paid him 2*l.* 10*s.*

35,487. He is not down here in your account this morning?—Farley is not?

35,488. You are quite right; "paid Mewitt 4*l.*, "Farley?"—6*l.* 10*s.* I paid to Farley.

35,489. Whom did you pay him through, yourself?—Yes, I paid Farley myself.

35,490. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it Charles Farley?—Yes.

35,491. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Farley paid out 4*l.*?—Yes, and he received 2*l.* 10*s.* from me for travelling expenses.

35,492. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You gave Farley 4*l.* for Hewitt, and 2*l.* for himself?—2*l.* 10*s* for himself, and 4*l.* for Hewitt.

35,493. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was Farley's account?—6*l.* 10*s.* He never sent any account. It was money I paid him; he was a canvasser.

35,494. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith, reading.*) "I at "first made out an account for 6*l.* 10*s.*; but Penfold "said he did not think he should be able to get so much."—That is in reference to his bill for his services that he sent Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith referred him to me. He went with an account after the election was over; an account for 6*l.* for services rendered.

35,495. Farley did?—Yes; he brought me the bill.

35,496. (*Reading*) "5*l.* for labour, and 1*l.* for the "nomination and polling day."—Yes, I think that was it. I told him if he would strike that off I would put my initials.

35,497. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You paid him 2*l.* 10*s.*?—That's right.

35,498. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) For himself?—Yes; he went down to see Mewitt, and went down to Godstone.

35,499. May I take it then, Mr. Penfold, that you have expended the whole of the 100*l.*?—Yes, I have; not a penny of it has gone into my pocket but has gone out of it again.

35,500. How much of your time did you give?—Only the day of nomination and the polling day. It was the evening generally that I worked.

35,501. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I want to ask you upon one point. You said, I think, on Friday, that you did not ask for votes?—No.

35,502. In what way did you canvass?—I did not canvass at all.

35,503. Did you not ask persons?—I might have done so when I was about; but I have no recollection of asking persons.

35,504. Did you ask them to come upon the committee or to work?—No.

35,505. Did you ask nobody to work?—No; I did not mean to take any part in this election when I began, but I got into it step by step.

35,506. I think you have told us when you first began to receive money to distribute?—Yes; I cannot recollect quite.

35,507. How long before the election?—A month.

35,508. During that month was, of course, the most active time of the election. Do you mean to say you did not ask anybody to come upon the committee or work?—No, I don't recollect ever using the words.

35,509. Or something like it?—No.

35,510. Or that if they exerted themselves they would be remunerated?—No, I never made any such remark.

35,511. I do not understand how you came to be paymaster?—Mr. Smith asked me to do it.

35,512. How did you know the names of those who were to be paid?—When the committee met of an evening these men brought in their reports, and I sat there to take them.

35,513. Then your duty was simply in the committee room?—Yes.

35,514. You did no other work except in the committee room?—No, that was my principal duty; the money paying was in my hand.

35,515. You knew who were the next sub-agents to you, and you paid them?—Yes.

35,516. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There is one question I want to ask you: was there any transaction between you and Mr. Smith previous to the election?—No.

35,517. Any money transactions?—No.

35,518. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just tell me this: you know this gentleman showed you this account the other day; had you ever seen that before?—Never.

The witness withdrew.

C. Smith.

CHARLES SMITH called, sworn, and examined.

35,519. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Smith?—A draper.

35,520. Where are you living?—At Littlehampton.

35,521. What rent did you pay for the house for which you voted?—20*l.*

35,522. Of course the house was at Reigate? How long had you left it?—Nine months.

35,523. The election was in July; then you left i in the previous October. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

35,524. I understood a man came for you. What did he pay you for your expenses on the polling and nomination day?—After the election was over I had my railway fare paid.

35,525. How much did you receive?—I scarcely

know the sum. I did not think of being called upon again.

35,526. How much, do you recollect, for your travelling and on the polling and nomination day?—I think my expenses and 1*l.*

35,527. You were here on the nomination day?—Yes.

35,528. And on the polling day?—Yes.

35,529. You were paid for both days, we understand?—No, I was only paid for one day.

35,530. How much did you receive?—I do not know exactly. It was the railway fare; I do not know what the railway fare was. I think it was 1*l.* 11*s.* and some odd pence. I can't exactly say.

35,531. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The 1*l.* 11*s.* was your railway fare?—No.

35,532. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 1*l.* 11*s.*?—Yes.

35,533. You received it from a person who was acting as check clerk; he received 3*l.*, and he paid you 1*l.* 11*s.* and kept the remainder.

35,534. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have not told us how that 1*l.* 11*s.* was made up?—No.

35,535. Was anything paid for loss of time on the polling day?—Yes.

35,536. How much?—

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) 1*l.*

35,537. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I understood you to say so; and 11*s.* for expenses?—It was not explained to me what it was for.

35,538. But 1*l.* 11*s.* was a great deal more than your actual railway expenses?—Yes.

35,539. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who paid you, Mr. Knight, a tailor, I think?—Yes.

35,540. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Whom did it come from? You know, I dare say. Whom did Mr. Knight get it from to pay you?—I do not know; I had a post office order sent me through him.

(*Mr. Commisioner O'Brien.*) He got it from Mr. Smith. He says, "I received 3*l.* in all."

35,541. I suppose you were not aware that you had lost your vote?—No; or I should not have given it if I had known it.

35,542. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You would not have gone unless you had been sent for?—No, I should not; and when I was first sent for I refused to go, and I was sent for a second time.

35,543. How long before the election had you been asked?—I am sure I do not know; I should think about a month.

35,544. Were you check clerk?—No.

35,545. You were not employed in any way on the day of polling?—No, I know nothing about it.

35,546. You simply came up and voted, and went back and got 1*l.* 11*s.*?—That is all.

The witness withdrew.

William Clark recalled and examined.

W. Clark.

35,547. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you got the names of those men that you sent to Mr. Nichols?—Yes; but I cannot answer for their going (*handing in a list*).

35,548. I see there is a list of 22 names?—Yes.

35,549. Are those all the names that you can recollect that you canvassed and sent to Mr. Nichols?—Yes; I cannot answer for their going.

35,550. But you requested them to go?—I requested them to go. Mr. Hitchcock told me he would have nothing at all to do with it.

35,551. Mr. Hitchcock, that is the first name here; he said he would have nothing at all to do with it?—Yes; because he was so persecuted before.

35,552. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you pay any money to any of these?—No, not one.

35,553. (*Mr. Commisioner Smith.*) Did you know of any of these men going to Nichols; did you hear afterwards from Nichols that he had seen them?—I heard that Gage had been there.

35,554. Was he the only person?—I do not remember. I remember him because I saw him there with Mr. Nichols.

35,555. You say that you received some money from Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

35,556. On Saturday you could not give us clear account of those monies. You have had time to consider. Tell me in what proportions you received those monies, and when?—In six 5*l.* notes and 5*l.*

35,557. Give me the dates?—I cannot give you the dates. I had them all in three weeks.

35,558. Were you paid on each occasion 5*l.*?—Yes, 5*l.*

35,559. How much in all?—35*l.* 10*l.* for the last election. I received 25*l.* in 1863 for my services then.

35,560. Since your last examination have you seen Mr. Nichols?—Yes, I saw him at the bar of the "Grapes."

35,561. When?—In front of the bar, on Saturday. I went there for refreshments, and I saw him.

35,562. Of course you told him you had been examined?—No. There was a great deal of "chaff" at the bar that I had been examined, and of course he heard it.

35,563. Have you not taken the opportunity of consulting with Mr. Nichols as to how much money you received?—No; he knows what I received.

35,564. You see if you had applied to Mr. Nichols you might probably have got from him the actual sums you received, and the days?—I know the sums; that is all I have received.

35,565. Did you receive these monies at stated stated times; at regular times?—No; when I saw him there.

35,566. In what way did you get the money? Did you ask Mr. Nichols for it?—He knew I could not go to work unless I received money, and he knew what I received before for the other elections. I should think he has got an account of them too.

35,567. How much did you receive for the election in 1863?—In all I received 25*l.*; that might be within a pound.

35,568. Then there was 10*l.* owing to you?—There was 10*l.* owing to me.

35,569. Then you consider your services at the previous election worth 35*l.*?—25*l.* 10*l.* I had given me, and I kept it.

35,570. How much, in fact, did you receive in 1863?—That would make it, with the 10*l.*, 35*l.*

35,571. I do not mean the 10*l.* you got from Mr. Monson to pay Mr. Gower's debts?—25*l.*

35,572. You got 25*l.*?—15*l.* from Mr. Nichols; I can't say to 10*s.* or a pound; I received it every week for 10 weeks.

35,573. How much a week?—I do not know how much it amounted to, perhaps a pound or 25*s.*

35,574. Do you mean to say you received that without giving any account of your time?—Three months I gave all my time. I neglected my business. I never did an hour's work.

35,575. What is your business?—A house painter.

35,576. Do you mean to say that you never went to your business for three months?—No.

35,577. Are you a master house painter?—Yes.

35,578. And employ men?—Yes.

35,579. Do you use the brush yourself?—Yes, when I am at work.

35,580. Of course, when you are at work. You are such a master painter that you might have so much work to do that you would go about to see the men do their work?—No, I have not got enough for that. I may employ six or seven in the winter; perhaps 12 or 14 in the summer.

35,581. Now you have not quite clearly made it out how this money was paid in 1863. There were 15*l.* you got from Nichols, and there were 35*l.* to

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come to you?—There was no stated sum then; he paid me by instalments.

35,582. You state there was no stated sum in 1863?—No.

35,583. How much were you paid in 1863?—Why, from Nichols about 15*l.*

35,584. Then, if there was no stated sum, how came you to make a claim in 1865 for 10*l.* owing to you in 1863?—I considered I was worth it.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Worth 35*l.*

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) No, he got 15*l.* There was no stated sum, no contract; and then in 1865 he claims 10*l.*

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I thought he got 15*l.* from Nichols. I think he means he got something else.

35,585. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What else did you get in 1863 besides the 15*l.* you got from Nichols?—10*l.*, which came through Apted and Mulley.

35,586. In 1863?—In 1863. I accounted for the 10*l.*

35,587. In what way?—That I had it. I had it to use, and I didn't use, I kept it.

35,588. What were you to use it for?—It was to give to a couple of men at Redhill.

35,589. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And you kept it?—I kept it.

35,590. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who were the two men?—The two Dales.

35,591. Thomas and Edward Dale?—Thomas and Edward Dale. It was given through Job Apted for me to give them, and I did not give it them.

35,592. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For Mr. Gower?—On Mr. Gower's behalf.

35,593. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were to give it to them, and you did not?—No. In fact, the price was not sufficient for them.

35,594. Did you tell those who had given you this 10*l.* that Dale and the other did not want the money, or that you did not apply it?—I had applied it.

35,595. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You used it, you mean?—I kept it.

35,596. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you tell your employers that you had kept the money?—Yes, Apted asked me for it. Although the excitement was very great at that time, about 5 o'clock on the polling day, he asked me for the 5*l.* back; I said I would give it up the settling day, I supposed it would be next day. I told Mr. Nichols I had got 9*l.* left out of the 10*l.*; and he said, "You can do as you like with it," and I did so.

35,597. There was no contract between you and Nichols?—No.

35,598. You got 10*l.* from Nichols, and 10*l.* you got on account of Dales?—Yes.

35,599. And you were asked on the polling day to return it, and you kept it?—Yes, I told him I would keep it till the settling day.

35,600. Which settling day never came?—No, not till now.

35,601. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The two Dales voted for Monson?—The two Dales voted for Wilkinson in 1863.

35,602. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There having been no contract for your employment in 1863, having got 15*l.* from Nichols and 10*l.* which you had retained on the part of the Dale's until the settling day, how do you make out your claim of 10*l.* which you made against Mr. Smith, as against Mr. Gower, prior to this election of 1865?—Why, the 10*l.* I put down as expenses.

35,603. Had you said one single word about those expenses of 10*l.* to Mr. Nichols or any of them in 1863?—They knew I had it, and I sent my bill in to Mr. Smith.

35,604. For how much?—For 10*l.*, and he said I ought to be paid; Mr. Green said I was worth double as much.

35,605. But you had already got 10*l.* on account of the Dales?—Yes, I had that 10*l.*

35,606. And that was a disputed item; you were to settle that on settling day?—I told Mr. Nichols I had got it, and he said I was to do as I liked with it. I said I would not give it up to Apted, but I would give it up to Nichols on settling day; and he told me I might do as I liked with it.

35,607. Then you made a further claim beyond that?—Yes.

35,608. Which you say was paid out of Mr. Monson's money; I will not say out of Mr. Monson's money, but out of the party's money?—Yes. I worked for Mr. Gower in 1863 through Mr Nichols, and I looked to Mr. Nichols this time for the money. I followed him; I was promised 10*l.* by Mr. Green.

35,609. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When are you speaking of now?—This election.

35,610. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who promised you that?—Mr. Green.

35,611. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On the part of whom?—On the part of Mr. Gower.

35,612. You mean 10*l.* for your vote?—10*l.* that was due to me from the last by a promise.

35,613. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What took place between you and Henry Green?—He said I ought to be paid.

35,614. You said Green said something about 10*l.* to vote for Gower?—He said if I went to work for him as I had before in 1863; I was under Mr. Green and Mr. Nichols at that time.

35,615. What did Green say?—He said if I could trust to him he would pay me the 10*l.* at the end of the election. I told him I would take his word for 100*l.* in business, but not in electioneering matters.

35,616. Was that before you had been to Mr. Smith in 1865?—About the time.

35,617. Which did you go to first, Mr. Smith or Mr. Green?—Mr. Green. I have asked him more questions, as he lives in the neighbourhood; I told him, and he said I ought to be paid, I was worth more than what I got at the former election.

35,618. Did you tell him how much you got?—I think I did.

35,619. How much a week were you paid, or to be paid?—About 25*s.* a week.

35,620. In 1863?—Yes.

35,621. With whom did you make that arrangement in 1863?—I made no arrangement, I saw Mr. Nichols, and Mr. Nichols gave me that at the end of the week.

35,622. The first week?—Yes.

35,623. Did you look upon it as an arrangement then that 25*s.* was to be paid you a week?—Yes; at least I went the following week and got the same.

35,624. Did you expect 25*s.* a week, then?—Yes; it was not for the particular week, but it was merely to expend, and I did expend quite that 25*s.* every week, and a little more.

35,625. What do you mean by saying that there was no agreement with Nichols?—There was no agreement. I went over there for some money, and he gave me 25*s.*; and he gave me 25*s.* the next week, and I believe continuously so.

35,626. Supposing it to be 25*s.* a week, how many weeks were you on?—Well, I think I was employed about three months.

35,627. That would be about 15*l.*; then, when you received 15*l.* you had received all your instalments of 25*s.* a week?—25*s.* a week; but that was no arrangement, that was merely to expend. I took it to expend because I expended quite that, and more too. I was about all day and at night.

35,628. You seem very much to have taken what you could get?—Just so. I should be very sorry to do the same thing under 50*l.*

35,629. The very little money that got into your hands never went back again?—No.

35,630. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is that you said about 50*l.*?—I said I should not like to do the same again under 50*l.*

35,631. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Not even do

it for the good of the country?—Well, I was doing it for the good of the country.

35,632. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Don't say that. I do not understand why, having received the 10*l.* and the 25*l.*, you did not vote?—I did not vote for Mr. Monson.

35,633. Why not?—I had no particular reason.

35,634. You had every reason to support him. Do not talk to me about no particular reason?—There was no chance of his return.

35,635. Do not give me any foolish reasons. Here is the state of facts; you received 10*l.* from Mr. Nichols for back money, that is to say, you received 10*l.* of Mr. Monson's money to pay you for your services to Mr. Gower; then you received 25*l.*; that is 35*l.* Now, why did you not vote?—I had no reason for not voting. I went away, I dare say, quite an hour before the polling closed. I went to Satton-corner; I stayed there, I had some bread and cheese and had a cigar till about four, and then went to Reigate.

35,636. The 25*l.* was to include your vote, was it not?—I was never asked for it.

35,637. But you knew it was to include your vote; if you were working for him it was to include your vote?—On no occasion was I ever canvassed by any of the agents for my vote.

35,638. Did you intend not to vote for Mr. Monson when you received the money?—I had no intention at all.

35,639. You had no intention to vote, or not to vote?—No.

35,640. Did you intend to vote for him?—I should have voted for him had he wanted one.

35,641. Don't say that. He wanted one very badly?—I think he wanted 200.

35,642. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He wanted it more before 12 o'clock?—Yes, he did; more before 12 than he did after because after he stood no chance.

35,643. Why did you not vote early in the morning?—I had no reason for not doing it.

35,644. Were you paid by the other side not to vote?—No.

35,645. Or offered to be paid?—No.

35,646. Or persuaded?—Or persuaded in any way.

35,647. What time did you go to Satton-corner to have your bread and cheese?—About 3 o'clock.

35,648. How much was Mr Monson behind then?—About 100, and I had lost all interest then.

35,649. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You live at Reigate?—I live at Redhill.

35,650. And there was a polling place there?—Yes.

35,651. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you a vote in 1865?—Yes.

35,652. Did not Mr. Gower himself canvass you?—Well, I believe he called at my place, but I never saw him.

35,653. Did not any of his friends ask you for your vote? It is an odd thing if they did not?—I do not know that I was canvassed by any one else.

35,654. Did they not ask you to vote for Gower? I suppose they canvassed every elector, they generally do?—There was a great feeling for Gower; but they knew it was no good asking me, I should have gone my own way.

35,655. I assume that somebody did ask you for your vote; and all I want to know is who did?—I believe Mr. Gower called.

35,656. After Mr. Gower called who asked you on his part, which of his agents? When Mr. Gower called you had not made up your mind?—Yes I had.

35,657. But I mean you did not tell him so?—No.

35,658. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You made up your mind to vote for Monson?—I did not see him; I do not think I had any conversation with him at all.

35,659. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then they did not know whom you were going to vote for; and of course they would come and canvass you again?—I did not want so much canvassing.

35,660. Now, who did come and ask you?—I do not know that any one did. They knew I was employed for Monson, and they didn't trouble themselves further in the matter.

35,661. Then that observation would apply to Mr. Gower, who did not go about canvassing by himself. His agent who was going about with him would say, "It's no use applying to Mr. Clark, because he is "working for you." Do you know who it was?—I do not know who it was that called upon me. I only know one man, that was Mr. Green. He said, "You may "as well go with us again; you worked for us the "last time."

35,662. Was Mr. Green the only person that spoke to you about it?—I do not remember any other.

35,663. What did you tell Mr. Green when he spoke to you?—I told him that I should not go to work for him unless I had the money down.

35,664. And if you did have the money down, what then?—That I should go to work.

35,665. And you saw Mr. Smith?—I saw Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith sent me to Mr. Nichols.

35,666. You saw Mr. Smith about it. Now at any time afterwards, just before the election, did you happen to see Mr. Smith?—I saw him two or three times before the election.

35,667. I do not mean only seeing him, but did you speak to him?—I think I did see him to speak to him.

35,668. What did he say to you?—He referred me to Mr. Nichols. He said "Mr. Nichols owes the "money."

35,669. You told us that was some time before the election; I mean after he referred you to Mr. Nichols, did he see you about the election?—He told me, if I remember, that there was no more room for canvassers, and he could not do any more in it.

35,670. What I want to know is, what you said to him upon that; perhaps I can remind you?—I do not remember anything; I wish you would remind me.

35,671. I may be wrong, but don't you recollect saying to Mr. Smith that you were sorry; that you were with him last time, and should be glad to work for him?—Providing that ——

35,672. This was just before the election, long after the 10*l.*?—I do not remember it.

35,673. Could you say that such a thing did not occur. You know, after the time when you were referred back again to Nichols and Nichols took upon himself to pay you the 10*l.*, after that, just before the polling day, do you recollect saying to Mr. Smith something of this kind, I cannot give you the exact words, "I am sorry I am not upon your side; I will "do something now;" when Mr. Smith told you he had no more room for canvassers?—That was some time before.

35,674. After you had got Mr. Nichols' 10*l.*?—No.

35,675. You told me so. You made a mistake, I suppose; I will allow you to correct it by all means. When did you go and say something which induced him to say he had no more room for canvassers?—It might have been five weeks before.

35,676. Had not you a conversation with Mr. Smith just previous to the election, the polling day or the nomination day?—I did see him, I believe, the day of the polling.

35,677. Tell me what passed?—I have no recollection of anything like you say.

35,678. Tell me what passed?—I do not recollect; I only remember seeing him. I might have said "Good morning" to him, or anything like that, but I have no memory at all of ——

35,679. I should like to know what passed?—But I cannot inform you. I have no memory. If Mr. Smith said that I said anything to him ——

35,680. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There must have been something to impress upon your memory the

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fact that you had seen him?—I was in Reigate nearly every day.

35,681. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect his saying anything about polling at the election?—No.

35,682. As my friend says, you would not be able to remember that you saw him unless there was something to impress it upon your mind?—He is a very noted character here; and if you see him you would be likely to know him again.

35,683. The more noted he is the less you would notice him upon any occasion; the less you would recollect seeing him on a particular day?—After I was engaged by Mr. Nichols he did not want to have very much to do with me at all.

35,684. That is the reason I am asking the questions. I want to know what there was which enabled you to recollect seeing him the day before the election?—I recollect seeing him just before the election.

35,685. What impresses it upon your mind?—Nothing at all.

35,686. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you swear that you did see him?—Yes; but I could not say what day. I might have said "Good morning," but I have no recollection of anything further.

35,687. Did you receive, during the election of 1865, a cheque signed by Mr. Smith?—This last election?

35,688. Yes?—No.

35,689. Are you sure of that?—Yes.

35,690. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive, this last election, money from Mr. Smith?—In 1865?

35,691. Yes, in 1865?—Not to my knowledge.

35,692. It is a thing which would only have happened about a year ago; I am hardly satisfied with the answer "Not to my knowledge." Did you receive any money from any person coming from Mr. Smith?—No, sir, I never knew where it came from.

35,693. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you receive any money?—I received the monies I told you of. I received no cheque.

35,694. You say you received something, and you did not know where it came from; what was that something?—I did not know where it came from. I knew the money I received.

35,695. Don't go away from the point; you said you received something and did not know where it came from. What was that something that you received?—The money that I received? I don't know who paid the money to Mr. Nichols.

35,696. What was that something which you received, not knowing where it came from?—I know nothing of the money, but that it came through Mr. Nichols.

35,697. What did you mean by saying that you received something, and did not know where it came from?—I mean to say I do not know where Mr. Nichols got the money from.

35,698. You were not asked that question?—That is my meaning.

35,699. You were asked whether you received anything; a cheque or anything coming as from Mr. Smith?—And I said "No, sir."

35,700. Then you said you received something and did not know where it came from?—I received 35*l.*

35,701. You are very 'cute, but you let out something about having received money and you did not know where it came from. We have had all about the 35*l.* before. That was not passing in your mind?—My meaning was that I did not know who gave the money to Mr. Nichols to pay me.

35,702. You said it in answer to a class of questions which had reference to money received from Mr. Smith, and not Mr. Nichols?—It is my mistake.

35,703. I do not give you credit for making mistakes?—There was no money sent to me; it was given to me. I know nothing of where the money came from. I have no wish to baffle you; I only wish to speak straightforward.

35,704. If you won't say, you know, we must.—I cannot say; I can only speak the truth. No money was ever sent to me; it was given to me.

35,705. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received it all before the election?—I got on so badly receiving money after the election, that I would not take their word.

35,706. When was the last time when Mr. Nichols paid you? When was the last payment?—About four days before the election.

35,707. Before the polling?—Before the polling.

35,708. Did he ever ask you why you did not vote?—No.

35,709. And you have been on good terms with him ever since?—As far as I know of. Why, you see, my vote was nothing; I might as well save it as use it.

35,710. What was the use of it to you?—It was no use to me, and no use to Mr. Monson.

The witness withdrew.

DAVID THORPE sworn and examined.

D. Thorpe.

35,711. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you the son of the other Thorpe who was examined here?—Yes.

35,712. What are you?—Bricklayer.

35,713. Do you live with your father?—No.

35,714. I forget whether your father's name was David?—Edward.

35,715. What rent do you pay?—5*s.* a week.

35,716. And did you at the last election? Do you remember how much you were paying for your house then?—5*s.* a week, sir.

35,717. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

35,718. Did you go on the committee?—Yes.

35,719. Did you receive any money from anybody before the election came on?—Yes.

35,720. From whom?—Mr. Green.

35,721. How much?—2*l.* 10*s.*

35,722. That was before the election?—Before the election.

35,723. Did you receive any money from him after the election?—30*s.*

35,724. Then you received altogether 4*l.*?—Yes.

35,725. Was that all the money you received?—Yes.

35,726. Had you been promised anything if you would go for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

35,727. Who by?—By Corderoy.

35,728. How much had he promised you?—7*l.*, I think.

35,729. Did he tell you how he would pay you? So much a week, or what?—On the polling morning.

35,730. Did he offer you work before the polling morning came on?—No.

35,731. When was it he offered you the 7*l.*? Was that on the polling morning?—He did not offer it to me, but he said before the polling day. I was at Merstham.

35,732. How long before the polling day was it that he made you the offer?—About a week.

35,733. Did he tell you that he would pay you on the polling day 7*l.*?—I was to receive the money. There were two of us together.

35,734. Who was the other?—Peters.

35,735. You were to receive the money?—If we voted for Monson, on the polling morning.

35,736. Did you agree to it?—No, we thought we would have nothing to do with it.

35,737. Did you tell him so?—No, we never troubled anything more about it.

35,738. Did you receive anything at all from him as an earnest before the election?—No money.

35,739. Did you receive any money from anybody on the Monson side?—No.

35,740. When Corderoy came to you did you tell him which way you were going to vote, that you had promised Mr. Gower?—He had got it there on his list.

35,741. What, Corderoy had?—Yes.

35,742. Did you see it? Be so good as to tell me what he said? He came and said; well?—He came to Merstham, and I was on the job at the time, and they sent for me. I was up at the house, and I went down, and my mate had most to do with it.

35,743. What I mean is this. Had Corderoy got your name down on a list? Did you see it?—No.

35,744. How did he know you were going to vote for Mr. Gower?—He had heard something of it.

35,745. Did he say, "You are a Gower man"?—He said, "You vote for Gower?" or something of that sort, and I told him, "Yes, I am going to vote "for Gower."

35,746. What did he say then? Did he make an offer of the 7*l.*?—I beg your pardon; it was 11*l.* between us.

35,747. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There are three Peterses. What Peters are you speaking of?—Francis.

35,748. That is Frank Peters on the register?—Yes.

35,749. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where does Frank Peters live?—On Furze-hill. The one I mean has been examined here.

35,750. He has?—Yes, on Thursday last.

35,751. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did not you take the 11*l.*?—I did not like to.

35,752. Why? You had no suspicion that you would not get it?—I think there was not much chance on the polling morning; but I did not trouble about it. I went and polled at 8 o'clock.

35,753. But you could not have much doubt about that, because there were placards up on the walls, were there not, "Monson, and the money down"? Don't you recollect that, large placards?—There was something of that sort; "Monson, and money down." "Gower, and no bribery."

35,754. You did not rely on the placards on the walls?—No, I did not like to break my word.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN NEWMAN sworn and examined.

J. Newman.

35,755. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carrier.

35,756. What rent do you pay for your house?—Well, the house that I believe I voted for was the "Black Horse" on Reigate-heath.

35,757. What is the value of it?—30*l.* a year was what I paid for rent.

35,758. It is just before you come to the heath?—Just at the corner of the heath.

35,759. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

35,760. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—No.

34,761. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No one.

35,762. Did you take an active part in the election?—Not at all.

35,763. Did not anybody on Mr. Monson's behalf ask you for your vote?—No one asked me.

35,764. Did not anybody ask you to do what you could for the party?—No.

35,765. Did you vote in the morning or late in the day, do you recollect?—I voted somewhere between half-past 10 and 11.

35,766. Was any offer made to you by the Gower party to go with them?—I never spoke to Mr. Gower or any of his party.

35,767. Very well. Did you receive any money at all to give away to any person?—No.

35,768. Did you receive any money before the election for yourself?—No.

35,769. Any after?—None. I received none either before or after.

35,770. Did not you receive anything at all at any time after the election?—Nothing at all.

35,771. Is there another John Newman besides you, can you tell me, who is a voter?—Not that I am aware of.

35,772. Did you make any application about money? Did you say anything about money?—Not at all. I drove a fly on the day of the election as well.

35,773. Whose fly was it?—It was an open carriage.

35,774. Whose fly?—My own.

35,775. You kept one?—Yes.

35,776. How many horses?—One horse.

35,777. Did you drive it on any other day besides election?—Any day? I was to be hired at any time.

35,778. I dare say; but did you drive on any other day besides the polling day?—Yes.

35,779. When?—I went to Redhill several times.

35,780. Do you mean on the polling day?—Yes; on the polling day I was there three or four times.

35,781. Did you before the polling day?—Yes, once or twice I went to Redhill.

35,782. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You live at Redhill, don't you?—I was living at Reigate at the time the election was on.

35,783. Who engaged you?—Mr. Nichols.

35,784. What were you to receive?—I was to receive during any election 11 sovereigns, or 10 guineas. That was six months before any election was thought of.

35,785. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is very odd?—It was somewhere in January.

35,786. During any election; whatever election took place?—Yes.

35,787. Mr. Nichols and you agreed?—Yes; it was to be on the next election.

35,788. For what?—For the fly and horse, and myself the driver.

35,789. That was specified. Was it 11 guineas?—Yes.

35,790. Well, the election did come on. What did you receive?—I have received nothing at present, because I have not settled with Mr. Nichols. I have received nothing.

35,791. What is owing to you?—I expect to receive 11 guineas; that is what I shall take off his account. I owe him a little money, and that is what I shall take off his account. I lived in a house of his since I left the "Black Horse," and therefore I shall expect to take that off.

35,792. You owe him more than the 11*l.*?—Yes, I do; something like 4*s.* or 5*s.* more.

35,793. After the election was over and you had worked with your horse, did you send in any account?—I did.

35,794. What was the amount of it?—Eleven guineas, horse and driver and carriage.

35,795. Have you seen him since you sent in that account?—No, I do not think I have seen Mr. James Nichols since.

35,796. You have had no conversation?—Not the least.

35,797. Then personally you have not asked him for the account?—No; I removed from the house where I was.

35,798. Since you sent in the account have you received a letter from Mr. Nichols?—I have not.

35,799. Will you allow me to ask how long have you been owing him money?—I dare say there has

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been an account for the last 10 or 12 years, if I was to go into it.

35,800. I do not wish to go into it. Was that on both sides ?—Yes.

35,801. Was part of it for rent?—Some of it was for rent.

35,802. You owe him for rent as much as 11 guineas ?—Yes, within a trifle.

35,803. Never mind the trifle. How long is it since the rent account began ?—Well, I went into his house ; I could not say to be positive.

35,804. No, about when ?—It may be somewhere in January or Christmas.

35,805. This last Christmas you went into a house of his ?—Yes.

35,806. And how much a year were you paying ?—15*l.* a year.

35,807. Then there is 11*l.* due already ?—Yes. I am not talking about the previous accounts. In fact I have sold some property of Mr. Nichols'.

35,808. I do not want to trouble you about that ; I want to know the rent ?—15*l.* a year.

35,809. Then the 11 guineas is hardly due yet ?—Well, the fact is I never give him no notice to leave. I took a beer shop on the other side of the hill, and I was very glad for him to let me have the house as he did.

35,810. Are you in his house now ?—No, I left it without any notice, and I was very glad for him to take it off my hands.

35,811. There is about 11 guineas owing then ?—Yes, there is about three quarters. I may owe him, perhaps, for a suit of clothes, lots of other things, I cannot say about three or four years ago.

35,812. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I forget when you left Mr. Nichols' house ?—I left Mr. Nichols' house about a week before quarter day; about nine days before quarter day.

35,813. What quarter was that ?—The 24th of June.

35,814. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I forgot to ask you ; had you voted in 1863 ?—The last time that I ever voted, sir, was when Rawlinson put up, I have not voted since. I think that is longer ago than 1863.

35,815. Was that Doulton's election ?—No, I think it was before that.

35,816. I do not think I quite understand ; at that last election of 1865 were you keeping the public house ?—No, I left the "Black Horse," and lived here in Reigate.

The witness withdrew.

J. Holden.

JESSE HOLDEN sworn and examined.

35,817. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—A bricklayer.

35,818. What rent do you pay for your house ?—13*l.* a year.

35,819. For whom did you vote at the last election ? For Mr. Gower.

35,820. Were you on his committee ?—No.

35,821. Who canvassed you ?—Mr Gower himself canvassed me.

35,822. That was in the first instance ?—In the first instance.

35,823. And you were asked by somebody else afterwards ?—No ; never.

35,824. Did you promise Mr. Gower in the first instance to vote for him ?—Yes.

35,825. Had you voted for him before ?—No, I had not before.

35,826. Who did you vote for in 1863 ?—No one.

35,827. Had you voted before those elections ?—Yes, ever since Mr. Hackblock was returned.

35,828. Except in 1863 ?—Except in 1863.

35,829. Did nobody ask you to go on the committee ?—No, not at this election.

35,830. You were on the committee ;—No.

35,831. I beg your pardon ; I thought you said you were ?—No.

35,832. Then you promised Mr. Gower your vote ?—Yes, I did, when he first called.

35,833. And nobody asked you about your vote, in fact, afterwards, until you voted ?—No.

35,834. And then you voted ?—Yes.

35,835. Did any of the Monson party canvass you in 1865 ?—Yes, Mr. Monson and Mr. Richardson.

35,836. Did any of the agents canvass you for Mr. Monson ?—No, not one.

35,837. May I take it that no overtures were made to you for your vour vote either by the Monson party or the Gower party ?—No ; in fact, if I may be allowed to speak, I voted from the time Mr. Hackblock was returned up to the present moment, and I never received a farthing, and I never wanted to.

35,838. Did you ever receive anything for expenses ?—No, I never had no expenses.

35,839. Is there a George Holden ?—Yes, there is a George Holden.

35,840. Were you a freeholder ?—My house at that time was freehold, but when I voted for this last time I had not been long enough. My vote was for the place I had left

35,841. You are still occupying your town house ?—Oh, yes.

35,842. I think I must ask you one general question ; were you about in the election at all ?—Which one ?

35,843. Either in 1865 or 1863 ?—No.

35,844. Not in 1865 ?—No, I never went once anywhere.

35,845. When Mr. Doulton was here in 1858, did you take part in that election ?—Not at all.

35,846. Who did you vote for ; do you recollect ?—I think, to the best of my recollection, I voted for Rawlinson ; but I won't say. I voted for somebody.

35,847. Perhaps your recollection will not carry you so far back as 1858 ?—No, I do not recollect more than this ; that I believe I voted.

35,848. Perhaps you do not recollect so much of it as to give me a description or notion of the character of that election ?—Of the character of that election ?

35,849. Yes ?—I never was busy about it. I never had to do with it. I have heard there was a good deal of bribery going on ; that is all I know about.

35,850. Where do you live now ?—At Redhill.

The witness withdrew.

H. Bicknell.

HENRY BICKNELL sworn.

35,851, What are you ?—A boot and shoe maker.

35,852. What rent do you pay for your house ?—5*s.* a week.

35,853. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—For Mr. Gower.

35,854. Were you on his committee ?—Yes, I was put on to work.

35,855. Who put you on ?—Mr. Mulley.

35,856. What did you receive before the polling ?—Nothing.

35,857. What did you receive afterwards ?—1*l.*

35,858. From whom ?—That was some time after the election.

35,859. From whom ?—From Mulley.

35,860. Only 1*l.*, I suppose ?—That is all.

35,861. Had you voted at a previous election ?—No.

35,862. That is your first time ?—That is the first time.

35,863. Was it Mr. Mulley who canvassed you ?—Mr. Gower canvassed me first.

35,864. I know ; but did Mr. Mulley afterwards ?—Mr. Payne, and then I saw Mr. Mulley.

35,865. Were you on the committee before you saw Mulley?—No, he put me on.

35,866. Did Mulley tell you you would be paid for anything you did?—Yes.

35,867. Did you apply to him afterwards for the 1*l.*?—I asked him.

35,868. For how much?—If I was going to get paid, and he said he had not got the money to pay himself.

35,869. Did he say how much you would be paid?—No, he did not say the amount.

35,870. You expected more than 1*l.*?—I expected more.

35,871. What did you think; I suppose about 5*l.*?—Yes, about 5*l.*

35,872. I suppose you had heard 5*l.* mentioned?—I heard that each man on the committee was to be paid 30*s.* a week, and that would amount to something like 5*l.*

35,873. Do you recollect whether Mulley told you that?—It was the general report.

35,874. In the committee?—Yes.

35,875. I suppose that all the committee men were to be paid?—Yes, they understood it so.

35,876. All the committee?—Yes, all the committee.

35,877. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you present when Mr. Gower made this speech in this hall, or at the "White Hart"?—No, this is the first time I have been here.

35,878. But before the election, when you attended the committee meetings, did you hear Mr. Gower make a speech?—I heard him make a speech.

35,879. At the committee down below?—No.

35,880. Oh, you were at Redhill?—Yes, I was at Redhill.

35,881. Did Mr. Gower say anything at Redhill to the effect that those who worked for him should be paid?—No, not at Redhill.

The witness withdrew.

SAMUEL JOHNSON sworn and examined. *S. Johnson.*

35,882. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

35,883. What rent did you pay for your house at the time of the election?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week.

35,884. Who did you vote for?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

35,885. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

35,886. Who put you on his committee?—Mulley.

35,887. Did he tell you what would be the good of going on it?—No, he did not say.

35,888. Before the election did Mulley pay you anything?—No, not anything.

35,889. After the election how much did he pay you?—1*l.*

35,890. Was this your first election?—Yes.

35,891. The first time you ever voted?—Yes.

35,892. Were you offered any money by the Monson party?—Yes.

35,893. Who by?—By Rose.

35,894. What Rose is that?—I do not know.

35,895. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is it Rose who works at the Asylum?—I don't know.

35,896. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much did he offer you?—5*l.*

35,897. When?—A day or two before the election.

35,898. Did you take it?—I took some.

35,899. How much did you take?—2*l.* 10*s.*; I returned it afterwards.

35,900. Why did you return it?—Because I thought as I had promised Mr. Gower I would not depart from it.

35,901. When did you return it?—I cannot say the day.

35,902. Before the election?—Yes, before the election.

35,903. Was that all the money you received from the Monson party?—Yes.

35,904. That was your first election?—Yes.

35,905. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you tell any one you had received the 2*l.* 10*s.*?—I did not tell any one.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS ALBUARY recalled. *G. A. Albuary.*

35,906. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were here the other day and were examined. Do you recollect that?—Yes.

35,907. And do you remember you told us that you received a bill of 19*l.* 15*s.*?—I told you I believed that to be correct.

35,908. 19*l.* 15*s.*, or whatever it was; I think it was something like that?—I think it was.

35,909. I make no point of that now. That was from Mr. Gower?—Yes.

35,910. I think you told us that you sent in your account, did not you?—I told you I took it in two or three times, you said "four."

35,911. I do not remember that. I dare say you were correct and I was wrong?—It might have been four.

35,912. The money which you were paid was for posting bills?—Yes.

35,913. And you said you received nothing except for posting bills?—No.

35,914. Now I happen to have your account, and I see these items in it, "Two days posting bills; two "days ditto, a man," that is all right; then comes "Two days attending the election"?—Well, it is very probable that is right, but at the same time I was posting bills one of those days, if I was not the two; but of course that slipped my memory.

35,915. I want to call your attention to this, that the same day, apparently, you charge 1*l.* 5*s.* for posting places?—No, I do not think I did.

35,916. I will show you your account?—1*l.* 5*s.*

35,917. Look, here is your account. "Two days "posting bills," then "Two days ditto, a man," then for "Two days attending election," and then "Expense "incurred during the election for posting places, "1*l.* 5*s.*" Here it is; of course you may see it?—(*After examining the account*) You see by this, sir, that I only had my 10*s.* a day for what I call "attending the election."

35,918. That is exactly what I am calling to your notice?—Then "Expense incurred during"—I don't hardly see what that is.

35,919. I can read it for you; it is your own handwriting?—Well, I know it is; I believe it is quite correct. I have not the slightest doubt it is quite correct. Then of course I put it all as bill posting, because that is what I am employed at.

35,920. You have not put it as bill posting?—No, not exactly, because it is two days attending the election.

35,921. That is what I want you to see?—I did post bills, no doubt. I did not recollect it at all; there never has been a question.

35,922. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You recollected all the part which was unimportant, and you left out that which was important?—Had you shown me that account I should have said what I say now, that I believe it is quite correct.

35,923. This was what you said, "The work "which I had done amounted to 19*l.* 15*s.*, and that "was all the money I received"?—I believe it to have been all the money I received. Is not that included in the 19*l.* 15*s.*?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Quite right.

35,924. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But you put it in this way, that the charge of 19*l.* 15*s.* was fair

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and proper charges for the work done. I recollect very well putting the question to you?—All the argument is, I suppose, this, "Two days attending the "election." That is the thing. Now I was not asked that question.

35,925. You have imposed upon the Commissioners, because you were asked again and again?—I call that a fair and proper charge. I have no doubt I did post bills. I do not say on the two days, but I did one day, decidedly.

35,926. You have charged 1*l.* 5*s.* besides the two days, and when I asked you on your original examination I distinctly put this question to you, whether you were certain that the amount, 19*l.* 15*s.*, was exclusively for posting bills?—I believed it to be correct.

35,927. It turns out to be incorrect?—I cannot help that. I do not keep any books, therefore it would be a matter of impossibility to tell the exact amount I received.

35,928. You said more, that it is expected you will vote for the side for which you post?—I did say that on examination, and I did vote.

35,929. That was when you were posting bills, not when you charge simply for attending the election?—That was a little over and above.

35,930. You deceived the Commissioners by the evidence which you gave?—If you had shown me that bill I should have——

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were asked the question in express terms.

35,931. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have deceived the Commissioners, and it looks very much like intentional?—I did not mean to deceive you, sir.

35,932. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I am only sorry that you have been allowed your expenses?—I did not mean to deceive you.

The witness withdrew.

R. Legg.

ROBERT LEGG sworn and examined.

35,933. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

35,934. A bricklayer by trade, I suppose. Have you any other trade?—I have a beer house.

35,935. You attend to the beer house, do you?—No, my missis attends to the business.

35,936. What rent do you pay for your house?—8*l.* a year, but it is on lease.

35,937. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Gower.

35,938. I suppose you were on his committtee?—Yes.

35,939. And worked for him?—Yes.

35,940. I think your house, if I recollect rightly, was used by the committee?—Yes, it was once or twice, sir.

35,941. For refreshment?—Yes.

35,942. Can you tell me at all the amount of refreshments that were used or, rather, supplied?—What do you mean, sir?

35,943. The amount of refreshment, the bills, you know, that you received?—One bill I received was 1*l.* 19*s.* of Mr. Joyes. That was for driving a horse and cart, I think, four times.

35,944. With refreshment?—It was all included. The refreshment and going with the horse and cart to Redhill, 1*l.* 19*s.*

35,945. That was made up of one journey with the horse and cart to Redhill and refreshments?—Three journeys.

35,946. And the refreshment?—Yes.

35,947. You received something, I think, from Mr. Penfold, did not you?—No.

35,948. From whom else did you receive anything?—I received nothing at all, sir. I never received anything from any one else.

35,949. For the supply of refreshment, you know, or the use of your room?—No, I did not get paid for the last refreshment.

35,950. What was the amount of that? I think we have had your name down?—I just took it off the slate.

35,951. How much was it?—1*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*

35,952. Who had ordered that?—Different ones belonging to the committee.

35,953. It was ordered by the committee?—Yes.

35,954. Is that all the money you have received?—All that I received on my own account.

35,955. To whom did you send the account for that 1*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*?—To Mr. Joyes.

35,956. You received the 1*l.* 19*s.*?—Yes, I received that.

35,957. And the 1*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* is another bill, which you have not received?—Yes, that I have never received.

35,958. What monies did you receive to pay away?—Here is the receipt (*handing same*); you will see it has my name on it. That I sent to Mr. Smith, and he filed it. I asked him afterwards to give it to me to show to the men, in order that they might see what I received.

35,959. How much is it altogether?—10*l.* 9*s.*

35,960. How many men?—Nineteen each night.

35,961. What were they for?—For keeping watch in the neighbourhood of Nutfield-lane, and West-street, and Reigate-heath, and Glover's-fields, and the road near the park.

35,962. That is 11*s.* a man?—No, 5*s.* 6*d.* for each man, 6*d.* for refreshment, and 5*s.* for the night.

35,963. Two nights, that would be 11*s.*?—Oh, yes. There is one lot I paid, the Lesbourne lands men, to another man; he received for the rest. I paid all the others myself.

35,964. That is all the money you got through your hands?—Yes.

36,965. Who engaged the men?—Well, I did, most of them.

35,966. I see they are nearly all voters?—Most of them.

35,967. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) They all are?—I think they are. I don't know one that was not.

35,968. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Oh, they are all voters. How was it you were not paid your last account, 1*l.* 8*s.*?—How was it I was not paid, sir?

35,969. Yes?—I don't know, I am sure.

35,970. I seems a singular thing, you see, that you should pay others and not be paid yourself?—No, I received this money to pay them, and I was to be paid that account afterwards.

35,971. Why were not you paid?—I don't know why. I took the 1*l.* 19*s.*

35,972. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was that for?—For refreshment and a horse and cart. It was before the election that I took that first bill, some fortnight before the election, and the other was incurred afterwards.

35,973. You see that bill was divided into two items. How much did you charge in the bill for the horse and cart?—I don't know. The 1*l.* 19*s.* I received of Joyes for going to Redhill three times, and it was put down on the slate and the refreshment the men had had up to that time.

36,974. How much of that 1*l.* 19*s.* was for the horse and cart?—I had no items myself. It might be something like 15*s.* or 16*s.*, I should think.

35,975. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What I want to know is this; you are a respectable man, and live by your business; you cannot afford to supply refreshments without being paid for them. Why were you not paid in this case?—I applied for it, and they told me that as soon as things were settled——

35,976. What have you to do with that? If a man comes in for a pint of beer you expect to be paid for it?—I know that. I don't know what busi-

ness I have to be kept out of it, but I was never paid for it.

35,977. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were paid the 10*l.* 9*s.* by Mr. Smith, I suppose?—Yes.

35,978. How did he pay you? In gold?—Yes, I think he paid me 10 sovereigns and a half, and I give him a shilling in change.

35,979. (*Mr. Commissioner OBrien.*) After the election?—Yes.

35,980. And after that bill was incurred?—Oh, yes; but I had delivered this account to Mr. Joyes previous to that.

35,981. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) After the election did you receive any more money from Mr. Smith?—Not at all, sir.

35,982. Are you sure of that?—I am sure of it.

35,983. Are there any other Leggs beside you?—William Legg, my brother.

35,984. No, I mean a Robert Legg?—No, there is not another Robert Legg.

35,985. Look here then, Legg. I do not understand this. Just look at that (*handing a document*), and tell me if that is your handwriting?—Yes. Then I received a cheque, sir.

35,986. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have an excellent memory; you said you recollected paying the shilling back in change?—I thought I did, sir.

35,987. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you receive from Mr. Smith?—Nothing more than that.

35,988. Then there was no necessity to hand him back any change at all, if the cheque was for the exact amount?—I thought I took it in gold.

35,989. Now, are you of opinion that you did not hand him anything back?—I am sure I could not exactly say whether I did or did not; I could not tell.

35,990. And how much did you hand him back, if you handed him anything?—That I don't know.

35,991. Now you see, to cut it all short, here is a cheque for 11*l.*; now how do you account for that, with your name on the back?—I suppose I took that.

35,992. It does not agree; it may be a mistake, but it does not agree with your evidence, you know. There it is, you can see as well as I can; there is your writing at the back?—Oh, yes.

35,993. Now can you explain it at all?—I cannot; I don't recollect. I thought I remembered giving him some change back; I thought, as I said, that I had given him 1*s.* back.

35,994. I know you said so; I particularly took that down?—I believe I did give him some change back, but I could not swear that I did.

35,995. Then I must make the best I can of it. Was this your first election?—No.

35,996. Very good. Now be kind enough to tell me who you voted for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

35,997. I see this is in Mr. Smith's handwriting?—Yes.

35,998. (*Reading*) "Received of Mr. Smith for "watchers on the nights of the election, 10*l.* 9*s.*" There it is in Mr. Smith's handwriting." This is the very receipt?—Yes.

35,999. How is it that Mr. Smith has not got that receipt?—Because I asked him to let me have it to show what he paid me for the men for the night's work, and he filed it. You can see it has been filed.

36,000. I do not doubt it. Who did you say you voted for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

36,001. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

36,002. Now what money did you receive, no matter for what purpose, in 1863?—4*l.* 10*s.*

36,003. Who from?—From Mr. James.

36,004. Was that for your services?—Yes, and the use of the horse and cart.

36,005. Did you use the horse and cart?—Yes, I went three or four times to Dorking, and Dorking-Homewood.

36,006. Did you receive anything after the election?—No.

36,007. Did you receive any more money at all?—No, not at that election. That is all I received.

36,008. I do not ask you for what purpose; I want to cut it short?—That is all the money I received at that election.

36,009. Did any money go through your hands?—Not the slightest.

36,010. You received 4*l.* 10*s.* Just tell me how much of that did you value for the horse and cart. The horse and cart; I should say, if I drove the horse at that election, I drove it above 100 miles.

36,011. You went three times to Dorking?—Yes; I should say the horse and cart was worth all the money, every halfpenny of it, what it cost me.

26,012. Why did you do it?—I did it; but I certainly was not satisfied with Mr. James when he paid me.

36,013. Why on earth should you work your horse and cart and not get paid for it?—Well, I worked it last time without gettingpaid for it.

36,014. I am talking of 1863. You may get that, you know, but why did you work it in 1863 for nothing?—That is all I got paid for it.

36,015. You say you have got an account this year outstanding. Have you got an outstanding account for 1863?—No, he said he could not afford to pay any more; Mr. James said he could not afford to pay any more.

36,016. And how much was your account?—I made out an account for 10*l.* to him.

36,017. Now be kind enough to tell me how much the horse and cart was valued at in the 10*l.* account?—Well, I believe the horse and cart was worth from 4*l.* to 5*l.* during the election.

36,018. How long was it?—I was about five or six weeks at their call.

36,019. You did send in an account then for services, I take it, but you did not get paid it?—I did not get paid it.

36,020. May I take that?—Yes.

36,021. Had you been in any other election?—Oh, yes.

36,022. Tell me shortly, if you please, about the election of 1859; that was Wilkinson and Monson the general election?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

36,023. Were you on the committee that year?—Yes.

36,024. Who paid you? Who settled with you?—No one at all.

36,025. Did you receive any money?—Not at all.

36,026. Not for your services?—Nothing at all.

36,027. Not for your horse and cart?—Nothing.

36,028. I pass on then to the year 1858, the last election of 1858. There was an election between Monson and Wilkinson?—Yes; then I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

36,029. What did you get for that election?—Nothing at all.

36,030. And that you mean in the fullest sense of the word?—Yes.

36,031. Neither for yourself nor for the horse and cart nor anything else?—No.

36,032. In Doulton's election, which was in the February of the same year, 1858, who did you vote for?—I voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson, but I had been at work for Mr. Wilkinson all through the election.

36,033. What did you receive that year?—9*l.* 15*s.*, I believe it was; I could not say exactly. I was about for 10 or 11 weeks carrying out circulars and doing anything.

36,034. You were paid 9*l.* 10*s.*, you think?—I think it was 9*l.* 10*s.* or 9*l.* 15*s.*, or something like that.

36,035. I will say "I think," you know?—That is far as I can recollect.

36,036. (*Mr. Commisssioner Smith.*) You were nine weeks on?—Eleven weeks.

TWENTY-THIRD DAY.

R. Legg.

17 Sept. 1866.

36,037. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Paid by whom? Do you recollect who you were paid by?—Mr. Cape.

36,038. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who was Mr. Cape acting for?—He was acting for Mr. Wilkinson. He has acted twice I think for Mr. Wilkinson.

36,039. As his agent?—Yes.

36,040. How long before the election did Mr. Wilkinson give up? I dare say you can remember he was balloted out?—The day before the nomination.

36,041. Then you did not do much work for Sir Henry Rawlinson?—No.

36,042. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then you are not only owed 1*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, but for all the work you did besides you have received nothing at all?—Nothing at all.

36,043. Did you claim it?—I called upon Mr. Smith, and he said he could not settle with me at present.

36,044. What did you say would satisfy you?—I did not say any amount, I never agreed for any amount, he agreed to satisfy me what I wanted.

36,045. I did not say you agreed?—I told him I should be glad of the money if he could settle with me.

36,046. How much?—What he liked to pay down.

36,047. You would say what you were entitled to?—I ought to have had 7*l.* or 8*l.*

36,048. You said so?—No, I did not say so to him; I did not say anything of the sort; he said I cannot settle with you now.

36,049. You said, "I want some money for my "services."—Yes.

36,050. You do not go and engage men to work for nothing; what did he say?—He told me he could not settle with me then?

36,051. Why?—Because there was a talk of this petition, or something like that.

36,052. When was that?—When there was a petition talked about being had against Mr. Gower, and it was weeks after the election before I asked him; I thought it was no use bothering at him.

36,053. Till the result of the petition was known?—Till things were settled.

36,054. Of course, when you undertook the labour, you expected to be paid?—Certainly I did, I did not expect to have to lose my time and labour.

36,055. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take part in the ballot in 1858 between Wilkinson and Doulton?—And Walters.

36,056. Did Walters come in on the ballot?—Yes, he came in on the ballot.

36,057. Did you take part in that?—Yes, I balloted for Mr. Wilkinson, and I believe Walters was the first one that began to buy in the tickets,

36,058. Did you know of any tickets being bought up?—Yes; in fact I was offered 10*s.* for my ticket.

36,059. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The ticket had your name and the name of the candidate?—No, no name; you had three tickets and you put in for whom you liked, they would buy up two and do what you liked with the other.

36,060. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You would buy up two and burn them?—It was found out in the course of the day, and they ballotted with a slip of paper. I do not know what they did with them.

36,061. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) So the bought-up tickets became of no avail?—Not after some part of the day.

36,062. You know a good deal about elections?—Yes.

36,063. You know something about the elections as to treating and bribery?—Yes, plenty of that; I think that was the groundwork of bribery at Reigate. I do not believe if it had not been for that you gentlemen would be sitting here.

36,064. Was it on a larger scale and to a greater extent than it has been since?—Yes, I believe it was, but I will not answer for it; the constituency was not then so large by a good bit as it is now.

36,065. It was a small constituency then?—Yes.

36,066. So far as 1863 and 1865 are concerned the money, I suppose, was pretty free?—Yes, I believe it went generally round.

36,067. Is there any information you can give to the Commissioners of importance in reference to the election of 1865 or 1863 beyond that you have already given, which you think they ought to know?—No, not more than I have told; there is nothing more that I am acquanted with, for I never meant to have anything to do with such things more than I could help; anything they asked me to do in reason I did, but I do not care to have to do with that sort of thing.

The witness then withdrew.

G. Brockwell.

George Brockwell sworn and examined.

36,068. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

36,069. What rent do you pay?—30*l.* a year.

36,070. You are a master bricklayer?—Well, I keep a beer house as well.

36,071. What is the sign of your house?—The "Jolly Bricklayers."

36,072. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower.

36,073. Were you on his committee?—No, sir.

36,074. Did you receive any money on account of the election?—I received a sum after the election from Henry Green of 3*l.*; this was three months after the election.

36,075. What was that for?—He sent for me; I went to him, and he said, "Brockwell, I have some-"thing to give you, you might as well have a trifle as "well as the rest;" and he gave me 3*l.*

36,076. Was this your first election?—Yes.

36,077. You were rather surprised, I suppose, to see this 3*l.*; you had not made a claim?—No.

36,078. Had you had any election parties at your beer house?—Yes.

36,079. Were you paid for those?—Yes.

36,080, Perfectly independently of the 3*l.*?—Yes.

36,081. What did you receive for refreshments supplied at your house?—The first bill was 2*l.* 15*s.*

36,082. How long before this election?—About a month, and I received no more until after the election.

36,083. How much then?—About 4*l.* William Featherstone paid me the 4*l.*

36,084. For whom?—For Henry Green, I suppose. I received it from Featherstone. The bill was made out to Featherstone, and the money was paid down; it was 4*l.* 3*s.*

36,085. Did Featherstone order the refreshments?—No.

36,086. How came you to make it out to Featherstone?—It was not made out to Featherstone, it was made out for Mr. Green.

36,087. I thought you said it was made out to Featherstone?—It was made out for Mr. Green, but by Featherstone; I misunderstood you.

36,088. Had Green ordered the refreshments?—A report came to me they would pay. I said I had heard nothing at all about it. He said, "It is all right," and I should have the money if I would let them have them; I think it was at Thorpe's brewery.

36,089. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was the whole bill of 2*l.* 15*s.* incurred that night?—No.

36,090. Was it on other occasions as from orders from Mr. Green?—I spoke to Mr. Green, and he said it was all right.

36,091. It having been said it was all right, you made out your bills against Green in consequence?—Yes.

36,092. And you were paid?—Yes.

36,093. That is as to the 2*l.* 15*s.* ?—Yes.

36,094. After that you got more money; you got the sum of 4*l.* ?—Yes.

36,095. William Featherstone paid it ?—Yes.

36,096. Was that made out to Featherstone or Green, or was there a bill at all ?—Mr. Green agreed to it.

36,097. And how much did he pay ?—I do not know whether it was 4*l.* or 4*l.* 10*s.*

36,098. The second bill ?—Yes.

36,099. You had not voted on any previous election ?—No, I had not voted on any previous election.

36,100. Is there anything more you know about the election of 1865 that you can tell the Commissioners ?—Nothing.

The witness withdrew.

ALFRED BARTLETT sworn and examined. *A. Bartlett.*

36,101. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A plasterer.

36,102. What rent do you pay ?—6*s.* a week.

36,103. I mean you paid that when you voted last time ?—Yes.

36,104. For whom did you vote ?—For Mr. Gower.

36,105. Were you on his committee ?—No, sir.

36,106. Did you work for him at all ?—No, I did not.

36,107. Did you receive anything before the polling ?—Yes; I received 2*l.* from Mr. Green.

36,108. Before you polled ?—Yes, before I polled.

36,109. And how much did you receive after you polled ?—Nothing.

36,110. Did you receive that the morning of the polling ?—No, nearly a month before.

36,111. What did he give you the 2*l.* for ?—He did not say. I was not aware it was for the vote.

36,112. You were not aware when he gave it it was for the vote ?—No.

36,113. Why did he give you the 2*l.* ?—That I cannot say; I received it and I spent it.

36,114. Did anybody apply to you for Mr. Monson? —There was no other person but Mr. Green.

36,115. Your name is Alfred Bartlett ?—Yes; but they have always had me registered as George. I was sworn in my right name on the morning of the poll.

36,116. Who brought you to the poll ?—I went myself.

36,117. Did you see Mr. Green ?—I saw him there, but I went by myself; I was the third man that was polled on the Redhill list.

The witness then withdrew.

HENRY JOHNSON sworn and examined. *H. Johnson.*

36,118. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote at the last election for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

36,119. What are you ?—A chimney sweep.

36,120. What rent did you pay for your house ?—5*s.* a week.

36,121. And were you put on the committee ?—They teased me to be on the committee, but I did not attend more than twice, for I am hard of hearing.

36,122. Who was it put you on the committee ?—Mr. Green, I believe.

36,123. Did you receive any money before the election ?—Not on account of the election.

36,124. I did not say so; but did you receive any money before the election ?—Mr. Green came to me before the election one night and lent me a sovereign, and I never knowed but what he meant it to be lent to me till after the election.

36,125. Why was it lent to you ?—I had a sick wife who had been under the doctor's hands for six years, and I had a sick child; and he said to me when he called upon me, "John, how is your wife," and I told him; and he said, "Here is a sovereign for "you."

36,126. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Your wife had been ill six years ?—Yes.

36,127. Had Mr. Green been so charitable to you before ?—No.

36,128. He never lent you a sovereign before ?—No.

36,129. How long was that before the election ?—A fortnight.

36,130. What did you receive after the election ?—Nothing.

36,131. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you asked him to lend you a sovereign ?—No, no.

36,132. Has he asked you to return it ?—No, he never has.

36,133. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How is that ?—I cannot say.

36,134. Was this your first election ?—It was.

36,135. I dare say you guess why you ought to be out of his debt ?—Well, I think there ought to be something coming to me.

36,136. Then you think you do not owe the sovereign ?—There have been lots of people who have been paid; who have received money for what they did.

36,137. But why do you not owe him the 1*l.* ?—I went out at the election and carried a few circulars.

The witness then withdrew.

RICHARD BURGE sworn and examined. *R. Burge.*

36,138. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A mason.

36,139. A stonemason ?—Yes.

36,140. What rent do you pay for your house ?—26*l.* a year.

36,141. For whom did you vote ?—For Mr. Monson.

36,142. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee ?—No, I was not.

36,143. Who canvassed you to vote for Mr. Monson ?—Mr. Nichols and Mr. Peat.

36,144. Did you receive anything before the poll ?—I did not.

36,145. What did you receive after ?—2*l.*

36,146. From Mr. Peat ?—Yes.

36,147. You were not on the committee at all ?—I was not.

36,148. And did nothing ?—No, I did not.

36,149. You received 2*l.* for your vote ?—Mr. Peat told me he would give me 2*l.* for two days' time, for the loss of two days' time.

36,150. For your voting ?—No, not my voting.

36,151. Why did Mr. Monson care about your losing two days' work if you did not vote for him; a man of judgment and the least common sense would not say that was so; however, you received the 2*l.* ?—Yes.

36,152. How soon after the election did you receive it ?—I should say two months.

TWENTY-THIRD DAY.

R. Burge.

17 Sept. 1866.

36,153. Did you apply to him for it?—I did not.

36,154. How did you receive it?—He brought it to me when I was at work.

36,155. Did he name the 2*l.*?—No; he said most people had had something, and he thought I should have something.

36,156. When you promised to vote was anything said?—No.

36,157. He said you would be paid for polling and nomination day?—He told me so after.

36,158. And he gave you the 2*l.* for that?—The two days I had lost; but there was nothing said about it at the time.

36,159. There was nothing said about it when he asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Nothing was said about money matters.

36,160. Did you ever vote before?—No.

36,161. This was your first election?—Yes.

The witness then withdrew.

G. Robson.

GEORGE ROBSON sworn and examined.

36,162. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Mr. Robson?—A head gardener; a gardener.

36,163. What rent do you pay for your house?—I pay 13*l.* a year.

36,164. Do you pay it by the week?—I generally do, but my landlord is not particular whether it is paid weekly or monthly.

36,165. Who did you vote for?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

36,166. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

36,167. Who put you on?—Mr. Mazden.

36,168. What were you to do?—I was to attend meetings.

36,169. Did you do much of that?—I did all that was required.

36,170. Did it amount to much?—It amounted to more than I wished it; I did what I was required every night when he sent after me.

36,171. Did they send after you more than one night?—Yes.

36,172. Was any arrangement made with you what you were to have?—No.

36,173. Did you receive anything before the election?—No.

36,174. Did you receive anything after the election?—I received 2*l.* from Thomas Penfold.

36,175. Was that all you received?—It was, sir; every farthing.

36,176. Did the Monson party try to get your assistance?—Not from any one I considered an agent. Certainly I was asked by a party, but I did not considered him duly authorized to ask me.

36,177. Did they give you to understand in pretty plain terms what they would give?—They did not; I did not consider him an agent.

36,178. What were the terms?—30*s.* a week, and Joseph Hewett suggested it; but I never listened to this, because I had promised the other side.

36,179 Was this your first election?—No, '63; and I voted for Mr. Gower and was on his committee.

36,180. And what did you receive that time?—I received 3*l.* from Thomas Corderoy; it was my first election.

36,181. In 1863 you did not receive any other money to give to anybody else whatever?—Not a fraction.

The witness withdrew.

G. Etcell.

GEORGE ETCELL sworn and examined.

36,182. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A labourer.

36,183. What rent did you pay?—4*s.* a week.

36,184. What did you labour at?—In the roads.

36,185. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

36,186. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

36,187. Where were you on his committee?—Mead-vale.

36,188. I suppose you worked?—Yes, a bit.

36,189. By attending committees, I suppose?—Yes.

36,190. And voted?—Yes.

36,191. What did you get paid?—I lost two days, nomination and polling.

36,192. What did you get paid for it?—30*s.*, two months after the election.

36,193. From whom?—Mr. Penfold.

36,194. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) After the election?—Two months after.

36,195. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Penfold put you on the committee?—Mr. Buckland.

36,196. When you were put on the committee did Mr. Buckland tell you what you would have?—No, there was no money mentioned by Mr. Buckland.

36,197. Were you told that you would receive something for your loss of time?—Yes.

36,198. I suppose you took that something to mean money?—Yes.

36,199. Though money was not actually mentioned, you understood you were to receive money?—To be paid for my loss of time.

36,200. You are always paid in money?—Yes.

36,201. It is no use saying you did not expect to receive money. Eventually you received 30*s.* from Penfold?—Yes.

36,202. Had you voted before?—Yes.

36,203. In 1863?—Yes, for Mr. Wilkinson.

36,204. Were you on the committee then?—No.

36,205. Did you work?—No.

30,206. Nothing?—Nothing.

36,207. Did you lose your nomination and polling day?—I never received it or never asked for it.

36,208. Did you lose it?—No, I got off, because I was not gone 20 minutes; I worked near.

36,209. You were not paid for that?—No.

36,210. Was that your first election?—No, one before that.

36,211. Was that in 1859?—It was the general election in 1859.

36,212. For whom did you vote then?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

36,213. Did you receive anything for it?—No.

35,214. Did you receive anything at all during that election?—I received nothing till this time.

36,215. You understand what we mean now by being paid, money or money's worth?—I received nothing whatever.

36,216. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I only want to ask you this: where were you working in 1865, when you received 30*s.* for nomination and polling day?—On the other side of the Brighton railway of the British Land Society.

36,217. How far from here?—About a mile or a mile and a half.

36,218. Did you have anything deducted from your wages for nomination and polling day?—Two days.

36,219. How much was deducted?—2*s.* 8*d.* was my pay. It was 4*s.* 4*d.*

36,220. 5*s.* 4*d.*?—Yes, 5*s.* 4*d.*

36,221. Then you were paid 30*s.* instead of your 5*s.* 4*d.*?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE TULLETT sworn and examined.

36,222. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A brewer.

36,223. What rent do you pay?—31*l.* a year.

36,224. For whom did you vote—For Mr. Gower this time.

36,225. What is your house?—The sign of the "Bell."

36,226. This is not the first time you voted?—No.

36,227. For whom did you vote in 1863?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

36,228. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—No.

36,229. Did you supply refreshments? Your house was used, I think?—Yes, it was.

36,230. What did you receive for the use of your rooms?—I had nothing for the rooms, only for the refreshments, 3*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Green.

36,231. That was the first time?—That was for refreshments.

36,232. Was that paid before the polling?—No, afterwards.

36,233. Perhaps you did not send in your account till after the election?—No, not till after the election.

36,234. Did that include all the refreshments you supplied?—Yes.

36,235. How many evenings did that include?—Only one evening, and then they came in on polling day and nomination day.

36,236. Did you exert yourself for Mr. Gower?—No.

36,237. In any way?—No.

36,238. Did you receive anything for yourself?—Not a farthing.

36,239. Neither before or after?—No.

36,240. No consideration whatever?—No.

36,241. You voted in 1863?—Yes.

36,242. Were you on Mr. Wilkinson's committee?—No.

36,243. Was your house used by the Wilkinson party in 1863?—Yes.

36,244. What was your bill?—I forget what it was. It was about 3*l.*, but I never got the money, worse luck.

36,245. Why, if you supplied refreshments, did you not get it?—I took the bill to Mr. James up at Laker's; he pushed me aside and said, "I think you are one of "those fellows who would have turned the other "way."

36,246. What had that to do with supplying beer?—Nothing; still I never got my money.

36,247. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had voted his way, Mr. James's way?—Yes, Mr. James was that way. Westbury gave me the order to give the men beer.

36,248. Why did you not sue Westbury?—I let it go.

35,249. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Why do you not now sue Westbury?—I have let it go.

36,250. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why should you supply beer for the benefit of Mr. Wilkinson's men?—I have no right to.

36,251. You might as well send in a barrel of beer to his cellar and say, "Mr. Wilkinson, you are a poor "man, I will supply you with beer." Did you receive any money that election?—No.

36,252. Was that the first time you voted?—No.

36,253. I take it that you received no consideration?—Nothing.

36,254. Except you were a loser?—I was a loser.

36,255. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you make an application to have a meeting held at your house?—No.

36,256. Did you not? Then how was it they came to hold a meeting at your house?—What I mean is, I never made an application. A few came in one night, about a dozen, and the rest at odd times in the day, when they were round with bills or anything.

36,257. Did they not pay then?—No.

36,258. Why not?—Because I was ordered to give it to the canvassers.

36,259. Who ordered you?—Mr. Green asked me to give some refreshments away.

36,260. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was in 1865?—Yes.

36,261. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What I want to know is how many meetings you had at your house, besides refreshments to canvassers?—Only one night, when there were about a dozen.

36,262. How did they come to hold a meeting there?—I spoke to one or two, and they spoke to one another.

36,263. You spoke to one or two, asking them whether they would come and have a meeting at your house?—Yes, I had a dozen of them.

36,264. Who was it you asked to come and have a meeting at your house?—I cannot say now; it was a few of the neighbours.

36,265. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said, "Give me a turn"?—Yes, or something like that.

36,266. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And they did?—Yes.

36,267. Was there much refreshment sold to other people when they had a meeting there?—No, there was no one else there.

36,268. How many were there?—I should think something like a dozen.

36,269. What did they take to drink?—Ale.

36,270. Only ale?—No more; I keep a beer house.

36,271. Does it occur to you now, after the conversation you and I have had, what the 3*l.* 10*s.* was paid to you by Mr. Green for?—For nothing; only the refreshments, which was three weeks before, and very often the canvassers came round.

36,272. And had a glass of beer?—Yes, when they were round.

36,273. How many times?—I could not tell you.

36,274. Allowing for that, does it occur to you what Mr. Green paid you the 3*l.* 10*s.* for?—For the refreshments.

36,275. You really think that?—Yes.

36,276. And you consider you earned it?—Yes.

36,277. For what beer was supplied?—Yes, what I supplied.

36,278. You really do not mean to say for one night's meeting of about 12 people, and for a casual glass of beer for canvassers, you had a claim for 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Not only one night.

36,279. Yes it was only one night, I got it particularly; and besides the one night there were casual glasses of beer to the canvassers as they came round, first one and then another?—Yes.

36,280. Do you mean to tell me that your proper account was 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

36,281. Did you send in an account?—Yes, Mr. Green had the bill.

36,282. Were there items in Mr. Green's account, or did you put down the amount, the whole sum, 3*l.* 10*s.*? I could not tell, I am no scholar, and my misses made the bill out, and they paid her the money.

36,283. You knew Mr. Gower had been up in 1863, now, knowing that, I ask you why did you promise for Mr. Gower?—Because when I promised for Mr. Wilkinson I never got the money for what they had in refreshments.

36,284. You voted for Mr. Gower because you had not been paid at the previous election by Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

36,285. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You cannot give us the supply of beer?—No.

36,286. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose you give 36*s.* a barrel?—No, not quite so much.

36,287. What did you give?—33*s.*

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is a little over two barrels, or nearly two barrels and a half.

36,288. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I see refreshments put down, were there any other refreshments given?—Not that I know of.

TWENTY-THIRD DAY.

G Tullett.

17 Sept. 1866.

36,289. I mean bread and butter, or bread and cheese ?—They might have some bread and butter to help the beer down.

36,290. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you have your meeting shortly before the election ?—No, three weeks or a month before.

The witness withdrew.

W. Hopper.

William Hopper sworn and examined.

36,291. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A groom and gardener.

36,292. What rent do you pay?—13*l.* a year.

36,293. Paid quarterly, or weekly, or how ?—When the man likes to come for it; sometimes six months, perhaps three months, or four.

36,294. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

36,295. I do not know who put you on the committee ?—Nobody.

36,296. You were not on ?—No.

36,297. Who was it talked to you about your vote ?—He came to me.

36,298. After he came, I want to know who of the agents came?—Baggalley talked to me about it.

36,299. Who was Baggaley working under ?—He is a master man for himself.

36,300. What did Baggaley pay you ? Did he pay you something before the election ?—No.

36,301. What did Baggaley pay you after the election ?—2*l.*, after the election.

36,302. From whom ?—From himself.

36,303. I wish you could tell me who he was working for ?—No, I cannot.

36,304. Who did you vote for in 1863 ?—Mr. Gower.

36,305. What did you get then ?—Nothing at all.

36,306. How was that ?—Because I did not get it, I suppose.

36,307. That is the same thing over again ; why did you not ?—I do not know ; I was promised it.

36,308. Who by ?—Mr. Nichols promised me I should be paid.

36,309. Were you on the committee ?—I was on the committee three weeks or a month.

36,310. When you asked to be paid what did he say ?—I saw him in the road one day ; I went and said it was a long time before I got anything; he said he could not pay me anything, and I did not see him again to say anything to him about it.

36,311. How much did he promise you ?—He did not promise anything at all.

36,312. Was that your first election ?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

W. Hind.

William Hind sworn and examined.

36,313. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—I am underguard to a goods train.

36,314. For what company ?—South-eastern railway.

36,315. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

36,316. What rent was your house ?—10*l.* a year.

36,317. Did you pay by the week or quarterly ?—Weekly.

36,318. Who was your landlord ?—Mr. Stoneman.

36,319. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee ?—He told me I was.

36,320. Who did ?—Mr. Stoneman.

36,321. Did you attend any of the committees ?—I tried to do so.

36,322. Where ?—At the town hall.

36,323. When was it Mr. Stoneman told you you were on the committee?—I cannot tell you when it was.

36,324. Did he mention any sum to you ?—Yes.

36,325. He mentioned a sum, but you do not remember what sum ?—I do not.

36,326. Did you receive any money before voting ?—Yes.

36,327. Did you receive any money after ?—No; I have not got it yet.

36,328. Did you ask Mr. Stoneman about it ?—Yes.

36,329. How long after the election did you apply to Mr. Stoneman ?—I did not apply ; oh, yes I did.

36,330. I call asking him applying ?—Yes, I did ask for it, two or three times.

36,331. How long after the election did you first ask him ?—A few weeks after.

36,332. What did he say ?—He said he could not get the money.

36,333. Was it the same answer each time ?—Yes.

36,334. That he could not get the money ?—Yes.

36,335. Do you know Shepherd ?—Yes.

36,336. Did he ask you ?—No.

36,337. Did he not canvass you at all ?—No.

36,338. Are you sure ?—Yes.

36,339. Did you hear the other men on the railway were receiving money ?—Yes.

36,340. Had Stoneman seen you before you heard these men were to receive money ?—I do not know that.

36,341. I want to know whether you were promised by the other side ?—No.

36,342. You promised to Mr. Gower ?—I do not think I did.

36,343. I mean to say perhaps you can charge it to your recollection in this way ; you had promised Mr Gower through Mr. Stoneman ?—I never saw Mr. Gower at all.

36,344. You saw Mr. Stoneman ?—Yes; it might have been a little before; I think it was.

36,345. Before you heard anything about the other men receiving money ?—Yes. I do not know who it was that spoke to me about it, whether it was Shepherd or anybody else ; I cannot say who it was.

36,346. I suppose you said you had promised your vote ?—Yes.

36,347. And there was an end of it ?—Yes.

36,348. Did they offer you anything on the part of Mr. Monson, though you did not accept it ?—No, not till after the election.

36,349. You were offered something from Mr. Monson's party ?—Yes.

36,350. Though you had voted for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

36,351. Who was it offered you anything on the part of Mr. Monson ?—William Cook.

36,352. Was he a fellow workman ?—He was an engine driver.

36,353. What took place between you and Cook ?—About the night before polling day he came and asked me if I would vote for Mr. Monson, and, as I could not get any money from the other side, I told him if they would put me on and canvass me I would let them have my vote, "otherwise," I said, "I will "vote for Mr. Gower." As I never heard any more of it, not till after the polling, I went according as I said, and voted for Mr. Gower, as there was no one who had come to me. Two days after the polling day, I think it was, William Cook brought me 5*l.*; I said, "Well, you may divide that, I have not voted for Mr. "Monson;" and I said, "You take half and I will take "half."

36,354. Which way did Cook vote ?—I do not think he had any vote at all.

36,355. Did Cook tell you who he got the 5*l.* from ?—I think he said from Langridge's.

36,356. Are you certain William Cook was not a voter ?—I am certain he was not; he told me he wished he had a vote at the same time.

36,357. How much were you paid by Cook ?—2*l.* 10*s.*

36,358. Did Cook tell you where he got the 5*l.* from?—I believe he said he got it from Langridge's.

36,359. At Langridge's?—Yes; at the "Railway" inn, I think it is.

36,360. Was that all that took place between you and Cook?—That was all that took place; it was only a day or two before the polling.

36,361. You were paid after the polling?—I was paid, I think, two days after polling.

36,362. Cook had asked to vote for Mr. Monson?—Yes. I did not think he had got anything to do with it.

36,363. Did this take place—just tell me whether I am right in the assumption—Cook canvassed you for Mr. Monson, remember, two days before the election, and you held out inducements to him that you would vote if you were canvassed?—If they would come to me and canvass me, and ask me; I said that he had got nothing to do with it, and therefore I did not take his word.

36,364. Do you know from any source that Cook had received the money before the polling day to be paid to you?—I do not think he did.

36,365. Did Cook tell you he had got the 5*l.* from Langridge's to pay you for your vote for Mr. Monson?—He said, "I have got 5*l.* for you."

36,366. Did he not tell you he had got the 5*l.*, and that it was to be paid to you for your vote for Mr. Monson?—He did not mention that word.

36,367. Or anything like it; he must have told you why he had got it?—I never asked him, because I thought perhaps it might be for that; I did not ask him how it was.

36,368. Did he not tell you he had got it from Langridge's for you?—He told me he had got 5*l.* for me; I said, "All right, you shall have half of it."

36,369. Was not that before the election?—It was two days after, I think.

36,370. Did he tell you from whence he got it?—He told me he had just got it.

36,371. He did not know that you had voted for Mr. Gower, I expect?—I do not know, I told him plain enough, that if no one came to me I should.

36,372. That was before the election?—Yes.

36,373. That was to Cook?—Yes, two nights before the election I did. They had never been to see me about my vote, and therefore I did not vote for them.

36,374. Are you quite certain that it was not on the nomination day you got the 5*l.* from George Cook?—It was two days after, I believe.

36,375. Where is Cook?—He is driver now on the goods train; he is at Redhill.

36,376. Does he live at the railway station, does he leave from the railway station?—Yes, to Bricklayers Arms.

36,377. Had you voted before here?—No, that was the first that I ever had.

36,378. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Stoneman canvassed you for your vote and told you you would be paid?—Yes.

36,379. How much?—I do not think he told me how much, he said I should be paid for my trouble.

36,380. You are at work on the railway, you could do nothing about it; how much did he say?—He did not say, and therefore I cannot tell you.

36,381. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said he did tell you, but you could not recollect?—Did I? Then I cannot recollect.

36,382. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you expect to get?—I did not expect to get much.

36,383. How much?—I heard the others were to have 30*s.* a week, but I did not expect so much.

36,384. You did not expect to get so much?—No.

36,385. And what the others had was 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

36,386. When you told Cook to send a man to canvass you, if the man came and offered you the same as the others were getting you would vote for Mr. Monson, that is what you meant by canvassing?—No, I do not know that I did.

36,387. Now, come, come?—No, I thought my vote was worth asking for.

36,388. You thought if your vote was not worth paying for you would not give it. You expected what the other men were getting. There is not a more intelligent and respectable class of men than railway men, they are obliged to be so from their work; now you must know that is what you meant by saying if they would come and ask you for your vote they should have it?—They never offered me anything.

36,389. You did not get the money before you voted, why did you keep it after?—I thought perhaps it might not go back to the right owners, and I thought I might as well have it.

36,390. Do you mean that he would steal it?—I did not expect that he had stolen it.

36,391. No, but retained it; that would be equally dishonest; do you mean that?—No, I do not mean that.

36,392. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you do not recollect what was the exact sum offered to you?—No.

36,393. Was it not 4*l.* 10*s.* for the three weeks, 30*s.* a week?—I know that appeared in the paper, but it was never offered me.

36,394. It was not offered you?—It was not offered me.

36,395. You say some sum of money was offered?—There was a sum of money offered, but not that sum; the sum of money was never mentioned to me.

36,396. I think you said this was the first time you voted?—Yes.

36,397. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you know who Stoneman was working under?—He was working under Mr. Gower.

36,398. Yes, I know all that; but what agent was he accountable to?—Job Apted.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES BYFIELD sworn and examined.

J. Byfield.

(*The Witness.*) Before you ask me any question I will say a few words, and then you may proceed as fast as you like. I have been an inhabitant of this town for 20 years, and I have been in every election for 20 years, and I have been on every committee, and I really am sorry to see my name mixed up with such a lot of bad men as I have seen it. My name is not on the register now, and I am very happy that they have made a mistake and left it off. I was ashamed to see it.

36,399. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I need hardly ask you after that, you never received any money?—I never thought of such a thing, such a thing never entered my mind, nor I did not suppose that anybody else did. I was so simple as that, although I am 74 years old.

36,400. We are never too old to learn.—I have learned a great deal I am sure.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE BOORMAN sworn and examined.

G. Boorman.

36,401. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A painter.

36,402. What rent do you pay for your house?—12*l.*

TWENTY-THIRD DAY.

G. Boorman.

17 Sept. 1866.

36,403. Weekly ?—Quarterly.

36,404. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Monson.

36,405. Were you on his committee ?—My name was on.

36,406. Who put it on ?—I do not know.

36,407. Who asked you to vote for him, probably he was the man that did it ?—Mr. Monson and Mr. Gower came to my house.

36,408. After that who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson, which of their agents ?—I was not asked by any one; I told them weeks, almost months, before who I should vote for.

36,409. Who did you say you were going to vote for ?—Mr. Monson.

36,410. Did you work for Mr. Monson ?—No.

36,411. Not at all ?—No.

36,412. You took no part in it ?—No.

36,413. Did you receive any money to pay to any of the electors ?—No, not a halfpenny.

36,414. Did you receive any money before the election ?—Nothing.

36,415. Did you receive anything after the election ?—Yes.

36,416. Who from ?—Corderoy.

36,417. What did you get ?—3*l.*

36,418. What for ?—I suppose because I voted for them; I did not do anything.

36,419. You are the first man who has uttered that in plain English that I recollect. Was this your first election ?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

W. G. Love.

William George Love sworn and examined.

36,420. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—A house decorator.

36,421. Is that all or are you anything else besides that ?—Paper hanging, if that is anything.

36,422. You are connected with that trade simply ?—Yes.

36,423. What do you pay for the rent of your house ?—20*l.* a year.

36,424. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

36,425. And were you on the committee ?—I was not.

36,426. Did you receive anything on account of the election ?—I think not; merely for making a flag, and dying it and painting on it "Welcome Mr. Gower."

36,427. What did you get for that flag ?—1*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*; it was a banneret.

36,428. A banner ?—Yes.

36,429. Was it a painted banner ?—Yes.

36,430. Who paid you for it ?—Mr. Smith.

36,431. Who ordered it ?—Mr. Heath.

36,432. What Heath ?—William Heath.

36,433. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was he a carpenter ?—No, a gasfitter.

36,434. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) William Heath of where ?—Of Reigate.

36,435. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And a voter ?—And a voter.

36,436. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) William Heath of Church-street, is that it ?—Yes.

36,437. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the banner used for ?—To put up in the town hall, the public hall. It was to welcome Mr. Gower when he first came into Reigate this time.

36,438. It was not for the election ?—It was to welcome him here.

36,439. Was that the only banner you made, was that the only flag or banner used ?—The only one.

36,440. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were there any devices on it ?—Yes, "Welcome Gower."

36,441. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were there any emblems ?—No.

36,442. Was that the only money you received ?—Yes.

36,443. From anybody ?—From anybody.

36,444. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) On any account ?—Yes.

36,445. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you voted in '63 ?—I had.

36,446. Were you on any committee then ?—On Mr. Gower's committee.

36,447. Had you anything to do then ?—Two flags; those were flags for poles on the tops of houses.

36,448. What did you get for them ?—I forget.

36,449. About ?—Perhaps 8*l.* or 9*l.*, or 9*l.* or 10*l.*

36,450. For the two ?—Yes.

36,451. What were those flags made of ?—I do not know.

36,452. They were not made of silk I suppose ?—No, that would not be the price of one.

36,453. Were they made of bunting ?—Yes.

36,454. Like ordinary ship flags ?—The ordinary flag; they were made here.

36,455. You said they were large flags ?—I should think they were 20 feet long.

36,456. Was "Welcome Gower" on them ?—No, I think it was "Gower for Reigate."

36,457. Who paid you then ?—Mr. Smith.

36,458. You had no flag "Purity for ever" ?—No.

36,459. "Purity of election" ?—Oh, no.

36,460. Had you voted before ?—No.

36,461. Or taken part in any election before ?—No.

36,462. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you send in a bill ?—I did.

36,463. To Mr. Smith ?—Yes.

36,464. You did not give a description of the banners ?—No, I did not give any description of it; I sent in my bill, "Supplying banner, materials and labour."

36,465. Had you been in the habit of supplying banners ?—Yes.

36,466. Before you were a voter ?—Yes, it is in my line of business.

36,467. Did you paint any banners in '59 ?—No, I was not here in Reigate then.

36,368. Then you never painted a banner for a Reigate election before ?—No.

36,469. Where did you paint banners before ?—I painted the first one in the High-street here.

36,470. For whom ?—The banner for last election, for Mr. Gower.

36,471. Did you paint banners in a place where you were not a voter ?—Yes.

36,472. Where ?—Norwich and Yarmouth.

36,473. You were not a voter at Yarmouth ?—No.

36,474. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you charge the Yarmouth prices ?—No, they are too dear.

36,475. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you paint that flag ?—Some time ago, twenty years ago.

36,476. For what ?—I forget.

36,477. Was it an election banner ?—No.

36,478. You cannot tell me the price ?—No, perhaps 15 or 20 guineas; it was in gold and silver perhaps.

36,479. You cannot tell me of any you have made lately ?—Yes; the price all depends upon what you put on them.

36,480. I will put it to you, was the price you charged for the flag a fair tradesmanlike price ?—Yes.

36,481. Was it a fair tradesmanlike price, and not put on for the purpose; not a mere pretence ?—Oh, not at all.

36,482. It was not much more than if you were doing it for anybody else ?—No.

36,483. I do not mean that you should not charge a fair price ?—No, I should not charge more than to any other man if he came to me at such a time.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM LEGG sworn and examined.

36,484. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

36,485. A master bricklayer I suppose?—No, a journeyman.

36,486. What do you pay for your house?—16*l.* a year.

36,487. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

36,488. Were you on the committee?—No, never on the committee in my life.

36,489. Did you do anything for him?—No, not anything.

36,490. Had you voted before this election?—Oh yes, I voted for Mr. Parrott, as far back as that.

36,491. Did you receive anything during this election?—Not a farthing.

36,492. Nor after?—Nor after, and I never had anything promised me.

36,493. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Not in this '65 election?—No.

36,494. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you receive anything in the '63 election?—Nothing.

36,495. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Wilkinson I think, that time.

36,496. You received nothing?—Nothing.

36,497. You had not worked for him?—I never did anything for him.

36,498. You gave an honest vote?—Yes.

36,499. Can you say the same of all the votes you have given?—I had 10*l.* for my room at Mr. Doulton's election, and that is all I received at any election; I had a beer house.

36,500. Do you keep a beer house now?—Yes.

36,501. Did your house supply refreshments to Mr. Gower's party?—It did once.

36,502. This last time?—For one night.

36,503. What was the amount?—30*s.* I think; I will not be sure to a few shillings.

36,504. Was that a fair price for the beer taken and drunk?—Yes, that is the ale, and ginger-beer, and everything.

36,505. Did they consume that?—They consumed that.

36,506. Honestly consumed it?—Yes.

36,507. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did the committee take your room this last election?—No, that was in Mr. Doulton's time.

36,508. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Have you been paid the 30*s.*, have you been paid it yourself?—Yes.

36,509. By whom?—Titchener, he paid me before he left the room 30*s.*; I will not be certain to a shilling or so, but it was something like that.

36,510. Do you mean that there had been a meeting at your house?—Yes, one meeting.

36,511. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Titchener paid you?—Yes.

36,512. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now be sure that I will give you every opportunity of correcting yourself if you are in error; are you sure whether you received 30*s.*?—It might be a shilling under or over.

36,513. I do not mean a shilling under or over, but did you receive any other monies besides the 30*s.*? Not a farthing.

36,514. From anybody else?—From no one.

36,515. And who did you say paid it?—Titchener.

36,516. Did you send in any bill with the refreshments?—I gave Titchener the bill.

36,517. Can you tell me how much was in the bill you gave Titchener?—It was something like 30*s.*; it might have been a shilling under or over.

36,518. Might it be as much as 15*s.* or 16*s.* for refreshments, and you received 30*s.*?—No, it was within 2*s.* either way of 30*s.* I am sure.

36,519. Do not be too sure. Look at that bill, read it yourself?—(*The bill was handed to the witness.*) Well, that is it.

36,520. That is a bill for 16*s.* for refreshments, and you received 30*s.*?—Perhaps it was not any more, I never had but one.

36,521. I gave you every possible opportunity of correcting yourself?—I thought it was so.

36,522. You received the 30*s.*?—I do not know that I did; I received the money to pay for the bill.

36,523. I asked you again and again did you receive the 30*s.*?—I cannot tell, this thing was so long ago; I did not hear or see any more about them.

36,524. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said, "I "am sure it was only 1*s.* or 2*s.* more or under"?—Yes.

36,525. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I asked you first if there was anything besides the refreshments, and I wished to call your attention and confine your memory to it. This would appear as if you received the 30*s.* and that the refreshments were 16*s.*, and, therefore, that 14*s.* went into your own pocket?—It never went into my pocket.

36,526. But that is what it would appear?—I never had a farthing but the bill.

36,527. It is Featherstone you received it from?—No.

36,528. "July 4th, 1865, Mr. Green and Mr. L., "for refreshments,"?—I made a mistake, there must be two; there must have been two meetings, but I had quite forgotten about that.

36,529. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Here is the bill, it is plain enough?—Oh, that is right enough.

36,530. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

36,531. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do pray explain it some way or other?—It appears as if we had had two meetings, but I had forgotten all about it.

36,532. It does not look like it to me?—I recollect now, that Mr. Wesley came up; I think it was him.

36,533. Do you think it is this, that you sent in this bill for 16*s.* for refreshments, and that they paid you 30*s.*?—No, there was another one from Titchener.

36,534. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then you had two bills?—I had two.

36,535. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What for?—For refreshments, and I was thinking I had but one; that is how it is.

36,536. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you sign a receipt for the money you received?—I gave that to Titchener.

36,537. You sent in a bill to him?—No, he paid me before he left the room.

36,538. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then you gave him a receipt?—Well, I expect so.

36,539. Would you give him a receipt for it to enable him to get the money from somebody else?—Yes.

36,540. Robert Legg is your brother?—Yes.

36,541. Did you supply any refreshments in Mr. Doulton's time?—No.

36,542. You got 10*l.* for the use of the room?—Yes.

36,543. Did you vote for Mr. Doulton?—Yes.

36,544. Do you not think it will be worth while if you could clear this up by going to Titchener and asking him to give you the receipt?—I can go and ask him.

36,545. As it at present stands you were paid 30*s.* for a 16*s.* bill?—No, it is a mistake.

36,546. That is the way it stands?—Yes, but it is a mistake altogether.

36,547. My advice to you is, that you should turn it over in your mind, and ask Titchener for information; you understand how it is at present?—It is quite right; I made a mistake.

36,548. It is not right here, you can if you like explain it by getting the bill?—Well, I can; I really forgot that little meeting.

36,549. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are put down in Titchener's account as having received from

TWENTY-THIRD DAY.

W. Legg.

17 Sept. 1866.

him 1*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* ?—That must be it, I only had one against him.

36,550. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That one is for 16*s.* ?—No, that is not Titchener's.

36,551. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then you think it might have been 1*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* instead of 30*s.* ? Yes, it might have been; I forgot entirely about that meeting.

36,552. Did either bill include anything but the refreshments supplied ?—Only refreshments.

36,553. Did it not include anything but the price of the refreshment which you supplied ?—That was all.

36,554. Nothing more ?—Nothing more.

36,555. You did not specify the different items ?—No.

36,556. Who made out the bill; did your wife ?—I expect one of my boys did.

36,557. Who kept an account of what was drawn and supplied ?—Perhaps I did; I think most likely I did.

36,558. Did you enter it on a slate ?—Yes, I made a mark for every pot.

36,559. I really want to know, not as against you, but rather as helping you, what did they have to drink ?—They had ale and ginger beer generally.

36,560. And they consumed all that amount ?—Yes.

36,561. You say that ?—Yes, I do.

36,562. How many of them were there ?—I do not know; 16 or 17 perhaps; I do not know exactly.

36,563. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you remember another meeting at all ?—No, I do not remember it.

36,564. Do you remember Mr. Thomas Featherstone paying you any money ?—That was in Mr. Doulton's election.

36,565. No, this last election of '65 ?—He never paid me a farthing.

36,566. Did you receive any money at all from Mr. Green through anybody ?—No.

36,567. Not in '65 ?—Only that for refreshments.

36,568. I mean for refreshments ?—Oh yes, I own I took that; I thought you meant for myself.

36,569. No, I meant for refreshments ?—I beg your pardon then.

36,570. Do you recollect who ordered the meeting that Titchener paid for ?—I do not know that any one did, and he said, "Bring us a drop of beer," and I brought it in and poured it out.

36,571. How many were there ?—There might be 16 or 18.

36,572. How about the bill ?—He said, "I will pay " for it."

36,573. Was that beer ?—Yes.

36,574. Nothing but beer ?—Ale and ginger beer, and beer and tobacco.

36,575. You do not mean that they drank 1*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* worth ?—They drank all that I charged him for.

36,576. There is a little bit of difficulty about how much you say you received; you say that you received 30*s.* from him; he puts it down to you 2*l.* all but 4*s.* 6*d.*, he puts it down at 1*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, that is the amount ?—I do not think it was so much.

36,577. He has entered it as 1*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* ?—Is there any ticket with it ?

36,578. No, nothing at all from you; do you mean that 16 people coming in in that way would consume 30*s.* worth ?—They would drink what I charged them for.

36,579. You say you did receive it ?—I fancy it was something like that.

36,580. Was it the case that Titchener paid you more than you charged for refreshments ?—No, he never paid for anything more than they had.

36,581. Do you think they could drink up about 2*l.* worth; could that be possible ?—They consumed what I charged them.

The witness withdrew.

G. Clapson.

GEORGE CLAPSON sworn and examined.

36,582. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

36,583. Were you on the committee ?—No.

36,584. Did you receive anything on account of the election ?—No.

36,585. What are you ?—A draper's assistant.

36,586. Had you voted before ?—Yes.

36,587. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What rent did you pay ?—

36,588. Had you voted in '63 ?—Every election since Mr. Hackblock's.

36,589. Have you from first to last given as pure a vote as you gave in '65 ?—Yes.

36,590. Never received anything for it ?—Never.

36,591. (*The Chief Commissioner*). In 1865 you were a draper's assistant ?—Yes.

36,592. You did not keep any house, a beer house ?—No.

36,593. Did you make any application for anything ?—No.

36,594. Were you on the committee ?—I was on.

36,595. Who put you on ?—I do not know.

36,596. Who asked you to vote ?—I do not know.

36,597. In 1865 ?—Mr. Gower.

36,598. Which of his agents asked you after ?—Mr. Buckland asked me.

36,599. Did he tell you he would put you on the committee ?—No, I never asked him.

36,600. Did he ask you to vote ?—Yes.

36,601. Did he tell you why it would be a good thing for you to vote for Mr. Gower ?—No, I received nothing.

36,602. He did not speak to you about it ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

G. Cearn.

GEORGE CEARN sworn and examined.

36,603. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A carpenter.

36,604. What rent do you pay ?—Nothing at all.

36,605. You are a freeholder ?—Yes.

36,606. What is the value of your house ?—It is rated about 14*l.*

36,607. About what is the annual value of the house ?—About 20*l.*

36,608. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—For Mr. Gower; I had not a vote before.

36,609. Were you on his committee ?—No.

36,610. Who asked you to vote for him ?—Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith.

36,611. Besides Mr. Gower himself who asked you afterwards ?—Several people merely asked me.

36,612. But which of the principal agents was it who canvassed you ?—I do not know that any one did; I went to ask Mr. Mazden, of Mead-vale, being a friend, living there; I take my vote from that place; I asked him what he thought about the election, and which way he was going. He said he was going for Mr. Gower, and he being a friend, and as I had a house there for sale, I told him I would go the way he did.

36,613. Having a house there for sale ?—Yes.

36,614. What is Mr. Mazden ?—A publican of Mead-vale.

36,615. What would be the good of going his way because you had a house for sale ?—I left it in his hands to sell the property, and it was to my interest to go the way he went, as he was selling my house.

36,616. Is he an auctioneer ?—No, a publican.

36,617. How do you mean sell your house ?—I was going from there, and I left it in his hands. I had no particular choice for which I voted, and it was to my interest to go his way.

36,618. He was looking after your house to sell it for you?—Yes, and I promised him that I should vote for Mr. Gower. I did not promise any one else to my knowledge.

36,619. Did Mr. Mazden tell you that he could help you a bit if you did go?—No such thing was mentioned.

36,620. Did you receive anything at all from Mr. Mazden before the election?—No, never.

36,621. Did you from any one?—No.

36,622. Did you after the election?—No, not a farthing.

36,623. This was your first election?—The first election, and I never received one halfpenny.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned till 11 o'clock the following morning.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

Tuesday, 18th September 1866.

William George Love recalled and examined.

36,624. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told us something about having been paid some money for flags, and for which you say you were paid a fair sum?—Yes.

36,625. You also told me you had been paid for flags in 1863?—Yes.

36,626. And that that was a fair price?—Yes, it was.

36,627. I neglected to ask you whether in 1863 you paid a man named Joseph Digance, 1*l.*?—I did.

36,628. Was it for his vote?—No, for his work.

36,629. Did you canvass him in 1863?—Yes.

36,630. And did you put him on the committee?—No, I do not think I did.

36,631. You do not think you did?—No.

36,632. Did you pay him the 1*l.* before the election?—No, after.

36,633. What had he done for that?—There was his loss of time on the nomination day and polling day; it was for his loss of time or something of that sort.

36,634. Did you canvass people in 1863?—I canvassed several, but I do not know their names now, it is so long since, but I canvassed several people.

36,635. Who did you pay money to besides Digance?—I think I paid Taylor.

36,636. What is his Christian name?—William Taylor.

36,637. Has he been examined?—I think he has.

36,638. How much did you pay him?—10*s.* at one time and 1*l.* another.

36,639. Who else did you pay for the election of 1863?—Gibbs, 10*s.*

36,640. He has been examined?—Yes.

36,641. Who else did you pay in 1863?—I cannot remember.

36,642. Then you paid money out?—Yes, but I cannot remember; I was taken ill and was ill 12 months under a doctor's hands; I lost my memory and the use of my side by a stroke of paralysis.

36,643. I am sorry you were ill, but it seems you were not too ill to pay voters?—I could walk about the streets with a stick, and that kind of thing; anybody could pay voters.

36,644. Whom did you receive your money from?—From Mr. Apted.

36,645. How much money in 1863 did Apted give you altogether?—2*l.* or 3*l.*

36,646. You must be more particular than that, this is money you are dealing with?—I cannot remember, it is so long since.

36,647. Will you swear you did not receive 5*l.*?—Yes, I am certain I did not receive 5*l.*

36,648. Are you quite certain you did not receive four?—I cannot be certain whether I received four or three; I cannot say exactly.

36,649. And that is all you can tell me, is it, about 1863?—Yes.

36,650. I believe you had nothing to do with previous elections?—Yes.

36,651. Did you pay any money then?—No, I never received any money to pay away; I received 1*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* for the flag, and that is all I received.

The witness then withdrew.

Thomas Pither sworn and examined.

T. Pither.

36,652. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A brushmaker.

36,653. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you vote?—18*l.* for the house out of which I vote.

36,654. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

36,655. Were you on his committee?—No.

36,656. Who canvassed you?—I think Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith canvassed me first.

36,657. And who after?—I think Mr. Monson and Mr. Hart called afterwards.

36,658. Did any one canvass you afterwards of the Gower party?—Not any one.

36,659. Had you voted in '63?—I voted in '63 for Mr. Gower.

36,660. Were you on his committee?—Not that I am aware of; I do not think I was.

36,661. You did not attend any committee meetings?—Never.

36,662. Did you canvass on his behalf?—Never.

36,663. Did you receive any money on his behalf?—No.

36,664. Neither before nor after?—Neither before or after; not a halfpenny.

36,665. Or in '63?—No.

36,666. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you been in previous elections?—Yes, I had voted; I never took any other part in them at all.

36,667. Were you in the Doulton election?—I was here at that time.

36,668. And voted?—I voted for Mr. Monson; I think it was the present Lord Monson.

36,669. Have you never, during the whole time you have been here, been offered anything for your vote?—Never in my life, not a hint of it. I should have considered it an insult if I had.

36,670. Have you a son of the same Christian name; I think there must be some mistake?—Yes, a younger son.

36,671. Has he got a vote?—No.

36,672. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was employed about the election?—Yes, but he never had a vote; he was not of age at the time of the election.

36,673. He was employed about the election?—I think he did something in the shape of a messenger.

36,674. He was not a voter?—No; I have two sons, but they are neither of them voters.

The witness withdrew.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

R. Tugwell.

18 Sept. 1866.

RICHARD TUGWELL sworn and examined.

36,675. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—I am a collector.

36,676. What do you pay for your house?—18*l.* 10*s.*

36,677. That is rental?—Yes.

36,678. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

36,679. Who canvassed you for Mr. Monson?—I do not think any one did.

36,680. Were you on the committee?—Yes; I was almost the first who got the requisition up.

36,681. Did you canvass at all?—I did not; my employment was to be in the committee room; I may say I was employed, as I may term it, as a clerk.

36,682. During that time or previous did you at all canvass?—No.

36,683. You were employed, and by whom?—I was employed by Mr. Hart.

36,684. As what?—I assisted him in the office and in the committee room in selecting and directing and sending circulars.

36,685. To assist as clerk?—Yes, my term was so much.

36,686. Anything you like, you are the best judge of what it was?—Yes, so put your own construction upon it.

36,687. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Such duties as a clerk would do?—Yes, taking circulars to be posted.

36,688. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It would not be a clerk's duty to take any letters?—I mean from the office to get them printed, and directing and sending out circulars.

36,689. That lasted some time?—Yes.

36,690. At this time you were a voter; what did you receive before you voted?—3*l.*

36,691. Who from?—Mr. Hart.

36,692. How much afterwards?—I think I received 3*l.* 10*s.* but I am not certain; and I also received a guinea as check clerk.

36,693. Then you received 3*l.* 10*s.* after the election; I have not come to the check clerk yet?—I believe it was, but I am not certain about the shillings.

36,694. I do not mind about shillings?—I know I am right about the pounds.

36,695. After that you were paid by Mr. Hart?—Do you mean the 3*l.* 10*s.*?

36,696. Yes.—No, the 3*l.* 10*s.* I received from Mr. Nichols; that was after my bill went in.

36,697. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you send in a bill?—Yes, which I have no doubt you have.

36,698. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid your bill?—Mr. Nichols.

36,699. How did you receive 3*l.* from Mr. Hart?—You will find it deducted from the bill if you have the bill in your hand.

36,700. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The money was received from Mr. Hart before?—He gave me a cheque for 2*l.* at one time, and he gave me a sovereign after; after that I sent in the bill, and I found that he deducted what I had already received.

36,701. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It does not appear by this account that you deducted anything?—It was deducted in my account.

36,702. In this bill you appear to have received 7*l.* and 2*l.*?—I deducted from the account when I took the money, but I do not know whether it was put in the bill or not.

36,703. It is a receipt in which the only thing there is in pencil; 3*l.* is deducted at the bottom. You will please to explain how much you received from Mr. Nichols?—Deducting the 3*l.* I must have received altogether with the guinea for the check clerk, making 4*l.* 2*s.* The only canvassing I had done was one man. I did canvass one person; that was Turner of Bickley.

36,704. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is in the bill?—Yes, but in my answer before I said I had not canvassed any one.

36,705. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was he the only person you canvassed?—Yes.

36,706. You went down to see him specially?—Yes.

36,707. There were two persons there; there was Holdsworth, and who else?—I do not know anything of the other; I do not know there was another.

36,708. What is Turner?—A butcher; he used to be a butcher at the top of the town.

36,709. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) So you received altogether 6*l.* 10*s.* for your services during the election, the other guinea you got as a check clerk?—Quite right.

36,710. On the polling day?—No, I was paid in the bill.

36,711. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The office of check clerk was performed on the polling day?—Yes, I have been check clerk for the last six or seven elections.

36,712. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I see it is for assisting Mr. Nichols?—It was both; and attending committee rooms and Mr. Hart's rooms in his office. I was there every day previous, almost to the election address, which I think was in April.

36,713. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Hart paid you 3*l.* in the first instance, first 2*l.* and then 1*l.*; and in the second place you were paid 3*l.* 10*s.*; that would be 6*l.* 10*s.*?—I was paid the whole of the bill as it appeared then, but the 3*l.* I put in the corner as having received previously. I must have received, according to the bill, 4*l.* 2*s.*, which makes it 7*l.* 2*s.* altogether, because the check clerk is charged in the bill.

36,714. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

36,715. Did you go on the committee in 1863?—Yes.

36,716. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

36,717. Were you check clerk at the election?—Yes.

36,718. Did you receive a guinea for that?—Yes.

36,719. What else did you receive?—I think I received 3*l.* or 4*l.*

36,720. I should like you to tell me exactly?—I cannot, I have no account of it.

36,721. How much shall I take it you received?—I recollect perfectly well receiving from Mr. Smith at the "White Hart" 1*l.*, and some time after 2*l.*, which makes it 3*l.*; and I think after, with the fee for the election clerk, I might have received two guineas.

36,722. You mean you received one guinea for election clerk and one guinea besides?—Yes.

36,723. That would make 14*l.*?—Yes.

36,724. Was that your first election?—There was only one in 1859; I was then check clerk.

36,725. How much did you receive?—A guinea.

36,726. And how much besides?—I have no recollection.

36,727. I wish you would tell me?—I cannot indeed, I think I was employed on the committee, but I really do not know that I received 1*s.*

36,728. For loss of time you may have received some money?—I do not think I did; I have not the slightest recollection of receiving anything, only for check clerk.

36,729. There were two elections in 1858; were you employed then as check clerk?—Yes.

36,730. At both of them?—Yes.

36,731. You were paid a guinea each time?—Nothing more, I think I may positively swear nothing more besides.

36,732. I will take it as you think?—Yes, to the best of my recollection; I think I may positively swear I did not.

36,733. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It is very important for voters to give us all the information in their power, because we have to pass judgment afterwards upon them; and I wish they would always give us every possible information?—I will give you every information I can.

36,734. Just brush up your memory; did you not

receive 4*l.* from Mr. Smith, independently of what you received as check clerk?—Are you speaking of 1863?

36,735. Yes?—Yes, I think I did; because I recollect perfectly well asking Mr. Smith, after I had been assisting him in the committee rooms, the same as for Mr. Monson, to advance me some money; that was when I had been for a long time working.

36,736. You know you received 4*l.*?—Yes, I received 1*l.*, then 2*l.*, and I think after I was paid for being check clerk I received another.

36,737. Never mind the check clerk; you received 4*l.*, did you not, independently of the check clerk?—Yes, to the best of my recollection it was just that money; 3*l.*, or guineas at least; I know the three were pounds.

36,738. What did you do for that?—In 1863 precisely the same as I did at the last election; I was assistant in the committee room.

36,739. At the last election I see you assisted Mr. Nichols; your name is down for 3*l.* 10*s.* for doing that; we know how Mr. Nichols was engaged, and therefore there is no doubt at all about that, but I want to satisfy my own mind of what you did in 1863?—I believe, to the best of my recollection, it was 4*l.* I received besides.

The witness withdrew.

EDWIN SMALL sworn and examined.

E. Small.

36,740. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A solicitor's clerk.

36,741. You are clerk to Mr. Hart?—Yes.

36,742. Were you a voter at the last election?—Yes.

36,743. What rent do you pay for your house?—18*l.* I think it was. I have two houses, but I think it was the 18*l.* for which I voted.

36,744. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Monson.

36,745. Were you on his committee?—No.

36,746. Did you act in the committee room?—Not in the committee room; I did a good deal of work in the office.

36,747. What office?—Mr. Hart's office.

36,748. I suppose you were a salaried clerk to Mr. Hart?—Yes.

36,749. And the time that was occupied in rendering your services to Mr. Monson was in Mr. Hart's office, so that there was no deduction of your salary from Mr. Hart?—No reduction.

36,750. Did you send in a bill for those services?—No.

36,751. Were you paid for those services?—All that I was paid was the guinea for acting as committee room clerk on the polling day.

36,752. What did you do in the committee room?—I received the slips every hour, and took out the votes and knocked them off the list, and reported who had not voted. I was engaged there all the day.

36,753. You were a voter yourself?—Yes.

36,754. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was yours a weekly salary or yearly salary?—Yes.

36,755. At what periods was it paid?—Quarterly.

36,756. Mr. Hart was the election agent?—Yes, for Mr. Monson.

36,757. Then was any deduction made in your salary by Mr. Hart for the time you were occupied on the committee?—Certainly not; Mr. Hart made me a present in addition to my salary some time after for extra services, because I did a great deal of work.

36,758. You received a guinea for your services?—Yes, as committee room clerk for the one day.

36,759. Did you receive anything extra beyond the guinea?—No.

36,760. You said something about Mr. Hart making you a present?—Oh, Mr. Hart did himself, but that was nothing to do with the election nor with Mr. Monson at all, nothing to do with him.

36,761. You were paid for your services?—It was for the two elections I was engaged in, the county as well as the borough election; we worked for the Conservative candidate for the eastern division of the county.

36,762. What did you get from Mr. Hart for your services?—He gave me 10*l.*

36,763. Were they at all apportioned, some portion for the county and some portion for the borough?—No, he did not apportion it, he gave me a cheque; he made me a present of that for my extra services.

36,764. (*The Chief Commissioner*). Who paid the cheque?—Mr. Hart.

36,765. It was a cheque drawn on whom?—On himself; I think it was drawn on the London and County Bank.

36,766. I understand you received this for extra services while you had been in Mr. Hart's office?—Yes, I did a great deal of work.

36,767. You did a good deal of work that would be returned by him as conducting agent, and for which he would be remunerated at the end of both elections?—Yes.

36,768. And you were at work from 8 o'clock in the morning till 4 o'clock in the afternoon on the day of polling?—Yes.

36,769. Taking an account as they polled and striking them off?—Yes.

36,770. Was that 10*l.* or 10 guineas that Mr. Hart gave you a cheque for?—10*l.* I think.

36,771. That was for your services?—Yes.

36,772. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He says it was for his services at the election, for extra services.—Extra services.

36,773. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I dare say you know whether Mr. Hart returned the 10*l.* in his charges to the candidate?—He did not.

36,774. Are you sure of that?—Quite sure.

36,775. How do you know that?—I made out the accounts.

36,776. Neither for the county or the borough?—Neither.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN YOUNGER sworn and examined.

J. Younger.

36,777. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—You may call me a gentleman; I am a retired tradesman.

36,778. It is a mere formal inquiry. What rent do you pay?—16*l.*

36,779. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

36,780. Were you on his committee?—No, I had nothing to do with it.

36,781. Nothing at all?—No, no further than to give my vote.

36,782. Had you voted at former elections?—Yes.

36,783. Had you been on any of his committees?—Yes; I think on former occasions.

36,784. So that you could give us information about them?—I was on the committee of Mr. Hackblock first.

36,785. That is going far back?—Well, I was on the committee at Mr. Doulton's election.

36,786. Tell us about that, if you please?—I was on his committee, and likewise canvassed.

36,787. Did any monies pass though your hands on that election?—No.

36,788. You were not paymaster at it?—No.

36,789. You did not receive any monies to pay away?—No.

36,790. What did you receive for canvassing?—I think to the best of my recollection, but I will not be certain, it was something like 14*l.* or 15*l.*

36,791. Who paid you?—His lawyer; but I forget his name. But I think it was of London.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

J. Younger.

18 Sept. 1866.

36,792. Was it not Mr. Truman?—Yes, it was Mr. Truman.

36,793. Do you know who was his partner; it was somebody and Truman?—No, I cannot remember.

36,794. You had seen a good deal of the election?—Yes.

36,795. Did you vote in the latter part of the year in 1858; there was another election?—In the same year was there another?

36,796. Yes, in October?—Was that Mr. Wilkinson?

36,797. It was?—Yes, I voted for him.

36,798. You were on his committee?—No.

36,799. But you worked for him?—No, I did not.

36,800. I mistook your word, then?—I beg your pardon. I had forgotten about the election. I know I never voted for Mr. Monson, and therefore I must have voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

36,801. Were you on his committee?—I think I was. No, I am wrong, I remember, the first time I did not vote for Mr. Wilkinson.

36,802. Who did you vote for? Mr. Wilkinson's first time was on the Doulton election, and then he was balloted out; he came afterwards, in the latter end of the year. Do you remember whether you voted for him or not?—I do not think I did.

36,803. But you do remember that you voted once for him?—I do.

36,804. And you were on his committee?—Yes.

36,805. What did you receive for your services?—3*l.* at first, and I think 4*l.* afterwards.

36,806. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then you think it was at the general election of 1859?—I think it was.

36,807. Did any monies pass through your hands?—No, not at any of the elections did I ever have a farthing pass through my hands.

36,808. Who did you promise your vote to on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson?—His lawyer, but I cannot remember his name.

36,809. Was it Mr. Cape, of London?—Yes, I think it was.

36,810. I suppose you received 3*l.* during the election and 4*l.* after?—Yes.

36,811. For whom did you vote in 1863; do you remember?—Not for Mr. Gower.

36,812. Then you voted for Mr. Wilkinson then?—I think that was the time I received the money.

36,813. I want to call your attention to it; 1859 was the sham election?—Yes; it was in 1863.

36,814. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you receive in 1863?—3*l.* and 4*l.*, I think it was to the best of my recollection.

36,815. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) From Mr. Cape?—Yes.

36,816. And I understand you you took no part in it, beyond voting on the last election?—Not in any shape at all.

36,817. And further, you received no money?—In no shape whatever.

36,818. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You understand that only to refer to the last election?—Yes, the last for Mr. Gower. I went down and gave my vote and returned back again. I told the gentlemen when they came it was no use bothering me, that I would only vote that way.

36,819. You never received anything for it?—Not at all, not even a glass of ale, and I never attended any meeting.

The witness withdrew.

W. Heath.

WILLIAM HEATH sworn and examined.

36,820. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A whitesmith.

36,821. What rent do you pay?—25*l.*

36,822. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

36,823. Were you on his committee?—No.

36,824. Did you interest yourself in the election?—Not at all.

36,825. Not at all?—Not in the slightest way.

36,826. I understand that you ordered a flag?—I can soon explain that.

36,827. I do not know that it requires any explanation?—I ordered the flag, but I never attended any meeting.

36,828. I want to tell you that we have had it proved before us that you ordered a flag for the election?—Yes.

36,829. That is correct?—That is quite correct.

36,830. Was it of Mr. Love?—Yes.

36,831. Did you tell Mr. Love from whom you ordered it; what he should receive for it?—Not a word.

36,832. You simply said you wanted a flag for the election?—I would rather tell you the beginning of it. I was walking in the street, and I overtook Mr. Buckland; he is an agent. He told me Mr. Gower was coming to the town hall. I said, "We ought to "have a flag with, 'Welcome, Mr. Gower!'" He said, "Will you order it?" I told him if he gave me that to put on it I did not mind ordering it.

36,833. Mr. Buckland told you to order it?—That is it.

36,834. Did you tell Mr. Love how much it would cost?—Not at all.

36,835. You only ordered the flag?—That is all; it was written on the paper.

36,836. Who wrote the paper?—Mr. Buckland wrote on it.

36,837. What was on it? I do not mean the couplets and devices, but was not the order written on it?—No; only just the words that were to be put on it.

36,838. Are you able to tell me what such a flag as that would cost?—No.

36,839. You do not understand these things?—No, not at all.

36,840. Was any price mentioned before the election?—Not the slightest.

36,841. Can you give me the slightest idea of what it would cost?—I do not know, I am sure.

36,842. As you ordered the flag they thought you were active about the election?—That is all I did.

36,843. Did you canvass any one at all?—Not at all.

36,844. What part did you take in 1863?—Was that Mr. Gower's election?

36,845. Yes.—I voted for Mr. Gower then.

36,846. Did you canvass?—No.

36,847. Have you never interested yourself in canvassing at any election?—All that I have done is, I have given my vote.

36,848. Have you canvassed?—Never.

36,849. I mean, have you tried to persuade voters to vote the same way you intended?—No, not a word of the kind. I have not canvassed a man in any shape.

36,850. Not a man?—Not even my man in my shop.

36,851. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is the man's name in your shop?—There are two, Palmer and Lamport.

36,852. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) They have both been examined?—Yes.

36,853. Do you know of Palmer receiving any money?—I know nothing, no more than what was talked about. I do not actually know that he had it.

36,854. Did you know at the time that he was receiving money?—I cannot say that; I cannot say that he received a farthing.

36,855. Did you hear at the time of the election that Palmer received money?—I just heard it in the town and in the shop; but that was all.

36,856. Did you hear at that time that your shopman Palmer was receiving money for his vote?—I heard he had some money.

36,857. Before the election or after had you heard that?—I am sure I cannot remember.

36,858. I am now asking of the election of 1865?—I cannot tell you.

36,859. But you did hear he received money?—Yes.

36,860. Did he vote the same way as you did?—He did.

36,861. Had you seen his name at any of the committees?—No.

36,862. Had you asked before the election for Palmer's name to go on any of Mr. Gower's committees?—Not a word of the kind.

36,863. Nothing of the sort?—Not a word, nor yet any other man.

36,864. You did not ask for Lamport's name either?—No.

36,865. Did you hear whether Lamport received anything during the election?—I did not.

36,866. You heard nothing about it?—I never heard that he had any money at all.

36,867. Nor have you heard it since?—No.

36,868. I think you told me that on no election whatever have you received anything?—Never, not the slightest thing, nor have I ever canvassed.

AUGUSTUS FREDERICK HITCHCOCK sworn and examined. *A.F.Hitchcock.*

36,869. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—An engine fitter.

36,870. In whose employ?—I am employed on the South-eastern railway.

36,871. What rent did you pay for your house so as to give you a vote?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week; 6*s.* I should say. I beg your pardon, it is rose a little latterly.

36,872. You did pay 5*s.* 6*d.*, and it is since risen?—Yes, since risen.

36,873. For whom did you vote?—At the last election? Not at all.

36,874. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes, I did, for Mr. Gower.

36,875. Now at this last election of 1865 were you canvassed by either of the parties, Monson or Gower?—At this last election I was canvassed by both parties.

36,876. Who canvassed you for Mr. Monson?—On the part of Mr. Monson Mr. Richardson.

36,877. Did you see anybody else on the part of Mr. Monson except Mr. Richardson?—No, they did not trouble me at all.

36,878. You were working about at the election, I suppose?—Yes.

36,879. Your work is local?—Yes, locomotive works.

36,880. I mean it is local at the station, you do not go away?—Very seldom. Sometimes I go away.

36,881. Then only Mr. Richardson canvassed you on the part of Mr. Monson?—On the part of Mr. Monson, that is all.

36,882. You did not see Shepherd?—I saw him many times, but I took no heed about him.

36,883. Did he ask you to vote?—I did not wish to be taken in the groove among the rest, so I objected to it.

36,884. You knew there was a groove?—Yes.

36,885. You avoided Shepherd?—I avoided Shepherd.

36,886. He did not speak to you about your vote?—He certainly spoke to me.

36,887. He did not make you any offer?—He knew I should not go on.

36,888. Did he; that is what I wanted to know?—He said I could go on the committee at 30*s.* a week.

36,889. That you declined?—That I declined.

36,890. On the Gower side were any overtures made to you, overtures of a similar character?—There was Mr. Gower and Mr. Dann canvassed me, and I gave a blank denial to both parties on those occasions.

36,891. I suppose those two gentlemen offered you nothing?—No.

36,892. After that did any person come to you on the part of Mr. Gower? Did any of his agents come to you and offer you money or work?—No more than being placed on the committee as you spoke of just now.

36,893. Were you on the committee in 1865?—No.

36,894. Only in 1863?—In 1863 I was not on the committee that I am aware of.

36,895. Did anybody come and ask you to be on the committee?—Yes.

36,896. Who was that?—So many asked me that I cannot tell. I always objected to it.

36,897. Whoever asked you said, "If you come "on the committee you will be paid for it"?—I always understood that I should be paid for it.

36,898. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And that was the reason you objected?—I was rather abused over the previous election, and I rather objected to being on on that account.

36,899. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You objected to take any part in the election of 1865?—Quite so.

36,900. And did not?—And did not.

36,901. Of course I need hardly ask you whether you received anything in 1865?—I received nothing at all.

36,902. Now in 1863 you voted for Gower?—Yes.

36,903. Were you to have anything for voting for Mr. Gower in 1863?—Not a word was mentioned to me about having anything.

36,904. To whom did you promise your vote in 1863?—Well, sir, in 1863 I was canvassed by a great many, and I never promised my vote at all. In fact, all the rest were for Wilkinson, and they wished me to go for Wilkinson, but I declined on the first onset.

36,905. You literally voted for Gower?—Yes. I came from Reading that very night, and I went into the "Wheatsheaf," and told the gentlemen there (which there was many gentlemen there) that I should vote early next morning, because I was going away, and that is all that passed.

36,906. You did vote early, I suppose?—I voted about a quarter or half-past 8, something of that.

36,907. Did you receive anything on account of that election?—Not at all.

36,908. You used the term just now; you said you had been very ill used in 1863?—Yes, the former election.

36,909. You said you did not vote in 1865 because you had been ill used in the previous election. Will you have the goodness to explain what you mean by that?—I belonged to the sick club at the time, and I got turned out of the society for voting for Mr. Gower.

36,910. Was that a sick club amongst you working men?—Yes, amongst us working men.

36,911. You told us that all the working men at the railway were going for Wilkinson, and you declined?—I declined and went for Gower.

36,912. Then, to show the freedom and independence of an English election, your fellow workmen turned you out of the sick club because you voted against them?—Yes.

36,913. For that reason you declined to vote at all in 1865?—Yes, I gave a blank denial to anybody who came to me. As soon as ever they came into our shed I gave them a blank denial.

36,914. I do not know any more effectual way of showing intimidation than that conduct of your fellow workmen towards you?—That is the way in which I was treated I can assure you.

36,915. If it is so it is a disgrace to your fellow workmen that they acted in that way towards you, if they did do so?—Well, I have never been upon the club since.

36,916. I say, assuming your story to be true, it is a perfect disgrace that it should have happened?—I think you will find it is true upon inquiry.

36,917. Had you voted before?—Yes.

36,918. At this town?—Yes.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

A. F. Hitchcock.

18 Sept. 1866.

36,919. In what election did you vote before ?—I voted in Mr. Doulton's election.

36,920. And then had you voted from Doulton's election up to 1863 ?—Yes, up to 1863.

36,921. Tell me about Doulton's election. For whom did you vote then ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson—no, not in Doulton's election. I beg your pardon. I voted for Monson.

36,922. In 1858 ?—In Doulton's election.

36,923. Monson polled 95 votes, and you voted for Monson ?—Yes, I voted for him to oblige Mr. Richardson, just to make him show up.

36,924. Have you anything to tell us about that election of 1858, in respect of money ?—No, I never interfered with any election. I merely went and gave my vote early in the morning, and went to my work again.

36,925. Then you were not about so as to see what was going on ?—No, I never took no interest at all in it, because I was a stranger and knew nothing of the people.

36,926. Were you canvassed by the Doulton party ? Had you anything offered to you ? — A person named Boult ran after me, but they so knew that we railway men were one party, that they did not interfere with us. They did not interfere with me, at all events.

36,927. You were the Monson party ?—No, they varied very much; most of them were Wilkinson. Boult stated that he gave me 5*l.* at the meeting, and I believe he is capable of saying so. I never had anything.

36,928. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you mean that he said so here ?—No, it was put about in the town.

36,929. From that time to 1863 had you received any money at any of the elections ?—Yes, I received at Wilkinson's election.

36,930. What year was that in ?—The year that Monson was up.

36,931. That was in 1859, Monson and Wilkinson ? Yes, 1859 ; it lasted nine weeks.

36,932. Do you mean the October election of 1858, the one after Doulton's election ?—Yes, it was the one after.

36,933. That would be October 1858. What did you receive ?—I received 24*s.*

36,934. What was that for ?—Mr. Wilkinson knew that I knew a next-door neighbour of mine named Eastwood, that lived at Brighton, and he asked me on the nomination day to lose a day and come over to the show of hands, which I did, and he asked me to lose a day on the Saturday, the polling day, and I was to go to Brighton and fetch a man named Eastwood from Brighton. I went, and I paid 24*s.* out of my own pocket, and waited three months for it.

36,935. You actually paid that money to go to Brighton ?—Yes, I paid 7*s.* for a return ticket myself, and the man wanted to come up and give his vote, and I gave him 7*s.* out of my own pocket, because he did not want to return the same day, and 1*s.* I paid for a cab, sir. Then my money was 5*s.* 10*d.* a day, and I charged 9*s.* for a day and a half, for I did not think it requisite to lose two days, to put Mr. Wilkinson to greater expense.

36,936. Who paid it ?—A man named Holden ; he is a schoolmaster. He has got my receipt for 24*s.*

36,937. Then the next election, 1859 ; that would be the Monson and Wilkinson election ; for whom did you vote then ?—Mr. Monson.

36,938. Did you receive anything then ?—Nothing at all.

36,939. Did you ever receive anything except that 24*s.* ?—24*s.* is all the money I ever received from any election.

36,940. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I take it, you received nothing in 1863 ?—No.

36,941. And you did not vote in 1865. I suppose they did not want you ?—I did not vote at all, sir. It was not because they did not want me ; I gave them a denial when they first came. I never made nothing over any election. I should like to be paid for my loss of time, if you please.

36,942. You are a very good man to ask this question of. All the railway men generally hung together in voting, did not they ?—Yes, most of them.

36,943. I believe they voted for Wilkinson in 1863 ? —Yes ; they always very much hung together for Mr. Wilkinson.

36,944. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think Wilkinson was a ballot man and Monson was not ?—No, Monson stood up, and I think one of the railway men told me the other day that they all voted for him because he voted for the ballot.

36,945. And they thought that if they got the ballot it would put down intimidation ?—I should hope it would, sir.

The witness withdrew.

H. Holdsworth.

HENRY HOLDSWORTH sworn and examined.

36,946. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A builder.

36,947. Do you carry on any other business ?—No.

36,948. What rent do you pay for your house ?—8*l.* 10*s.* I pay rent, but I am rated at 15*l.*

36,949. Then, I suppose, we may take it your house is worth about 18*l.* ?—Yes.

36,950. Did you vote at the last election ?—I did.

36,951. For whom ?—Monson.

36,952. Were you on his committee ?—I was.

36,953. Your brother, I believe, took an active part ?—Yes.

36,954. Your brother keeps the "Red Cross" ?—Yes.

36,955. Did you work for Mr. Monson ?—Well, I was engaged directing circulars and writing in the committee rooms, and taking voters to the poll on the polling morning. That is all I did.

36,956. That would be before. How long before the polling morning were you engaged ?—I was down here several evenings.

36,957. I mean about how many weeks ?—Three weeks altogether.

36,958. Were you paid by the week, or how ?—I received 5*l.* after the election from Hart.

36,959. Did your brother canvass you at all ?—No one.

36,960. Did any money at all pass through your hands ?—No, not at all.

36,961. You did not pay any ?—No.

36,962. Did you canvass anybody ?—No.

36,963. Had you voted in 1863 ?—Yes.

36,964. For whom ?—For Mr. Gower.

36,965. That was against Wilkinson ?—Yes.

36,966. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee ?—I do not think so. I do not recollect that I was.

36,967. What did you receive ?—I did not receive anything at all. I had nothing to do with it.

36,968. You were not on the committee ; you did not work for them ?—No.

36,969. Was that the first time you voted ?—Yes.

36,970. How soon after the election did Mr. Hart pay you the 5*l.* ?—I think it was about five weeks.

36,971. Did he come to you or did you send in a bill ?—I sent in a bill. Mr. Small came to pay me, and I gave him a receipt.

36,972. The clerk ?—Yes, Mr. Hart's clerk.

36,973. You had sent in a bill, and in answer to that Small handed you the money ?—Yes. He came and paid me the same time that I was check clerk at the county election ; he paid me at the same time.

36,974. You were a check clerk at the county election ?—Yes.

36,975. Had you a county vote ?—Yes, I had, but I did not vote.

36,976. That was the occasion on which he paid you the 5*l.* ?—Yes.

36,977. You had sent in a bill ?—Yes.

36,978. Can you tell me what was in the bill, how it was worded ? "Mr. Hart to Mr. Holdsworth"?—"Services rendered during the election," I think it was.

36,979. The amount was 5*l.*?—Yes, I think it was.

36,980. You assessed your own services ?—There was nothing agreed upon.

36,981. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were the meetings which you attended at your brother's house ?—I did not attend any meetings at all.

36,982. Not in 1865?—No, only at the "White Hart."

36,983. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You directed circulars?—That is all. I attended meetings at the "White Hart," committee meetings, but I never went anywhere else.

36,984. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say that no money at all went through your hands ? You are clear about that?—Yes, quite clear.

The witness withdrew.

ROBERT GAGE sworn and examined.

R. Gage.

36,985. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Gage ?—A carpenter.

36,986. What rent do you pay ?—15*l.*

36,987. You did at the election ?—Yes.

36,988. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—I did not vote at all.

36,989. How was that ?—Had you a vote ?—Yes.

36,990. Did not you vote ? Why not ?—I was not wanted.

36,991. Had you promised your vote ?—Yes.

36,992. Who to ?—Mr. Gower.

36,993. Were you asked to vote by the other side, by the Monson side ?—Yes, I was asked.

36,994. Who asked you?—Oh, I was asked by a good many.

36,995. But by which of the agents, which in particular ? Please to tell me quicker ?—Well, I was asked by Mr. Nichols.

36,996. Had you at that time promised Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

36,997. Who did you give your promise to vote for Mr. Gower to ?—Mr. Gower himself.

36,998. And what did Mr. Nichols say to you ? Be kind enough to tell me exactly. Did he send for you to his house ?—No.

36,999. Did he come to yours ?—No.

37,000. Be so good as to tell me as near as you can recollect ?—He asked me which way my men was going to vote, and I said I had nothing to do with my men voting. I liked them to vote for which they thought proper, and he asked me which way I was going to vote. I told him I had not made up my mind. That is the answer I made to Mr. Nichols.

37,001. Please to go on. What did he say to that ?—He said nothing more to me about it all. That is all that passed between me and Mr. Nichols.

37,002. Tell me what conversation you had about voting with any other of the agents, Monson's men ? Mr. Nichols was one of them ?—I do not know that anybody else asked me.

37,003. You may have had some talk ?—I never had no talk about it.

37,004. Did they write to you ?—No; I never went to none of the committee meetings at all.

37,005. Did you get any letters at all about your voting ?—No.

37,006. None at all ?—No, I never had any hands in it at all.

37,007. Did you get any letters from anybody, or a letter from anybody, about your vote ?—No.

37,008. You are sure of that ?— Yes, I am sure of it.

37,009. I do not think you told me why you did not vote for Mr. Gower after promising him ?—I was not wanted; there was quite enough without me. If I had been wanted I should have gone for Mr. Gower.

37,010. Why were not you wanted ?—Because he had a large majority.

37,011. How did you know it ?—Of course I knew of it; he had a large majority.

37,012. Where was your work ?—At Redhill.

37,013. When did you hear that he had a large majority ?—Continually from persons passing there.

37,014. And therefore—— ?—If Mr. Gower had wanted one I should have voted, as I told him at the first onset. I told him that if I did not vote for him I should not vote at all.

37,015. Did you canvass anybody ?—No.

37,016. None of your own men ?—No.

37,017. You are a master carpenter?—I am so.

37,018. You did not canvass anybody at all?—No.

37,019. Had you been a voter at the previous election, the one in 1863 ?—Yes.

37,020. Had you been on a committee ?—Yes, I believe I was on Mr. Wilkinson's committee.

37,021. Which way did you vote ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

37,022. Did you canvass for him ?—Yes.

37,023. You did what you could ?—Yes.

37,024. What did you receive at that election for what you did ?—I do not know whether it was that election or the other. I received 3*l.* 10*s.*

37,025. Who from ?—From Mr. ——

37,026. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. James ?—Mr. James I think it was. That is the only money I received.

37,027. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 3*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Either 3*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.* I won't be certain which it was now.

37,028. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At an election before that had you voted ?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson every time he put up.

37,029. What did you receive at the previous election of 1859 ?—What, from Mr. Wilkinson ?

37,030. Yes ?—Nothing.

37,031. You never received anything down to 1863 ?—No, not from Mr. Wilkinson.

37,032. Were you in Doulton's election ? Did you receive anything then ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson in the ballot, and after the ballot I voted for Doulton.

37,033. What did you receive then ?— I think I received 35*s.*, or something like that, I forget exactly, from Mr. Doulton's party for my services then.

37,034. Who paid you ?—I think it was Truman. I don't know whether it was him, though. I won't say for certain.

37,035. You think it was Truman ?—Yes, I think it was Truman.

37,036. And you never received anything from Mr. Wilkinson ?—No, not excepting the 3*l.* 10*s.*

37,037. Nor from any person for him, or on his behalf ?—No.

37,038. Did you receive any money at all at any election previous to 1863, except Doulton's ?—Nothing.

37,039. Now just come down for a moment to 1865, the last election, when you say you did not vote ?—Yes.

37,040. Did not you tell anybody before the election came on that you were not going to vote ?—No.

37,041. You are sure about that ?—Yes.

37,042. Eh ?—I told Mr. Gower what I intended doing, and I stuck to it all the way through until the last of it.

37,043. You promised Mr. Gower first of all ?—Yes.

37,044. Did you tell anybody before the election came on who you had promised ?—No.

37,045. You kept it quite to yourself ?—I never told anybody.

37,046. Did you tell your own men ?—No.

37,047. How many voters did you employ ?—Four, I think there were then.

37,048. Four under you were voters. Who were they ?—Let me see; there was Davey and Simpson, and Jupp and Trussler. That was the four.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

R. Gage.

18 Sept. 1866.

37,049. Do you know which way they voted?—No.

37,050. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not know which way they voted?—No, I did not know till afterwards which way they voted. I hardly know now which way they voted.

37,051. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to know did anybody else in 1865 ask you for your vote?—Yes; I think there were about 20.

37,052. Besides Mr. Gower?—Oh, yes, lots of people. Mulley asked me, and lots asked me about my vote.

37,053. What did he say to you?

37,054. Did Mulley make you any offer?—No.

37,055. Did anybody at all?—No.

37,056. Did anybody make you an offer from Mr. Gower?—No.

37,057. Nor from Mr. Monson?—No.

37,058. I suppose Mulley spoke of the character of the different men?—Oh, Mulley is very warm in his way. I stuck to my intention all the way through. I had promised Mr. Gower.

37,059. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You never voted?—I was not wanted, sir.

37,060. But you had never voted before for Mr. Gower?—No; I stuck to Mr. Wilkinson as long as he stood.

37,061. But you had never voted for him at all?—No; I should have voted if I had been wanted. I promised.

37,062. How far is your place from the polling booth, where you were at work?—Oh, about five or six hundred yards.

The witness withdrew.

A. Easton.

ABRAHAM EASTON sworn and examined.

37,063. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Easton?—I am a bricklayer.

37,064. And what rent do you pay for the house under which you vote?—11*l.*

37,065. Did you vote at the last election?—No, I did not.

37,066. Had you a vote?—Yes.

37,067. Had you promised?—I had promised Mr. Monson.

37,068. Who did you promise on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Mr. Hanbury.

37,069. Did not you promise anybody else?—No.

37,070. Mr. Hanbury, the banker, canvassed you?—No, he did not canvass me.

37,071. How came you to promise him then?—I was working at his house.

37,072. Well, then, he did canvass you if you were at work at his house?—He did not come to my house.

37,073. You were working at his house, and he said, "I hope you will vote for my friend," or something of that kind, and you said, of course, you would be glad to do it?—Yes.

37,074. Did anybody else canvass you on behalf of Mr. Monson?—No.

37,075. Anybody else at all? Just recollect.—No; only once Mr. Nichols asked me if I would be on the committee, and I declined that.

37,076. I do not mean persons that specially came to your house to canvass you, but that met you. Where did you see Mr. Nichols when he asked you to be on the committee?—I think it was in Linkfield-street, in the road from here to Redhill.

37,077. Did he ask you to call at his house at all?—No.

37,078. I suppose he told you that those who worked for Mr. Monson would be paid?—No, he never said anything about it at all.

37,079. You understood, did not you?—No, I understood nothing.

37,080. What did he say?—He asked me to be on the committee, and I said I did not wish my name to be on the committee at all.

37,081. Did not he say you could work for Mr. Monson?—No.

37,082. Did not he ask you to do what you could for Mr. Monson?—No; it was a very short meeting that we had, for he was riding on horseback when I met him.

37,083. Did anybody else canvass you for Monson?—No, no one.

37,084. Did any one speak to you on behalf of Mr. Gower?—No, no one.

37,085. Did not you see any of the Gower people at all?—Not at all.

37,086. Not one?—Not one.

37,087. How came you not to vote for Mr. Monson?—I don't know how it was, sir; I did not vote.

37,088. Why?—The reason was, I was rather late down; that is what it was.

37,089. What do you mean, "late down"?—Late from my work. I was working some distance away.

37,090. Where?—I was working on the Gatton estate. That is where I was working.

37,091. That is Monson property?—Yes.

37,092. Under whom were you working?—I was working for my brother then.

37,093. Is your brother a builder?—Yes.

37,094. For whom was your brother working? For Mr. Monson?—Mr. Monson.

37,095. Your brother was working at his ordinary work, building. Was not he building a model farm-house?—Yes.

37,096. Then it seems strange, if you were working on the Monson estate that you could not come to vote; that seems a reason why you should vote?—I did not.

37,097. But why did not you? What was on the other side to prevent you from voting; cannot you tell me?—No, I cannot tell you anything. I had nothing promised me; nothing at all.

37,098. I do not say anything was promised you; but you had some friends on the other side, had not you, on Mr. Gower's side?—Friends, and plenty of foes there.

37,099. But some particular friends on the other side?—No, I had none at all.

37,100. Did your brother vote for Mr. Monson?—No, he did not; he was out of it. I think he was disfranchised altogether. He had not a vote; I think he had not.

37,101. Now, for a moment we will pass from that and come to it again. Did you vote in 1863?—In 1863 I did.

37,102. For whom?—For Mr. Wilkinson I think I voted.

37,103. Were you on the committee?—No, never on the committee.

37,104. Do not you recollect for certain whether you voted for Mr. Wilkinson or not?—Yes, in 1863.

37,105. How often have you voted altogether?—Three times, I think; I am not certain.

37,106. What did you receive in 1863 for that election?—I never received anything.

37,107. Eh?—Nothing at all.

37,108. Not before or after?—Not before or after, not at all, not at any election; I never received anything.

37,109. Did you vote for Mr. Wilkinson at all the elections?—I think not. I think I voted for Mr. Monson once, Lord Monson.

37,110. That would be in 1858?—1858, I think it was; I forget.

37,111. And had you anything for that election? Did you work?—Not at all. I never worked; I did not do anything.

37,112. Had you voted in the Doulton election of 1858?—No, I think not. I am not certain.

37,113. Doulton and Rawlinson?—No, I do not remember which way I voted.

37,114. I daresay you voted for Doulton?—No, I do not think I did. I don't think I had a vote then.

37,115. I understand you had promised Mr. Monson in 1865 to vote for him?—At the last election?

37,116. Yes.—Well, I had promised Mr. Hanbury, you know.

37,117. You had promised Mr. Hanbury to vote for Mr. Monson, and nobody else spoke to you?—No one else spoke to me.

37,118. Except Mr. Nichols?—Except Mr. Nichols, and he wanted me to go on the committee, and I declined. I gave him a blank denial at once. I said, "I won't go on the committee," and I did not.

37,119. Why did you refuse to go on the committee?—I did not want to be on the committee at all.

37,120. Why?—I did not wish it at all. I gave him a blank denial, and said, "I won't go on."

37,121. Did you understand that the committee men would be paid?—No, not at all.

37,122. Then why did you refuse; I can understand your refusal if you knew they were to be paid?—No.

37,123. Then why did you refuse to be on the committee, if you did not know they were to be paid? It would be an honourable office for a man.—So it seems.

37,124. I mean if, at the time, you did not know they were to be paid. Did you know at the time the money was going?—No, I did not.

37,125. You must have kept your eyes very closely shut, I think?—Well, I did not know it.

37,126. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you tell Mr. Hanbury after you had promised him, did you ever go and tell him that you were not going to vote?—No, I did not.

37,127. When did you make up your mind not to vote?—Well, it was very late in the afternoon of the polling day.

37,128. Exactly. You had appointed somebody to come down to give you information, had not you?—No.

37,129. Consider, if you please; was not there somebody to bring you down information?—No, I do not think there was; I do not remember it.

37,130. But you heard about the state of the poll, did not you?—I do not recollect at all.

37,131. What I want to know is, did not you receive information in the afternoon about the state of the poll?—I do not think I did; I do not remember it.

37,132. How far were you at work from the nearest polling place?—Three miles and a half, I dare say.

37,133. Just think, if you please; did you not receive information of how the poll was going on? Perhaps I can remind you of it. Where was your brother all the time?—I am sure I cannot say where he was.

37,134. He was at Redhill, was not he, or Reigate?—Redhill, I think.

37,135. He was taking an active part in the election, you know?—Oh, no, I don't think he was.

37,136. I thought he was?—No.

37,137. It was my mistake then. You told me he had no vote?—No, he had no vote.

37,138. I understood from you that he took an active part in the election?—No, I think not.

37,139. Why was he not at work that day?—I am sure I don't know.

37,140. I want to know why he was not at work; it was his job that you were at work at?—Yes.

37,141. You went to work for him on the model farm, according to your account. Why did not he go to work there himself?—I don't know how that was.

37,142. What do you suppose was the reason?—Because he was employed better at home, perhaps.

37,143. What was he doing?—Why he was working for himself, I suppose.

37,144. What do you mean?—At the building business.

37,145. Do you mean that he was at his building business that day?—Oh yes.

37,146. How do you know; did you see him?—No I did not see him.

37,147. Then why do you think he was? had he been upon the farm last; the day before?—I think not.

37,148. Had he been there the day before that, on the Monday?—I think not.

37,149. How many days had you been there?—Oh, I had been working there several weeks.

37,150. Constantly every day?—Yes.

37,151. Had he been there all the time with you?—No.

37,152. Off and on?—Off and on.

37,153. Now, having mentioned your brother, be kind enough to tell me whether you did not receive information about the state of the poll on the afternoon of the polling day?—I think I did, sir.

37,154. Before the close of the poll?—Yes, I think I did.

37,155. Who brought it up; that's what I want to know?—I think he told me.

37,156. Then he came up to the house, did he? He came up to the model farm?—No.

37,157. That is where you were, you know?—That is where I was.

37,158. Then he must have been a very clever fellow to have told you without. Which did he do? Did he come himself, or did he send?—I saw him when I got home; that is how it was.

37,159. What time did you get home?—Between 3 and 4 I got home.

37,160. Then, you see, you had plenty of time to poll?—Yes.

37,161. But you began by telling my friend that you did not poll because you came home too late?—Well, I think I did.

37,162. I dare say you have some explanation to give me of that. You began by saying you did not vote, and your reason was, because you came too late from your work. Now you tell me that you came home before the poll was closed, between 3 and 4 o'clock. Perhaps you can explain it?—Well, I don't know whether I can, sir.

37,163. Very well, then we must leave it in that difficulty. Now tell me, as a fact, you had promised your vote to Mr. Gower at one time, had not you?—Never.

37,164. Pray don't answer hurriedly. I mean by "Mr. Gower" either himself or somebody for him?—No, never.

37,165. Never what?—Never promised Mr. Gower.

37,166. No, but did you promise any other person for Mr. Gower?—No.

37,167. Did you never say to anybody that you would vote for Mr. Gower?—No.

37,168. Not to anybody at all?—Never.

37,169. Did you give anybody to believe that you would vote for Mr. Gower?—No, never.

37,170. Then I am not going to ask you any more questions on that point. The only explanation you give for not voting is because you were too late from your work that day?—Well, did I say I was too late?

37,171. Yes you did, indeed?—That was wrong then, I will contradict that; I was there in time, but I did not vote.

37,172. I have taken your words down. I will read them to you, if you like; you distinctly told me that your reason for not voting (and you were asked the question) was because you were "too late down," that was your expression. That is what you said, and I am going to leave it there if you like. You see that reason does not hold good; had you any other reason?—I had no other reason.

37,173. Than what?—None at all.

37,174. You had no reason at all for not voting?—For not voting.

37,175. Now then, I will ask you this question. Had you any offer made to you at all; I don't say whether you accepted it or not; had you any offer made to you at all by either side if you would vote for them?—Not at all.

37,176. No offer made?—No offer at all.

37,177. No suggestion?—No suggestion.

37,178. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

Mr. Simmonds?—John Simmonds? Yes, I know John Simmonds.

37,179. Is he a friend of yours?—No, he is no friend of mine; I know him.

37,180. On whose side was he?—He was the Gower side, I believe.

37,181. Do you know if your brother had had any communication with him?—No, I do not know.

The witness withdrew.

W. Crook.

18 Sept. 1866.

WILLIAM CROOK sworn and examined.

37,182. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A coachman.

37,183. To whom?—Mr. Hanbury.

37,184. Had you a vote at the last election?—Yes.

37,185. What rent do you pay for your house?—4*s.* a week.

37,186. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

37,187. Were you on his committee?—I was.

37,188. Who put you on Monson's committee?—Mr. Hanbury asked me if I would go on, and I said I would.

37,189. Then probably he put you on?—Yes, it was him.

37,190. Did he give you any reason for going on?—None at all.

37,191. Had you any conversation afterwards with any of the agents?—No, not at all.

37,192. Did you canvass?—No.

37,193. What part did you take in the election?—I did not take any part at all. I think I attended two meetings at the "White Hart." I think it was two meetings.

37,194. Did you receive any money before the election took place?—No.

37,195. Nothing before?—None at all.

37,196. Did you receive anything after the election was over?—No, I had nothing at all.

37,197. Did you receive no money at any time?—No.

37,198. No money passed through your hands for anybody else?—No, none at all.

37,199. You are sure of that?—Yes.

37,200. Had you a vote at the previous election in 1863?—Yes, I had.

37,201. Wait a moment before we come to 1863. Did you send in any account or some note to be paid in 1865?—No, I did not; I did no work at all.

37,202. But did you apply to anybody at all?—No.

37,203. Not for the polling and nomination day?—No.

37,204. In 1863 who did you vote for?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

37,205. Were you on his committee?—I was.

37,206. And did you vote?—No.

37,207. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What were you in 1863?—A coachman; the same as I am now.

37,208. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) With Mr. Hanbury?—Yes.

37,209. Did you receive anything before the election of 1863?—No.

37,210. Nor after?—No.

37,211. Was that your first election?—Yes.

37,212. Then do you wish us to understand that you received nothing more for any election at Reigate?—I received nothing at all.

37,213. At any of those elections have you received anything at all?—Nothing at all.

37,214. Have you made any claim?—No, not at all.

37,215. Have not you been expecting something?—No; I did no work at all.

The witness withdrew.

H. Green.

HENRY GREEN sworn and examined.

37,216. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Green?—A builder.

37,217. At Redhill?—At Redhill.

37,218. What rent do you pay for the house for which you vote?—It is my own house.

37,219. What is the value of it?—About 50*l.*

37,220. You are a master builder?—Well, I build for myself; I have not built much of late years.

37,221. You build your own houses?—My own houses; I do not do for other people.

37,222. Did you vote at the last election?—I did.

37,223. For whom?—For Mr. Gower.

37,224. Did you take an active part in the last election?—Yes, I did.

37,225. Did you vote in 1863?—I did.

37,226. For whom?—For Mr. Gower.

37,227. Did you take an active part in 1863?—I did.

37,228. Had you voted in 1859?—I did vote in 1859.

37,229. For whom?—Monson.

37,230. Did you take an active part in 1859?—Not at all; I was not living at Redhill then.

37,231. Was that the first time you voted?—No; I voted in all the elections. I have lived in Reigate 25 years.

37,232. You voted in October 1858?—In October 1858 I voted for Monson.

37,233. And in the January of that year you voted for Doulton?—In the January of that year I voted for Doulton. In 1857 for Hackblock, and in 1852 for Parrott.

37,234. Now we will commence with your operations. Perhaps it will be better to begin with the Doulton election. Were you on Mr. Doulton's committee?—No, I was not on his committee. I took very little part in Mr. Doulton's election. I did not come in till very late. Mr. Monson, I believe, put me on his committee without my authority. I did not come into Mr. Doulton's committee till four or five days before the election took place. I took no active part; I did not have a canvass book even.

37,235. But for four or five days you took an active part?—I was about with others.

37,236. And did money pass through your hands in that election?—Not a penny.

37,237. Who were his conducting agents, do you know?—Mr. Barton was his agent; Murphy and Truman were the sub-agents.

37,228. Were they solicitors?—I think Murphy was Mr. Barton's clerk, and Truman I believe was a manager for Mr. Roupell.

37,239. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Manager of the estates?—Yes, of Roupell Park.

37,240. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then Mr. Barton was the agent?—Yes, the solicitor.

37,241. Do you know where he was living?—At No. 3, Walsingham-place, Lambeth.

37,242. Do you know where Truman is now?—At Roupell Park. I went up to see Mr. Doulton, and he was extremely anxious to come here. I went the other day, but could not get an appointment; but I made an appointment afterwards, and he is extremely anxious to come to explain. Mr. Searle in his opening observations made some remarks about me, and I feel very strongly on the subject. I have always held a respectable position in the place, and I hope I ever shall.

37,243. But you did go to Mr. Doulton?—I did.

37,244. When?—Well, it was last Thursday or Friday.

37,245. You went up for the purpose of seeing him?—I went up on the Thursday to see him, but came back late that night, not being able to get an appointment. However, I saw him the next day.

37,246. Perhaps you will be good enough to give Mr. Doulton's address in case we should wish for it?—He formerly lived at the Manor House, Dulwich, but he is at the distillery now.

37,247. He is a partner there, is not he?—Yes.

37,248. At Lambeth?—Yes.

37,249. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is turned into a public company, is not it?—I believe it is.

37,250. Then you had no money?—Not a fraction.

37,251. What did you receive for your services?—Nothing whatever. I had done nothing; I had not worked.

37,252. In the latter part of 1858 you voted for ——?—Monson; that was 1859.

37,253. No, no; there was another election in 1858 after the Doulton election, if you recollect, in the latter part of the year, Sir Henry Rawlinson and Monson?—I voted for Monson in 1859.

37,254. No, I mean the election before that?—I think you are in error about that. The early part of 1858 was Doulton's election.

37,255. On the retirement of Rawlinson?—I get confused a little.

37,256. In February 1858 the Doulton election took place Rawlinson was returned, and then Rawlinson took office under the Crown and there was another election?—Yes; I voted for Monson, the present Lord Monson.

37,257. Were you on the committee then?—No, I had left a short time; I was living at Cheam.

37,258. But you kept your qualification?—Yes; I was living there till September, and I came down here in October.

37,259. Were you on his committee?—No.

37,260. You were not on his committee and did nothing for him?—No; I received nothing.

37,261. No money passed through your hands?—No; not a fraction.

37,262. Now in 1859, that was the general election, did you vote for Monson? That was Monson and Wilkinson, you know?—I did not vote. That is in the spring, April, you mean, somewhere there.

37,263. The general election, it would be April?—Yes, I think it was.

37,264. Then in 1863 you took an active part?—I did.

37,265. For whom?—Gower.

37,266. Now I will just confine your attention to 1863. Had you any accounts? Did money pass through your hands in 1863?—Oh, yes.

37,267. Have you a copy of your accounts of 1863?—Well, I did not think I should be examined to-day, or else I should have brought the book with me; but, however, I know the amounts I received. I have seen the account which you have, and it is near as I can remember correct.

37,268. If you like to look it at you can?—No, I remember it; it is all pretty well in my mind.

37,269. First of all, from whom did you receive the monies?—In 1863?

37,270. Yes?—From Mr. Smith.

37,271. Did you receive all the monies from Mr. Smith?—Well, it was paid to me, it was a mistake, we paid it away together, it was paid to me.

37,272. You received all the monies from Mr. Smith?—Yes.

37,273. Tell me how much?—The whole that I received, without any payment for myself?

37,274. Exactly; I am only speaking about that?—I received 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* This is the way in which I received it.

37,275. I am only speaking now of the monies which you received to pay away?—210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

37,276. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) From Mr. Smith?—From Mr. Smith.

37,277. Will you tell me, Mr. Green, in what way you received it from him?—I received on January 24th 20*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

37,278. Was it a cheque?—No; it was paid in notes and gold. On the 31st I received 30*l.* I do not remember how that was paid to me, but I do not think it was by cheque. On February the 6th I received another 30*l.* On February the 7th I received 130*l.* The last I remember perfectly well receiving in gold and silver.

37,279. Then you think you may say that you received it all in gold?—I think I might have received one cheque, I should not like to swear to that. If I did it was a 30*l.* cheque; but I cannot swear to that.

37,280. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you speaking of 1865 or 1863?—1863.

37,281. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am on 1863. I think you were here when Mr. Rees was examined?—I was, and I was very sorry to hear the statement made.

37,282. No, no. He worked with you, and I think he put it as high as 300*l.*?—He did; but I know this is the correct sum.

37,283. But he put it as high as 300*l.*?—He did.

37,284. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just let me get this right. I understand you to say that of the 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* all was paid in cash, except perhaps, one sum, which may have been in a cheque for 30*l.*?—Except perhaps, one sum of 30*l.* I would rather correct myself about that. The last I remember now. I think Mr. Smith gave me 30*l.* in his own office in a cheque, which I got cashed at the bank. Mr. Smith was just going to Brighton or somewhere else, and he gave me a cheque to make up balances; and that I got cashed at the bank.

37,285. Then I am right in saying this, that all the payments were in cash except the last, which was a cheque for 30*l.*?—Yes; with the exception of my own fee.

37,286. I am not talking about that now?—That is quite right.

37,287. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What I want to know is (I am dealing with a man of business and a man of regular habits), have you any memorandum now, made at the time, of the different sums of money you received of Mr. Smith, and of the dates?—I have, but not here. If I had known I should have been examined I would have brought them.

37,288. I mean at the time?—Made at the time and on the very day. That I will bring to-morrow.

37,289. You will have time enough to bring it by-and-by. You live at Redhill?—I do.

37,290. Is it in a book?—It is in a book.

37,291. A regular debtor and creditor account?—Well, we are not so particular with these accounts, but I know it is correct. I received 130*l.*, and I put it down afterwards.

37,292. That is what you received from Mr. Smith?—Yes.

37,293. Before I leave that what was your own fee?—Well, I received 40*l.*

37,294. But did you arrange with Mr. Smith?—Nothing whatever, only that I should be paid; not as to the sum.

37,295. What I mean is this; did you arrange with Mr. Smith before you commenced the work of the election what your fee was to be?—No.

37,296. The amount of it?—No.

37,297. Then did you arrange with Mr. Smith after the election was over the amount of your fee?—It was not arranged. I wrote to Mr. Gower about May, and he wrote to Mr. Smith to settle with me.

37,298. Have you Mr. Gower's letter?—No, I have not. He did not write to me, he wrote in return to Mr. Smith.

37,299. Have you Mr. Smith's letter asking you to call upon him?—I think I have that letter at home.

37,300. We should like to see that letter?—You shall have it.

37,301. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Smith's letter said what?—Requested me to call. Mr. Gower wrote to him to settle with me.

37,302. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How did you settle?—I had a 5*l.* as a retainer when we first started.

37,303. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that in addition to the 40*l.*?—No, I include that in it.

37,304. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was a retainer, as much as to say, "You will work for us"?—It was closing the bargain.

37,305. Then how did you receive the rest?—I received a cheque for 30*l.* and 5*l.* in gold.

37,306. At that time did you submit to Mr. Smith an account of how you disposed of the money you had received from him; the 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*?—A long time before that.

37,307. I mean you had done that?—I had done

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

H. Green.

18 Sept. 1866.

that on February 7th, when I received the 130*l.* The account had been made up by Rees and sent in.

37,308. Is this a copy of the account that I have in my hand (*passing the same to witness*)?—This is not the bill we made out.

37,309. Whose handwriting is that?—This is my handwriting, and Rees' too; but this is not the copy we made out. The copy we made out was by young Rees, he copied ours.

37,310. But whose handwriting is that?—That is my signature.

37,311. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know whose handwriting this is (*showing another account.*)?—I think it is Mr. Smith's clerk.

37,312. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How could he make it out?—I do not think this includes all. I cannot tell unless I have my book here, and then I could very soon tell.

37,313. You sent in an account?—I sent him in an account.

37,314. You sent in an account, of course, accounting for the 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes.

37,315. Now, you have in your hand a bill that you and Mr. Rees signed?—Yes.

37,316. Not the bill you sent in to Mr. Smith?—Not the bill we sent in.

37,317. It is not within 50*l.* of it?—Not the bill we sent in.

37,318. Not within 50*l.* of it?—It is not in our handwriting; it is got out by Master Rees, by Rees' son.

37,319. I am speaking of the bill before you; I wish you would attend to my question. You have a bill before you now which is more than 50*l.* short of the monies that you accounted for, according to what you stated, to Mr. Smith. Let there be no mistake about it; you sent Mr. Smith in an account for 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*?—That is as I had the money, as I have told you.

37,320. Pardon me; I asked you had you sent in an account to Mr. Smith of the monies you had disbursed, and you told me you did on the 7th of September?—That bill that we sent in, that Rees made out, was only making up the amount to 130*l.*; it included former sums. There appears to me to be some error.

37,321. I asked you, having received the 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* if you had sent in an account to Mr. Smith, giving a detailed account of how you expended that, and you told me you had?—We sent in a correct account. I am quite satisfied Mr. Smith had a correct account.

37,322. Don't tell me it was a correct account. Had he an account of how the 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, which had found its way into yours and Mr. Rees' hands, had been expended?—He had the account I am satisfied.

37,323. The account accounting for that expenditure?—The account accounting for that expenditure.

37,324. In the account you sent in did you account for that expenditure?—I am satisfied that he had the accounts accounting for the 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

37,325. Take that bill in your hand?—I see it is signed by me.

37,326. How came you and Mr. Rees to put your signature to that?—I think there is another account, besides this; that is my impression.

37,327. Why should there be?—I do not know.

37,328. You sent in one account, why should there be two accounts?—If I had my book, then you could check it by my book.

37,329. You mean you signed two accounts; that is your receipt for 168*l.*?—It appears to me that is only the last 30*l.* of the 130*l.*

37,330. You told me you had sent in a bill on the 7th February?—But that is not the bill. Mr. Smith has put that "February 7th." That is not my writing. The "February 7th" is put there, but not by me.

37,331. You told me you had settled with Mr. Smith?—On February 7th we sent in our account, making up the 130*l.*

37,332. No; you told me you sent in an account, accounting for the whole 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*?—I have not the slightest doubt that Mr. Smith had it; of course Mr. Smith had all the accounts.

37,333. It is not the slightest use to tell me that. Take that in your hand again. How do you account for signing an account which acknowledges the receipt of only 168*l.* if you had sent in to Mr. Smith a detailed account of the expenditure of 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* which you received. Give me some explanation of it?—I can't explain it unless there is another bill besides this.

37,334. Do you remember signing another bill?—No, I never remember signing another bill.

37,335. Leave that for a moment. Now will you tell me how the 50*l.* which is unaccounted for was expended?—In the first week's canvass, January 24th, I paid 20*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

37,336. No; look at that bill?—I cannot see which are the weeks by that. I only know unless I add this up; I paid 20*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* the first week. In the next week, up to January 31st, it was 30*l.*; February 6th, I paid nearly 30*l.* for watchers; and the other 130*l.* was paid for balances owing, and for the time owing up to that time.

37,337. That will not assist us in the slightest degree. Will you take that account in your hand and account for the 50*l.*?—This is 20*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* the first week.

37,338. I have nothing to do with the weeks, not the least in the world; do not imagine that we can in any way be baffled in that way?—I do not want to baffle you, gentlemen, in the least.

37,339. That 50*l.* is a large item; will you tell me where the 50*l.* which is unaccounted for should come in?—I cannot tell you unless you allow me to go home and get my book; then I will give it to you as I paid it away.

37,340. You will have time enough for that. Have you a copy of the account that you originally sent in to Mr. Smith?—Mr. Rees I believe has a copy of the account we sent in to Mr. Smith.

37,341. Did you not keep a copy yourself?—I did not, Rees did. Rees has a copy. Rees did the writing.

37,342. When was the election terminated?—The 6th February.

37,343. Exactly. Now, you know this receipt says that you have received from Mr. Smith—— ?—I never signed that on the 7th February.

37,344. What does it matter when you signed it. It says that you have expended 168*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* That is what it says?—Yes.

37,345. This bill up to the 7th February; there is nothing else in it, contains an expenditure of 168*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* That is what you and Mr. Rees attested under your own hands?—Yes.

37,346. The effect of it is this: We have expended on Mr. Gower's account 168*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*; that is what they say, you say you have expended 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes, 210*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

37,347. Take that bill into your hand, and study it, and explain it to me?—I can't. Unless I had my cheques I cannot tell you.

37,348. Will you bring your book, as you say you are taken by surprise?—Yes.

37,349. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Green, could you bring it at 3 o'clock?—Yes; I did not know that I was going to be examined.

37,350. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You know what we want. We want an account of every shilling you expended of the 210*l.*, and of every shilling you have expended at the election?—Yes.

37,351. How much did you expend at this election in bulk, in one sum?—150*l.*, and 50*l.* for myself. I received 200*l.* of Mr. Smith. Out of that was 50*l.* for my own fee.

37,352. Let there be no mistake about that now?—No mistake.

37,353. You will come at 3 o'clock with your account?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

ROBERT YOUNG called, sworn, and examined.

37,354. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A labourer.

37,355. Are you on the railway?—Yes.

37,356. What is your duty on the railway?—A platelayer.

37,357. What rent do you pay?—12*l.*

37,358. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

37,359. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Nobody ever asked me to vote for him.

37,360. Did Shepherd say anything to you about it?—He put me on his committee.

37,361. Then I suppose he asked you to vote?—No.

37,362. How much did Shepherd pay you?—30*s.* a week for three weeks.

37,363. Then he paid you 4*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

37,364. When did he pay it to you?—Weekly.

37,365. When was the last payment made?—On the Saturday before the election.

37,366. Was that your first election?—No.

37,367. In 1863 whom did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

37,368. Did you receive anything that year?—No.

37,369. Nothing whatever?—No.

37,370. When was the election before that?—Not at all before.

37,371. You are quite sure you received nothing in 1863?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

T. Hobson

THOMAS HOBSON called, sworn, and examined.

37,372. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Hobson?—A journeyman shoemaker sometimes; sometimes a labourer, when I can get a job to do.

37,373. What rent do you pay?—6*s.* a week.

37,374. Did you pay that at the election?—I have paid it for these three years.

37,375. Whom did you vote for last time?—Nobody.

37,376. Did you promise anybody you would vote?—Some of Monson's party asked me, and I did promise them on conditions.

37,377. Who was it you promised; which of the Monson party?—It was Nichols' party; I cannot say the man's name.

37,378. You promised the Monson party on conditions. Tell me what the conditions were?—They said they would give me 5*l.* if I would vote for them, but they would not give it me before the election. They would not trust me, and I would not trust them, and so I did not vote.

37,379. You mean they said they would pay you the money before you voted?—No, they said they would pay me after I voted; they were afraid to trust me, and I would not trust them, and I did not vote at all.

37,380. They would not trust you, and you would not trust them, and so you did not vote?—No.

37,381. You know a lot of people could not have offered you 5*l.* I wish you would tell me who it was?—It was some party with Nichols. I don't know the man's name; he was a tall man, and a stranger to me.

37,382. But don't you know who it was that came to you?—It was a public house where it was acted.

37,383. Who was there? Were there many people there when he offered it to you?—A vast lot of people.

37,384. Who was there, can you tell me?—James Nichols was one. He was the man that asked me, but he was not the man that offered me the money.

37,385. At whose house was it? Can you tell me the name of the house?—The "Royal Oak." A man named Grutchfield keeps it.

37,386. Was Grutchfield the man who offered you the money?—No, it was one of Mr. Nichols' party; I do not know his name.

37,387. Now, was this your first election?—Yes.

37,388. Then, as they did not trust you to vote, did you make an offer to the other side, finding you could not make anything out of the Monson party?—No, I didn't. Mr. Gower said there would soon be another election, and he hoped I would vote for him. None of Gower's agents asked me about it.

37,389. You are sure you cannot tell me the name of the man who offered you the 5*l.*?—No; I could recognize him if I were to see him.

37,390. Have you seen him about the Court here?—No, I have not.

37,391. Should you have been willing to vote for Monson if you could have trusted the other side about the money?—Oh, I didn't care who I voted for. I thought as other people were getting money I might as well be paid as them.

The witness withdrew.

W. T. Simpson.

WILLIAM THOMAS SIMPSON called, sworn, and examined.

37,392. (*Mr Commissioner Smith.*) What are you, Mr. Simpson?—A carpenter.

37,393. What rent do you pay?—15*l.* a year.

37,394. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower I voted this last time.

37,395. For whom were you working as carpenter?—I was working for Mr. Gage who was examined this morning.

37,396. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—No, I had nothing to do with the committee.

37,397. Did you work at all for Mr. Gower?—No; I had work of my own to attend to without anybody else's.

37,398. Did you receive any money?—No.

37,399. From anybody?—No.

37,400. Or promise of money?—No.

37,401. Any offer, in any way or shape, of money or reward?—I had nothing at all to do with them. I kept to my own work, and when I had done my work I wanted rest, and went home, and I had nothing to do with them.

37,402. You simply voted?—I simply voted.

37,403. Did you vote in 1863?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863.

37,404. Did you receive anything in 1863?—I received 5*s.* a day for issuing circulars and bills.

37,405. How many days were you on?—I think it was three weeks I was on. I had nothing of my own work to do. It was in the winter, and I had nothing to do. I got 4*l.* 5*s.* out of 4*l.* 10*s.*

37,406. Who paid you?—Mr. James; he employed me and paid me.

37,407. How soon after the election did you get that money?—I had it paid every week.

37,408. It was paid weekly?—Weekly.

37,409. Have you voted before?—Yes, I voted once before for Mr. Wilkinson.

37,410. Was that the election before, in 1859?—I do not know the date.

37,411. Wilkinson against Monson?—Yes, Wilkinson against Monson.

37,412. That would be I suppose in 1859? You then voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—I then voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

37,413. Did you receive anything in that year?—I did not take any active part in the election. I had work to do, and I kept to my work.

37,414. Do you know whether it was in 1858 or 1859?—I do not know; I do not know the year.

37,415. You did not receive anything?—I did not receive anything.

37,416. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There was no other election?—No.

The witness withdrew.

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J. Towse.

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JOHN TOWSE was called, sworn, and examined.

37,417. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Tell me, Mr. Towse, what business or trade you carry on?—Labourer.

37,418. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you vote?—5*s.* 6*d.* a week; I did then.

37,419. And for whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

37,420. Were you on his committee?—No; I had three weeks' pay.

37,421. How much?—30*s.* a week.

37,422. Who paid you?—Young Shepherd.

37,423. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you a labourer on the railway?—No.

37,424. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where were you labouring at?—For Mr. Easton, the builder.

37,425. Did Shepherd pay you 30*s.* a week, or did he pay you in one sum?—30*s.* a week.

37,426. Had you voted before?—No.

37,427. This was your first vote?—My first vote.

37,428. Did you attend any of the committee meetings at all?—I went twice to Langridge's to a meeting.

37,429. And had beer, I suppose?—I had some, once or twice.

37,430. Your master did not vote, we understand?—No.

37,431. Where were you at work for him at that time; up at Gatton-park?—No.

37,432. Where were you at work at that time?—I cannot say where I was; I was with the horse and cart.

37,433. You drove the horse and cart; was it at Langridge's you were paid?—No.

37,434. Did you see any of the men paid at Langridge's?—No.

37,435. Langridge's is at Redhill?—Yes; Warwick-town.

37,436. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Shepherd pay you weekly?—Yes.

37,437. 30*s.* a week?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

J. Easton.

JOSEPH EASTON was called, sworn, and examined.

37,438. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—Grocer.

37,439. Are you a brother to the builder?—No; no relation.

37,440. How much rent do you pay for your house?—18*l.* a year.

37,441. Whom did you vote for?—No one.

37,442. Dear me! how was that?—I did not see enough difference in the men to vote for them.

37,443. Whom did you promise?—I never promised any one.

37,444. Were you canvassed by both sides?—I was.

37,445. Did you promise either of them?—No.

37,446. What did you say when they asked you?—I told them if I chose one of the two, at the latter end I would vote; but I would not promise at all.

37,447. Did you vote for either of them before, at any previous election?—I was not entitled to vote before.

37,448. This was your first vote, in 1865?—Yes.

37,449. I need hardly ask you, did you receive anything for not voting, from either side?—No.

37,450. Were you offered anything?—I was offered nothing, and I did not ask for anything.

37,451. I am not saying you did ask for anything; I am asking were you offered anything?—No. I was asked to go on the committee, but I refused it.

37,452. Who asked you?—It was a son of Mr. Webb, I believe.

37,453. Did he make you any proposal if you did come on the committee?—No.

37,454. Were any terms offered to you at all for your vote, by any person?—Not in the least.

The witness withdrew.

J. H. Apted.

JOB HEATH APTED was called, sworn, and examined.

37,455. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you, Mr. Apted?—I am sanitary inspector for the borough of Reigate. If you will allow me to say, I did not hold that position at that time, or I should not have engaged my services for any candidate, let him be who he may, because I could not have spared the time.

37,456. What were you then?—I am a currier by trade, and have a boot shop.

37,457. What rent did you pay for your house?—25*l.* a year.

37,458. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you become sanitary inspector?—In February last.

37,459. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In whose gift is the appointment?—In the gift of the corporation.

37,460. And you voted for Mr. Gower?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

37,461. Were you on his committee?—No. I disapprove of any paid man being on the committee. A paid man is a servant.

37,462. As you have introduced that subject, what were you paid?—I was paid 50*l.* This last election I am speaking of.

37,463. And I am only speaking, at present, of the last election. When were you paid that 50*l.*?—I took it out of the last payment I had; that was in October.

37,464. Then, in fact, you paid yourself out of the last of the monies that you received?—Exactly; Mr. Smith requested me to do it.

37,465. Quite so; I understand that. Was that last payment paid in cheque?—I never received a payment except in cheque from Mr. Smith.

37,466. Then the answer would be, it was paid in cheque?—Yes.

37,467. And paid by Mr. Smith, the agent?—I must explain that. Sometimes I and Mr. Buckland went up to Mr. Smith together.

37,468. You shall explain as much as you please, but perhaps you will be kind enough to tell me this first; you say you got your 50*l.* out of a cheque. That cheque was for a larger amount than 50*l.*?—No, it was for two 30*l.*

37,469. Two cheques that come to 60*l.*?—That is quite right.

37,470. Were those cheques given to you by Mr. Smith?—They were sent in an envelope.

37,471. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received them?—I received them.

37,472. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you receive instructions by letter or verbally?—He wrote a letter at the same time.

37,473. Have you got the letter?—No.

37,474. Is the letter destroyed?—I should presume it is.

37,475. You see it is a very important letter, because it would authorize you to apply 50*l.* out of 60*l.* to your own use; therefore that would be an important letter. Surely that letter is not destroyed?—Yes, I should presume it is; I did not think it at all worth anything.

37,476. It was worth this; it was simply your authority to apply 50*l.* out of these monies which you had received?—Mr. Smith told me, and I gave him a receipt for the 50*l.*

37,477. Then you gave the receipt to Mr. Smith after you had received that money?—After I had received the letter.

37,478. Had you received any money before the election, in the shape of a retainer?—No.

37,479. Not any?—No. I had received money, but not to keep myself.

37,480. Did you give a separate receipt for the 50*l.* for yourself?—Yes.

37,481. Did you give receipts to Mr. Smith for all the monies which you received from him? I am putting now a general question, never mind about the accounts at the present moment?—That I am hardly prepared to say; I presume I did.

37,482. I will ask you presently what is the amount you received; but from time to time, as you received money from Mr. Smith, did you give him a receipt for this money?—I should presume so; I cannot recollect.

37,483. Surely you will recollect in a matter of so much importance?—It is of importance to him; I presume he would look after that.

37,484. It would be so far important, that probably you would recollect whether you gave him receipts?—I do not recollect, but I should think most likely that I did.

37,485–6. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For all the money you received?—As I received it, I imagine. That is what I mean.

37,487. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before you look at your accounts at all tell me the full amount of monies you received from Smith on account of the election?—Including my own fee, I think, about 163*l.*

37,488. I do not want you to refer to any papers at all; I want you to tell me?—Only if a person comes into my shop to know what they owe, I go to my books to look.

37,489. But you see, Mr. Apted, you are rather doubtful that you gave receipts for this money at all?—Yes.

37,490. Therefore I want to test your recollection first, and then we will come to particulars?—I am quite sure I had the money; I am quite sure I had these amounts.

37,491. What amount do you say you had in full, including your 50*l.*?—163*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*

37,492. You can only tell that by referring to your account?—I cannot.

37,493. That is from first to last, from Mr. Smith on account of the election?—That is including my own 50*l.*

37,494. That is a very singular sum. How comes in a penny?—Because I generally paid the bills before I asked Mr. Smith for the money; and there were several small items come to odd pence.

37,495. When did you first begin to receive money from Mr. Smith?—June 9th.

37,496. Was that the first item?—That was the first item.

37,497. What was the amount you received from Mr. Smith on that occasion?—10*l.*

37,498. I will just take that as a fact; "June 9th, "10*l.*" Just put that paper down for a moment. Now, I am going to ask you about that paper. What paper is it?—It is a copy of my old account, that my son wrote out for me.

37,499. Where is your old account?—It is all torn to pieces.

37,500. Torn to pieces?—Yes.

37,501. This was only the election of 1865 we are talking about. How came that account to be torn?—It had been shattered about with this petition and one thing and another. We carried it about, and Mr. Smith wanted to see them, and altogether they got shattered to pieces. Mr. Smith has my regular account; I dare say he has kept it on the shelf.

37,502. When was that copy made?—I should think probably six weeks ago.

37,503. What was it made from?—It was made from——

37,504. The shattered pieces?—No, it is made from different items.

37,505. I ask you, when was that account made?—About five or six weeks ago.

37,506. You say your son copied it?—Yes.

37,507. He copied it from what?—I had an account of the money I received; he copied that.

37,508. From what document did he copy it?—From pieces of paper I had got it on.

37,509. Where are those pieces of paper?—They are burnt. When he made this out I destroyed the others.

37,510. Did you not think it rather important that these pieces of paper should be preserved?—Not the slightest. An account is an account. It does not matter what paper it is on; I should have been ashamed to have brought them here.

37,511. The original account is the important one. That is of no value?—It contains the truth, that is all I care about. It is like my ledger, I don't go to my day-book to know what my customers owe.

37,512. We always in Courts of Law prefer original documents, not copies. Our experience tells us that we can never rely upon copies, but upon original documents made contemporaneous with the facts. Then you tell me those documents which were contemporaneous documents were destroyed?—Every one of them, of which this is a copy.

37,512*. It is not a copy. I have a note here of an instance before the committee in the House of Commons on this very petition, where a gentleman said that he had burned his books directly he heard of the petition.

37,513. You say the 163*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* was the whole amount you received?—Yes.

37,514. And 10*l.* was the first item. Was that paid by cheque?—That was paid by cheque.

37,515. When did you furnish Mr. Smith with your account upon the election?—I forget quite whether it was the end of July or the beginning of August; I mean of last year.

37,516. How long after the election was that?—It was within the month, for him to send to the auditor.

37,517. Have you seen Mr. Smith since this Inquiry has been on?—Oh dear yes, and consulted with him about the Inquiry, and all that.

37,518. And have you compared accounts?—No, I do not think I have; no, I have not.

37,519. Surely that would be an important topic for you and Mr. Smith to consult about together?—No, I have not seen his account at all.

37,520. Then, that which you have before you, you believe to be a copy of those documents destroyed?—I do not believe, I am certain of it.

37,521. Did you compare them yourself?—Yes, and my son was by all the while it was done.

37,522. You say the first item there is 10*l.* as a receipt?—Yes.

37,523. When was the next receipt?—I received some from Mr. Buckland; that is, him and me went up together, and the cheque was made out for him and me united.

37,524. When was the next money which you received from Mr. Smith?—In October.

37,525. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Apted, you keep books of your business, I suppose?—Oh, yes; not electioneering books.

37,526. Why did you not put these down in a book?—I do not think it is my business.

37,527. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We won't speak of anything you received of Mr. Buckland yet, but I

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J. H. Apted.

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want to know what you received from Mr. Smith ?—After the 10*l.* I received 30*l.* in October; 30*l.* in October, and 40*l.* in October. That is all I received.

37,528. From Mr. Smith ?—From Mr. Smith.

37,529. Do you know the days you received them ?—No, I don't.

37,530. Are you certain that that 40*l.* was received in October ?—As far as I can recollect.

37,531. Is it by recollection you say you received that 40*l.* in October, or is it from reference to those destroyed documents ?—I booked it at the time ; I should presume it is in October.

37,532. There is no presumption in the matter; it is a matter of fact. Did you, or did you not ?—I cannot tell you.

37,533. If you cannot tell me, might you not have received more money ?—No, positively no ! I can tell you what I did with it.

37,534. I don't care what you did with it ?—Only you might find out the date by that.

37,535. You are the recipient of the money, and you ought to be able to tell me when you received it, and how you received it ?—I received it by cheque of Mr. Smith.

37,536. On what days ?—I believe it was October.

37,537. On what days ?—That I do not know.

37,538. Do you mean to say you kept your accounts, receiving large sums of money, without putting the days of the month down to the receipt of the money ?—Yes, it would seem so.

37,539. Do you do so in your own private business ?—No.

37,540. Then, if not in your own private business, why in this ?—Yes, I do. I do sometimes receive money without putting down the date, if it is not a bill and I have to cross off anything. If persons buy goods ready money I should probably not put down the date.

37,541. But these are large sums you have to account for ?—For which I do account, and for which I gave a receipt.

37,542. You are uncertain as to when you received the monies ?—Well, I am certain I did receive them; so is Mr. Smith.

37,543. Never mind about Mr. Smith ; I wish to know the days that you received that 40*l.* ?—I can only say I wish I knew, for your information.

37,544. Did you receive the 40*l.* in one cheque ?—Yes.

37,545. You did ?—I believe so.

37,546. Are you certain ?—I should say I am certain.

37,547. That you received the 40*l.* in one cheque ?—Yes.

37,548. Did you receive money in November ?—No, none in November.

37,549. Are you certain ?—Quite certain ; I have only received this that I have told you.

37,550. Did you not receive the sum of 30*l.* in November ?—No, nothing, only this I have told you.

37,551. Did you ever receive a cheque for 10*l.* in October ?—No.

37,552. Are you certain ?—No, not without he gave me a cheque for 30*l.*, and another for 10*l.* to make up this 40*l.* I won't say what it was.

37,553. Is your mind so uncertain as to what you received, that you cannot tell me whether you received the 10*l.* in November ?—No, it is not uncertain as to what I have received; I have told you that before ; but it is uncertain as to how I received it. If I am paid a debt I don't care whether it is in shillings or sixpences.

37,554. This was not a debt, but a sum of money which you received, and which you were to account for afterwards ?—This was a debt.

37,555. No, it was not a debt; it was a sum of money which you received, and which you were to account for afterwards. It was not a debt ?—Yes, it was.

37,556. Can you give me no more definite notion as to what you received ?—Yes, I can ; I can give you quite a definite notion as to what I received.

37,557. But not how it was received ?—No.

37,558. Then, if you have no definite notion as to the times when you received it, is it not quite possible you may have received more ?—No, not at all possible.

37,559. Let me see that paper of your entries in that book. (*The book was passed to the learned Commissioner.*) I see you have got all these three items in October ?—Yes.

37,560. Did you make those entries of receipts at the time you received them ?—Do you mean the money I received ?

37,561. Yes ?—Yes.

37,562. Then, if you made them at the time you received them, why are you not able to tell me for a certainty that you received that 40*l.* in October ?—I do not know ; I might have made a mistake in the day of the month.

37,563. Then you did not make your receipts at the time you received the money ?—Yes, I did. I am not always immaculate ; I might make a mistake in a day ; it might be the first of November, or the last day of October. I do not know within a day or so all that kind of thing ; I say I have had it, and I suppose no one disputes paying it me.

37,564. You say you received monies besides that 163*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* Were those the monies you received from Mr. Smith, the 163*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* ?—Not from his hands.

37,565. What was the whole amount that you got from Mr. Smith? Was that the 163*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* ?—The whole amount that I received from Mr. Smith was 110*l.*

37,566. From Mr. Smith, 110*l.* ?—That is, immediately from him.

37,567. You mentioned just now that you received monies from Mr. Buckland ?—Yes.

37,568. How much did you receive from Buckland? —Well, Mr. Smith gave us a cheque between us, and he made it out in Mr. Buckland's name.

37,569. Did those cheques which were made out in Mr. Buckland's name come into your possession ?—No. He went and changed them, and then I took what money I wanted out of them.

37,570–1. Can you give us the total amount of cheques which were given by Mr. Smith jointly to you and Mr. Buckland ?—I cannot.

37,572. You do not know what the amount of cheques were that Mr. Buckland received ?—I don't ; they were given between me and Mr. Joyes.

37,573. They were given into the hands of Mr. Buckland ?—They were given into the hands of Mr. Buckland, and they were made out in his name only.

37,574. And the money was given by Buckland to you ?—Exactly.

37,575. How much did you receive from Mr. Buckland ; give me the whole amount first ?—The whole, 53*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*

37,576. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That makes up the amount that you say you paid away; 163*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* ?—Yes.

37,577. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You cannot tell me the total amount of cheques that were given to Mr. Buckland ?—I cannot. I do not at all remember ; they never came into my hands.

37,578. Have you the smallest notion ?—Yes, I should say if you multiply that by 3, that would be about the amount.

37,579. Multiply the 53*l.* by 3 ?—Yes.

37,580. Why multiply 53*l.* by 3 ?—Because I think we all spent about alike.

37,581. But you have only mentioned Mr. Buckland. Who was the third ?—Mr. Joyes.

37,582. It was divided between you three ?—Yes.

37,583. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What was divided ?—Four cheques.

37,584. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much were the four cheques?—I don't know; they never came into my hand. I saw them drawn. I don't know.

37,585. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Your notion is that the four cheques amounted to 3 times 53*l.*?—I should, simply because we spent about alike.

37,586. Had you spent the money, the 53*l.*, before you got those monies from Buckland?—It was paid in four different sums.

37,587. Four different sums; at one time, or at four different times?—No, at different times.

37,588. Did you three go up to Mr. Smith together and ask for money?—Well, I think I and Mr. Buckland generally went by ourselves.

37,589. Had you previously consulted with Mr. Joyes as to what he would require before you went up?—Generally.

37,590. Did you go to Mr. Smith to receive money for what you had expended or were going to expend?—I generally had expended nearly the whole of the amount; and then what I wanted to pay immediately I put down in addition, and went and drew the money.

37,591. Did you receive these monies from Buckland during the time that you were receiving monies also from Mr. Smith?—Well, it was in between. It was coming from Mr. Smith.

37,592. I know it was, but you had the 110*l.* direct from Mr. Smith?—Yes. Then, owing to Mr. Buckland and myself going together to Mr. Smith, Mr. Smith made out the cheque jointly for us in Buckland's name.

37,593. Then were you and Buckland and Joyes working together?—Yes, and very comfortably we worked.

37,594. I suppose each expended the money in the same way?—I don't know. I expended my money entirely at my own discretion; I would not work for anybody unless I did.

37,595. Then you and Mr. Buckland and Mr. Joyes worked together agreeably?—I left them to do as they liked, and they left me to do as I liked, and we got on comfortably.

37,596. You left them to do as they liked, and they left you to do as you liked, and that is how you got on comfortably?—Yes.

37,597. And you had the free run of the till?—Yes, whenever I wanted it.

37,598. Now, before I go into particulars, when you went to Mr. Smith for funds did you tell him what you wanted the monies for?—Yes.

37,599. What did you tell Mr. Smith you wanted the monies for?—To pay canvassers and inquirers to carry on the election.

37,600. Did you tell him how many canvassers you paid?—No; I knew how many I was paying; I did not know how many others were paying. That was the fault of the election.

37,601. That was the fault of the election you say?—Yes, that was the fault of the election.

37,602. In your notion is that the only fault?—I think I committed very few personally.

37,603. Did you and Joyes compare books, so as not to pay men twice over?—Yes.

37,604. So that you knew which you were paying?—Not as to the amount; I asked Joyes if he had had anything to do with them.

37,605. The amount which you were going to pay them?—Exactly.

37,606. When you went to a man did you tell him what you were going to pay him?—No; and I will give this answer once for all; that I never promised a man during the election more than he would have for the single day or week's employment. If I had him by the day I told him; distinctly, not every day but only the day I wanted him; and when I did employ him by the day I gave him 5*s.*

37,607. That is a very honest explanation; but will you give me one single instance of any paid canvasser you put on in this way?—Everybody I canvassed.

37,608. Say one?—Everybody I canvassed, I canvassed for his vote.

37,609. And to put him on the committee?—Oh dear no.

37,610. Or to work?—I never asked a paid man to go on the committee yet.

37,611. No, because you said you objected to a paid man being on the committee?—In fact, I thought it degraded the committee; I never canvassed one in that way.

37,612. What, do you mean to say that was not the mode of canvassing?—It was not my mode of canvassing; I never spoke about money when I canvassed.

37,613. Explain to me your mode of canvassing?—My mode of canvassing at the last election was this. I believed Mr. Monson to be a nominee of the Reform Club; that they had repeatedly, to my certain knowledge, that is, to Mr. Humphrey, declared they had Reigate under their dictation, and I considered it a disgrace to us to be under the dictation of the Reform Club.

37,614. You say you never offered a single man money for his vote when canvassing?—I did not say so; I said I never spoke to a man about money when I was canvassing.

37,615. Do you not think that is very much the same thing?—Not at all.

37,616. Did you canvass a man of the name of Fuller?—No, sir.

37,617. Do you know the man I mean?—You are alluding to a man of the name of Batchelor.

37,618. I am alluding to a man of the name of Fuller; I ask you whether you canvassed a man of the name of Fuller?—I have told you.

37,619. You swear you did not?—I swear I did not.

37,620. There is no other Apted on the register?—Yes, there is.

37,621. Which is that?—James Apted; there is no other Apted for Mr. Gower.

37,622. Did you ever canvass men, at the same time holding up your fingers?—I never dealt in signs at any election I have ever been in, neither did I do it myself.

37,623. Did you, when you canvassed, ask them to work as canvassers without going on the committees?—Not as paid men; I sometimes asked if they would assist, but not as paid men; I never asked them to assist us or accept employment when I canvassed them.

37,624. You say you paid the men?—Quite right, and I had good reason for doing it.

37,625. What was your reason?—As we proceeded on with the election we held a meeting, and we found a great number were being tampered with; and it was suggested, in fact I suggested, we should get all our voters more publicly to profess themselves on Mr. Gower's side, and, if possible, to get them to come to the town hall, and I thought that would probably be a sort of clincher to the professions which they had made before.

37,626. And was that the reason why you put them on?—Yes, we were obliged thus to employ paid men to go round to these people to get them to come round.

37,627. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do not call them paid men but paid voters?—Paid voters, paid men.

37,628. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you employ any men as canvassers except voters?—I would not employ a person who is a traitor.

37,629. Every person you employed in that way was a voter?—Every canvasser I employed was a voter.

37,630. Tell me in the rough, without referring to your book, how many canvassers you employed, whether a dozen, a gross, or a hundred?—I think probably it might be 30.

37,631. 30 canvassers?—And messengers.

37,632. I am speaking of canvassers to keep them

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together ?—They were not kept entirely for that, but they might take messages or anything.

37,633. You were talking about the canvassers you sent round ?—I did not bind them to do nothing else.

37,634. You told me some little time back you never paid a man but by the week or day ?—Exactly.

37,635. You never employed a man excepting by the week or by the day ?—Exactly.

37,636. How many men did you employ in that way ?—I do not know I am sure, but it is all down in my account, every man that I employed is down there.

37,637. When were those names put down from the original account you have destroyed ?—About four or five weeks ago.

37,638. From recollection ?—No; from a paper that I had of the list of names.

37,639. What has become of the paper of the list of the names ?—When I got a fresh list I burnt the old one ; I did not want my old collection of papers.

37,640–1. Do not talk like that, one half sheet of paper could not fill your house ?—About two years ago I burnt a barrel of them.

That is no reason why you should have burnt an important document of the size of half a sheet of paper.

37,642. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Fix a date ?—About five weeks ago, when this was written and put on paper, I burnt the old one.

37,643. Because you did not want your house full of papers ?—Yes.

37,644. Did you burn any others ?—Yes; besides election papers I had a regular rout out ; I am an inspector of nuisances.

37,645. Did you think that paper so great a nuisance you must burn it ?—Yes, there is no doubt about it.

37,646. And that was the reason you burnt that very important piece of paper ?—It was of no importance to me when I had a copy.

37,647. It was of vast importance ?—Well, I did not know it.

37,648. It was the very thing which was to test the accuracy of your accounts before us. When did you make the original list of your canvassers ?—When I employed them ; when I employed a man I put his name down.

37,649. You say you employed these men day by day, or week by week ?—Yes, sir, and sometimes for a night.

37,650. What were you to pay them ?—I paid them 5*s.* per day if I employed a man for a single day, and I paid them 1*l.* a week if I engaged to keep them a whole week.

37,651. Did you pay them all this time ?—No.

37,652. Did you pay them any monies before the election ?—Oh dear yes.

37,653. These canvassers that were going about ?—Oh dear yes.

37,654. How much did you pay them a day ?—5*s.* when they were at work.

37,655. When they were at work ?—Yes, when they were at work, and that accounts for the smallness of the sums they had. If a man was to work six days, his canvass days, he would have 30*s.*, and if a man worked a little more I should give him a day or two extra.

37,656. You said this was done to counteract the acts of the Monson party ?—Quite right.

37,657. When was it the Monson party gave you alarm ?—Bribery is all we fear, for intimidation, that is gone from Reigate, and so has landlords' influence.

37,658. Nothing else but money wins the day ?—No, except principle.

37,659. Principal and interest ?—My opinion varies from yours, I do not think you can find 30 men, I will not say 30, I do not think you can find 50 men in Reigate, that will vote against their inclinations for any man, and I think you have proved it to yourselves on this Commission, for you have had men take 30*s.* who might have had 5*l.*

37,660. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are not in a condition of judging, for you are an agent yourself ?—No, it is only my opinion.

37,661. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I do not mind your expressing your opinion if it can be done in a very short time ; what we principally want are facts. You said you had reason to suspect there was bribery going on on the Monson side ?—We were told so.

37,662. You were not certain of it ?—We were quite certain in our minds.

37,663. And therefore you thought you had better begin yourselves ?—No, I did not begin.

37,664. You employed these canvassers ?—And very properly so.

37,665. And I suppose they were worth their pay ?—They were worth their pay.

37,666. How much money did you pay in that manner to those canvassers ?—Really I do not know, but you have got it all down there.

37,667. Did you give them instructions how they were to canvass ?—They were to go and canvass, and then report to me.

37,668. You say you did not employ more than 30 ?—No, about 30.

37,669. In what rank of life were those canvassers ?—In all ranks.

37,670. That is rather too wide an answer ?—Just so ; I mean all ranks among the working classes.

37,671. I suppose some were gardeners ?—Several were gardeners.

37,672. And I suppose they were to look after their brother gardeners ?—You can't get at a gardener except through a gardener : they are working in a garden, and usually exchange plants; therefore one gardener can have access to a brother gardener when another person can't do it.

37,673. Nobody else, I suppose, can get through the gates ?—No.

37,674. And among the bricklayers ?—Oh, anybody can get to them.

37,675. Did you at all employ Alexander Rose ?—Yes.

37,676. Was he under you ?—He was.

37,677. I believe you gave money to him to divide ?—Yes ; there were a kind of sub-agents who were well acquainted with the neighbourhood. I had a good deal to do with them, and they went about and did their duty, I believe.

37,678. How much did you give to Alexander Rose ?—I gave him altogether 30*l.*

37,679. What amount of money did you pay away before the election, before the polling ?—I should think about 60*l.*

37,680. Before the election ?—Before the election took place, including that day.

37,681. Was that 30*l.* paid to Rose before the election or after ?—After.

36,782. How much did you pay away after the election ?—I should suppose about 104*l.*

37,683. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) After the election ?—I should suppose so from the accounts. I know I paid the money away directly I got it, and I wish it had been more.

37,684. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How much after the election did you pay ?—About 100*l.* Oh, no, that includes my own salary, about 50*l.*

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I wish you would drop that.

(*The Witness.*) 110*l.*, I should suppose ; did I say 60*l.* ? It would be about 50*l.* besides my own salary, that includes my own salary.

37,685. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that 30*l.* to Rose after the election ?—Yes.

37,686. What was the 30*l.* given to Rose for ?—To pay the men with.

37,687. What had they done ?—They satisfied me they had done their work. I have no reason to doubt

their word, and I paid the money to be given to the men.

37,688. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that Mr. Alexander Rose?—Yes.

37,689. Then you only paid about 20*l.* besides your own salary?—(*No answer.*)

37,690. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you mean you paid Rose only 30*l.* after the election? You told Mr. Smith you received 160*l.* 10*s.* I did not catch whether you paid Rose 30*l.*; was that so?—Yes.

37,691. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How many people did you pay after the election, voters I mean?—Sixteen. I do not know whether they were all voters; voters, I should say about a dozen.

37,692. Who were the men you employed that were not voters; what were they?—They were night-men selected for their muscular strength.

37,693. The roughs, I presume, for the purposes of a row?—No, it was to protect the men; to keep the peace, in fact.

37,694. To show their strength, then, and by so doing to keep the peace; the Amicable Protection Society?—Well, I never allowed a man to buy a pint of beer with his own money while they were at work.

37,695. To keep them sober, I suppose; you were the guardian of their sobriety?—Yes.

37,696. That was then that these men should not make a row, but be men of peace?—Yes, to prevent them hitting us.

37,697. Were the other men who were not roughs canvassers that you paid?—Canvassers and messengers.

37,698. Were they any of the men whom you had previously employed?—Yes.

37,699. Why were they not paid at the time, before the election?—I believe we did not have money to pay them, and some had never sent their bills in.

37,700. Did you pay money before the election?—Yes.

37,701. How much?—50*l.* or 60*l.*; 60*l.* I should think. There were a good deal of refreshments.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I will come to the refreshments directly.

(*The Witness.*) I had to pay a good deal, but nothing in the committee room.

37,702. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you much to pay for refreshments?—Yes.

37,303. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I wish to know precisely what you paid to voters before the election?—I cannot tell you that.

37,704. But you ought to be able to tell me; if you cannot tell it from the paper you should tell it from your recollection. You have burnt this valuable paper which would have told us?—I will soon tell you.

37,705. Did you have any receipts from these men?—I never paid money without a receipt.

37,706. Have you burnt the receipts?—I think I gave them to Mr. Smith, but I will not be sure. I believe I paid 8*l.* or 9*l.* I never sent a working man from his home without paying him for his work. I never did nor I never would.

37,707. Did you send any one working man here from his work?—I have hired them to come from their work; that is, I told them to come the next morning.

37,708. Is there any one you can mention you told to come the next morning?—Yes, Amos Elliott and Joseph Peters.

37,709. What did Joseph Peters do?—He smoked and drank. You would be astonished what he did for his money; he said he did nothing but drink beer and smoke tobacco.

37,710. What did Amos Elliott do?—He took out messages and bills sometimes.

37,711. What were these bills sent round for?—To give notice of meetings.

37,712. Give us one single instance of any bill that was sent out to call a meeting?—I cannot give you an instance now. They were all written; that is, we had a form made out that a meeting would take place at the town hall on such a day, or at the Mead-vale hall, Redhill, or Mead-vale, at which you are expected to attend; then they had but the name and date to be inserted and to be folded up and sent off.

37,713. You have instanced Amos Elliott; first of all what did you say to Amos Elliott when you canvassed him?—I did not canvass him at all.

37,714. Did you ask him for his vote?—No.

37,715. Did you ask him if he would work?—Yes.

37,716. And did you tell him that if he worked he would be paid?—Of course; I told him I should give him 5*s.* for the day.

37,717. Did you never ask a man for his vote?—Yes, hundreds of them, almost all of them. When I had time I went indiscriminately to every door.

37,718. Did you not tell Amos Elliott you would pay him 2*l.* for work and 3*l.* more if he voted?—No, and no man has accused me of doing such a foolish thing.

37,719. But he has?—Then it is a lie, that is all I can say.

37,720. That you would pay him for his work?—Oh, yes, if I employed the man I would pay him for his work.

37,721. Tell me what A. Elliott did?—I can tell you one thing he did; he went by my orders to fetch a man of the name of King, and brought him here to the committee room. He got himself a pint of beer while I took the man down to the committee room here and talked to him, telling him, "You must be careful "what you are about, you are going to vote at this "election, and you are not on the register;" and I explained to him the punishment to which he would be exposed. The man was not on the register.

37,722. Did you pay him anything?—Yes, I did.

37,723. What did you pay him?—I paid him 30*s.* I think.

37,724. Was that for seeing Mr. King?—No, that was part of his work.

37,725. And what else did he do?—I cannot recollect.

37,726. Then if he said he did nothing you are not able to contradict him?—Yes, I know when I employed him he was here and came to the town hall.

37,727. And went back again?—Yes, at night.

37,728. Was not the 30*s.* given for the nomination and polling day?—I never gave a man a penny for that.

37,729. Did you pay Mr. Attwood anything?—Yes.

37,730. What did you pay him?—2*l.*

37,731. In what way?—It was for the work I employed him to do, and I paid him just the same as I would anybody else.

37,732. That does not give me any answer. What did you pay him?—I paid him something like 7*s.* 6*d.* a day, and before the pay day came he asked me to let him have a pair of boots or shoes and he would outset it when he got his money. I said, "By all means." That was before the man came for payment.

37,733. Who were the boots for?—I think they were for one of his children, but I do not know; I think my mistress sent them.

37,734. Have you credited him with the amount in your book?—I did at the time till he paid me; he paid me out of the 2*l.* I paid him his 2*l.*, and he paid me the money back again for the boots.

37,735. Have you got the names of the voters you spoke to afterwards?—Yes. I beg to say with regard to the man Gibbs, he came to me just after the election was over and said, "I think you owe me for my "week's work." I said, "I did not employ you, "but if you have worked I will take care you are "paid." I asked Rose, and he said the man had been about the nomination day and polling day, and five or six days besides. I gave him 30*s.* accordingly, and I gave him the 30*s.*, I think it was at Buckland's. However, I paid him the 30*s.*

37,736. You paid him 3*l.*?—No, I was going to explain. In October, I think it was, he came and said, "You never paid me for my week's work." I

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said, "Did I not, Gibbs; I really have an impression "I did pay you." I went upstairs, but my wife was gone out, and I could not find the book. I said, "Gibbs, I am under the impression I paid you, but "you ought to know." He said I had not, and so I paid him 30*s.* again. I have lost that, for I had sent the bill in to Mr. Gower, and I could not get it of course, and I have lost it.

37,737. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were never allowed for that?—No, sir, Mr. Smith had not any money; I had sent in my list.

37,738. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you never offered any money to anybody?—I did not say so.

37,739. For his vote?—That is another matter.

37,740. All these canvassers you have mentioned were expected, I suppose, to vote for Mr. Gower?—If I had not expected it I would not have employed them, for I would not employ a traitor or an enemy.

37,741. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do not use hard words?—I mean a political enemy.

37,742. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How did you find out they were on your side?—They came to the committee room and had their names put on the list.

37,743. The canvassers?—No, the men I personally knew; they were men I personally knew and respected.

37,744. Did you know Joseph Peters?—I did, well.

37,745. Did you not promise him 4*l.* to vote for Mr. Gower?—I did not.

37,746. Before the election?—I did not; that is one of Mr. Naylor's additions. It is what he was talking about at the "Red Cross" the night before the petition.

37,747. Were you there?—No.

37,748. Remember you are upon your oath. How can you say what happened at this house without being there? I ask you to be cautious; we are not now passing your time and occupying it with gossip in your shop, but you are giving serious evidence?—I swear on my oath I did not say that.

37,749. Mr. Peters has said in his evidence you promised him 4*l.* for voting for Mr. Gower?—I positively deny every word of it.

37,750. Did you canvass George Rance?—I found he had already promised. I said, "You are going our "way again, I think;" and he said, "Yes, I am."

37,751. Is that all that happened?—I do not suppose it was all that happened; most likely he said something else that was of no importance.

37,752. Did you say anything that was of importance?—No, I left Durrant to look after him.

37,753. Did you know from him that if he voted for Mr. Gower he would receive money?—No.

37,754. Or might expect it?—No.

37,755. Or if he worked?—Well, very likely I might tell him that. If he had been set a job he would come to me and say, "Are we to be paid for "this?" and if he asked me this I should say "Yes."

37,756. Did you give Henry H. 5*l.*?—No, not this election.

37,757. Or did you give anything like that to John Bailey?—No, not this election.

37,758. Was that 1863?—Yes.

37,759. How came these men's bills omitted to be put in the accounts, and bills omitted to be sent in?—They were sent in after the audit; they did not know they were obliged to send in their bills a month after the election, and they came in in September and October.

37,760. Where are the bills?—I do not know where the bills are; I put them all down on a piece of paper, but I do not know where the bills are.

37,761. Those bills are the vouchers. You had a large sum of money to account for; are all these burnt as well?—I should suppose so; I never kept them at all beyond showing them to Mr. Smith.

37,762. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I see Apted paid 5*l.* to go to Ashdown?—No, 5*s.*

37,763. What were those claims for that you sent in afterwards?—It all was for messenger for one evening, and Elliott was for a messenger.

37,764. When you employed a man as a messenger or canvasser did you not note him down in a book or on a piece of paper?—I put him down for the day or week if I employed him.

37,765. Why did you not make out your account and include all the men?—Because they had not sent in their bills; that is, a good many of them had not, and therefore I did not absolutely know whether they had been paid or not.

37,766. Did you ascertain whether they had all voted?—Yes, I knew they had voted, but I did not know they would be paid.

37,767. But you had employed them; you told us you were to pay them by the day or week?—They were not always employed by the week or day. This man Rose sometimes employed them.

37,768. Did Rose and others send in separate claims?—Not separate claims; but if any one in the list was missed it was put in mine.

37,769. Why were they not kept in their accounts?—I do not know.

37,770. There is no reason why they should not send in their accounts and separate from yours?—I do not know; they were working with me.

37,771. Not if they had separate accounts?—They sent them in to me, and I paid them.

37,772. Did not Mr. Buckland ever keep an account separate at Mr. Smith's?—What for?

37,773. For money?—I presume he did.

37,774. Why did he send it to you?—Rose and Ede were acting under me; they never sent in any account to Mr. Smith.

37,775. Were those sent in to Buckland or you?—No.

37,776. Was Rose acting under Buckland at all?—No. If Buckland wished him to go anywhere of course he would go; we were all equal; we did not consider one above another.

37,777. You were receiving different sums of money, and you were keeping your accounts separately?—I kept my account separately, and so did they.

37,778. And if you did keep your accounts separately you can tell us what those accounts were?—Yes; out of the 20*l.* my son had 5*l.* for being the clerk downstairs during the whole election.

37,779. Who paid him?—I did.

37,780. Who engaged him?—Mr. Smith asked me, and Mr. Gower asked me personally.

37,781. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Be very cautious about this; did Mr. Gower know from you that you were employing all these men as messengers and as canvassers? Now be very cautious how you answer that?—To what time do you allude?

37,782. Before the election, the polling day?—I cannot tell you the precise amount, but we put down a certain number.

37,783. Answer the question positively?—I cannot answer it except in my own language.

37,784. Did Mr. Gower know you had been employing these men as canvassers before polling?—I must answer the question exactly in my own language.

37,785. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Answer the question in plain English?—I know plain English, and I know no other language. At the beginning of the election there were a certain number of voters named put down to be employed, but not a sufficient number, as was thought at the time. After we had gone on a little while we found the number was not sufficient, and we then agreed among ourselves we would go up to Mr. Gower as a deputation and represent to him the matter. I asked him whether he did not think it necessary more men should be employed. He did not then give us what we considered to be a favourable answer; but afterwards he came down to Reigate himself, and attended a full meeting of the voters underneath where we are now, and he told them all those who worked for him should be paid.

37,786. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Oh, we know

all that; you are not telling us what we don't know? —Then why did you ask me?

37,787. I asked you whether Mr. Gower knew you had been employing men as canvassers and messengers; that is what I asked?—He knew it afterwards.

37,788. Did he know it at the time of the polling? —Well, I should say he perfectly well knew it at the time of the polling.

37,789. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You mean before the polling?—Yes; on the day of polling he knew the state of matters.

37,790. And were paid as canvassers and messengers?—Yes.

37,791. You said you paid your son 5*l.* to act as clerk?—Yes.

37,792. All I want to know is; was that 5*l.* paid to him out of the 163*l.*, or did you make a specific charge or payment of that?—No, no such payment.

37,793. Then it came out of the 163*l.*?—It did, sir.

37,794. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long before the polling day was the speech made by Mr. Gower below stairs?—I cannot tell you.

37,795. Was it a month?—About a fortnight I should think, not more; I know I had a swarm of people come to me the next day after the meeting.

37,796. You had your suspicions of bribery on the part of Monson?—Oh, yes.

37,797. And long before that time you had been employing these men as canvassers to keep them together?—They were unpaid men for a considerable time.

37,798. But expected to be paid?—We were trying to get some money for them.

37,799. Did you tell Mr. Gower the Monson party were seeking to influence the election by money?—Yes, sir.

37,800. That was long before Mr. Gower made the speech you mentioned?—Oh dear yes.

37,801. Did you inform Mr. Gower of your course of action so as to counteract the influence of the Monson money?—Yes.

37,802. And that you were employing those men to keep the voters together?—We asked his permission to do so.

37,803. What did he say?—He did not grant it, but said he would consider it.

37,804. Did you speak to Mr. Gower again before you put the canvassers on?—Yes.

37,805. When you spoke to him did you get his consent to put them on?—No further than he came here and told them himself that they were to be paid for canvassing.

37,806. Do you know when it was he spoke out in that way, that they should be paid for canvassing?—It was to a large number down below.

37,807. That was the speech you were alluding to, that all those who worked should be well paid?—Yes.

37,808. But there was a long interval between the time when you knew there was bribery on the Monson side and that speech?—Yes.

37,809. And very soon after I understand you put on the men as canvassers?—Yes, I suppose so; in another week or so.

37,810. And to work?—And to work; they were working before, but we told them they should be paid, and then they worked more willingly.

37,811. And Mr. Gower was aware of it?—He was aware of it to a certain extent.

37,812. He was aware of it as much as you were?—Yes, no doubt about it.

37,813. The money you had before the election was about 60*l.*, that is what you have told us?—Yes, that is about it.

37,814. Now, besides the 60*l.*, how much was paid before the election to messengers and canvassers, before the polling?—I should judge there were hardly any, but those who wanted their money every day had it. If there was a man who worked from hand to mouth he was paid every day.

37,815. Was there any man who was paid from day to day?—Oh dear yes.

37,816. Tell me any one?—George Elliott; then Batchelor—Crompton I think his proper name is.

37,817. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not pay Collip?—Yes, I did, those sums of money.

37,818. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you pay to Collip?—I paid him 2*l.* 5*s.*

37,819. When?—Daily; and he gave me a receipt every time I paid him. No, I do not think he had 5*s.* a day, I think he had 1*l.* a week.

37,820. Was he at work at any other advertisement? —No, he was here, and devoted the whole of his time to it.

37,821. Did James Ede, the gardener, have anything before the election?—No; very likely I paid him something for his expenses, but nothing for anybody else; not before the election.

37,822. Did you canvass him?—Yes.

37,823. Did you pay him anything afterwards?—I have got Ede paid 1*l.*, but what it is I do not know.

37,824. You canvassed him?—Yes.

37,825. And engaged him to work?—Yes.

37,826. Now I want to know whether you paid him? —No.

37,827. Why not?—Because Mr. Smith paid him himself; I was busy, and I sent him up to Mr. Smith.

37,828. He said Mr. Buckland paid him?—That would be all the same; he would go into Mr. Smith's office, their offices are together.

37,829. It only shows, then, that you make a great confusion of interests?—No, it is quite different; I say I did not pay him; I do not know who it was, whether it was Mr. Smith or Mr. Buckland; I was not there to see.

37,830. Was there more than 16*l.* in the 60*l.* paid to these men before the election; I think you said 16*l.*?—I said 16 men.

37,831. Then how much of the 60*l.* was paid to those 16 men; what did you pay for those 16 men?—I think about 10*l.* to 11*l.*

37,832. Not more?—No.

37,833. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you sure you paid Collip?—I am very glad you have called my attention to it, because when he and B. came to me to be paid I took them up to Mr. Smith after, and Mr. Smith gave a cheque for 3*l.* to Collip and B. together; he said I paid him.

37,834. No, you are wrong, he said Mr. Smith paid him 30*s.*?—I took him to Mr. Smith.

37,835. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He said you paid him 1*l.*, and that you referred him to Mr. Smith; did you pay him 1*l.*?—No, Mr. Smith paid him, and I went with him to Mr. Smith.

37,836. What was the other money for?—What money?

37,837. The balance?—Oh, for all manner of odd things; our circulars I paid for.

37,838. What circulars are they you speak of; are they burnt?—Well, they are out of my presence; I got a man to take them down to Mr. Penfold, and I gave him, I think, 4*s.* to take them round.

37,839. What were those circulars; we have heard a great deal about them, but we have not seen inside of them?—I think they were about a meeting at Meadvale school.

37,840. Did you send those circulars to the committee men?—Yes, and to all the voters, in two sets of 400.

37,841. How often did you send out those circulars? —We sent out two sets only generally; there were 800, and we stamped them; we found it was the cheapest.

37,842. How often did the circulars go?—There were only two sets.

37,843. You sent circulars to 400 voters?—To 800, 400 each time; we divided the districts into wards.

37,844. And you sent the circulars out twice?—Upon two separate occasions, but the district circulars were sent for summoning the committee.

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37,845. The committee sat every evening, did it not?—Oh dear no.

37,846. Not at stated times?—No.

37,847. Are those circulars at all to call meetings at the public houses?—The general meeting did not sanction any district meeting or any public house meetings of any kind.

37,848. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think you said you were not on the committee?—No, but I sent circulars to the committee.

37,849. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Amongst all the people you paid, did you pay anybody after the election who happened to be a member of the committee or district committee?—I never made any distinction whether they were on the committee or not.

37,850. But then you have got your conscientious scruples?—They affected myself only.

37,851. You would not employ them yourself if they were on the committee?—I did not.

37,852. Did you pay anybody after the election who was on the committee?—I should say I did; yes, almost all those were paid afterwards.

37,853. They were members of the committee?—Yes.

37,854. Of some committee here or the district about?—Yes, members of some committee here or the district about; here is the committee book.

37,855. Has that committee book been in your possession ever since?—Yes.

37,856. Why did you not burn it?—Because I thought I would keep it for the list of names.

37,857. Why did you not put the other half sheet of paper that you have burned inside the book?—There are a good many half sheets.

37,858. But that particular one that was so important?—I do not know that shows the time they came on the committee.

37,859. You burnt the paper that was so important, and kept this book which is of no importance?—You can have the book and look at it.

37,860. What is the odd 50*l.* paid for before the election; how did you expend it?—Shall I read the items? "Circulars to Mead-vale and Earlswood, "8*s.* 6*d.*"

37,861. I see here "Paid carriages and omnibuses "to Mead-vale"?—We sent men to the booth meeting to take care of it; we sent as many men as we could get to go there for nothing but the ride.

37,862. There is 2*l.* 15*s.* for that?—Yes.

37,863. "Twenty men employed to protect the booth "at Earlswood, 2*l.* 10*s.*"?—Yes.

37,864. Were those men voters?—No, they were muscular men.

37,865. Belonging to Reigate?—Yes, they were belonging to Reigate. They were not roughs.

37,866. They were not voters?—I cannot say whether there were any voters; they were not picked out for voters.

37,867. They were picked out for paying?—I think we did not pay them.

37,868. But they were paid 2*l.* 10*s.*?—That was for the carriage.

37,869. Have you got the names of those men?—No, I do not know the names.

37,870. Did you ever pay the men?—No.

37,871. Who paid them?—I paid for the carriage.

37,872. Who paid the 20 men?—I did not pay them at all.

37,873. But you charged Mr. Gower with it, "For "20 men employed to protect the booth at Earlswood, "2*l.* 10*s.*"; give us your account of it. Did you pay them?—I think that is a mistake; I think it was the 20 men who were employed on the nomination day.

37,874. If they were the 20 men employed on the nomination day, how came you to put in your account "20 men employed to protect the booth at Earls-"wood"? You told me they were not voters?—I do not know.

37,875. Would the piece of paper which you burnt explain it?—I cannot tell you anything about it if you refuse to show me the accounts.

37,876. I gave you the accounts?—I like plain and fair sailing, and I cannot tell you whether my book is right or wrong unless I look at it.

37,877. There it is (*holding document to witness*)?—I cannot see it there.

37,878. I will read to you the whole item; it has nothing to do with any other item. There it is plain, look at it, and explain it if you can. You say you are uncertain whether this was for men employed for nomination day or polling day, or at Earlswood (*the document was handed to witness*)?—They were not employed by me, but I did pay for them. I think they were employed by Mr. Rose. I did not employ the men, but I paid for the carriage.

37,879. Take that paper up again, and be good enough to explain to me why you can explain it in that way because you look at the paper?—Because it calls it to my memory, that is all.

37,880. By looking at that paper?—Yes.

37,881. Is there anything on that piece of paper which I have not read to you?—But I can see it in connexion with all the other items.

37,882. When did you make that entry of the payment?—At the time.

37,883. Then why did you not put the date?—I have not put dates to any of them.

37,884. I see you have not. If not, why not?—It was all in one expense.

37,885. Then I ask you, upon your solemn oath, did you not make up the account long after the election?—I did not.

37,886. Did you make the entries day by day as you made the payments?—The copy of that I did.

37,887. I should like very much to see that copy?—Because it is burnt you would like to see it, but you would not have cared much about it if it had been kept.

37,888. Yes, I should; I always distrust these accounts when they come in copies; experience leads me to that conclusion. I do not say merely in this particular instance, but generally. Are you enabled by seeing that item to swear these men were employed at Earlswood and not at the nomination?—I recollect paying for some on going to Earlswood.

37,889. Do you recollect what you paid?—No, I do not; anything further than that I cannot tell.

37,890. From whom did you hire these carriages to go to Earlswood?—I think from Sayers we hired two, and we hired the omnibus from Targers.

37,891. Both voters?—I dare say they were; nobody else kept carriages.

37,892. And these were all voters you took?—No.

37,893. Not in the carriages and omnibuses?—No.

37,894. Did you take any of these 20 roughs in the carriages?—On the top we did; some had a ride there and some had a ride back.

37,895. They were not strong enough to walk?—Yes, but we wanted to get a good lot of them.

37,896. Furnishing the town hall committee room with necessary articles. I see "Stationery, 7*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*" Did you pay that bill?—There were a number of items for that.

37,897. Where are the bills?—Not bills, but payments. Mr. Smith asked me to pay the money, which I did, and there were two sets of stamps for 800 letters.

37,898. Did you not get accounts for them and receipts?—They will not give you accounts and receipts for postage stamps.

37,899. You did not pay 7*l.* for postage stamps?—No. I bought two sets of postage stamps, that was 800; and then the odd ones, I suppose, would come to 6*s.* or 7*s.*, the casual ones; then we had a committee board cost 8*s.*; then there were three panes of glass broken by a man leaning his back against them. I had to pay for them, because we did not pay for the hall. We were obliged to make the hall decent for our use; then there was a cover for the table, and pens, ink, and paper.

37,900. Show me the portion of paper of these accounts that have reference to your payments before

the election. Take a pen and just mark where the account begins before the election, and where it ends on the day of the election?—I have paid this.

37,901. I ask you one simple thing; draw a line upon that list where the account ends before the election?—Well, I should say that is it (*marking paper*). Some of those men were paid and some were not, but those that were not were paid within a day or two afterwards.

37,902. Did you attend any of the public house meetings where there were refreshments going on?—I attended the "Black Horse" at Woodhatch; it was the only meeting I took part in. I went to others, but took no part in them. What did I call it; did I call it the "Black Horse"?

37,903. Yes. Reigate-heath you mean?—No, I mean the "Angel" at Woodhatch.

37,904. Were you in the chair at Woodhatch?—I was not in the chair, but they asked me to go there and speak, and I did.

37,905. Was it a large meeting?—Yes.

37,906. Who paid for the refreshments?—I think I paid, but not at the time. I think it was the next day.

37,907. How much did you pay?—I paid more than that meeting.

37,908. How much did you pay?—I think I paid 4*l.* 10*s.* or 4*l.* 12*s.*, or something like that, but it was for a little expense besides the meeting; and I had tea there when I went to pay the bill.

37,909. How many men were present that evening?—I do not know; I think there might be fifty. There were two rooms.

37,910. Was it a sort of general meeting? Had there been any circulars sent out to call that meeting?—I believe there had.

37,911. Generally?—I do not know, but I believe there had.

37,912. Was there any other house that you attended?—No; it was done by messengers.

37,913. How many messengers were employed?—I think Mr. Durrant employed his men.

37,914. Did you pay any other monies for refreshments at a similar meeting?—Yes, I paid several refreshment bills after I found they were incurred.

37,915. Was that before or after the election?—Before, I should think.

37,916. How much did you pay for refreshments that had been so incurred?—I paid the committee room down stairs.

37,917. No, but the public house refreshments?—I should think perhaps 7*l.* or 8*l.* altogether.

37,918. At the "Angel," and 7*l.* or 8*l.* elsewhere?—Yes.

37,919. Where did you pay it?—At their own houses.

37,920. What houses; what names?—I think I paid Sore something like 2*l.* 15*s.*, and Thatcher, I paid a bill there 3*l.* 8*s.*; it was for two or three meetings there.

37,921. Any more?—I do not know that I have.

37,922. How did you know that these bills were being incurred at these other houses besides the "Angel"?—They came and told me.

37,923. Anywhere else?—Yes, there was the "Black Horse" at Reigate-heath. I paid some there. I went down during the meeting.

37,924. You were at the meeting?—Word was brought me that a man of the name of Johnson was sticking up a lot of beer to Mr. Gower, and I went down there to ask the landlord not to let them have any more, and I spoke to the meeting there, and I told them of Mr. Gower's wishes.

37,925. You say these landlords came down to you and told you these bills had been incurred?—No, I did not say so.

37,926. How did you know the bills had been incurred at other public houses besides the "Angel"?—The people at the meetings came and told me, one or another.

37,927. Was that the only information you had, that bills had been incurred at other public houses besides the "Angel"?—Yes.

37,928. And then you went to the public houses and paid them?—I went to speak to them, and if I found the amount was not anything extraordinary I paid it.

37,929. Without further inquiry?—Yes; I did not like to pass a little bill.

37,930. At the "Angel" you say there were some 50 men present; those were general voters, were they not?—I do not know; I did not stay there more than 10 minutes.

37,931. You paid the bill?—Next day, along with some more beer that had been had.

37,932. Did you leave any instructions with the landlord at the "Angel" to say you would call and pay?—No, he asked me who was going to pay the bill the next time I saw him.

37,933. Then that makes about 16*l.* you paid in that way?—I have not added it up; I do not know how much it is, but it is in the account.

37,934. Show me the item in your list where you charge the 16*l.* that you paid at the "Angel" and the other public houses?—There is Hall 1*l.* 5*s.*

37,935. No, it is before the election?—Well, that was about then I had paid it and charged for it.

37,936. Who is Hall?—He lives at the "Black Horse," Reigate-heath.

37,937. You have not told us about the "Black Horse," Reigate-heath, excepting going to Johnson and stopping the beer?—You stopped me.

37,938. Did you pay the "Black Horse"? I paid him 1*l.* 5*s.*

37,939. Then that makes over 17*l.*?—There is the amount, 15*l.* 10*s.*

37,940. Read it in your own plain English. "Paid "amount of travelling expenses for myself and "messengers to London and other places, including "refreshments to canvassers and assistants at dis-"trict meetings."

37,941. What do you call assistants at district meetings?—People who have gone about to help to get up the meeting.

37,942. You have told us there might have been 50 at the "Angel;" you did not know who they were, you were only there 10 minutes. How do you know there were canvassers and assistants?—I knew the men without asking.

37,943. You told me just now you did not know them.?—I could not tell you the names, it is 12 months ago, and there were 50 people there.

37,944. Were the principal part of them canvassers?—No, I should think not; a good many of them were voters.

37,945. Did you put down in your pocket-book, or enter in these papers which you have destroyed, those payments directly you paid them, and when fresh in your memory?—I put them on a slip of paper and took them home.

37,946. Why did you not charge the whole amount?—So I have, it is 15*l.* 10*s.*; that is about it.

37,947. You have made it up to 17*l.*?—It might have been.

37,948. You have charged here 15*l.*, including travelling expenses for yourself and messengers to London. How much have you put down for yourself and messengers to London?—Not messengers to London; I have not written good English.

37,949. It is plain, honest, sensible English?—No, it is not; good English ought to express in words what I expended, and my meaning, and that does not.

37,950. What did you intend?—It was only for my own personal expenses to London.

37,951. And the messengers to other places?—Yes.

37,952. You have already told us you paid about 17*l.* for refreshments?—That is it.

37,953. You have charged 15*l.*?—If you examine me in that manner I cannot possibly tell you within a 1*l.* or 2*l.* what I paid for refreshments.

37,954. You are supposed, according to your own

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account, to have made out a correct account of all your expenditure at the time you paid it, and you say you have a true account of all the expenditure?—Yes, I have put it down and added them together.

37,955. I am testing your accuracy. I want you to explain this. There is 17*l.* you have paid as for refreshments alone?—I think about that.

37,956. And here you charge 15*l.* for canvassers and assistants; there were 50 canvassers and assistants at the meeting you say?—No, I do not mean to say there were not any voters; of course when one man is drinking beer he always asks his neighbour to have a drop, at least he ought to.

37,957. Was it not in truth a systematic case of treating on that one evening; was it not a regular treating evening at the "Angel"? You are an old electioneerer, and you know what I mean?—Not illegal treating.

37,958. Do not put your construction upon what it was; was not the whole of it treating?—Certainly if I stand a glass of ale it is treating.

37,959. But if you stand a glass of ale to 50 people, what then?—It is just the same; it was not for the purpose of corruptly influencing the opinions of any man present; that is treating, in my opinion.

37,960. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Now there was one question I wanted an answer to from you as connected with 1863. You know we had a gentleman here yesterday of the name of William Clark, and he spoke of 10*l.* that was owing to him from the Gower party in 1863, and that he met you?—No, I do not know that he met me, I gave some money to Mr. Mulley, and Mulley gave it to him.

37,961. I merely want to ask you as to what your construction of it is; did you see him with reference to the 10*l.*?—I did; I know all about it.

37,962. Do you know about the 10*l.*?—I do.

37,963. Tell me your history of it?—The "Wheatsheaf" was our committee room, and I was in the "Wheatsheaf," but my district was not there. Mr. Rees came to me and said that some of the men were very dissatisfied that they had not been paid the last week's work, and amongst others I think he mentioned the two Dales; at all events, I heard their name mentioned in connexion with it. I said, I did not know anything about it. Mr. Rees said, "I have no money "about me;" I said, "I have 10*l.*; if Mr. Mulley "likes to take that, and to be accountable for it, I will "pay it to Mr. Mulley, but to no one else."

37,964. My question has reference to Clark?—Yes, I was going to tell you about it. Mr. Mulley had the 10*l.* and paid it to Clark in the same hour; that was it I think, so far as I can remember. Mr. Mulley came to me afterwards on the same day and told me that Clark had kept the money, and that it was all a story about these people grumbling, that he had merely fudged that story in order to get possession of the money. I said, "Mr. Mulley, I will go over to Smith." I went over to Mr. Smith and said, "Clark has dis-"honestly taken the money for himself, do not pay "him what you have engaged to pay him." I believe they had engaged to pay him 10*l.* for salary, and that then I believe Mr. Smith refused to pay him his salary, because he would not deliver up the 10*l.*; that is all I know about it. Mr. Clark came to the "White Hart" at this election, and came in to Mr. Green and told him he wished to be on the committee, and I told Mr. Green that I would not sit on the same committee with him.

It being ascertained that Mr. Mulley was in Court the witness was requested to stop till Mr. Mulley had been asked a few questions to confirm his statement.

Mr. Mulley.

Mr. Mulley.

37,965. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have been sworn before, Mr. Mulley?—Yes.

37,966. Do you recollect receiving that 10*l.* from Mr. Apted?—I do recollect it.

37,967. I forget whether you said you had received any money in '63 or no?—Nothing whatever except the 10*l.* I handed it over to Clark through Apted.

37,968. You received nothing yourself?—Nothing at all.

37,969. I may as well ask you this as we are upon it; did you dispose of anything at that election?—I disposed of some money of my own.

37,970. Did you sell anything?—No.

37,971. Did you not get 5*l.* for a dog?—That was a private transaction, and had nothing to do with the election.

37,972. All I can say is, that it is down in Mr. Smith's election accounts?—The dog was worth more money than I made on it, but it was a private transaction, and had nothing to do with the election at all.

37,973. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that with reference to '63?—Yes. I wish to say one thing.

37,974. It must only be about the dog?—It is only about the dog. That was a private transaction with Mr. Gower alone. Mr. Smith, unexpectedly to me, sent me the money for the dog, and the next day, or the day after that, Mr. Gower sent me the money. I wrote to Mr. Gower a letter to say I had already received the money for the dog from Mr. Smith. Mrs. Gower wrote me a letter, informing me that Mr. Gower was not at home, but that he would reply to it; at all events, he wrote a reply to me to say that I could return the 5*l.* to him, which I did.

37,975. You did return it to Mr. Gower?—I returned the 5*l.* to Mr. Gower himself.

37,976. You had already received a 5*l.* note from Mr. Smith?—Yes, I did not expect to receive it.

37,977. Mr. Gower himself did not know that Mr. Smith had sent it?—I only wished to show that there was no bribery in it. I understand it was worth 20*l.*; it was one of the finest dogs in Surrey.

37,978. What was its breed?—It was a retriever.

J. H. Apted.

Job Apted, examination resumed.

37,979. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you pay Hodge anything for his house?—No, we did not take any houses.

37,980. You merely used them?—We merely went there one night; we did not have the room.

37,981. You distributed your favours over the borough?—We bought the beer.

The Chief Commissioner stated that he desired to ask Mr. Mulley a few questions in explanation of what he had stated.

Mr. Mulley.

Mr. Mulley further examined.

37,982. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think, Mr. Mulley, you ought to have an opportunity of explaining how it was Mr. Smith came to put that down in the account?—I cannot tell at all.

37,983. He has put it down in his account of election expenses?—If I had sent the money back to Mr. Smith instead of to Mr. Gower it would have been better, but Mr. Gower wrote to me to send the money to him.

37,984. I merely wanted to know whether you could account for Mr. Smith sending you the money?—I cannot account for it any more than in this

way, that on one occasion Mr. Gower asked me when he should have the dog, and Mr. Smith was present; that was after I had promised the dog, after he had purchased it.

37,985. Mr. Smith would not know what he was to pay for it?—He might have mentioned it in conversation, but I cannot tell you about that.

37,986. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How long before the election was it?—I should think a fortnight or three weeks.

Examination of JOB APTED resumed.

37,987. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you expend money before that election?—Yes.

37,988. In the election when Mr. Wilkinson was put up against Mr. Monson at the eleventh hour?—Mr. McCulloch was first.

37,989. You either proposed or seconded Mr. Wilkinson?—Mr. McCulloch came forward first and canvassed, and I found that he did not have a chance of getting in, and then he presented me with a testimonial.

37,990. What was the testimonial?—A work of his own composing, with a letter thanking me for my unpaid services in his behalf.

37,991. And then, I believe, you proposed Mr. Wilkinson?—I did.

37,992. Nobody had canvassed anybody for Mr. Wilkinson?—No.

37,993. When was it decided to put up Mr. Wilkinson?—We went over to Mr. Norman Wilkinson.

37,994. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that in '63?—No, '59. He promised to correspond with his brother, because his brother was away from home; he had not any answer till the evening previous to the nomination day, and then Mr. Norman Wilkinson agreed, on his brother's behalf, to pay the expenses of the election.

37,995. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In '63 you took an active part in the election?—Yes.

37,996. What money did you receive in 1863 to expend?—That I cannot tell you.

37,997. About?—I should say probably 200*l.*, but I could not tell you within 20*l.*

37,998. From whom did you receive that money?—Mr. Smith.

37,999. Have you burnt all the accounts?—I have found a book that I did not know there was any electioneering in, but whether this was the proper account, or whether it was not, I hardly know; there are some items here.

(*The book was handed in.*)

38,000. You received nearly 200*l.* you say?—You will see it is put in divisions.

38,001. This is a copy of "Reigate election 1863." When was that made?—It was made at the time.

38,002. It is "C. J. Smith, Esquire, to Job "Apted"?—That is the only book and the only paper I can find respecting that election.

38,003. Did you pay much more money on that election for refreshments?—Yes, I should say quite 20 times as much as I did this time.

38,004. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you on Mr. Gower's side?—Yes. Mr. Gower was a perfect stranger to the inhabitants, and this district being very large, we were obliged to meet the working men near their homes, and we had to have meetings every night.

38,005. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you say 20 times as much?—I know it was a very large sum more.

38,006. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you employ canvassers as well?—Not so many as we did this time. I might have employed more personally.

38,007. I see you paid one man of the name of Monk. I will take his name, because I recollect his name as occurring in this last election. I see he was paid 20*l.*?—That was in '63.

38,008. Did you employ Monk this time?—No. Mr. Joyes came to me, and asked me if I would go and ask Monk for his vote, and I said I thought he was an evil-disposed man, and I would not have anything to do with him. I mean towards the election; nothing else.

38,009. You thought him evil-disposed because he was not well-disposed towards you?—He cheated me out of a 1*l.* the previous election.

38,010. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I would take it as a favour if you would not introduce these matters?—You should not ask the question then. Mr. Joyes can bear me out, wherever he is, that it is the truth that I told him so.

38,011. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was Henry Monk engaged by you this time?—No.

38,012. Or Etcill?—No.

38,013. Or Davey?—No, he did not vote.

38,014. I think Henry Wye is another man we have mentioned this time?—He was long-stop this time.

38,015. What do you call a long-stop?—He waited to see which party would bid the highest.

38,016. Did you succeed in getting him?—No, I did not attempt it.

38,017. Which way did he vote?—He did not vote at all; the votes fell to nothing at 12 o'clock.

38,018. How much should you say you paid away in refreshments in '63?—I think I paid very few canvassers.

38,019. Did you pay 50*l.* in '63 in refreshments?—I should say far more than that.

38,020. 100*l.*?—I do not know; perhaps that would be the amount.

38,021. It is not so far back but what you can remember how much you paid for refreshments?—I should think perhaps 100*l.*

38,022. In '63?—Yes, and the rooms together.

38,023. Then you did engage public houses?—Oh dear yes; I got sick of them.

38,024. What did you pay for houses generally?—I paid 5*l.*, and in some instances 20*l.*

38,025. Do you mean to say that you paid this money yourself?—No, not 20*l.* I did not go so high as that.

38,026. But, including all, it would be about 100*l.*?—I should think so. I am not speaking from memory. I do not remember exactly.

38,027. You are speaking generally?—Yes.

38,028. How did you expend the other 100*l.*?—I should say probably in canvassers.

38,029. In paying their expenses of 30*s.* a week?—1*l.* a week.

38,030. It would make some 30 or 40 canvassers, I suppose?—It was a very long election; we are unfortunate; we always have long elections.

38,031. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is rather fortunate?—No, unfortunate.

38,032. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Unfortunate for the candidates, you mean it is unfortunate for them?—It is unfortunate too for us who are called off our business.

38,033. In '59 did you disperse any money?—'59 was the most earnest election that I know of. There were 168 working men came up willingly to vote without one single farthing expected to be paid for any of them. There was one man who told me he would come for nothing if I never would tell anybody, but that he never was more ashamed of anything in his life.

38,034. Do you recollect who that was?—William Brown, of Earlswood.

38,035. How many of these men came up and polled?—161.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

J. H. Apted.

18 Sept. 1866.

38,036. The whole of them working men?—The whole of them working men, all of them against the other party I believe.

38,037. That was the whole of the number that Mr. Wilkinson polled?—Yes.

38,038. Then I suppose you could say as much for the 260 who polled for Mr. Monson?—That they came to poll without money?

38,039. Yes, in '59?—No; I think their expenses will show different to that.

38,040. Then yours was the only pure side?—At that election.

38,041. Yes, but if Mr. Wilkinson did not pay anything at all you must remember he was put up without his knowledge. What did Mr. McCulloch pay?—He went away without paying for his printing.

38,042. Then he had no expenses at all?—No.

38,043. He paid nobody?—No; I think I had the most of any of them from Mr. McCulloch; I had a book and a letter thanking me.

38,044. He paid you by making a small present?—Yes.

38,045. Did you take a part in the election of '58, between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson; it was when Sir Henry Rawlinson accepted office?—Then I was for Mr. Wilkinson.

38,046. Were your services gratuitous?—Entirely; and my own personal expenses also. I never had a farthing from any one before Mr. Gower came.

38,047. You never received anything from any one with the exception of Mr. Gower?—Yes. I felt I could not afford it, and I told Mr. Gower I would not do it without I was paid.

38,048. Did you take part in the general election, 1858?—I was for Sir Henry Rawlinson, that is, I voted for him; I did not take so active part as I have taken sometimes.

38,049. We have heard a great deal about the general character of that election; have you anything to tell us about it?—Do you mean Mr. Doulton's election?

38,050. Yes, the election of Mr. Doulton's. You have heard what has been described in this Court, do you agree with that description of the election?—I think any one coming into the town as Mr. Doulton did would have done just the same here, and would have hired people to go about with boards.

38,051. I ask you whether you agree with the description given in this Court with reference to that election. I mean that there was a great deal of treating going on?—Yes.

38,052. We have heard it so frequently described that I only ask you a general question?—Oh, there is no doubt of it.

38,053. You agree with that description?—Yes.

38,054. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you give me your attention for a few minutes. I suppose Collip may now be erased out of your list. Collip received 2*l.* 5*s.*, and it turns out that that was really paid by Mr. Smith?—No, he had that in addition; it was a settler that Mr. Smith gave him.

38,055. He does not say that you gave him a farthing?—But I did, and took his receipt for it every day.

38,056. Let me put it down, as it is important. Collip himself does not say that you paid him a farthing; it is material that we should get it right?—How much does he say he had?

38,057. I will tell you directly what he had?—Because he had several pounds altogether.

38,058. He says he received 30*s.* "Smith paid me "without knowing what I had done for him." He never said a word about your paying him?—He was paid every day; he was kept here four weeks, and I paid him 2*l.* 5*s.* That is quite right, that Mr. Smith did not ask him what he had done, because he had my signature that it was right and due to the man; it was paid daily.

38,059. Now I want to ask you another matter. I see you have put down Easton 1*l.*; did you pay it?—Yes. It ought to have been "Eastons," there are two of them.

38,060. Can you tell me whether that is the father?—No, his two sons; Richard, I think.

38,061. There is another Easton, a gardener; we have had here?—No, that is not the man. I think when he was up I read in the paper something about boots. I wish to state that he owes me now 13*s.* or something of that sort, but I have never spoken to him about boots concerning the election in my life or anything else to him.

38,062. Am I right in saying you have paid a man named Rance?—Yes; 2*l.*

38,063. I will give you the figures; Bailey 2*l.*, Attwood 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Attwood had 2*l.*; he had 10*s.*, I think, for two nights' watching.

38,064. What Attwood said was that you paid him 1*l.* 10*s.* and a portion in boots?—He had a pair before the poll day.

38,065. Have you charged him in your list as 1*l.* 10*s.* or 2*l.*?—I have charged him the 2*l.*, which I paid him in full; and he then paid me back again the money which he owed me.

38,066. Then you have paid a man named Fuller through James Ede; you sent the money by James Ede I understand?—James Ede acted entirely on his own responsibility, and I did not know his men until he brought the names in. They canvassed him.

38,067. I suppose he got the money?—I paid him the money.

38,068. Then you charged it there?—I paid him 30*l.*, and I paid Fuller nothing.

38,069. Fuller was paid through James Ede?—Yes; he was in partnership at that election with Rose, and I paid them 30*l.* between them, out of which Ede had about 7*l.* 10*s.* and Rose spent the other.

38,070. Then Fuller comes out of the 30*l.*?—Yes.

38,071. You paid James Dormer 5*s.*?—Yes.

38,072. You paid Gibbs 3*l.*?—Yes.

38,073. Daniel Gillett 3*l.*?—I have paid him nothing.

38,074. He says you have?—I got up a subscription for him, because Mr. Smith would not pay him. I paid him nothing on account of the election.

38,075. I will tell you what he says, "I got 3*l.* "from Apted, but it was not paid out of the election "money but after the election;" that is it?—Yes; a great many of Mr. Monson's supporters helped to pay that.

38,076. It is not charged in your account?—It is not; I never paid a farthing out of Mr. Gower's money to him.

38,077. You paid Rose 30*l.*?—Yes, Rose and Ede together.

38,078. "William Meadows 2*l.*"?—I paid him nothing, I heard him give his evidence; that was in '63.

38,079. He said he was paid 2*l.* by Apted?—Not me.

38,080. Then it must have been in '63?—I have paid him nothing this election.

38,081. I understood him to say '65?—I positively deny having paid him a halfpenny.

38,082. Can you tell me who he would be under?—I should think Joyes.

Mr. Joyes informed the Commissioners that in the last election he had paid Meadows 4*l.*

38,083. Shall I take him out of your list, Mr. Apted?—Out of my list, decidedly. I paid him 2*l.* in '63.

38,084. I dare say you are quite correct. George Pullen, you paid a pound to?—Yes.

38,085. And Walker a pound?—That was on the day of nomination.

38,086. Did you pay Henry Gray 4*l.*?—No.

38,087. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the pound paid to Walker for on the day of nomination?—For a week's wages.

38,088. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you sure you did not pay Henry Gray 4*l.*?—Yes.

38,089. Frederick Fullbrooke you paid?—Yes. He went over to the other party because I would not pay him a week's wages.

38,090. James Hall 1*l.* 10*s.*, John Peters 2*l.*; John Bailey you gave 5*l.* to through Baines?—No, in '63.

38,091. Are you sure?—Quite sure; I have given him nothing for this election at all, he was in Reigate when I gave him the money.

38,092. You paid him through Baines?—I did not pay him at all.

38,093. But it came from you; Mr. Rose may have paid him?—I dare say he might.

38,094. Henry Baines you paid 2*l.*?—Yes.

38,095. Henry Gray you paid 5*l.*?—He was in Mr. Durrant's district, that is all I know.

38,096. You are sure you did not?—I am sure I did not.

38,097. Frederick Fullbrooke you paid 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

38,098. George Stanford 7*s.*?—I am very glad you have brought that under my notice; I deny it; I did not pay one single halfpenny. He said he had it in shoes or something of that sort.

38,099. Have you charged it in your account?—I have not. I never paid him one single farthing.

38,100. William Stevenson 2*l.* 10*s.*; I hope that is right?—I think that is wrong, I have got it down 2*l.*

38,101. I will alter it, I am taking your word?—I know it was only 2*l.*, whether he ever had 10*s.* for watching for a night or not I do not know.

38,102. But not from you?—Not from me.

38,103. John Brooker you paid 1*l.* 10*s.* to through Ede?—I do not know anything about his account.

38,104. He says he got it from you through Ede?—I do not know anything about it.

38,105. Did you pay him?—It does not come into my account at all, only through the 30*l.*

38,106. Did you pay him yourself?—No.

38,107. Richard Easton you paid 10*s.*?—Not Richard Easton; the father had nothing, it was his two sons; I gave them 5*s.* a week.

38,108. You have charged it in your account?—1*l.*

38,109. Richard Easton, together with the boot bill, is 1*l.* 10*s.*?—My boot bill is standing now; I never spoke to the man about his bill.

38,110. What do you consider you gave Easton?—Nothing, not a shilling.

38,111. Then I will take him out?—Yes.

38,112. I am taking this exactly as you desire to have it. George Baines 1*l.*?—That was for his driving in the place of an old coachman.

38,113. John Flint you gave 2*l.*?—No.

38,114. Yes, I think you paid him 2*l.*?—John Flint has not had any money from me.

38,115. Are you quite sure?—Yes.

38,116. Will you tell me the names of anybody else you paid money to?—There is Attwood, Mills. I do not think you have had Mills, he has gone away from the neighbourhood.

38,117. How much was Mills?—1*l.* 10*s.*; Baines 2*l.*, Walker 1*l.*, Peters 2*l.*, Gibbs 1*l.* 10*s.*, Fullbrooke 10*s.*, Rance I think you have.

38,118. Yes; go on?—And Collip I think you have.

38,119. No, Collip I have taken out. Did you pay Collett?—2*l.* 5*s.* he had from me. Batchelor.

38,120. Did you pay Batchelor?—Yes, daily.

38,121. How much?—2*l.* 5*s.* altogether. Stevenson 2*l.*, Amos Elliott 1*l.* 10*s.*

38,122. I thought it was not you who paid him; how much did you pay him?—1*l.* 10*s.* Then Pullen, Dormer, and Walker.

38,123–4. You paid Fuller 1*l.* 10*s.*?—No, Pullen 1*l.* What went through Ede I have nothing to do with. Attwood 1*l.* 10*s.*

Adjourned till 11 o'clock the next morning.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY.

Wednesday, 19th September 1866.

JOB H. APTED recalled.

38,125–6. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me this; I have got your evidence before me that you gave yesterday, and I see you stated you received no money at all from Mr. Smith excepting cheques?—No, sir.

38,127. And you specified a certain number of cheques, which amounted altogether, you say, to 125*l.*?—110*l.*

38,128. That 110*l.* would not include your fee?—Yes, it did; I stated I received no other.

38,129. What you stated was, and I have no doubt what you meant, "Altogether I received 163*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, "including my own fee."—That is quite right.

38,130. And you went on to say, "The first cheque "commenced June 9th, a cheque for 10*l.*"—Yes.

38,131. And you mean to say all the cheques you received amounted to 110*l.*?—From Mr. Smith.

38,132. Can you tell me, how did Mr. Smith pay your fee?—He paid it by cheque.

38,133. Did Mr. Smith pay it?—Yes.

38,134. When did he pay you your fee?—I took it out of the two last cheques; they were both given to me on the same day, 30*l.* and 30*l.*

38,135. And you took the 50*l.* out of that?—Yes, I took the 50*l.* out of that.

38,136. That was paid on the 26th of October, was it not?—I have got it down October.

38,137. At any rate it was presented at the bank on the 26th?—That is quite right, it was so.

38,138. That being so, the only money I wish to call your attention to is that which you received to pay away to voters and canvassers. I do not call it bribery now, but money you received to pay away to persons who were voters?—Yes.

38,139. 24*l.* or 24*l.* 10*s.* they would seem to amount to. You received 163*l.* 10*s.*, and you paid out of that 30*l.* to Rose; there is an end of that?—Yes.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY.

J. H. Apted.

19 Sept. 1866.

38,140. You paid your fee of 50*l.*, your own fee?—Yes.

38,141. You paid your son 5*l.*; then the voters would be 24*l.* 10*s.*?—No, more than that.

38,142. No; you will perhaps explain how you made the rest up; all that this comes to is 109*l.* 10*s.*?—Will you allow me to refer to my own account?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Yes, you have a right to refer to it (*handing account to witness*).

38,143. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you send in a copy of what you have in your hand to Mr. Smith?—To the audit; that was for Mr. Smith to send to the auditors.

38,144. Did you send a detailed account of what you all paid to Mr. Smith?—Yes; and I believe you both have asked me for it, to give into your possession.

38,145. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When?—Three or four days ago.

38,146. How does that accord with this fact, that you gave a copy to him; that must have been a month after the election?—That cannot alter the case; I might have made 20 copies.

38,147. Mr. Smith has that copy?—No, it is lodged, I presume, in the House of Commons with the petition. I should presume so, but I do not know.

38,148. You will find, I think, that 24*l.* 10*s.* was very nearly about what you paid to voters and canvassers; if not, tell me how much it was?—About 38*l.*

38,149. Oh, no! I beg your pardon.—I think you have only got the voters who were paid previous to the audit.

38,150. Do not let us have anything to do with the audit, the audit is a thing we do not care about. The last money you received, if I mistake not, was on the 20th of November, from Mr. Smith?—The 20th of October, was it not?

38,151. No, the 20th of November, 40*l.*?—Yes.

38,152. Your account starts with the 9th of June and ends with the 20th of November?—Quite right.

38,153. I went over this privately last night, and if I am not much mistaken your amount is not correct, but very likely I am mistaken?—I think you will find it so.

38,154. Perhaps so. You paid away to voters 24*l.*?—It is different to my statement.

38,155. I will tell you what you made it?—I will read it over if you like. H. 1*l.* 10*s.*; E. 1*l.* 10*s.* Oh, no! my son is 5*l.*

38,156. Never mind him.—Yes, that is where I have made the mistake.

38,157. Your son is put down 5*l.*?—Yes. Glover, 1*l.*; you never had him, I do not think. Oh! that I see was for beer.

38,158. I am not talking of refreshments?—Hall, 1*l.* 10*s.*; Dormer, 1*l.*

38,159. No, Dormer was 5*s.* Yes, but I have got 1*l.* in addition to that.

38,160. No, I think you have not?—It is in my account, that is all I can say.

38,161. Yesterday you particularly made me strike out Dormer from 5*l.* to 5*s.*?—Yes, that was for journeying. I have got it in one part of the bill, and then 1*l.* in another. I have not got them classed together, because they were paid at two different times. Then in 1863 Gibbs, 3*l.*; Gillett, 1*l.* 10*s.* Have you got Walker, 1*l.*?

38,162. Yes.—Pullen, 1*l.*; Frederick Spiller, 10*s.*?

38,163. How much did you say to Gibbs?—1*l.* 10*s.* I paid him twice; it really was 3*l.*

38,164. You did not charge that to Mr. Gower, so I will put it down 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Frederick Fuller, 1*l.*; Hall, 1*l.* 10*s.*; James Peters, 2*l.*; Henry Baines, 2*l.*; Fullbrooke, 10*s.*; Stamford, nothing.

38,165. William Stevenson, 2*l.*; George Rance, 1*l.*; Meadows, 1*l.* 10*s.*; Collett, 2*l.* 5*s.*; Batchelor, 1*l.* 5*s.*; Elliott, 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Have you Attwood?

38,166. Yes; William Attwood, 1*l.* 10*s.*?—2*l.* he had.

38,167. Yes, 2*l.* Are you able to tell me out of your account how much you paid to men of that sort?—I think, if you have got them all there, it is correct; I made a mistake, because I added my son's money along with them.

38,168. 26*l.*; is that it?—That is about it, I think.

38,169. Then the account stands thus: you paid Rose 30*l.*; you paid voters 26*l.* 13*s.*; you paid your own self 50*l.*, and you paid your son 5*l.*?—Yes.

38,170. That makes 111*l.* 13*s.* out of 163*l.* 10*s.*; be kind enough to tell me what you did with the rest?—There were circulars from Mead-vale and Earlswood.

38,171. Those circulars were taken, were they not, by voters?—No, it was before anybody was employed; it was at the preliminary meeting of Mr. Gower that he held, no one was put on then.

38,172. Tell me really how much you paid for those, as I do not want to go over each item?—14*s.*

38,173. Altogether?—Yes. Then there was horse and cart to Bletchingley and Caterham, 12*s.* 6*d.*; then there was paid Dormer—we went to him twice—paid Dormer to Bletchingly, 5*s.*; then there were six registers of voters, 6*s.*

38,174. 6*s.* each?—No, 6*s.*, they were a shilling each; then there is bill distributing and posting, 1*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*,—only one was employed then; there were three carriages and omnibus to Earlswood, at our demonstration you may call it, 2*l.* 15*s.*, and 20 men employed to protect the booth at Earlswood, 2*l.* 10*s.*; that was 2*s.* 6*d.* each.

38,175. They were not voters?—No.

38,176. So far as you know?—Yes, I will not say positively. Furnishing town hall and committee-room with necessary articles in stationery, I have not mentioned stamps, but the stamps are included, 7*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*; that was in different little bills.

38,177. That is for the town hall?—Yes; then there is paid for refreshments for the town hall committee——

38,178. Before you come to that I want to ask you whether those are all the bills you paid, except for refreshments?—There are the watchers.

38,179. Well, Legg paid the watchers?—No, he had one party.

38,180. Let us have the watchers?—Do you want their names?

38,181. No, I do not want their names, I want to know how much they were?—5*l.* 9*s.* altogether, throughout the election.

38,182. Anything else before you come to refreshments?—Only the canvassers.

38,183. We have had those in the 26*l.* 13*s.*?—There is an amount that includes the refreshments, that is, I paid the little bills for different districts.

38,184. I am quite aware of that; is there anything before that?—No.

38,185. That comes to exactly 133*l.* 3*s.*; now the difference between 133*l.* and 163*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* is 30*l.* as nearly as possible; did you spend that 30*l.* for refreshments. I have not reckoned the few shillings difference?—No; there were a few persons here who were not voters, their names I will tell you; Jackson and Huntley.

38,186. Those are included in the other bill?—No, they are not included in the other bill, because their bills were not sent in till October.

38,187. You paid them?—Yes, but I have not given you any account of them. I have only given you an account of those that were paid at the election.

38,188. Then besides what you paid, making 133*l.*, you paid something else?—Yes, 4*l.*

38,189. That makes 137*l.*, now the difference be-

tween 137*l.* and 163*l.*, there is 27*l.*; did that go in refreshments?—The whole of it. There is a little trifling expense for myself, but what I should spend does not exceed 1*l.*

38,190. Never mind that; tell me this, if you please: when you received the two 30*l.* cheques on the same day why did you appropriate 50*l.* of it for yourself?—Because Mr. Smith told me I could.

38,191. But then was it drawn in this way, "To Job "Apted for services," or anything of that sort, "50*l.*"?—No; I think that he only drew a cheque for 30*l.* at first, and I told him that there was some due to other people, and he made it two 30*l.*, so that I did take my salary out of it.

38,192. Why did he draw a sum of 30*l.* first, that is what I want to know?—I cannot explain it.

38,193. Allow me to explain it to you: I asked you yesterday, and I will ask you again to-day this question, when did you agree with Mr. Smith that you were to receive 50*l.* for your fee?—I do not know exactly.

38,194. Was it before the election?—No.

38,195. It was after?—Yes, when we knew what we had got through.

38,196. I do not want to know to the day, but tell me generally when you agreed with Mr. Smith that 50*l.* was to be your fee?—I should think it must have been within about two weeks of the election.

38,197. The cheque itself, out of which you paid yourself, you did not receive till the 26th of October?—I took my salary out of the last cheque.

38,198. No; after that you received a cheque for 40*l.*?—Yes, I did. I beg your pardon.

38,199. It was the last cheque given you but one?—Yes.

38,200. Pray since then, at that time, this 50*l.* had been agreed on by you as your fee?—Yes.

38,201. I mean, agreed between you and Mr. Smith?—Yes.

38,202. How do you account then for this, that when you went to him on the 20th of November he drew you a cheque for your own fee for 30*l.*?—It was in October.

38,203. Yes, I mean the 26th of October; that was a considerable time afterwards; how do you account for that fact, that when you went to him he only drew you a cheque for yourself for 30*l.*?—I suppose that was because I had 30*l.* the previous election, and he kept that, I presume.

38,204. That could not be it?—Well, then I cannot say.

38,205. Then I will take your answer that you cannot account for it?—No; I cannot explain his motives, I can only tell you his actions.

38,206. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When was the agreement for your fee made?—I should think it was about a fortnight after the election.

38,207. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I will take your word for that. I do not at all wish to tie you to the particular time, you may have a month, any way you like?—We did not know the expenses of the election before.

38,208. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I misunderstood your answer, I took it down, "I was to be paid "my fee when we knew what work we had to do"?—No, what work we had done.

38,209. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Pray do not misunderstand me, you may have what latitude you like as to the fortnight after?—I will retain the same statement.

38,210. I dare say you are quite correct, but I do not care whether it was a fortnight, or three weeks, or a month, just exactly as it turns out?—Then I will take a fortnight.

38,211. Then there is this fact left, that on the 26th of October, the day when the cheques were placed at the bank, it was probably a day or two after you were paid them, but on the 26th of October there is this fact, you having already made an arrangement with him for 50*l.*, you received a cheque for yourself for 30*l.*?—Two cheques.

38,212. No; he hands you over 30*l.* for your services. Do you think you can explain that at all?—I cannot explain it any more than I suppose he looked back and saw what the amount was before, and wrote it out carelessly without thinking.

38,213. He could hardly write it out carelessly. I will tell you what makes me lay more stress upon it: unfortunately the stump of it I have left in the house, but I know that he drew these cheques in this way; on the stump was 30*l.* for Apted for himself, and 30*l.* for canvassers?—Then I expect that is the very reason why he drew a second cheque.

38,214. I perfectly well understand that I am not asking you about that; what I want to know is, having made the arrangement with you about the 50*l.*, why he should not draw the first cheque for 50*l.* instead of 30*l.*?—That is the only reason I can give, that he probably looked back to the 1863 election and saw my services were charged 30*l.*

38,215. Here is the cheque for 60*l.*, look at it (*handing cheque to witness*)?—I thought it was two thirties.

38,216. No, it was not indeed, I am very sure, and I left the stump behind me, but I will go and get it and show it to you. Now you can take my word for it, but I will promise to show you it, that on the stump is written for yourself 30*l.*, and for canvassers 30*l.*; so apparently you had to pay for them?—No, that, of course, did not come into my possession.

38,217. Oh, yes, of course it did?—Not the stump.

38,218. I am only asking you if you can account for it?—If it had been sent to me I should have returned it to him again.

38,219. That being so I will now take you to another matter. I find that you received on the 20th of June a cheque for 9*l.*, which you do not appear to me to have accounted for?—I do not know that I had that to spend at all, it was to give to some one else.

38,220. But all your cheques have been to give to some one else, excepting your own fee?—I have got no 9*l.*

38,221. There is the cheque, I will show you the stump of it if you like?—I do not know anything about that; I have no account that I have received at all that sum, not for myself nor for my own expenditure.

38,222. None of it was for your own expenditure?—All of it, except what I paid over to Mr. Rose.

38,223. Yes, for your own expenditure in that manner, but not for your own pocket?—I mean the 9*l.* I have had nothing to do with expending.

38,224. There is a cheque for 1*l.* 5*s.*, dated the 25th of October?—No, that is not mine, and I think the other is not either.

38,225. Is not that yours?—No, it is for my brother for reporting, and I think the other is too. I think you will find the other is for my brother and not me; I have never seen the cheque to my knowledge.

38,226. Is he here?—There he is (*pointing to the table*).

38,227. At any rate it would have nothing to do with you?—I believe you will find the other is the same.

38,228. You think it is not yours?—I am certain it is not. Mr. Smith would not pay me an odd 9*l.*

38,229. I do not think you have brought into account a cheque for 4*l.*; what you received was 10*l.*, two 30*l.*'s, and a 40*l.*, making 110*l.* Now here is Job Apted, plain enough, 4*l.* I dare say you are right about the 9*l.*?—I think it is probable I may have taken the 4*l.* cheque to some one, or paid it to some one, or something of the sort.

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38,230. I do not at all doubt but that it was paid to you to put in your account?—Not to my knowledge.

38,231. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The whole of these monies, excepting 50*l.*, you are the conducting pipe for?—Yes; then the 4*l.* was probably given to Mr. Glover, as a messenger.

38,232. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) No, forgive me, it is drawn in your favour. There is another cheque, dated the 2nd of December, which I see is endorsed by you, for 6*l.* 10*s.*, you have not brought that into your account. I only want to get the two cheques right?—Yes; I will give you every information I can.

38,233. It has got "R. E." on the back of it; I do not know what that means, does it mean Reigate election?—Oh, yes, Reigate election is what it should be; a great many have got that.

38,234. You have not brought that into your account?—No, that has been paid in by me early after I received it from Mr. Smith, and no doubt it has got into his account.

38,235. Those two cheques you have got down?—Will you be kind enough to let me have the items, and I can ascertain what I received them for. I will give you the particulars.

38,236. The cheques I have against you are cheques for 6*l.* 10*s.*, and then for 60*l.*; I am not taking them in their chronological order?—The 60*l.* cheque was instead of the two 30*l.*

38,237. Yes, there would be no question about that. Then comes a cheque for 10*l.* on the 9th of June?—You will see that in my account.

38,238. I am telling you what I have against you; here is a cheque for 5*l.*, and then a cheque for 40*l.*, and then a cheque for 4*l.*?—The 4*l.* and the 6*l.* are the only two that are not put down in my account.

38,239. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is the cheque for 9*l.*?—The cheque for 9*l.* is my brother's.

38,240. At the present moment it is not clear that that is so?—I should like to have the exact amounts.

38,241. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) 22nd August 4*l.*; 2nd September 6*l.* 10*s.*; 20th October 5*l.*; that is for your son. 26th October 60*l.*; 20th November 40*l.*; and I see for the 9th of June there is one for 10*l.* I began at the wrong end, so that instead of receceiving 110*l.* you received, in fact, 125*l.* 10*s.*?—Will you kindly give me the cheques that are not in my account? I mean the small cheques.

38,242. Yes; the cheques not in your account are 4*l.* on the 22nd of August, and then the 2nd of September 6*l.*; and then Smith's 9*l.* cheque I presume to have been for your brother, James Apted. I am not proposing you should give regard to that?—Then there are three cheques, amounting to 15*l.* 10*s.* altogether that I have to account for.

38,243. Whether you trouble yourself about going into your accounts for any other purpose there is this fact I wish to bring to your mind; you have received 125*l.* 10*s.*, and how do you make your account right?—I cannot.

38,244. I took particular care to explain the account in the first instance. I made it up to 133*l.* 3*s.* as you know, and the residue was put down for refreshments; that made exactly the right sum?—I have not paid these away for refreshments. From the smallness of the cheques I have no doubt Mr. Smith gave them to me to give somebody else, and I have handed them over to them without taking them into my account, but still I quite admit that I ought to have done so.

38,245. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The 5*l.* you say you gave your boy?—Yes.

38,246. Then it would be the 6*l.* and 10*l.*, and the 4*l.*?—Yes.

38,247. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not wish to conceal anything from you at all. I am not so particularly anxious about this account of 15*l.* and 10*l.*?—Yes; but I am rather more anxious over that than you can be.

38,248. I dare say you can give us a very good account of it. Do not misunderstand me; all I am anxious to do is to show you that you have not given us in the first instance correct accounts, and I wish to tell you why you have not; it is because you have burnt the originals; you would not condescend to give us the originals?—With respect to the originals I should say this, that it is not businesslike until we put an account into an intelligible shape to hand it over to anybody. If there was a customer who came into my shop to ask me for an account, I should not take him the day book, but I should take him to my ledger.

38,249. No doubt but what that may be all very well, as between you and a customer but when you are submitting accounts to a third person in the shape of an auditor, like Mr. Smith, you always give a man the vouchers; you did not give the vouchers?—I believe that I did.

38,250. You told us yesterday you burnt them?—I did not say anything of the kind.

38,251. You said yesterday you had burnt them?—I said I had burnt my accounts, not the vouchers. I did not say I had burnt the vouchers.

38,252. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You said you had not taken receipts at all for many of those?—I do not think you will find that in my evidence; in fact, I am certain that you will not find that in my evidence.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have not much more to ask you as to this part.

(*The Witness.*) I will hear all that is true, but not more.

38,253. I hope I have not said anything that is not true; I was not aware that I had done so?—No, you did not.

38,254. I have stuck closely to what you said, and gone no further?—Quite right.

38,255. The money you paid to the voters you canvassed amounted to 26*l.* 13*s.*; you told us that this morning, and I dare say you are about right?—Yes, I think that is within a few shillings.

38,256. Are you able to tell me how much money was paid to men of that description, voters, during Mr. Gower's election for him?—No.

38,257. You cannot?—No.

38,258. I should like to know from you?—I have no doubt I could ascertain for you, but I only know so far as myself is concerned.

38,259. That is 26*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes; and I can tell you a little more than that. Rose and Ede had 30*l.*

38,260. It would be a very small sum to add to the 26*l.*; it would only make it a little above 56*l.* Can you tell me any more?—I cannot.

38,261. Can you say how much money you believe?—Only so far as my own account is concerned; we were almost independent of each other.

38,262. You may have compared notes since. I should like to get it from you if you know it?—I do not.

38,263. Not at all?—No.

38,264. Were you aware at the time of the election in '65 how many voters received money; you saw through the list of course carefully?—Do you mean gifts of every description, such as pheasants; if a gentleman has received a pheasant?

38,265. Oh, no, I do not mean that; you went through the list, and I rather expected you would be able to tell me?—No, I am not.

38,266. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Pheasants would not be very plentiful in July?—They would in October, and the accounts were not settled till then.

38,267. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell me the number of persons, voters, who received money; I do not say properly or improperly?—I cannot tell you, indeed.

38,268. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Out of 430 who voted for Mr. Gower?—I think if you hand up the list of those who have been summoned it would include every one.

38,269. How many voted for Mr. Gower?—We had 197 majority.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 473 voted for Mr. Gower, and 276 for Mr. Monson.

38,270. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Out of the 473 how many received anything?—It is impossible for me to say.

38,271. I tell you how it might be possible; by comparing notes. One might say, I have paid money to 40, and another to 46, all the way round; so that I think it would be very possible for an active man like you to put it down in detail and add it up?—It would have been quite possible, but I have not done it.

38,272. I will take your answer. I am only sorry I cannot get at it, but are you aware there were over 200 persons, voters, of the 473 to whom money was given?—No, sir.

38,273. I do not say what amount?—No, I was not aware of the fact.

38,274. You were not aware at all what number had received money?—No.

38,275. Now I am going back to the election of 1863?—That is Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson.

38,276. Yes; have you any account of the monies received and paid over in that election?—I found a book, but whether it is the account I do not know; it seems to have been made up in some places, and not in others. I thought I had lost it.

38,277. You received money to pay out in 1863?—Yes.

38,278. Can you tell me now from memory or anything else how much money you received in 1863?—I should say, as far as my memory goes, from 150*l.* to 200*l.*

38,279. I wanted it a little nearer than that; cannot you give it me?—I really cannot give it.

38,280. Who did you receive the money from?—I received all of it from Mr. Smith, but I think not in cheques. I think at that election Mr. Smith did not pay in cheques.

38,281. Was not any of it in cheques?—Yes, there might possibly be some of it in cheques, but Mr. Smith was not so particular at that election as the last; for at the last election he would not pay a farthing away except by cheque.

38,282. I will give you a bit of information, for it is only fair I should help you as much as I can; did you receive cash as well as cheques?—I think so, from what I remember; but perhaps I may be able to tell you for certain.

38,283. I should like to know, and I would rather you should tell me from your own account?—No, I cannot.

38,284. Have you any means of knowing what you received altogether?—I could only do it by asking Mr. Smith.

38,285. On that occasion how much did you receive for yourself?—30*l.*

38,286. Out of that?—Yes, sir.

38,287. Did you receive a retaining fee besides, of five or ten guineas?—I received ten guineas at first, but then that was deducted at the end. Mr. Smith paid me 10*l.* of my salary at the beginning, and 20*l.* at the latter end, making 30*l.* altogether.

38,288. That is what I was going to take, "Received "30*l.* for myself at twice"?—Yes, at twice; I cannot say whether by cheque. I do not think he paid me purposely for myself, but when he paid me the last payment I probably took 20*l.* for myself.

38,289. The money you had was first 10*l.*, and then 20*l.*?—Yes.

38,290. Besides that did you not charge the 5*l.* retainer?—No, sir, my son had 5*l.* at that election, the same as he did this.

38,291. What for?—For being clerk in the committee room at Redhill that was.

38,292. That would not be a retaining fee I suppose?—Oh dear no, not at all.

38,293. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your son is not a voter?—No.

38,294. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have no documents by which you can give us any correct details about that?—No, I have only this book.

38,295. What is that book?—Perhaps you will look at it.

38,296. No, I would rather you told me what it was?—It is for 1863.

38,297. Whose handwriting is it in?—It refers to the election of 1863. This is Mr. Buckland's handwriting, and this is mine (*pointing to different parts of the book*). It seems to have been made up altogether, when we were reckoning up our accounts and putting it into shape.

38,298. Is there any more of your handwriting except in the first page?—Yes, there are four leaves.

38,299. Will you let me look at it? (*It was handed to the Chief Commissioner.*) Oh, that is your handwriting; when was this written?—I should suppose when we were copying off our little items, so as to make them intelligible.

38,300. I am not sure when the election was in 1863?—I think it was in February.

38,301. I see the items in this book come to an untimely end?—Well, we do not care what becomes of them after the election is over.

38,302. There is very little in your handwriting; this part is in Mr. Buckland's handwriting?—Yes.

38,303. I cannot get anything out of this?—But there is something in it.

38,304. What is it?—All the money.

38,305. What is the total sum?—There is 4*l.* 10*s.* and 9*l.* 18*s.* and 8*l.* 1*s.*; you will find that there.

38,306. Do you see in the book a cheque that is dated the 2nd of May, and drawn for 2*l.* 5*s.*?—No, there are no money entries here, only my expenditure.

38,307. But by looking at that book can you tell me how much money you paid to voters in 1863?—I should think not a bit more than I have in this book.

38,308. You mean from this book?—Yes, or any.

38,309. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Have you the names of the men there, Mr. Apted?—Yes.

38,310. (*The Chief Commissioner*) I should like to know that rather?—I am only looking myself to see they are all voters. I see the expenditure goes a great way for voters, beyond what it was this time. It is 67*l.* 10*s.*; no, not so great a way, for I did not have anybody else like Rose and Ede, as I had here. I put them all in one.

38,311. I will take them at 67*l.* 10*s.*?—Just so; that is right.

38,312. Tell me what you paid altogether for refreshments; you told me yesterday it was very large, that there was a good deal of it?—I should think probably 100*l.*, but I do not know for certain; that is not down there, Mr. Smith would give me the money to pay, and then I should not enter it into my account.

38,313. I should like to know what you did pay for refreshments; perhaps you can tell me?—I cannot.

38,314. What makes you fix it at 100*l.*?—I have only done it at a venture, for it might be 20*l.* under or over.

38,315. I should like to know?—I will endeavour to find out.

38,316. "Refreshments," perhaps 100*l.*?—Yes.

38,317. Other expenses, about? I want a sketch of it, you know?—There is paid to Mr. Pitt 21*l.* 6*s.*; he was captain of the battalion.

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38,318. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) David Pitt?—Yes.

38,319. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Pitt had 21*l.* 6*s.*?—21*l.* 6*s.* for his men.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) David Pitt told us he only had 3*l.* at that election.

(*Witness.*) I have got 4*l.* down to him. I think he might have made a mistake. It was three years ago.

Pitt (from the body of the hall): I said I had 4*l.* in my evidence.

38,320. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is so; you are quite right. (*To witness.*) Tell me, if you please, what else did you pay? I do not mean each particular sum, but large sums, aggregate sums?—I paid 40*l.* 10*s.*, including that 21*l.* 6*s.*; say 20*l.* more. That is for refreshments.

38,321. That is in addition to the 100*l.* for refreshments?—No, that is not.

38,322. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Pitt have money to distribute to his men, beyond the 4*l.* in 1863?—I went and gave him the money to pay his men with.

38,323. How much did you give him in all?—21*l.* 6*s.*; 10*s.* each.

38,324. To pay his men?—Yes. He didn't have it himself; he had none of that himself.

38,325. But did it pass through his hands?—I think it all passed through his hands. I should think he paid them all, and I should think it all passed through his hands.

38,326. What men were they?—They were men employed to protect Mr. Gower and to "pitch into" the others, if the others interfered with us.

38,327. He was captain of the "roughs"?—No, they were not roughs, our party; they were Reigate men.

38,328. They were paid to protect Mr. Gower?—They were.

38,329. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you do me the favour, Mr. Apted, to tell me what other sums were paid besides the 21*l.* to Mr. Pitt. I do not want each item, but you can give me the aggregate?—There is "travelling and personal expenses" 8*l.* 10*s.*, that's all. That was a good deal for refreshing people.

38,330. Then I will not take it?—That would be refreshments, not at meetings, because whenever I sent for a man, and he was away from home, I always gave him something.

38,331. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much would the travelling expenses come to?—8*l.* 10*s.*

38,332. That would include refreshments?—Nothing else.

38,333. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I see you received on the 2nd of April 2*l.* 5*s.* I wonder what that was for?—In 1863?

38,334. Yes; and you received June 29th a small sum of 3*l.*?—I should say probably they were two little bills that were left unpaid.

38,335. Would that come under the heads we have got; "refreshments," or something of that kind?—I should think so.

38,336. Do you under the 67*l.* include sums paid to messengers? You said 67*l.* was paid to voters. I should like to know whether you included in that messengers?—Oh, yes; all these people were employed.

38,337. Therefore, you would include messengers, so?—Yes, include messengers.

38,338. I mean that would be one denomination under which they come?—Yes.

38,339. One moment, I will not detain you long. I think you ought to allow me to add, but I will not do it without your permission, 8*l.* for your own expenses, personal expenses; because I see that while other canvassing, refreshments, and messengers are charged, there is specially named this sum?—I have charged nothing; these are expenses that I have gone to personally, independent of any meetings.

38,340. That is what I say; I quite understand that. I have not put you down anything for that; I have only written, "personal expenses," and you have not told me what to put opposite to it?—Personal expenses, 8*l.* 10*s.*

38,341. That is what I wanted?—That included the travelling.

38,342. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your own travelling?—Only my own travelling.

38,343. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is all you get from that book. Now, perhaps, having turned your mind to that 1863 election, you can tell me very nearly how much money you received from Mr. Smith?—I should think more than 150*l.*

38,344. You said just now 150*l.* to 200*l.*?—Well, and that is what I should say now, when you come to guess three years ago.

38,345. It is nothing more than a guess then?—Nothing more than a guess.

38,346. Then I ought not to bind you to it at all, if it is only a guess?—It is only a guess.

38,347. Can you find out for me how much it was?—I have no doubt I can.

38,348. Not by going to Mr. Smith?—That's the only way I can.

38,349. That won't do, because we can get it from Mr. Smith himself. Can't you tell us?—I cannot.

38,350. I suppose it was not over 200*l.*?—No, I should think not.

38,351. Then it is right to tell you that you have already accounted for 227*l.*?—Then it was more. I told you it was a mere guess.

38,352. No, you did not, indeed; you told me nothing of the kind?—I have been telling you it was between 150*l.* and 200*l.*

38,353. What you told me was this, and I am sure I am very candid with you; what you told me was this, "Between 150*l.* and 200*l.*"; you could not tell me nearer. But the other expenses you have given me pretty nearly according to the fact; and those expenses which you have given me out of the book amount to 227*l.*?—Then, that's about it; or from that to ——; I should think it might have come to 240*l.*; I don't know.

38,354. Now, you think you may have received that from Mr. Smith?—It is not evidence to go upon, because when I talk about a book three years ago it really amounts to nothing.

38,355. I quite agree with you that it is not at all conclusive; I will dismiss it, and there's an end of it?—It really amounts to nothing.

38,356. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I want to know the number of men employed?—There was 67*l.* 10*s.* paid them.

Don't you think it might be 80*l.*? I have a reason for asking?—I beg your pardon; 67*l.* 10*s.*

38,357. I have a reason for asking?—There's the book.

38,358. The book does not help us?—I know nothing, only what I wrote in the book. It is three years ago.

38,359. Don't you think it might be 80*l.*?—I dare say it might; and it might not.

38,360. I think you will find it is?—It is just as likely not to be as it is to be.

38,361. My impression is that it is. You do not know the evidence I have?—Well, if you have any evidence more than I have—— As near as I can give you, it is 67*l.* 10*s.* That is only because it is in this book.

38,362–3. Now I want the number of men.—Twenty.

38,364. Then that would be paid to twenty men?—Yes, they were better paid that election than they were this.

38,365. That is a little bit more than 3*l.* a head?—Yes.

38,366. Now, was that your first election?—Oh dear no; I have been in every election in Reigate.

38,367. I will refer to your evidence, and we shall see. It was the first election on which you received money for yourself?—Exactly.

38,368. At any previous election had any money gone through your hand?—Yes.

38,369–70. I want to go back to 1859? (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In the meantime I want to see the names of the men?—Yes (*handing in the list*). You will find them in the first leaf.

38,371. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1859 you say you received no money for yourself. Now, can you tell me shortly, from memory or books, how much money you paid to voters in 1859?—None.

38,372. You cannot tell me a bit?—I didn't have any.

38,373. I beg your pardon; I thought you said that money passed through your hands?—Yes.

38,374. What was that for?—That was to pay for meetings. Mr. Wilkinson asked me to go round and pay the meetings as they were held, so that no bills might be run.

38,375. Am I correct in taking this, "I paid no "voters money."?—I paid no money to voters, except the public house people were voters.

38,376. Except for refreshments at public houses?—That is all.

38,377. I dare say you will be able to tell me how much you paid away in refreshments?—Every meeting I attended. Mr. Cape came for me and asked me to get up meetings. I told him I would not decoy working men away from their homes without I paid for their beer. He then said, "You go and attend to "the men; give them what you think is necessary; "get the bill and pay it, and I'll pay you every "night."

38,378. And how much did he pay you?—He paid me every night. I cannot possibly give you the account.

38,379. Let us keep to 1859?—In 1859, I was the agent of Mr. Wilkinson then.

38,380. Did you receive money for yourself?—Not a farthing.

38,381. Did you receive money to pay voters?—No, not a farthing.

38,382. You understand what I mean?—I will not say, not a farthing. The bill posting we paid for. I think I paid one man 2*l.* for bill posting on that occasion, and one or two other trifles; but we did not what you call "put on men." There were no men put on; it is only for work that we could not do without.

38,383. Do you think you paid any money to voters beyond a 5*l.* note?—No, I do not think I did.

38,384. How much money did you pay in refreshments then?—Every one found their own.

38,385. But you paid for refreshments at public houses, didn't you, the same as you did in the previous election?—No, there was no time; there was only the nomination day and the polling day.

38,386. How much money went through your hands in 1859 at that election?—57*l.* odd, altogether; but there was more paid; Mr. Norman Wilkinson paid himself.

38,387. Did you pay it for him?—My audited account came to 57*l.* odd.

38,388. Did that include the polling?—Yes.

38,389. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I believe the polling book cost 50*l.*?—Oh no, a very trifle; I don't know what it was.

38,390. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have taken it you paid away 57*l.*?—Altogether, including auditor's fee and everything else for Mr. Wilkinson. He paid privately for the carriages and all that kind of thing. He attended to it, and paid it out of his own pocket; and I didn't interfere with it.

38,391. Do you know anything about money paid to voters?—No.

38,392. Do you know who paid it?—There was none. It was upon that occasion I went to one voter down at Earlswood, and he promised he would come and vote for nothing if I would not tell anybody. He was never more ashamed in all his life.

38,393. You told us that yesterday?—Yes; he thought he was underworking other people.

38,394. Did you not think so too?—No.

38,395. Did you not think he was underworking, in fact?—He was not working. I told him he ought to work for money and vote for principle, and I didn't employ him to do work.

38,396. I did not refer to that; but from what you know did the other voters receive more than he did at that election?—No; not one of them received a half-penny to my knowledge.

38,397. The inference is pretty strong from the fact that the man told you himself that he thought he was underworking other people?—Yes, he said he was underworking other people.

38,398. Then the inference is pretty strong?—The man would not inquire into it; he spoke only from previous elections.

38,399. I wish you to tell me candidly, is that all you know about that election that is important. Do you not know yourself of either Mr. Wilkinson, or some one else, having paid money which was received by voters?—No. I do not believe there was one penny paid by any man living. I do not believe that one single voter had one single penny, or a penny's value.

38,400. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was on your side?—On our side; and 161 votes were obtained.

38,401. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now tell me, do you believe on Monson's side that they were paid?—I am sure they were.

38,402. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) From what you saw, or from reputation?—Yes.

38,403. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You think they were?—Yes. I do not say they were bribed, but put on.

38,404. "Put on." I have avoided the term "bribed"?—That is the term that is generally used.

38,405. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) "Put on"?—Yes.

38,406. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now, in the second election of 1858 what character did you fill then?—The second election in 1858?

38,407. Yes; that was in October, between Wilkinson and Monson?—I was against Mr. Wilkinson; I was in favour of Mr. Monson. Wait a moment!

38,408. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which election do you mean; October 1858; Monson and Wilkinson?—I have never voted for Monson, so that I must have been in favour of Mr. Wilkinson.

38,409. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What were you then? Can you recollect whether you were agent or anything at all?—I could not have been agent, for I was a pure voluntary agent. I was not a paid agent. I had no money of any kind of Mr. Wilkinson's, never.

38,410. Did you receive any fee for yourself, for your services?—No.

38,411. Do you know of any voters being put on?—Oh, yes.

38,412. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had money pass through your hand?—No, not for that purpose.

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38,413. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) For what purpose?—Only to pay the expenses of the meetings; for that only, and that I received every day.

38,414. Whom did you receive it from?—Mr. Cape.

38,415. How much did you receive altogether?—I do not think it amounted to a great deal. Each meeting cost about a 1*l.* or 30*s.*, or something like that; except it was a large meeting, and then it would cost more.

38,416. You received, how much?—I think if you said from 15*l.* to 20*l.* it would be about as much as I did receive.

38,417. Now, was all that 15*l.* or 20*l.*, or whatever it was, paid for refreshments in public houses?—Yes, not including rooms at all; I paid for no rooms.

38,418. Did you know of any voters being put on on that election?—Yes.

38,419. Can you tell me how many, without giving me their names?—No; I only know a few, as I casually heard them. I had nothing to do with them.

38,420. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On both sides?—On both sides.

38,421. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you any notion, Mr. Apted, how many you were aware of being "put on"? I want to know to what extent; that is the object of my question?—I think there were about half a dozen "put on" down at Emery's, that I am aware of.

38,422. Which side was that?—That was our side.

38,423. Can you tell me any others?—No, I cannot say that I can, not with any certainty.

38,424. No, we do not want it with any certainty?—I am not saying now that these people did not work, for I do not know whether they did or not.

38,425. I have adopted your expression because that will cover all difficulties. In using the words "put on" the only requisite is a voter and money; Never mind what he was paid for?—That's it.

38,426. Can you tell me whether any were put on on the other side in the election of October 1858?—I did not know much of the other side at that time.

38,427. You have mentioned half a dozen at this place. You might have heard of others, you know?—I did hear occasionally of one; I should think they were about even.

38,428. Did they bribe at that time? You know we have got a rough estimate of 1863; 5*l.* odd shillings a head?—Twice as high as it was this time.

38,429. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In 1858?—In 1858. I should think that those that were paid; there were not so many of them; I should think they might probably average from 2*l* to 3*l.* each.

38,430. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Men that were "put on"?—No man is "put on" without being paid. It does not mean being "put on" the committee; it is "put on" to work, or the "pay "list" if you like.

38,431. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The men "put "on," you think they had from 2*l.* to 3*l.*?—I should think so; it depends a good deal upon the length of the election.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And the closeness of the contest.

38,432. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You cannot give me any other information as to that election?—No.

38,433. I wish you would if you could?—I cannot.

38,434. Then we will go back to the election which has been a good deal talked about, the Doulton election of February 1858 were you for Wilkinson then?—No, I was not.

38,435. Whom were you for?—I think Sir Henry Rawlinson put up at that time.

38,436. Yes, he did; you are quite right?—Then I was for him. I was very much inclined to Mr. Doulton at first. He attended a meeting here in the town hall, and his sentiments were my sentiments; but he told me that he meant to buy the borough, whether or no.

38,437. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He said that to you?—He said they had got plenty of money. That is when he came to me to ask me to act for him.

38,438. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am sure you will be very cautious, because we are speaking now of a gentleman who is absent?—I don't care about that. He has as much right to answer.

38,439–40. I am only calling your attention to it, that's all. I am sure you will be very cautious?—I shall not speak against any one on account of their being absent.

But I am only calling your attention to being more careful?

38,441. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was at the town hall, at the first meeting?—No; I didn't say that he told me at the town hall.

38,442. It was my mistake then?—I said I had a very favourable impression when he attended at the town hall; and I took the chair at his first meeting.

38,443. And when he told you that you seceded?—I did.

38,444. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you give us the words he said, or near them?—He said, "We shall be sure to win; we have got money, and "we mean to use it."

38,445. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Those are, as far as you recollect, the expressions he used?—Yes.

38,446. Then he did not say he was determined to buy the borough? It is only your inference?—I have told you that.

38,447. Did he say so in addition?—He did. They meant to buy the borough, for they had got money, and they meant to use it. I wish to say that it was not true that he ever offered me a sum of money.

38,448. I do not think I have said so?—No; but a report got about at that election, and he wrote to me to contradict it.

38,449. Never mind that?—Only it was said he had offered me 100*l.*; and I wrote to him to say it was not so; and he might print it if he liked.

38,450. Never mind that; you seceded when he told you that?—Yes.

38,451. Why?—Because I thought it was an impudent thing for him to say.

38,452. You did not think it an impudent thing for him to do?—I do.

38,453. Why?—Because there is no money will buy my vote.

38,454. I am not talking of your vote, you know?—Then I consider the others are as pure as myself.

38,455. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Apted, I wish you would define your notion of a pure voter?—We have had a good many strangers in the borough since then.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) These, I think, are nearly your words: "I thought it was an impudent "thing for him to say, because I thought the borough "was as pure as myself, and I would not take money "for my vote."

38,456. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You did not say that to Mr. Doulton?—I told him the reason why I left him. I said, "Sir, if that's your game I'll "leave you."

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Those are the words I have taken the opportunity of putting into your mouth.

(*Witness.*) What is that?

38,457. "I thought when he told me this it was an "impudent thing to say, because I thought the "borough was as pure as I was"?—No, that is not my words.

38,458. I make a mistake then?—I said "because "no money would buy my vote, and I thought the "rest of the borough was as pure as I was." That's my words.

38,459. Now we have got it quite right. Now, I am sure you will forgive me for asking you: are you still of the same opinion? aye or no?—Well, since that time a number of strangers have come into our borough that I can't depend upon so much as we could our old inhabitants.

38,460. Did any of the voters in the Doulton election in 1858 vote in this election of 1865?—Yes, I should think perhaps a dozen might, but Mr. Doulton only got very few votes.

38,461. We have examined a number of witnesses who were voters in 1865, and who were voters in 1858; so the bad leaven was already in the borough at that time?—But I should suppose out of Mr. Doulton's 100 votes——

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He had 116.

(*Witness.*) Out of that 116 I should suppose he had 70 pure voters. I should suppose with all his money he could not buy above 35 or 40.

38,462. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then you leave 47 voters at any rate who were—?—Who were ignorant, who didn't care much which way they went, who went any way they were employed.

38,463. Who were "put on"?—"Put on."

38,464. Bearing in mind that there were that number—now, that we have got into figures, which are safe things when we can get at them; bearing in mind that, are you surprised now, and do you think now, it was an impudent thing for Mr. Doulton to say to you?—I think the issue proved that. I do think so still; and I should think so of any man now, quite as much as I did then.

38,465. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You do not think money will have any influence at all?—I have never said that. It has not influence enough to buy this borough; that I am quite certain.

38,466. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Surely you have forgotten what you told me what you paid away to voters that were "put on"?—Well, that does not make them impure.

38,467. It was ignorance?—Some of them were ignorant. Ignorance runs among all classes.

38,468. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that the reason why they were put on, because you should "secure" them?—No, I have never acknowledged that yet.

38,469. You have used the expression "to secure" them; and you have used the expression that those who were paid for Doulton were ignorant men, who would go any way, which way they were paid?—No, that's wrong.

38,470. That is what you said?—No, I didn't. I deny that altogether. You make up assertions, and put them into my mouth.

38,471–2. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I tell you candidly I don't care whether 37 voted for Doulton or not. What I endeavoured to do was to fix the fact that there were 40 voters "put on"?—Yes, I think there was that number on the part of Mr. Doulton.

38,473. The only other matter I want to remind you about is this: you said in 1863 you believed you received from 150*l.* to 200*l.*, but you could not find out how much the sum was without going to Mr. Smith?—No, I could not.

38,474. I should very much like to know what it was?—If I could possibly let you know I would. I do not know what source to apply to, except to Mr. Smith.

38,475. Yes, but I can go to him myself for it. Don't you think you have anything at home that will tell you. It is a biggish sum of money, taking it at 150*l.*?—I don't know whether Mr. Buckland can. I and Mr. Buckland worked together; whether he has got any item I don't know.

38,476. I cannot oblige you to do it, but if you could give it me I should be obliged to you; if you could tell me the money you paid away?—I should be very pleased to do it, if I had an opportunity of finding it.

38,477. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I pointedly called your attention yesterday to a question which I wish you to consider again, with regard to Mr. Gower. I asked you whether he had been aware of the employment of voters and canvassers and paid agents to the extent to which they were employed?—Yes; and my answer was then, that at the time of the election I believed him to be fully aware of it.

38,478. To the full extent to which they had gone?—Well, I said, "as well as I did," but I did not know the real extent that it had gone, any further than our own locality. I merely said "to the extent that I "did."

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did. I have got your own words, "as much as I did."

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You told me that first when you went to him and told him they were buying your voters, or winning your voters——

(*Witness.*) We went as a deputation.

38,479. And then he refused?—Yes; we came away without any answer at all.

38,480. He demurred?—He did decidedly demur.

38,481. When did you get any authority to increase the number of canvassers from him? You know the object I have in asking the question?—I do. I am not purposely saying any thing to implicate Mr. Gower,—far from it. It makes me feel very sorry to think that the error was committed. But the error was committed, and it can't be undone. That is, Mr. Gower, instead of coming to his agents, and telling us that we were to "put on," and be cautious not to "put on" too many, he went incautiously and injudiciously to the meeting below and told all the people they should be paid for their labour. Then I had as many as 40 people, I do believe quite 40 people, the very next day, stating that they had done so much work, and Mr. Gower had expressed his wish that they should be paid. I do not say that at all to implicate Mr. Gower. I feel sorry the thing ever was done.

38,482. No, no. We expect you to tell us candidly exactly how the matter occurred.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) We hope you will certainly, if we do not expect it.

38,483. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ever apply to anybody else except Mr. Smith for money?—No.

38,484. Not to Mr. Gower personally?—No, not for money, but merely to say that we needed money, for him to send to Mr. Smith. We did not expect him to give us money.

38,485. When was the occasion upon which you did apply to Mr. Gower?—I do not know; I think it is probable I mentioned it every time I saw him. I think that is very probable.

38,486. Then was the application made generally, or for any specific sums?—I think if I recollect right, when we went up as a deputation, we made up an item of what we considered the expenses of the election would cost.

38,487. When was that? That would be very early, would it not?—No, not very early; oh, no! This

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was when we found or when we believed bribery was going on amongst Mr. Monson's supporters. Then we found that our own canvassers that we had on, which was only very few, a limited number indeed, were not sufficient to compete with them. We then had a meeting together, and we thought it was necessary to put a number of people on, and we estimated what the expense of the election would be; and we felt it our duty to lay it before Mr. Gower, to tell him what he was about, so that he could either give it up or leave it alone, just as he liked.

38,488. Then you did bring to Mr. Gower's attention the fact that a number of men would be required to be "put on"?—Oh, yes.

38,489. That is what I gather from my impression of the evidence yesterday. Then a very few days afterwards you heard or suspected that the Monson party were bribing?—Oh, no, before that. That was our reason for putting them on.

38,490. Because you had heard the Monson party —— ?—Were going in among our voters.

38,491. And offering terms?—Yes.

38,492. Then what took place between the deputation and Mr. Gower?—We represented to him the state of the case; and he said he would consider the matter, but he could not see his way clear; he did not like this expenditure of money.

38,493. Then at that time you got no definite answer?—No, no definite answer at all.

38,494. Was that the only time that you went to Mr. Gower?—Yes, we never went to his house any other time.

38,495. But at any place?—About money?

38,496. Yes, about money?—Well, I think I mentioned money to him every time I saw him almost.

38,497. Was there a specific occasion when money was applied for?—Well, I think very likely after we had been to him as a deputation, if we saw him when he came back, we should most probably go to him; but I forget.

38,498. You do not recollect any thing at all about a deputation going to him on a second occasion at the town hall?—Here in Reigate, you mean?

38,499. Yes, anywhere?—Well, I think it very likely it did; it seems to me natural that it should do so; but whether we did or not I don't know.

38,500. There are only one or two more small things I want to ask you about, because, probably, they ought to be brought to your attention. You spoke yesterday of going up to the "Black Horse"? (*Witness.*) Going down to the "Black Horse."

38,501. Going down you call it; and finding Johnson was there?—Yes.

38,502. Was that not the night before the writ was coming down?—I think the writ was to be down the next day. I think that is quite right.

38,503. I see by reference to the shorthand writer's notes as to that that you did go into the meeting?—I did.

38,504. And spoke there?—And spoke there.

38,505. Did you allude in your speech, do you recollect, to the fact of that being the last night before the writ coming down?—I did; I recollect that perfectly well.

38,506. Probably you have seen what was reported of Johnson's evidence?—Yes; but Johnson's evidence, I deny it as far as I am concerned.

38,507. Did you say to them in effect, alluding to that being the last night before the writ coming down, they might enjoy themselves that night, but they must be more cautious in future?—No. I told them I didn't wish to interfere personally with their enjoyments, but it was going against our election to be meeting in public houses, especially now as the writ was coming down, and I hoped none of them would do it again.

38,508. Then was it before or after that night that you paid the money to Hodge at the "Angel"?—It was before that night.

38,509. Were all those meetings before that night that you paid those monies?—Yes.

38,510. Did you pay any account for refreshments after that night?—I should think so, because there were refreshments that I did not hear of. As I heard of them I went and paid for them.

38,511. But did you pay for any refreshments that were had after that night?—Not to my knowledge, except at Mr. Glover's for my own men. I had a man who had been out at times, and I sent him to Glover's house to dinner; it is an eating house. Only trifling sums of that kind. We had no other meeting after that.

38,512. Did you at any time, either before the writ or after, tell the men that they might have what they wanted?—Yes, very frequently.

38,513. I mean when there were several of these men together?—Well, perhaps two of them have been out canvassing, and I have said, "Go into Glover's "and get what you like to eat and drink; go and "have your dinner, and then come in again; I want "you."

38,514. There is one man, William Monk, in particular, that you told that to?—A man that I had no sort of dealing with.

38,515. Did you tell him that?—I did not.

38,516. I ask the question, because he has said so?—Mr. Joyes will bear me out. He came and asked me to go for his vote, and I refused to go because I would not have any dealings with him.

38,517. Do you recollect one evening walking along the street with Johnson and Monk?—I do, and I produce the book.

38,518. Is that the same one; you swear that is the same one?—I do. I will tell you what occurred. I was not walking with Mr. Johnson, I was walking with a friend, and I was holding the list in my hand; we were talking about the majority we had on the list; I dropped the list on the pavement, and I said, "If the other party had that list instead of us it "would be worth all 100*l.*," alluding to the number of 150 majority we had on the list. Those are my entries in the book, I had no other.

38,519. Was it a very fine night when you dropped it?—I don't know. I was going like this, and it fell out of my hand.

38,520. It was a very fine night?—I dare say it was; I don't know; I didn't keep a register.

38,521. Perhaps you can tell me whether it was a very fine night?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I can tell you. In July 1865 it was very hot.

38,522. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I ask the question because the outside cover is so clean?—There is one leaf off it.

38,523–4. Don't say more about it; I was rather curious to see what the book was?—Now, you have the list, if you will allow me to show you one name who said that I offered him money or something.

I don't want to ask any more about it.

38,525. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He did not say you paid him money?—No. It is with respect to a man named Mitchell; I have put him down Monson on this list; he has never been altered. He came in here and wanted to arrange about money. I said, "Mr. Mitchell, if that's your game we can't do it." He wanted constant employment up to the day of the election, and I would not give it him.

38,526. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you present when the deputation came from the railway men?—They came to me.

38,527. To you?—Yes.

38,528. Just tell us very shortly what was offered you on that occasion by the railway men?—You have had it correctly before.

38,529. Then what was said about that is correct?—It is correct; but that every one of the railway men knew about the extra 2*l.* I do not know. I believe from their evidence they did not know.

38,530. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Very likely, indeed. It might have been a fishing deputation?—Yes, that's the way I took it.

38,531. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know of any monies being advanced by any one in Reigate on the part of Mr. Monson in 1865?—Advanced?

38,532. Yes?—No, I do not. On the part of Mr. Monson?

38,533. Yes?—No.

38,534. No contribution, or anything of that kind?—No, I do not.

38,535. I do not wish to mention names?—I do not. I have heard rumours, but only rumours.

38,536. Rumours?—That's all. I have nothing else to go upon. I cannot give you any information.

38,537. Anything substantial?—No, I do not. You mean during the election, I presume?

38,538. Or about it, during it, or before it, or about it?—Getting up the petition the town was debauched with money.

38,539. I don't care about the petition. What I mean is, any monies contributed for the support of Mr. Monson?—I do not know. I never made it my business to inquire.

38,540. Or with regard to 1863 do you know?—I do not. It was generally supposed the Reform Club had some hand it it.

38,541. The Reform Club has enough to answer for?—I think they have, more than they can do.

The witness withdrew.

Mr. Mulley recalled and examined.

Mr. Mulley.

38,542. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Upon referring to your evidence I see you spent about 30*l.*; 30*l.* passed through your hands, and what you received for yourself was something like 12*l.*?—I received nothing for myself.

38,543. I want to get this quite right; you spent about 30*l.*?—30*l.* or 39*l.*

38,544. No, 30*l.* And you received from Mr. Smith in all 42*l.*?—I think that is the sum.

38,545. Then there would be according to that, if I am right, 12*l.* remaining to you. I will tell you what you did receive exactly, you received money for certain people amounting altogether to 30*l.* (*the learned Commissioner read the list of names and the amounts, as given in by the witness on the previous examination*)?—That's right.

38,546. That amounts, if I am correct, to 30*l.*?—Yes.

38,547. And you received 42*l.*?—I think about 42*l.*

38,548. That would leave 12*l.* for what you call a fee for yourself?—No, nothing at all. That is accounted for to Mr. Smith, every farthing of it.

38,549. But you did not give us an account of it?—I never kept an account. I handed the account to Mr. Smith. I never reserved an account for myself. I let Mr. Smith have the original accounts.

38,550. You say you exhausted the whole 42*l.*?—Yes, and more too.

38,551. You had nothing for yourself?—Not a farthing.

38,552. You did not tell us how you exhausted the difference between the 30*l.* and 42*l.*?—I told you I could not then; but I have since remembered that I paid five men, what we call roughs, I paid five of them, and only three of them I charged Mr. Smith. I paid them 10*s.* each for two days' work.

38,553. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And you only charged for three?—I only charged for three. I paid the others. However, I have accounted to Mr. Smith without that for every farthing, and for sums beyond.

38,554. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell me how you accounted for it?—I cannot. The account I handed to Mr. Smith will explain it. If I had the account here I could explain it easily enough.

38,555. And would equally that story about the dog?—Yes.

38,556. Where would that 5*l.* come from; did you receive that from Mr. Smith?—That was in 1863.

38,557. You are quite right. I quite understand your explanation of it, but I had forgotten it was in 1863?—I cannot explain anything about the items at all unless Mr. Smith will let me have the account that I handed to him. I have no account by me or with me. I have accounted for 2*l.* 10*s.* now to you.

38,558. You have only accounted for three men, that would be 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Just so; I did not charge that. I have accounted to Mr. Smith.

38,559. Now, I want to know this, have you anything to do with the fire brigade down there?—Yes.

38,560. How many members are there?—11, I think.

38,561. Did you receive any money for the fire brigade?—No.

38,562. Nothing at all?—No. In what way do you mean?

38,563. In any way whatever?—I beg your pardon; yes. I thought you meant for the fire brigade for service.

38,564. No; what money did you receive?—I received 5*l.* from Mr. Gower for the fire brigade.

38,565. But you received it from Mr. Smith?—I received it from Mr. Smith; but I don't think that is included in anything that I either received or expended.

38,566. Are you at the head of the fire brigade?—No.

38,567. Who is?—Well, at the present time I believe Mr. Collins, the butcher.

38,568. At that time?—Mr. Steer I believe at that time.

38,569. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When was it?—In 1865. I should think it was about a month before the election. I have no note of it at all; I never kept it. I handed the 5*l.* over to the secretary.

38,570. Who was the secretary?—Mr. Markwick.

38,571. That is the gentleman who has been called here?—Not that I am aware of.

38,572. Then you know nothing more of it?—Nothing more whatever.

38,573. Did you receive any other sum for the fire brigade, do you recollect?—No, I think not. It was proposed that some of the brigade should wait upon certain gentlemen to see what we could get, to get a new engine, and keep the engine better than what we had, but the thing seemed to fall to the ground. I being a pretty good worker myself I succeeded in my first attempt. I think an attempt was made upon Mr. Monson and Lord Monson, and it failed. I understood they said they would give something after the election, but it has never come yet.

38,574. Probably that 5*l.* came out of the residue?—No, I think not. Oh dear no; it is a separate sum I think. I think I received that cheque from Mr. Smith, I will not be sure—I cannot be sure now, it is

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so long. I think that was a separate cheque, I won't be positive.

38,575. Were there many voters among the fire brigade ?—I think they were all voters, with one exception. Mr. Cook was not a voter.

38,576. How much was collected for the new engine that was got up ?—But very little.

38,577. How much ?—I cannot tell ; it fell to the ground.

38,578. How much in addition to the 5*l.* ?—I don't think there was hardly anything, if anything.

38,579. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Has nothing been done with the 5*l.* in the way of improving the engine, or anything of that sort ?—There were some things paid for. We got some helmets I believe. Mr. Markwick could supply a statement of what was done with the 5*l.*

38,580. I dare say he supplied it to you too ?—I was not secretary.

38,581. That would not make any difference. What, were you above Mr. Markwick in it ?—No ; Mr. Markwick is secretary ; I am simply one of the committee.

38,582. Did he not make an account to the committee ?—Yes, he did make a statement of what had been done with it. We had been put to some expense in going out to practise with horses, and having the engine cleaned and put in working order.

38,583. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then did it lie idle all the time, or good for nothing until the election came on ?—We had not had it so very long It was sent from Reigate Old Town, and it was out of order, and it wanted being put in order.

38,584. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Perhaps you will forgive me for asking a question not exactly connected with this. Where is that engine ?—At Redhill.

38,585. Is there a Reigate engine too ?—Yes ; this is a Reigate engine ; but they have got a new one, and they gave us the old one.

38,586. Did you happen to see the Reigate engine brought out a few days ago ?—No.

38,587. Is it in good condition ?—No, it is not in good condition.

38,588. Are there any shafts to the Reigate engine ?—I cannot tell. There is a pole.

38,589. You cannot give any other account of the 12*l.* ?—I cannot at all. I have no idea even of the account I made.

38,590. Did you apply to Mr. Monson for money ?—No. Some of the other party did ; some of the brigade on Lord Monson's committee ; they applied to Lord Monson. The reply I understand was, they would consider, or something, after the election. Mr. Monson wanted to lay it before Lord Monson, and consequently we got nothing from either of them.

38,591. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is the only contribution you received ?—I think it is.

The witness withdrew.

J. Andrews.

JOHN ANDREWS recalled and examined.

38,592. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I called you before, didn't I, Mr. Andrews ?—Yes.

38,593. I think it was you who told me that no money passed through your hands ?—Yes.

38,594. You said that you had not received anything except 1*l.* for the services of your boy ?—That is all.

38,595. The services of your boy, whom you had lent ?—Yes ; he was lent four days and a few nights.

38,596. Well now, why did you not receive something more ?—I do not know.

38,597. You did not tell me that you were expecting to receive anything ?—I was not asked that question ; if I was I should have answered.

38,598. Then perhaps I am to blame, and not you, but you certainly misled me very much, because I had reason to believe that you did send in a claim ?—I send in a claim ?

38,599. I see you sent in a claim for a very large sum, 13*l.* 10*s.* ?—I was canvassing five weeks.

38,600. You did not tell us a word about this ; you were sworn to tell the whole truth ?—Yes, I answered all the questions asked me. I did not know I was placed here to make a statement. If I did I should have made a statement.

38,601. Perhaps that is excuse enough for you ?—I came here to-day to make a statement to that effect.

38,602. You were a voter ?—I was a voter.

38,603. Being a voter, and having given your vote, you sent in this in the next month, August, "To five "weeks canvassing and labour done in the late elec- "tion for the return of Leveson Gower, 12*l.* 10*s.* ; "posting and cleaning down bills from off my house, "1*l.* : 13*l.* 10*s.*" You are a voter ?—Yes.

38,604. And you sent in that bill. You did not tell me of it before ?—No ; I came here to-day to make the statement.

38,605. Well, I must be satisfied with that ; perhaps you are right and we are wrong ?—I have never received the money for that.

38,606. How is that ?—I never applied for the money.

38,607. But the bill went in ?—I have been waiting to have the money sent.

38,608. You made no application, you say ; but this bill is an application ?—This is an application decidedly.

38,609. I am sure you mean to be correct, but it misleads one ?—I should have made the statement, provided you had asked me for it before, but I was not aware that I had to make a statement.

38,610. Perhaps that is our fault more than yours ; it misled me. I was surprised to find this claim. I had booked you as a pure voter, barring the 1*l.* for lending your boy, which sounded plausible, and I thought perhaps there was nothing in that. Then I was rather surprised by finding this. I suppose this is your handwriting (*showing witness a paper*) ?—I believe it is. I do not think it ought to have been sent in. It is not paid.

38,611. It led me and another Commissioner to think you filled a very different position in the borough than what you do in my opinion, because, although a voter, you sent in a bill for canvassing. This is not a common "fiver ;" it is 13*l.* 10*s.* for canvassing and attending committee meetings ?—I attended, perhaps, four or five meetings. I was on the executive committee, and had a certain part to canvass.

38,612. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You also posted up bills ?—I posted them up and cleaned them down.

38,613. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you ever been paid anything ?—Never, only a sovereign.

38,614. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you put on to canvass ?—Yes.

38,615. Who put you on ?—Mr. Green told me I was to do the best I could, and I was to go and canvass all I could, and make reports of them.

38,616. Were you to be paid for being put on ?—I was to receive something for it, for my labour done.

38,617. Was anything said at the time you were put on that you were to receive anything for it?—No stated sum. I was to be paid for what I had done, loss of time, which I gave the whole of my time; I did no other work, and I was about all day.

38,618. You posted your walls and charged 1*l.* ?—Yes; a very small sum, too, for what I put up.

38,619. Did you put them up?—Yes.

38,620. All the bills you could get?—They were brought to me to stick up.

38,621. Is yours a corner house?—Yes; and we were posting them up on the market house.

38,622. You have only a charge for "posting and "cleaning bills off my house"?—Posting and cleaning down.

38,623. "Posting and cleaning down bills from off "my house, 1*l.*"?—Yes.

38,624. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why didn't you sue for the money?—Well, I do not know, I am sure.

38,625. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you volunteer to put these bills up?—I was asked to put them up.

38,626. Who asked you?—They were sent down to me from the committee room. I had a long list of committee men.

38,627. I suppose you said in the committee room, "I have got a blank wall, I will post up some bills"?—No, I did not.

38,628. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Well, we will not keep it up. It looks very much as if you were asked the question when we were upon this before. You said, "I have been paid 1*l.* for the services of "my boy"?—It was.

38,629. Well, would not most men know if they were specifying one particular sum that they were making it appear that they were not paid more?—Yes, I have not been paid any more. I came here to-day to make a disclosure of this account.

38,630. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Green canvass you?—He authorized me to go on and do the best I could for the support of Mr. Gower.

38,631. Because I see on the former occasion you said Mr. Green did not canvass you?—Not canvass me; he told me to do the best I could.

38,632. You do not understand that as being canvassed?—I do not think that; Mr. Gower canvassed me himself.

38,633. Then being put on as a canvasser you do not consider being canvassed?—I think not.

38,634. Don't you understand that, being put on, your vote is to go with it?—No.

38,635. It did go with it?—Yes, because I promised Mr. Gower.

38,636. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you consider you are to canvass for one candidate and vote for another?—No.

38,637. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What do you mean by not being canvassed when you were asked whether you would be put on?—I promised Mr. Gower when he called, and Mr. Green put me on.

38,638. You do not call it being canvassed when a man is asked to work?—Not when he is asked to work. He did not mention my vote.

JAMES MILLS sworn and examined.

J. Mills.

38,639. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you a voter at the last election?—Yes.

38,640. Were you living in the town?—No.

38,641. Where were you living at the last election?—Glover's-field or Lesbourne-land, whichever you like to call it.

38,642. You were living there?—I was living there.

38,643. What are you?—A gardener.

38,644. What rent do you pay?—16*l.* a year.

38,645. Are you living in the borough now?—No.

38,646. Did you remove before or after the election?—I have only just removed, about three weeks.

38,647. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

38,648. Were you on the committee?—Yes.

38,649. And were you put on to work?—Well, I was put on. I suppose it was to do something.

38,650. Who put you on?—Mr. Apted and Mr. Buckland.

38,651. Job Apted?—Job Apted.

38,652. Were you to get anything for it?—No stated sum. I said, "I suppose I shall be paid for my "trouble."

38,653. At the time that you were put on for canvassing were you also put on the committee?—Yes, I was on the committee as early as most of them.

38,654. Well, did you do any work?—Well, I went about canvassing a little.

38,655. Amongst your fellow gardeners?—Amongst my fellow gardeners.

38,656. And just the same as we have heard before, the old tale; some of your fellow gardeners canvassed you?—That is it. We all stuck to one another.

38,657. I suppose you very soon learned that you were all put on in the garden?—Yes; Mr. Gower came himself, and I promised when he first came. Mr. Monson came afterward. I told him I had promised Mr. Gower.

38,658. To make the matter short, you voted?—Yes.

38,659. Did you receive any money for being put on before the election?—No.

38,660. Never received anything then?—No.

38,661. Did you receive anything after?—Yes.

38,662. How much after?—30*s.*

38,663. Who paid you?—Mr. Apted; Job Apted.

38,664. I suppose, in truth, you really did nothing?—Well, I did not do much certainly. I went to one or two meetings and tried to keep them together.

38,665. When you were paid by Apted did you tell him what you had done? Did you give him any account of your labour?—Well, I went to a meeting on Earlswood common and took one or two with me.

38,666. That really was all you did?—That was all I did.

38,667. Quite so. Took one or two to the Earlswood meeting. I mean to say, when you got the 30*s.* from Apted, did you give him an account or tell him what you had done?—No.

38,668. Did he tell you whether you might expect more than the 30*s.*?—No, he did not.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did expect more?

38,669. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you expect more?—I cannot say. There was no stated sum. I did not know what I was to have.

38,670. Did not you hear about a 5*l.* note?—Not from Mr. Gower.

38,671. Did you from Mr. Monson's party hear anything about a 5*l.* note?—I did hear something about notes being passed there.

38,672. Was there any offer to you?—Nothing particular.

38,673. Anything out of the particular?—No; nothing at all.

38,674. Not even whispered to you?—Not a 5*l.* note.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much?

38,675. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was offered to you?—No stated sum whatever.

38,676. Not for the Monson party?—No. They only asked me which party I was going to vote for, and I said I had promised Gower.

38,677. Who canvassed you on the part of Mr. Monson?—Green; he came once.

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38,678. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The bootmaker ?

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that the bootmaker ?—Yes.

38,679. Did he offer you anything ?—No.

38,680. Or offer to put you on canvassing ?—No.

38,681. Was 30*s.* the only money you received on account of the election ?—Well, I had 5*s.* and 7*s.* 6*d.* for watching.

38,682. Who paid you that ?—Pullen.

38,683. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where did he get it from ?—I do not know.

38,684. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How many nights were you watching for that ?—One night and a half.

38,685. Were those the only monies that you received ?—That is all.

38,686. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you been at any other election ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

J. H. Apted.

Job Heath Apted recalled and examined.

38,687. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Apted, I promised I would call your attention to this in Court. It was the 26th October 1865. This is the stump cheque, you know; "Self 30*l.*, canvassers 30*l.*" You remember I asked you the question whether Mr. Smith entered you as 30*l.* for your own fee ?—That is on my cheque. I dare say it is quite right.

38,688. It cannot help being. Are you able to inform me by memory whether Pullen received 7*s.* 6*d.* from you to pay the last witness Mills ?—No.

38,689. I think he did ?—He received money from me, but not for that purpose.

38,690. Oh ! I thought I recollected he did according to my account ?—Not for that purpose. I had given him money.

38,691. He would not be a man who would have money himself ?—No. Yes, he was a paid man himself.

38,692. Yes, but I mean he was not a person through whose hand money would go ?—No.

38,693. Well, did he receive any money from you ? I want to fix you with that 7*s.* 6*d.*—No. I think it is probably Mr. Legg ; I do not know; I think it is probable. I do not recollect anything of the sort.

The witness withdrew.

D. Hewson.

David Hewson called, sworn, and examined.

38,694. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A gardener.

38,695. What rent do you pay for your house ?—40*l.*

38,696. Is that so ?—That is so.

38,697. Then you are a master gardener I suppose ?—Yes.

38,698. You employ men ?—Yes, I do.

38,699. Were you employed at the last election ?—No.

38,700. At all ?—Not at all.

38,701. Did you vote ?—I did not.

38,702. Were you canvassed ?—Not at all by any one.

38,703. I suppose you have a vote ?—I have.

38,704. And you did not vote for anybody ?—I did not.

38,705. Where do you live ?—London-road.

38,706. Did you vote in 1863 ?—I think I did.

38,707. For whom did you vote in 1863 ?—Leveson Gower ; Mr. Gower.

38,708. For Mr. Gower. Were you on his committee in 1863 ?—I was for a week.

38,709. And worked during that week, I suppose ; worked for him during that week ?—I did as much as I could.

38,710. Of course. And what remuneration did you receive for that ?—30*s.*

38,711. Was that all you received in 1863 ?—That is all.

38,712. Did you receive it before the polling or after the polling ?—Before the polling.

38,713. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Whom did he vote for in 1863 ?—Mr. Gower.

38,714. Who paid you the 30*s.* ?—At the committee room ?

38,715. Anywhere ?—At the "Wheatsheaf."

38,716. Who paid you ?—I cannot say. There were three or four of them.

38,717. I wish you would tell me who paid you. Who paid you in 1863, please ?—1863 ?

38,718. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Yes. You were paid before the polling. You voted for Mr. Gower ?—I voted——

38,719. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you the 30*s.* ?—Well, Mr. Rees, Mr. Green, and Mr. Featherstone ; they were present.

38,720. Who handed you the money ?—I cannot say out of the three.

38,721. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were there many being paid on the same night ?—At the same time ?

38,722. Yes ; at the same time. Were there many, many being paid ? Were many paid as you were ?—How many ?

38,723. Were there many ?—I cannot tell you about that. I do not trouble about other people.

38,724. About how many were there ?—There might be 10 or a dozen, or 14.

38,725. That were being paid as you were ?—I cannot tell about that.

38,726. Did you see it ?—No; I never saw any other money pass.

38,727. Were they at a table ? Did you go up where they were sitting at a table and receive your 30*s.* ?—When once a door is shut against you what are you to see ? You cannot see through it.

38,728. Never mind about the door being shut. Were there three men at the table with money before them ?—There were three.

38,729. Was there money before them ?—Yes ; the money was paid.

38,730. Was the money before them ? You know what it is ; if you go into a bank there are people with money before them, and they pay it out.—They took and paid me.

38,731. Did you leave the house immediately ?—Yes.

38,732. Did you give a receipt for it ?—No.

38,733. Who told you to go there to receive the money ?—I was authorized by different parties.

38,734. Who told you to go there to receive the money ?—I cannot tell you the different parties.

38,735. Can't you tell me one who told you to go there ?—I cannot recollect any one at the present time.

38,736. How came you to go there then ?—I go there every day and every evening.

38,737. Then was it by accident you went there that evening ?—Well, possibly it might be.

38,738. And you received the 30*s.*?—Yes, accidentally.

38,739. Very well. Then you voted for Mr. Gower?—I did.

38,740. Nobody canvassed you at the last election?—No, not a soul.

38,741. How is that?—I do not know at all.

38,742. You were living there as usual?—Yes, and got a standard.

38,743. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you say?—A standard.

38,744. What do you mean by a standard?—A sitting.

38,745. At the market? What do you mean?—You may make what you like of it.

38,746. Just answer properly, and do explain?—Well I have got a house.

38,747. Is that what you mean by "a standard"?—Yes; where I can lay down.

38,748. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that what you mean?—Well, take it as such if you think proper.

38,749. No; I think nothing at all about it. I want you to speak in plain English?—Well, I have got some of that about me, but you do not understand me.

38,750. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Don't be angry. How is it that you did not vote last time?—Because I had no inclination.

38,751. That is a pretty good reason, but I want to know——; you supported Mr. Gower, you know, at the last election in 1863, and how is it you did not vote this time?—How didn't I do it?

38,752. Yes; is there any reason why you did not?—No particular reason. I liked the gentleman well enough.

38,753. But not well enough to vote for him without a consideration; is that it?—Well, put it down to such.

38,754. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say we are to take it down as such; that you did not vote at the last election because you could not get a consideration? Is that so?—No; I never would no more.

38,755. Were you in the town at the last election?—Yes.

38,756. Simply answer the questions properly and with decency if you can?—I will so.

38,757. I ask you, were you in the town on the day of the last polling, at the election of 1865?—Certainly I was.

38,758. Were you at your work all the day?—Yes.

38,759. Where?—Am I supposed to tell you where I was.

38,760. Yes?—Well, that will take me all my time to recollect that.

38,761. Then were you at your work?—I am so every day of the week.

38,762. Were you at your work during the whole of the day of polling, at the election of 1865?—Yes; I never saw anything of the polling going forward. That is a question to ask me, I consider.

38,763. Do you know Mr. Featherstone?—Yes, well.

38,764. Did you see him on the polling day, 1865?—I did not.

38,765. Will you swear you did not?—I did not.

38,766. Will you swear you did not?—I did not.

38,767. I ask you, will you swear you did not see Mr. Featherstone on the day of the polling, at the election of 1865?—Not to my recollection.

38,768. Will you swear you did not?—Well, I should not like to swear it.

38,769. And will you swear that Mr. Featherstone did not speak to you?—I should not like to swear to a thing that is an untruth.

38,770. Will you swear Mr. Featherstone did not speak to you on the day of the polling of 1865?—I do not recollect he did.

38,771. Will you swear he did not?—No, I won't swear he did not.

38,772. Now, will you swear that he did not speak to you in reference to your polling?—No, that I won't swear.

38,773. Were you at the "Warwick Arms" that day?—What, the last election do you mean?

38,774. Yes?—No.

38,775. Will you swear you were not?—Yes, I went in, on consideration.

38,776. Did you see Featherstone there?—No, I have no recollection of it.

38,777. What?—No recollection of seeing him.

38,778. What time of the day did you go to the "Warwick Arms"?—About 11. I think it was between 11 and 12.

38,779. That would be about the usual time you would be at work, on an ordinary day?—I am not so poor as to be at work at any time.

38,780. You told me that you were at work?—Well, I can go to work when I please, and I can leave off when I please.

38,781. Don't deal so lightly with your oath; answer seriously. You told me that you had been at work all the day?—When.

38,782. On the day of polling?—So I was. That is quite correct, and far away from home too.

38,783. Far away from home?—Yes, I believe it was now I come to consider.

38,784. Then what took you to the "Warwick Arms" at 11 o'clock if you were far away?—Sometimes I am at Redhill, sometimes at Gatton; if I think proper to go at any time.

38,785. Where is your home?—Close to the market place.

38,786. At Redhill?—Yes.

38,787. And were you at work near the "Warwick Arms"?—No.

38,788. Then did anybody call for you?—I am called away from my work almost every day.

38,789. When you are called here as a witness you are supposed to tell the truth as to your doings on that day and the day of the polling?—I will do that if I possibly can.

38,790. Who sent for you to go to the "Warwick Arms"?—No one sent for me. When I think proper to go and have a glass anywhere I go and get it, no matter where and when.

38,791. How came you at the "Warwick Arms" if your story be true, that you were far away from home on that day?—"Far away"? Well, perhaps it might be half a mile.

38,792. Do you call that far away?—It is some distance to walk for a breakfast.

38,793. Was there a breakfast at the "Warwick "Arms"?—I do not know.

38,794. Did you have any refreshment at the "Warwick Arms" on the polling day?—Not a drop or bit.

38,795. Whom did you see at the "Warwick Arms" to speak to?—Several there.

38,796. Did you go into any of the private rooms?—I stood at the bar and called for what I required.

38,797. Is your recollection sufficiently clear for that?—Quite sufficiently.

38,798. Didn't you see Featherstone at the "War-"wick Arms"?—Not to my recollection.

38,799. Did anybody speak to you in reference to the election at the "Warwick Arms"?—No.

38,800. On the day of polling. You know you are a voter?—I know I am.

38,801. Was there any committee sitting at the "Warwick Arms"? Not that I know of. I know nothing at all about it, because I never took no interest in it before; I did not trouble anything about it.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY.

D. Hewson.

19 Sept. 1866.

38,802. Yes, you voted for Gower before?—Quite right; but I never took no interest in it on the last occasion.

38,803. Will you swear on your solemn oath that nobody asked you about your vote at the last election in 1865?—Not to my knowledge.

38,804. Not one of your fellow gardeners?—Not to my knowledge.

38,805. You believe you never were asked?—Not to my recollection at all.

38,806. Weren't you hanging about at the "Warwick "Arms" and expecting to be paid for your vote on that day?—Me?

38,807. Yes?—I would not give a dump for the best five hundred that was ever offered to me for my vote.

38,808. You would not what?—I would not receive the best five hundred that was ever offered to me, not for my vote.

38,809. Will you swear you did not speak to Featherstone on that day?—I won't swear that I did not speak to the man. Understand me. But to refer to my vote, I don't think he ever spoke to me respecting it.

38,810. How long did you remain at the "Warwick Arms"?—How long?

38,811. Yes?—I am sure I do not know. Perhaps ten minutes or a quarter of a hour.

38,812. What became of you in the afternoon?—I do not know, I am sure. I went somewhere else, I suppose.

38,813. Then is your recollection so blank that you cannot give any account of yourself on that day?—I cannot tell from day to day, you know.

38,814. Oh, yes! that is a particular day; the polling day. It is a sort of day that everybody recollects?—Well, it is a day that I cannot recollect myself. I cannot recollect it.

38,815. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you sure it was only 30*s.* you received?—That is all.

38,816. In 1863; I call your attention to it?—Very good.

38,817. Because it is just possible you might have forgotten, for I see you are put down here as having received 3*l.*?—30*s.*

38,818. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was the 30*s.* before the election?—No. 30*s.* before the election; that is quite right.

38,819. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Well, what was after?—Not a farthing; not a fraction.

38,820. You are put down 3*l.* received from Mr. Green, who is standing behind you in the box?—Very well. Here is the one that can rectify it, behind me.

38,821. What do you say to it? Here is "Hewson, 3*l.*"?—30*s.* I received; that is all I received.

38,822. Did you receive any more?—No, not a penny. I will take my solemn oath of it.

38,823. But you are taking your solemn oath; you are upon your oath. Or in any shape or form did you receive it?—No.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien, inspecting an entry.*) He was to receive 4*l.* 10*s.*: "By cash on account 3*l.*; "1*l.* 10*s.* due."

38,824. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith, showing an entry to witness.*) Is that your handwriting?—No.

38,125. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Whose handwriting is it?

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Whose handwriting is it, upon your solemn oath?—That is my handwriting; but who put the amount down?

38,826. You were asked whether that was your handwriting?—That is my handwriting, but the amount never was received; not by me.

38,827. Let us cut this short. You must be more careful not to deal so lightly with an oath?—That is true; 30*s.* I received, I take my oath of it.

38,828. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 3*l.*?—It was put down as such, but I never received it.

38,829. Didn't your wife receive a pound for making favours?—That had nothing to do with Mr. Green.

38,830. Did not she receive a pound?—I do not know what she received.

38,831. Do not be so foolish?—She made some for both parties.

38,832. I am only asking you now on behalf of the Gower party. Do not be so foolish in the way you answer; you will only get yourself into trouble. Didn't she receive some money for it?—No doubt she did.

38,833. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Well, why didn't you answer before when the gentleman first asked you the question? It takes up so much time. Well, tell me this, you say you didn't vote in 1865; but you received some money, didn't you? Do pray let us have it at once?—1865?

38,834. Yes. In this last election you received some money, didn't you?—No.

38,835. You did, I think, from Mr. Green?—Oh, did I?

38,836. But, "Oh, did I?" is not the way for a man like you to give an answer. Let us have it. Is your name Hewson? I am speaking of 1865?—Is that the last election?

38,837. Yes. Mr. Green paid you, or gave it to somebody to pay you; I suppose paid you himself; 10*s.* entered here, at any rate, and perhaps other sums besides?—For what purpose?

38,838. At the election. Did you receive it?—I never received a fraction.

38,839. There is "John Hewson, 10*s.*" I will put a score under it?—Very well, it is false.

38,840. Very well. That is a sensible answer.

(*Mr. Green, referring to entry.*) No, that is Herne; a labourer of the name of Herne.

(*The Chief Commissioner, to witness.*) I beg your pardon; it is quite right; but you should have answered sooner. It is not worth all the time; it is not indeed.

38,841. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I must ask you a few more questions about the "Warwick Arms." You have said you were there at 11. Were you in there at about 2 o'clock?—Not to my knowledge. It is possible I might.

38,842. Possible you might?—Oh yes, I am just as liable to be there at 2 as at 12.

38,843. Now be very cautious, and answer this question carefully. When you were there, outside the house, did not Mr. Featherstone ask you to come in and have some lunch?—Not to my knowledge.

38,844. Didn't he ask you whether you had voted? Now be cautious about this; I have a reason for asking you?—No.

38,845. Will you swear he did not?—I believe he never did such a thing.

38,846. Will you swear he did not?—I believe he did nothing of the sort.

38,847. I will go farther. Didn't you say, "I "have got nothing, and I don't intend to vote"?—No.

38,848. Will you swear you never used such words? Not to that effect.

38,849. Be cautious, and give a true story of what took place between you and Featherstone?—Nothing on that occasion at all; not at the last election. On the last election there was nothing.

38,850. If you recollect, you can tell me. Featherstone spoke to you at the "Warwick Arms." I believe he spoke to you out of the window, and asked you whether you had voted?—It was never my intention to vote.

38,851. That is not an answer to a very plain question. Did Featherstone ask you whether you had voted?—Not to my recollection.

38,852. Will you swear he did not?—No, I would not swear it, because I ain't sure whether he did or did not speak to me on that day, occasionally or not.

38,853. And you told him you had received nothing, and you did not intend to vote?—Oh dear, I don't want anything.

38,854. Did you say so?—No, never.

38,855. Did you allude to Featherstone to what the others were receiving on the other side?—Nothing.

38,856. Did you go in and have anything with Featherstone?—No.

38,857. Did you go into the room where Featherstone was?—Not to my knowledge. He might be there, but I never saw him, nor yet spoke to him at the election.

38,858. Didn't you go in at the request of Featherstone?—Not to my knowledge.

38,859. Will you swear you did not?—I won't swear it, because I won't take a false oath to my knowledge.

38,860. Didn't you say to Featherstone, referring to your vote, "I have got nothing, and I don't intend "to vote;" or "I have got nothing to vote for"?—Them words were never spoken by me.

38,861. Or anything approaching to it?—No.

38,862. Well, we shall see. Mr. Featherstone will be here?—Well, I am at any time at your command and any day. A thing of that sort never was spoken.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES MILLS (before examined).

J. Mills.

Addressing the Court, said: I remember that besides what I have told you there was 10*s.* I had.

38,863. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Besides the 7*s.* 6*d.*? Who paid you?—Mr. Apted.

38,864. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was for going to Earlswood?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM WOODMAN called, sworn, and examined.

W. Woodman.

38,865. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your business?—Bricklayer and builder.

38,866. You were a voter at the last election?—Yes.

38,867. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Richardson.

38,868. What rent did you pay for your house?—I was living in a house that I built myself.

38,869–70. Oh, what was the value of that?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The yearly ratal?—I think it was rated somewhere about 25*l.* a year.

38,871. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose before that you had been on Monson's committee?—Not as I am aware of.

38,872. Had you acted for Mr. Monson before you voted for Mr. Richardson?—Well, certainly I had acted for Mr. Monson under one of his agents.

38,873. Under which agent did you act?—Mr. Nichols.

38,874. What were your duties then; as agent or sub-agent?—I was to take messages to different committee rooms or anything, act as messenger, do what was required of me to do.

38,875. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But you are a builder?—Yes.

38,876. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Bricklayer and builder?—Yes.

38,877. You have men under you?—Yes.

38,878. Many?—A few sometimes.

38,879. You are in a fair way of business?—I don't know what you call a fair way of business.

38,880. Having several men under you?—Oh yes, I have a few sometimes.

38,881. To what extent; 20 or 30?—Sometimes I have one; sometimes no one at all; sometimes 15 or 20.

38,882. According to the work you have?—According to the contracts I have.

38,883. How long were you put on this election as messenger by Mr. Nichols?—I do not know the time when I went on for Mr. Nichols; but I was on with him somewhere about three or four days off the polling.

38,884. Only that?—No.

38,885. About three or four days before the polling you were put on. Was there any arrangement about what you were to be paid?—No.

38,886. Were you paid?—I was paid what I charged.

38,887. How much were you paid?—35*l.*

38,888. For your work as messenger?—Yes.

38,889. When were you paid that?—Two or three days before the election.

38,890. Are you a friend of Mr. Nichols'?—No.

38,891. Intimate with him?—No.

38,892. Do you use his house?—If I want a glass ale when I am passing I go in there and have it.

38,893. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you say Mr. Nichols paid you?—Yes.

38,894. When?—It might be three days before the election.

38,895. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was not on a Sunday?—No, I never use public houses on Sunday.

38,896. A respectable man would not?—No, of course not.

38,897. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) A gentleman of your class would not use a public house on Sunday?—Of course not. They generally keep it in stock.

38,898. Then you were put on three or four days before the election?—No, I did not say that. I said it was paid to me three or four days before the election. I said I was put on for Mr. Monson about the commencement of the election.

38,899. But you did not get any real work as a messenger till three or four days before the election?—Oh yes, I was at work all the time.

38,900. At Nichols' house?—Oh no.

38,901. Carrying circulars?—Yes, anything that he required.

38,902. How often were you engaged?—Three or four times a day.

38,903. Were you rather busy in your business just before the election?—I was rather busy.

38,904. How many men had you under you?—At that time?

38,905. Yes?—I could not state how many men I had under me at the time.

38,906. Twenty or thirty?—No, I did not have so many at that time.

38,907. Were they only at one job, or at different houses?—I cannot say. I have a great deal of jobbing work going on sometimes.

38,908. And you had then?—Well, I might have had; I cannot say.

38,909. Do you work yourself at your own business?—Sometimes. When I have a job that requires me, I go to work at it.

38,910. But if you have your work distributed over a large area, I suppose you superintend; you go to the various places?—I go and inspect the men.

38,911. Had you many spots where your men were at work?—I cannot say how many it was.

38,912. During those few weeks before the election?—I could not say how many it was.

38,913. But you had a good many?—I had several during the time.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY.

W. Woodman.

19 Sept. 1866.

38,914. Do you keep any account in your books, not only of your men, but of your own time?—I do not require to keep any account of my own time. It is the men's time that I look after.

38,915. I am simply asking you whether you keep any diary of your own time?—No, I do not require it. It is only the men's time.

38,916. If you work at your own business, and make up your bills, don't you calculate your time?—I never work on day work. It is only piecework.

38,917. Tell me, when was this money paid by Nichols?—When I sent my bill in.

38,918. When was it?—About two or three days before the election.

38,919. Why did you send in a bill before the election?—Why did I? Because I wanted the money.

38,920. How was the money paid? — By Mr. Nichols.

38,921. Yes, be cautious how you answer?—I think I had a 10*l.* note, and the rest was in gold.

38,922. All in gold?—Yes, I think it was.

38,923. Three or four days before the election?—Yes; I think three or four days before the election.

38,924. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I understand that you won't say what money you received it in?—Sir?

38,925. Did I understand you by your answer to say you won't pledge yourself what money you received it in; what coin?—No, I would not pledge myself.

38,926. Well, I want the answer?—Well, I told you to the best of my knowledge.

38,927-8. "I won't pledge myself what coin it was "in"?—No, I won't.

38,929. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was there anybody present when it was paid?—I do not think there was.

38,930. Where was it paid?—Paid down at Mr. Nichols's house.

38,931. Where?—The "Grapes."

38,932. What part of the house?—Well, I do not know. His rooms are numbered, and I am not much accustomed to using the house. I think it was in No. 1. I think it was the first door; at any rate, as near as I can say, it is the first door that you enter,—the first door.

38,933. Why do you keep laughing all this time that you are giving this evidence? — I am not laughing.

38,954. Yes, I can see that there is a sort of a smile or a laugh every now and then?—Well, it may be usual to me.

38,935. Well, don't you think it is rather a serious matter being upon your oath?—Well, I am upon my oath, and I am telling you the truth.

38,936. Then, if you are telling us the truth, you can tell us what coin this was in?—Well, I am telling you as nearly as I can.

38,937. You are quite certain that it was a 10*l.* note, and the rest in gold?—That is to the best of my opinion. It is a long time ago, and I do not remember.

38,938. It is not so long ago that you do not recollect. Will you swear that you had 25 sovereigns given to you?—It was 35*l.*

38,939. Will you swear that you had 25 sovereigns; you say it was a 10*l.* note and the rest in cash?—Well, I would not be certain how it was. I believe it was a 10*l.* note and the rest in gold.

38,940. Was it paid at one time?—All at one time.

38,941. Then you can better recollect how it was paid. Was any of it paid by cheque?—No.

38,942. Do you know that man William Clark?—William Clark?

38,943. Yes. Do you know William Clark?—Well, I know two or three William Clarks.

38,944. I believe he is a painter?—Yes, I know William Clark the painter.

38,945. And house decorator?—Yes.

38,946. Was he there when you were paid?—No.

38,947. Had you seen him at the "Grapes" just before the polling?—I might have seen him there. He used to be over at Reigate different times; but I do not recollect any particular time of seeing him there. I have seen him there different times.

38,948. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you belong to Reigate or to Redhill?—Redhill.

38,949. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you and Clark had any conversation about this matter?—About the election?

38,950. Yes?—Not as I recollect.

38,951. And about money?—No.

38,952. Have you had any conversation with Mr. Nichols since the election?—About money?

38,953. Yes?—Never.

38,954. Or about the evidence to be given here to-day?—No.

38,955. Or before this Commission, perhaps; not to-day?—No.

38,956. Was anything said to you when you were put on as to what was to be the rate of pay?—No.

38,957. How came you to make up your bill for 35*l.*?—Because it was worth it, what I did.

38,958. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Oh, certainly, I understand. As a man of business you sent in the account?—Yes.

38,959. And of course you gave a receipt, did you? You sent in the bill and they paid it. Did you give a receipt?—I believe I did.

38,960. No, no; we will have an answer to it?—Well, you have got the answer. I say I believe I did.

38,961. Did you give a receipt to Mr. Nichols for that sum of money? Did you give him a receipt?—I said I believe I did.

38,962. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you give a receipt you are asked?—I have answered the question twice. I said I believe I did.

38,963. That is not an answer?—Then I cannot give any further answer.

38,964. (*Mr. Commiioner O'Brien.*) Did you?—I told you I believe I did, but whether I did or not I would not swear.

38,965. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you send in an account?—I gave him an account.

38,966. How did you make out your account?—For services; for my services during the election.

38,967. Did you make it out from any entries in a book?—No.

38,968. Then how did you charge?—For what I did.

38,969. Upon what scale? What did you take as the groundwork?—For going to and fro taking circulars; going to meetings; neglecting my own work, and attending upon theirs.

38,970. Is that the way in which you made out your bill?—Yes.

38,971. Those particular words?—No.

38,972. How was it worded?—I do not know. I got a certain plan from Mr. Nichols for a certain sum.

38,973. Did you keep any copy of it?—I believe I have got the copy at home.

38,974. Why didn't you bring it with you?—Well, I didn't think anything about it. I got rather a short notice.

38,975. Then you will bring it here to-morrow morning?—Certainly, if you require it.

38,976. How far is your house from here?—About a mile and a half.

38,977. Then you can bring it this afternoon?—No, I could not without a conveyance.

38,978. Oh yes you could. We must have that?—I could not get back this afternoon.

38,979. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you married?—Yes.

38,980. Have you a family?—Yes.

38,981. You say you sometimes employ men, and sometimes do not; do you keep any banking account, ever?—Banking account?

38,982. Have you ever any account open at any bank?—No.

38,983. Never have, I mean?—No, the funds never rose so high.

38,984. What I want to know is this; what time of day was it that you received the money; about what time in the day did you receive the money from Mr. Nichols?—From Mr. Nichols?

38,985. Yes?—Well, I don't know. I think it was about——

38,986. I do not want to fix you accurately. I won't take any advantage. About what time of the day? Was it before dinner or after dinner?—I think it was in the morning.

38,987. Was it on a Monday morning or Saturday?—It was not on the Saturday; it was the beginning of the week.

38,988. A day or two before the election?—I would not say the day.

38,989. Well, then, I will take your answer, "I "cannot say what day it was I received the money." Is that right?—If there was only one speaking at a time I should know what to do.

38,990. Then I will wait. You shall not have any disadvantage. Tell me, please, must I take your answer; "You cannot say what day it was you received "the money"?—No, I could not.

38,991. What did you do with the money when you got it?—Kept it.

38,992–3. I know that. That is no answer.

What did you do with the money?—What did I do with the money?

38,994. What did you do with the money after you got it?—I put it in my pocket and kept it for myself.

38,995. You know that is not an answer. I have not the least objection, if you want to produce any jest?—I don't want to jest. The money was given to me the same as if I sent in a bill to any other person for work I did.

38,996. Well, but to tell me that you put the money in your pocket is the answer of an idle man. If there is anything to laugh at, let us all laugh; but don't tell us you put it in your pocket?—I kept it till I paid it away for other accounts.

38,997. To whom?—Anybody I owed debts to.

38,998. To whom?—I cannot say.

38,999. Then I am to take your answers all in the negative; "I cannot tell what day I received the "money; I cannot tell to whom I paid the money"?—I cannot tell.

39,000. Shall I take your answer, "I cannot tell "what I did with the money after I received it"?—I kept it for my own uses.

39,001. How did you use it? You could not use money without getting rid of it?—Certainly not.

39,002. Shall I take down that you cannot tell what you did with the money?—Only paying it away.

39,003. Whom did you pay?—Well, I cannot tell.

39,004. Well, that is a very simple question; it is a very plain question, and wants a proper answer, as "I paid John Davis or William Jones."—I did not have any of those men to pay.

39,005. Whom did you pay?—I paid nobody.

39,006. "I cannot tell what day I received the "money; I do not know what I did with the money; "and I paid nobody with it." Have you got it now?—The money?

39,007. Yes.—No, I wish I had.

39,008. If you have not got the money now, where is it?—Well, I have got three or four children to keep, and a wife.

39,009. Did you give it to your wife?—When she required it; but I do not know that I did that money.

39,010. I am talking about that money?—No, I cannot tell that I did.

39,011. Did you pay away anything for your wife?—I cannot tell that I did pay anything for my wife.

39,012. Did you pay anything for your children?—No.

39,013. Did you lend it to Mr. Nichols back again?—Lend it Nichols? he is the wrong man.

39,014. Oh no, no; but he is a very respectable man?—No; but I would sooner have borrowed anything of him than lent him.

39,015. You know I am trying by every means in my power to account for the money. Did you say, "That is a great deal of money for me to take away; "I will leave some of it with you"?—He did not ask me.

39,016. But did you ask him?—No.

39,017. Did you give anybody that 35*l.*?—No.

39,018. Can you tell any one bill you paid with it?—No.

39,019. Did you ever have as much as 35*l.* in your pocket before?—Oh yes, I have had 100*l.* in my pocket before.

39,020. What did you do with it?—Paid it where I owed it.

39,021. Did you do the same with this 35*l.*?—No, I did not owe anything.

39,022. What did you do with it?—I kept it till I wanted it.

39,023. When did you want it?—When the bills came in; baker's bills and grocer's bills.

39,024. But you must have paid it away or put it in the bank?—I have not got any banking account.

39,025. Did you pay the 35*l.* away as you paid such a sum as the 100*l.* when you had that in your pocket?—Paid 100*l.*?

39,026. You told me when you had 100*l.* you paid it where you owed it?—Well, but that was never anything to do with an election.

39,027. No, I mean for work done, building a house, or anything like that?—Yes, work done.

39,028. Well, did you pay that money away where you owed it?—If anybody brought in their bills I did.

39,029. Did you pay any of it away in paying bills as they fell due?—No, not with that money I did not.

38,030. "I did not pay it away in paying bills "when they fell due"?—Not all that money; leastways, it was all mixed up together. If I had 20*l.* in my pocket I put it all together, and I did not know which it was I paid away.

39,031. Had you 20*l.* in your pocket besides?—Very likely.

39,032. Shall I take that down?—If you like.

39,033. Did you pay that 35*l.* away to persons for your family?—It might have gone for my housekeeping bills.

39,034. Did you pay your housekeeping bills yourself, or did your wife?—I do sometimes, and sometimes my wife.

39,035. Did you show the money to your wife?—No, it is a bad plan.

39,036. Did you show the money to your wife?—No.

39,037. Did you show it to your children?—No.

39,038. Did you tell anybody you received it?—No.

39,039. Did you keep it dark?—Yes.

39,040. Have you told anybody since that you received it?—I would not swear to that.

39,041. I mean something more by this question; I want you to attend to it. Have you ever told anybody since that Nichols paid you 35*l.*?—I would not swear to it.

39,042. I want rather a better answer than that?—I tell you I would not swear to it.

39,043. Then you may have told somebody?—I might have done.

39,044. Whom did you tell?—That is the very thing you ask me about. If I had known who I told it to I should have known if I had told any one or not.

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39,045. You are mistaken, I have not mentioned who it was; I ask you ?—Not that I am aware of.

39,046. Now you say you are not aware ?—No.

39,047. Will you swear that you have told nobody ?—No.

39,048. Then listen to this; it may be that you and Nichols are the only two persons who know of this transaction ?—All that I am aware of.

39,049. It may be that you and Nichols are the only two persons who know of this transaction ?—All that I am aware of.

39,050. May it be that you and Nichols are the only two persons who know of this transaction ?—It may be.

39,051. "It may be for anything I know." If you do not like that answer you shall alter it; "It may "be for anything I know that Nichols and I are the "only persons who know of this transaction about "the 35*l.*"—Certainly; that is my answer.

39,052. Does Nichols know anything about it ?—He knows that he paid me the money, I dare say.

39,053. Does he recollect it ?—I dare say he does.

39,054. No, but *does* he ?—Well, I do not know; I could not say.

39,055. Be very cautious about this answer, pray do. Does Nichols recollect anything about this transaction ?—I dare say he does.

39,056. I want more than that ?—I could not say any more.

39,057. Do you swear that ?—I could not swear to it.

39,058. Now, mark my question; it is very meaning. Will you swear that ?—I have swore.

39,059. Have you ? I think you have not. I have let you off that. Now I want to know ?—Well, I have told you, I dare say Mr. Nichols knows about the transaction.

39,060. Why do you dare say he does ? — Well, I should suppose he does.

39,061. Why ?—Because if he paid me money I dare say he knows that he paid me.

39,062. Will you swear that is your only reason ?—My only reason.

39,063. Your only reason for thinking that he recollects it ?—I have given you my answer.

39,064. Will you swear that you don't know if Nichols does recollect it ?—Will I swear that he does not know ? No, I would not swear to that.

39,065. Will you swear that Nichols does recollect it ?—No, I won't swear that he did recollect it. I won't swear either way. I could not, because I could not account for his memory.

39,066. You could not account for his memory ?—Certainly not.

39,067. Will you swear that you have had no conversation with Nichols about it within this last week ?—No, I have not had any conversation——

39,068. Is this your answer, "I will swear that I "have had no conversation with Nichols about that "35*l.* within this week" ?—Yes.

39,069. Do you swear that ?—Yes.

39,070. Will you swear that you have not within a fortnight ?—Yes, or within a month.

39,071. Within a month ?—Yes.

39,072. Will you swear that ?—No.

39,073. Will you swear that you have not within two months ?—No, I will not say that, because I have not seen him.

39,074. I will give you three months.—I will say four.

39,075. Will you swear that you have not had any conversation with Nichols about it within the last four months ?—Yes.

39,076. Will you say five ?—Yes, I will say five.

39,077. Will you swear that you have never had any conversation with Nichols about that 35*l.* since the time he paid it to you ?—No.

39,078. When did you have any talk with him about it ?—The only time was when he paid me.

39,079. You say then, that since that time you did not have any conversation with Nichols about it ?—We never required it.

39,080. That is argument. All I want is question and answer at present. Will your swear that you never had any conversation with Nichols about this 35*l.* since the day he paid it to you ?—No.

39,081. You will not swear it ?—I will swear that I have not.

39,082. Then he paid you the 35*l.* on a day you cannot mention; you cannot say what day it was, and you have never mentioned the subject to him, or he to you, since ?—Yes.

39,083. Is that right ?—Yes.

39,084. You really mean to say that is right ?—I have given you my answer.

39,085. Have you ever had any conversation with Nichols about the evidence you were going to give here ?—No.

39,086. Not at all ?—No.

39,087. Eh ?—No.

39,088. Had you with anybody else ?—No.

39,089. When did you receive your summons ?—I do not know.

39,090. About how long ago, was it a fortnight ?—No; yesterday morning I believe I received it.

39,091. Was that a summons, or simply a letter ?—A summons.

39,092. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you agreed with Mr. Nichols beforehand how much you were to receive ?—No.

39,093. Did he express any astonishment when you sent in your bill for 35*l.* ?—No.

39,094. Do you recollect at all what passed between you at that time ?—All that passed was, that he paid me the bill.

39,095. Without any question ?—Yes.

39,096. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Without asking you what you had done for it ?—He knew what I had done.

39,097. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You paid no money out of pocket ?—No, I could not afford it.

39,098. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was this the first transaction in money matters you had with Mr. Nichols ?—Was this one of money did you say ?

39,099. Was it the first of any money transactions ?—I have known Mr. Nichols a long time.

39,100. That is not an answer to my question; was that the first money transaction you had with Mr. Nichols ?—The first money transaction ?

39,101. It is a very simple question; it does not require such very great reiteration ?—Well, it was not really the first.

39,102. How long had you been having money transactions with Mr. Nichols ?—Upon no occasion.

39,103. How long had you been having money transactions with Mr. Nichols ?—Well, I had a little amount of money from him on Rawlinson's committee. I do not mean Mr. Rawlinson, but at the election of 1863.

39,104. How much had you from him then ?—I think it was about 2*l.*, or something of that sort, for work which I had done.

39,105. He was then working for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

39,106. Did you vote for Mr. Gower then ?—Yes.

39,107. But you had that transaction with him. Had you any money transactions between 1863 and 1865 ?—Are you speaking of private affairs or election affairs ? I want to know whether you are inquiring into private affairs ?

39,108. I am ?—I will just ask you this question, whether this is an electioneering inquiry or a private inquiry ?

39,109. I am asking you whether you had any money transactions between you and Mr. Nichols from 1863 to 1865 ?—No.

39,110. What do you mean by saying no; why did

you not answer before?—I did not know whether you had got on an electioneering inquiry, or an inquiry into my private affairs.

39,111. There may be other inquiries besides electioneering inquiries. Had you any money transactions with Mr. Nichols from 1863 to 1865?—No.

39,112. Did you owe him anything in 1865?—No.

39,113. Did you ever owe him anything?—No.

39,114. Never in his debt at all?—No.

39,115. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he owe you anything?—No.

39,116. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you vote before 1863?—What election was that?

39,117. That was the election in which Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson were?—I voted in 1863.

39,118. Did you vote before?—No.

39,119. Was that your first time of voting?—Yes.

39,120. And you received 2*l.* on that occasion?—I believe it was.

39,121. When was it you received it?—I received it over at the "White Hart," at the committee room.

39,122. Now, there is a great deal of mystery about this 35*l.*, can you not clear it up a little. You say you got a 10*l.* note, that is rather a large thing; where did you change the 10*l.*?—I do not know.

39,123. Do you recollect now what became of the 10*l.*; it is not every day a man would have 10*l.*; where did you change it?—I could not say.

39,124. Do you recollect changing a 10*l.* note about that time?—I had several at that time.

39,125. Tell me where you changed one?—Where I changed one. There is a gentleman who often changes a note for me (*pointing*).

39,126. Where?—There; Mr. Lambert is there.

39,127. When will you say he changed one?—I could not say.

39,128. You do not know when you changed that note?—No, I often changed one.

39,129. You hesitated when I asked you whether you had any money transactions between yourself and Mr. Nichols, but you answered very quickly when you said you owed no money to Mr. Nichols or Mr. Nichols to you; were there any money transactions otherwise?—No.

39,130. Do you know what Mr. Nichols is besides keeping the "Grapes;" has he any other office?—I do not know; he is a sheriff's officer, something of that description; but I do not know what he is.

39,131. He was a bailiff for the county court?—He might be.

39,132. You never had any transactions with reference to his official duties. He has an official duty as a bailiff; have you ever had any dealings with him in that capacity; he is a bailiff; you know what I mean?—I do not know what you mean.

39,133. Have you had any dealings with him as a bailiff?—In what way?

39,134. He is bailiff of the county court?—I do not exactly know what you mean.

39,135. Have you been brought up or threatened to be brought up before the county court?—Not that I am aware of.

39,136. You had no dealings with Mr. Nichols in that capacity?—No, none whatever.

39,137. Has any judgment or anything of that kind been out against you?—No.

39,138. That is all the explanation you can give of the receipt of the 35*l.*?—That is all.

39,139. Now it is a very strange thing; that was a great windfall, was it not?—I do not know; they say it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good.

39,140. It was a windfall?—I do not know that it was a windfall for me at all, because I lost my time.

39,141. No windfall at all?—No.

39,142. Not 35*l.*?—No, if I had been attending to my business I should have got that amount of money I dare say.

39,143. You never told your wife about it?—No.

39,144. You cannot recollect where you changed the 10*l.*?—No, and if I could recollect where, very likely they would not remember now.

39,145. Do you recollect whether you kept the 10*l.* in your pocket?—I could not tell you.

39,146. You might have kept it for two or three months?—No, I did not keep it that time.

39,147. How long?—I could not tell you.

39,148. You cannot tell me at all anything about it?—No.

39,149. Nothing whatever?—No.

39,150. And to this hour I suppose your wife is in ignorance that you received the 35*l.*?—Yes, she is over at Redhill.

39,151. She is in ignorance?—Oh, I thought you said in England; I beg your pardon.

39,152. She does not know it?—No.

39,153. And no other human being besides you and Mr. Nichols?—No.

39,154. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The world will know it for the first time to-morrow morning?—They will to a great extent.

39,155. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you keep trading books?—I do sometimes.

39,156. Answer the question; do you keep books for your business?—I keep books for my own accounts.

39,157. Do you keep accounts of your household expenses?—No.

39,158. Never?—No.

39,159. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you any letters from Mr. Nichols?—No, not that I am aware of.

39,160. Lately?—No.

39,161. Or any communication from him through another party?—No.

39,162. You have seen Mr. Nichols here to-day?—I do not know, but I think I saw him when I first came up here.

39,163. You did not speak to him to day?—Not that I am aware of.

39,164. What do you mean by that?—I would not say positively; I rode over in a trap, and I will not say I did not say "Good morning, Mr. Nichols," as I passed him, but in the town you meet so many people you cannot recollect every one you pass.

39,165. Did you stop at the "Grapes"?—To-day?

39,166. Yes?—I had a glass of ale there.

39,167. And you cannot say whether you spoke to Mr. Nichols or not?—I might have said "Good "morning."

39,168. Did you; you might do a great many things?—No, I will not say I did or did not. I might say "Good morning."

39,169. Did he say, "What brings you here"?—No.

39,170. Who supplied you with a glass of ale?—The waiter.

39,171. Was Mr. Nichols there?—Not when I asked for a glass of ale.

39,172. Was he afterwards?—He came in just as I was going out.

39,173. At any rate, you spoke to him then?—I will not say, I will not swear I did not say "Good "morning" to him.

39,174. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you still say that you will not swear whether you said "Good "morning" or not, when you met him in the doorway at his own house?—No, I will not; I have often gone in his house.

39,175. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You do not often go into his house to come before the Commission?—Yes.

39,176. Oh no, you do not, you mistake. This was a particular occasion; did you come over in your own

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cart?—No, no one's. Oh, yes, I did, I rode part of the way in one.

39,177. Whose?—Mr. Bunhill's, of the "Marquis "of Granby."

39,178. What time did you come into Mr. Nichols' this morning?—I do not know what time it was I came in; it was somewhere close upon 11 when I had a glass of ale.

39,179. How long did you remain there?—Perhaps 10 or 20 minutes in conversation with the man with whom I rode.

39,180. Who is he?—Mr. Bunhill, of the "Mar-"quis of Granby."

39,181. You did not vote for Mr. Monson?—I did not say that I did.

39,182. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Richardson?—Nobody.

39,183. What, after receiving 35*l.* of Mr. Monson's money; you knew it was Mr. Monson's money?—I do not know whose money it was.

39,184. Did you not know you were working for Mr. Monson?—No.

39,185. Did you not know you were working for Mr. Monson?—Certainly not; I was employed by Mr. Nichols.

39,186. To do what? What were you to do when you were employed by Mr. Nichols?—To do what he required me to do.

39,187. What did he require you to do?—I attended different committee meetings.

39,188. What committee meetings?—Mr. Monson's.

39,189. Did you not know you were working for Mr. Monson?—Yes, I was working for Mr. Monson.

39,190. You were working on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Yes, for his cause.

39,191. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For Mr. Nichols' cause?—You may put it down which way you like.

39,192. I want you to tell a consistent story?—So I am; I was working for Mr. Monson.

39,193. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I asked you whether you were working for Mr. Monson, and you said you did not know; do you not know?—I do.

39,194. I asked you why you did not vote for Mr. Monson?—Why did not I vote for him?

39,195. Yes?—Because Mr. Richardson came at the eleventh hour.

39,196. That is not a reason?—It is a reason.

39,197. Because he came at the eleventh hour you, who had been receiving Mr. Monson's money, and had already got 35*l.*, voted for Mr. Richardson?—Yes.

39,198. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had got 35*l.* according to your account?—According to my account. I was not receiving it for any vote. I did not promise any vote.

39,199. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now we have a pure voter here; you did not promise Mr. Nichols that you would vote for Mr. Monson?—No.

39,200. You did not intend to vote for Mr. Monson?—It was my own discretion.

39,201. Did you intend to vote for him?—That was according to my own opinion.

39,202. Had you made up your mind to vote for Mr. Monson?—I had not.

39,203. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Not when you received the money?—No.

39,204. And therefore you were free to vote for Mr. Richardson?—He came at the eleventh hour.

39,205. Nobody asked you to vote for him, and you received no money?—I never received any money.

39,206. Were you at the "Castle" during any period of the election time?—I believe not.

39,207. Just recollect yourself?—Well, I will; I think I may say not.

39,208. That you did not see James Apted there?—No.

39,209. You never saw him with reference to the election at all?—I have seen him to speak to.

39,210. Nothing passed between you?—Not a word.

39,211. No money, or anything of the kind?—No.

39,212. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What time in the day did you vote?—I should say it was somewhere about 3 o'clock. I will not say exactly, but somewhere about that hour.

The witness withdrew.

J. Andrews.

JOHN ANDREWS recalled and examined.

39,213. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You know a witness named William Clarke?—Yes.

39,214. He was examined here a few days ago?—Yes.

39,215. I will just remind you of a fact which he stated in his evidence, that he had received 35*l.* from Mr. Nichols?—I never heard that from him, but I have heard it in evidence here.

39,216. He stated that he had received 35*l.* from Mr. Nichols?—Yes 25*l.*, and 10*l.* in arrears.

39,217. At the time of the election, or after the election, did Clarke tell you what he had received for election?—He told me that he had got this 10*l.*, which was in arrear, and ought to have been paid the election before, and that he had got 2*l.* since.

39,218. When did he tell you that?—Since the election, and before last Christmas; it was a month or six weeks after the election.

39,219. 10*l.* in arrears, and 2*l.* besides?—Yes; he told me I believe in Redhill; and there in Redhill he has told the same tale; one man in particular, I think, accompanied me the same time that he told me.

39,220. Who was that?—I cannot recollect his name now, but there was a person I believe.

39,221. Perhaps some other time you can recollect it?—I believe it was Willett the baker was present at the same time, or at all events he has told the same to him.

39,222. Where is Willett the baker?—He is a confectioner opposite my shop.

39,223. Where is it?—At Warwick-town, Redhill.

39,224. There was another witness in the box today, Hewson; were you at the "Warwick Arms" on the morning ot the polling?—Yes, I was there about half-past 1.

39,225. Did you see the man Hewson there?—Yes.

39,227. Was Featherstone there?—Yes.

39,227. What passed?—Featherstone put his head out of the window and saw Hewson; he said, "Halloa, "Hewson, have you voted yet?" Hewson said, "No, "I have got nothing to vote for," and Featherstone said, "Stop and have a bit of lunch."

39,228. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) On the polling day?—Yes, about half-past 1. I know the time well, because I had had my dinner, and I dined about 1 o'clock.

39,229. You saw William Featherstone?—He was there having lunch, I believe.

39,230. Was young Featherstone there?—There is the one (*pointing to young Featherstone.*)

39,231. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You mean the elder Featherstone?—Yes, and Hewson said he had got nothing to vote for.

39,232. Was anything else said between them?—

He said, "If you have not polled come up and have a "bit of lunch," and I believe he went up.

39,233. After Hewson left the box as a witness did he speak to you?—I spoke to him and told him about the lunch; he said, "I know I did, but I paid "for it;" he did not deny me. I told him he had been with the same people, and he said that he knew he had.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS APPS sworn and examined. *T. Apps.*

39,234. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A brickmaker.

39,235. What rent do you pay for your house?—5*s.* a week.

39,236. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Not at all; I never had one.

39,237. Had you a vote in 1863?—Yes.

39,238. Then your "never" was wrong?—I never had one last election.

39,239. For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

39,240. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

39,241. I believe you had been canvassed on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson before you promised Mr. Gower?—Yes, I had been asked.

39,242. Who asked you on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson?—Mr. Wilkinson did himself, at least the brother of Mr. Wilkinson.

39,243. And I think you gave a kind of promise?—I told him I did not know then.

39,244. A kind of promise; you gave him hope, he had a hope of you?—A kind of a hope perhaps.

39,245. I believe he went away rejoicing after he saw you?—I never promised him.

39,246. And afterwards you went on Mr. Gower's committee; who placed you on Mr. Gower's committee?—I do not know; Corderoy asked me, and Mr. Gower too.

39,247. And I think Spence asked you?—He might have done; Corderoy was along with him.

39,248. Did you go with Corderoy to the poll?—Yes.

39,249. What did you receive for the work that you did for him?—I never did anything but the committee.

39,250. Did you get anything for your work?—1*l.* a day for the two days.

39,251. The polling and nomination?—Yes.

39,252. Who paid you?—Corderoy.

39,253. When did he pay you?—A few months after the election.

39,254. Did you send any bill to him?—No.

39,255. He came to you?—Yes; I think it was Thomas Jordan told me that Corderoy had got the money.

39,256. Is that all you received altogether?—Yes, that was all.

39,257. How is it you had not a vote this time?—I was out of the book; I had changed about my house. I suppose that was it.

The witness withdrew.

JABEZ TYRRELL, sen. sworn and examined. *J. Tyrrell, sen.*

39,258. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—If I tell you what I am I dare say I shall make you laugh; I am an invalid.

39,259. That is too serious a matter to laugh at?—I have been an invalid as much as four years.

39,260. I am very sorry to hear it; did you keep the "Victoria"?—I do now.

39,261. Then I suppose that we may say that you are a publican?—No; a beer shop man.

39,262. You keep a beer shop, the "Queen Vic-"toria"?—Yes.

39,263. At Earlswood?—Yes.

39,264. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Monson.

39,265. What rent do you pay for your house?—12*l.* rent, and 12*l.* rates.

39,266. Had you any money left at your house to be paid away?—Yes.

39,267. After the election?—After the election, none before.

39,268. How long after?—I cannot say to a few days.

39,268. Was it some months after?—No, not months; some time the next week.

39,270. Was it left with you?—Yes.

39,271. How much?—15*l.*; 5*l.* each.

39,272. Who gave you the money?—Thomas Jordan.

39,273. Did he tell you to whom you were to pay it?—Yes, or else I should not have parted with it. I should have kept it myself if he had not told me the names.

39,274. To whom did he say you must pay the money?—5*l.* to each of my sons James and Jabez, and 5*l.* to Thomas Funnell.

39,275. Those are the three, 5*l.* to each?—Yes.

39,276. Your two boys?—Yes.

39,277. And Thomas Funnell?—Yes, a little shopkeeper who lives with them.

39,278. You paid the money to them?—I did. I did not rob them. If they had had 20*l.* a piece I should have paid them.

39,279. You had the money from Thomas Jordan?—Yes, the elder.

39,280. Did Jordan tell you what the money was for?—For work.

39,281. Done when?—On the election; they were about at work in their trap.

39,282. In the cart?—Yes, what they called doing their work. He said, "Will you turn this here money "to your two sons and to Funnell, instead of my "troubling myself after it," and I said, "If you "leave it it will be all right," and they had the money.

39,283. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) So they said?—Yes, they had the money.

39,284. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did the Monson party have any meeting at your house?—Two little bits of meetings.

39,285. There were some refreshments, and so on?—I suppose there was to be drinking, or else I should not have wanted them there.

39,286. What did it all come to?—I think both items about 3*l.* or 4*l.*

39,287. Each time?—No, altogether.

39,288. Who paid it?—Mr. Jordan. We never had any bill, only he came and I chalked the sum. If you came to my house to-night I should set up a chalk, and you came to pay me to-morrow I should have no bill against you, I should rub the chalk out, and have no bill.

39,289. So Mr. Jordan paid the money, and you rubbed the chalk off?—Yes.

39,290. Did Mr. Jordan tell you to supply the refreshments?—He was there himself, and other people; a jovial company.

39,291. Did anybody besides Mr. Jordan pay?—Mr. Jordan paid.

39,292. Did you have anything besides for the use of the house?—Yes.

39,293. How much besides that?—10*l.*

39,294. For the use of the house?—For the use of my room.

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39,295. Who paid that?—James Jordan.

39,296. Was there any regular meeting at your house?—No.

39,297. Only those two meetings?—Well, I call them bits of meetings; they only amounted to 3*l.* or 4*l.*

39,298. And then you got 10*l.* besides?—I had 10*l.* for the use of the house.

39,299. Did they make any use of the house?—They could come in when they liked; they had two meetings there.

39,300. Was there anything else done in your house for the election excepting those two meetings?—I did not bar any one, to tell you the truth; it is my living.

39,301. Did people come to your house on account of the election excepting at those two meetings?—I do not know about that; I never kept account of who came or who did not.

39,302. Did you keep a room apart for the use of the election?—When they wished it that room was left to them, no one else could come in; they had the room.

39,303. Did any person come and occupy the room except on those two meetings?—They might.

39,304. Did they come?—They were otherwise engaged.

39,305. Did they come and occupy the rooms on any other occasion?—No, no other meeting did not.

39,306. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you voted before?—Yes.

39,307. In 1863?—Yes; I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

39,308. Did your two sons vote?—No, they did not then, they had not got any votes.

39,309. Was your house engaged? Were you on his committee?—Yes, I was engaged for Mr. Wilkinson then.

39,310. What did Mr. Wilkinson pay for the use of the rooms then?—*5l.*

39,311. You voted for him?—Yes.

39,312. Had you anything for yourself for your exertions as committee man?—That was all I received.

39,313. Except the refreshments; you received the bill for refreshments?—The refreshments, and nothing else.

39,314. Do you know what amount of refreshments you were paid for?—I do not know, because it is all chalked out.

39,315. Had they any meeting?—Yes, several meetings. Mr. Wilkinson never met there, only Mr. Norman Wilkinson.

39,316. They had several meetings at your house?—Yes, at the committee room, and sometimes there was not above 4*s.* that they paid for next morning. I do not call that anything but just a small bit; 4*s.* and 5*s.* was about the lot I had from Mr. Wilkinson, so I do not want to talk about Mr. Wilkinson's election; what we had was a teetotaler or two, and they never had much beer, and therefore we did not make much of that. A teetotaler is not any good to publics.

39,317. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received *5l.* in 1863 for the use of your room from Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

39,318. You received it from Mr. Wilkinson himself?—No.

39,319. Who from?—Mr. Langridge paid me the *5l.* for the use of the room.

39,320. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who took the leading part at the two meetings at your house in 1865?—Mr. Jordan.

39,321. Was the candidate there?—Do you mean Mr. Monson?

39,322. Yes?—He was there one night; there was no drinking all the time he was there; he is another teetotaler; he was a great bargain.

The witness withdrew.

William Potter sworn and examined.

W. Potter.

39,323. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A day-labouring man.

39,324. How much rent do you pay?—15*l.* a year.

39,325. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

39,326. Were you on his committee?—No.

39,327. Did you do any work for him?—No, no work at all for any of them.

39,328. You did not?—No, I never worked at any meeting.

39,329. Did you receive anything before the election?—No, nor yet after.

39,330. Nothing at all?—No.

39,331. How was that?—Because I did not get any.

39,332. Did you look for anything?—No. I was promised a little, but I did not get that.

39,333. Who was it promised you something?—Mr. Symonds, I work for.

39,334. Did he promise you anything?—He said he thought he might get a little, but he never did give me any.

39,335. Did you speak to him again about it a second time, about your getting a little?—I asked him about it once, but he made a laugh on it.

39,336. You had a vote in 1863, had you not?—Yes.

39,337. Who did you vote before in 1863?—The same man, Mr. Gower.

39,338. Were you more lucky in 1863?—I do not know what you mean.

39,339. Did you receive anything in 1863?—Not that I am aware of.

39,340. You had been asked to vote for Mr. Wilkinson in that year?—I had been asked.

39,341. You promised you would vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—No, I never promised him; I do not not think I did.

39,342. I thought you had promised to vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—No, I do not remember it.

39,343. What did he say when he asked you for your vote? What was it you said to him?—I do not know what I did say now.

39,344. Were you put on Mr. Gower's committee after that?—I never went on Mr. Gower's committee that I know of.

39,345. Were you put on his committee? You hear what I say, do you not?—Yes.

39,346. Were you put on Mr. Gower's committee in 1863?—I do not understand what you mean.

39,347. You remember the election in 1863?—Yes; for Mr. Gower, was it not?

39,348. Yes, and Mr. Wilkinson. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

39,349. Did you receive anything for your vote?—No.

39,350. Not the first time?—Not that I am aware of, not a halfpenny.

39,351. Why did you not get something the first time?—I did not.

39,352. Why did you not get something the first time?—I do not know how it was I did not get any.

39,353. You had promised Mr. Wilkinson to vote for him?—Yes, but I did not know it.

39,354. Who asked you to go to Mr. Gower's people?—I do not know; it did not matter to me who it was.

39,355. Do you not remember somebody telling you that if you voted for Mr. Gower you should be paid?—Yes.

39,356. Who told you?—I cannot tell you; I do not recollect anybody saying anything to me besides my master. My master said there might, perhaps, be a trifle for me.

39,357. Was that the first time he said it?—The first time.

39,358. Who promised that to you the last time?—My master.

39,359. Who promised the first time?—I really do not know; that was said once.

The Chief Commissioner stated that the man clearly did not understand the questions, and it was no use wasting any further time with him.

Mr. Rees produced the original accounts of the election of 1863 (of which copies were given to Mr. Smith), and informed the Commissioners that the accounts amounted to nearly 300*l.*

HENRY GREEN called, and examination resumed.

H. Green.

39,360. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I was calling your attention yesterday to this document, which is signed by you and Mr. Rees, accounting for the expenditure of 168*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*?—Yes, that I say is a misstatement in some way or other; now I have the book I can see it.

39,361. Allow me to see that; the date of it is the 7th of February?—Yes. This was sent into Mr. Smith on the same day; Mr. Rees must have known that.

39,362. If you recollect it commences in January?—Yes, it commences in January; that was when we began paying first.

39,363. So that it includes all the expenditure, from January down to the 7th of February, how do you account for that?—I am going to look it over if you will allow me. (*The witness looked at his book and the account.*) That is a fac-simile of my book; I think it is a fac-simile.

39,364. That book, I am afraid, could not have been made at the time?—This book was made at the time I paid the monies.

39,365. Do not be in too great a hurry to answer; I do not wish to take any advantage of you. Otherwise your book is false; you say you received 210*l.* only from Mr. Smith, is that in your book?—It is in this book.

39,366. I will ask you whether you did not receive over 300*l.*?—Do you mean in '63?

39,367. Yes?—Over 200*l.*

39,368. Over 300*l.*?—No.

39,369. I mean did not over 300*l.* pass through your hands, considerably over?—No, this is the only money that passed through Mr. Rees' and my hands; I mean with the exception of the money which was paid for our own services.

39,370. Now you are getting into a difficulty, and I will give you an opportunity of coming out of it. Did you receive any more money from Mr. Smith with reference to this election than 210*l.*?—I received no more money in that election but the money stated here, 210*l.* There might have been 3*l.* or 4*l.* over—the balance.

39,371. No, there is returned here, as expenditure between you and Mr. Rees, 317*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*?—That is a mistake.

39,372. Here are the vouchers here?—I never received that.

39,373. Here are the vouchers here, and I will tell you more; there is entered in Mr. Smith's account, which I have in my possession, an amount paid to you of 289*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*?—What are the accounts?

39,374. They amount to 303*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*?—I never received it.

39,375. Then you paid it out of your own pocket, I suppose. Here are vouchers which Mr. Rees produces as monies which he and you expended in the election of '63?—We did not then, as all I paid is here; here is my book and the receipts of the men.

39,376. That leaves you short, according to your own account, of 50*l.*?—No, not 40*l.*

39,377. In this it is 168*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*?—It is just as I received the money.

39,378. According to your own account it is 210*l.*?—There is an error somewhere, it never passed through my hands.

39,379. There can be no error here according to your own account?—Ask Mr. Rees. That is not the statement he sent in.

39,380. Here is your own handwriting, admitting that you expended 168*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* Is that your handwriting (*the document was handed to the witness*?)—That is mine.

39,381. And you tell us you received 210*l.* I am taking that; it is your own account?—That is all I received.

39,382. Then that leaves a deficiency of 42*l.*?—I cannot account for it. That was not the statement which we sent in.

39,383. You told me that this was a transcript of your book?—That is a transcript of my book.

39,384. Why did you make that, it was not a statement you sent in?—There must have been other accounts included in that paper which perhaps Mr. Rees can explain. I cannot. Mr. Rees did the principal part of the writing, I paid the men and took the receipts.

39,385. This is a transcript of your book, and you told me you put down what you received and expended; therefore you received 210*l.*, and expended 168*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* I ask you again how you explain that difference?—I cannot account for it, perhaps Mr. Rees may when he gets the book.

39,386. Now turn to your account of the monies you received from Mr. Smith. On January the 4th did you receive 5*l.*?—Do you mean in '63 or '65.

39,387. I am in '63?—Yes, that was it.

39,388. Is it in your book?—No, it is not; that was the first payment.

39,389. Did you receive on the 31st of January 52*l.* 10*s.*?—No, certainly not, here is the account; on the 24th of January I received 20*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

39,390. Did you not receive 52*l.* 10*s.* on the 31st of January?—No, 30*l.*

39,391. Did you receive on the 6th of February 30*l.* I am afraid this book is of little value?—I received 30*l.* then.

39,392. Did you receive on February 7th 130*l.*?—I did.

39,393. Did you receive on the 10th of February 9*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*?—Yes; that was the balance I was just alluding to, a little balance to square up accounts.

39,394. Do not be running away upon balances. I am asking you now about receipts?—Mr. Rees and me did receive that.

39,395. Did you receive on March 21st 19*l.*?—Yes, that was paid to Newman.

39,396. Did you receive on April 8th 8*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*?—I have no knowledge of that.

39,397. Your book will tell you?—No, those are after settling accounts.

39,398. I am asking you with regard to all the monies you received at and about the election; do not be running away to times. Did you receive 8*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*?—I have no remembrance of it.

39,399. Did you receive on May 26th 35*l.*?—Yes, that was my own fee.

39,400. Is that in your book?—No, that is my own fee.

39,401. That would not be your own fee; you received 40*l.*?—I received 40*l.* altogether; 5*l.* the first time, and on May 6th 30*l.* by cheque and 5*l.* in gold.

39,402. That makes up the account to 289*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*, and taking away your 40*l.* makes it about 240*l.*?—Yes. The 19*l.* was part of Mr. Newman's bill at the public house.

39,403. I want to know what you received from Mr. Smith, not what you did with it?—Very well.

39,404. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The gentleman does not want to know what you did with the money, it is only what you received?—We go very straight

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with the first five cheques. On the 24th of January I received 20*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

39,405. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There is not the slightest doubt in the world about January 31st; look here, "Cheque to Green for Redhill and Reigate "messengers, 52*l.* 10*s.*" ?—That is a mistake; I only received 30*l.* I will swear that I only received 30*l.*, and Mr. Rees was there.

39,406. Will you allow me to see the entry of that in your book; do not be talking about mistakes, we have had so many ?—There is no mistake about this book.

39,407. Show me the entry of January the 31st. (*The book was handed to Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What do you mean by saying that you received nothing on January 31st?—30*l.* I said.

39,408. Pardon me; you said you had received nothing ?—I could not have said that. You said I received 52*l.*, and I said 30*l.*

39,409. I understood you to tell me you had received nothing, but it may have been a mistake. Are all the other items right ?—That is all I received. The 9*l.* was for paying me, Featherstone, and Mr. Rees. I remember that small sum. Mr. Rees has not got it. The 8*l.* I have no account whatever of. The 19*l.* I can explain; it was paid to Newman, or I suppose I had more money than I had there and paid 1*s.*, if I only had 30*l.*

39,410. One side of this is receipts ?—Yes, the receipts of every man.

39,411. And the other is expenditure ?—Yes.

39,412. Now look at the book yourself and explain it to me; is one leaf of the book payments and the other expenditure, or how ? — There is the 31st January, 30*l.*; then we go on expending it.

39,413. Is one leaf of the book receipts and the other expenditure ?—Here is 31st January, 30*l.*, and here it is that I paid that week, 37*l.* odd.

39,414. I am not asking you how you expended it, I am asking you as to the receipts ?—There are the receipts.

39,415. Do you keep one page of your book for receipts and the other for expenditure ?—I do, there it is. (*The witness handed the book to the Commissioner*).

39,416. You have January 31st here upon this side ?—Yes, it is paid, 30*l.*

39,417. Here you have it on the same side, expenditure ?—That was roughly kept, but there was an account taken from that book and passed into Mr. Smith. The money was received by Mr. Rees and me jointly.

39,418. What is the meaning of this leaf being torn out here; the date is under January the 31st ?—I do not know what that means.

39,419. Just look at yourself ?—It has not been torn out for any purpose.

39,420. It is unfortunutely a recent tear ?—No, on my oath it is not.

39,421. Do not be appealing to your oath. Just look at it (*the book was handed to the witness*) ?—If you can see it is recently torn it is more than I can. Here is the date, January 31st, it follows in rotation with the last, though the leaf is torn out.

39,422. I have no doubt they do, but there is that unfortunate leaf torn out. It is under the date of January 31st?—Yes.

39,423. How is that?—I cannot say; it was torn out for no purpose.

39,424. Show me the book again (*the book was returned to the Commissioner*). It is unfortunate that this leaf is torn out just at the very time about which we are in dispute?—That is not where the cash is entered, that is where the men are being paid; it is merely entered in the book, and these are the right accounts given in items from that.

39,425. This amounts to 303*l.* ?—That is a mistake, we never received 303*l.*

39,426. Everything is a mistake ?—I know I never had it; if I had I should say so.

39,427. Now I will call your attention again to this, "Cheque to Mr. Green for Redhill and Reigate messengers, 52*l.* 10*s.* Now with that leaf torn out I ask you did you not receive 52*l.* 10*s.* ?—No, never.

39,428. I see here there are pages 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12; 12 pages of that most important day, January 31st, and one of those in the centre unfortunately is missing, and I see there was writing upon it. You can give no explanation of it?—I can give no explanation of it. I am sure that is the money I received.

39,429. Who tore that; that is a private memorandum book ?—I think some of these names were taken down at the side before the men came, and they said there is the money at the end of the election. Miles was one.

39,430. Who tore it ?—It would be at the same time in the room paying the men if torn out at all. I will swear I have not touched it.

39,431. All the monies received are here ?—All the money with the exception of 19*l.* and the 9*l.*, the balance retained up to the day of the poll to pay the men. That is merely put down in the rough merely as a memorandum, because I was employed, in the book you have got. Those accounts ought to explain everything that you have in your hand.

39,432. Will you show me the next receipt of money that you have at that time?—After what date ?

39,433. After the 31st of January ?—Yes, the 6th of February 30*l.*

39,434. Now the next ?—130*l.* on the 7th.

39,435. The next day ?—Yes.

39,436. What is the next date ? — There is no entry in there after the 7th, we settled up all the money there excepting a little balance going to Mr. Rees and Mr. Featherstone and myself.

39,437. You received a large sum of money after the 7th ?—No. I will explain that 19*l.* if you will allow me.

39,438. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received 72*l.* or 73*l.* after that ?—My own salary with it.

39,439. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) None of that is in after the 7th ?—None of it relates to after the 7th; the other is in the account you have.

39,440. Confine yourself to your transactions with Mr. Smith; we want to know the sums paid to you ?—The book goes up to February the 7th.

39,441. Why did not you enter after that ?—Because we had settled up with the men.

39,442. You received money after ?—Yes.

39,443. You received 9*l.*, 19*l.*, 8*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, and 35*l* ?—35*l.* was my own salary, 19*l.* went to J. Newman, the 8*l.* I do not know about, and the 9*l.* was I think the balances of our accounts; Rees', mine, and Featherstone's; and Featherstone was present when it was done. Newman kept the "Wheatsheaf."

39,444. Then unfortunately you did not enter in this book any monies received by you after the 7th ?—Not after the 7th.

39,445. There is still, you know, that unfortunate difference ? — I know I received nothing but this money.

39,446. You do not know in what cheques, you have no memorandum ?—I will tell you how it was paid to me.

39,447. You have no memorandum at all ?—I have a pretty good memory of this.

39,448. My question is, have you any memorandum of the money you received after the 7th of February ?—No.

39,449. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You only recollect it from memory ?—Only from memory. I remember the 19*l.* perfectly, and I remember the 35*l.* perfectly.

39,450. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not confess it till I called your attention to it ?—I never thought it was in my account, it was part of Mr. Newman's bill, the 9*l.* I have told you about; and of the 8*l.* I have no recollection.

39,451. You have left us entirely in the dark as to how you expended it, or caused that mistake ?—I cannot explain it in any way. Mr. Rees and me made

it out from this book, and he must explain it as well as me. As the monies were expended we made it out week by week; we kept a very good account at first.

39,452. I will read it to you; the first week is 20*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* ?—Yes.

39,453. The next week is 37*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* monies expended ?—Quite right.

39,454. The next week is 24*l.* 10*s.* ?—That was for watchers.

39,455. Never mind. The next week, 135*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* ?—Quite right.

39,456. And the next week you expended 80*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* ?—For what. I should like to know amazingly.

39,457. These are charges thus: February 7th 1863, canvassers and other accounts, "Younger, 30*s.* "balance, and six days." "Eastmond, 30*s.* balance, "and six days." ?—I paid up Eastmond by this account. I never paid him that.

39,458. Look at your own handwriting, it confirms it ?—Oh, yes, I see this is quite right; this is part part of the 130*l.* I imagine this is part that I have got the return for here.

39,459. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Very likely; I dare say it is.—There is no 80*l.* there. We were never paid that afterwards. I am perfectly satisfied that that is a part of these accounts; that is merely a rough copy of what was paid, February 7th.

39,460, (*Mr. Comissioner O'Brien.*) Remember you are dealing with gentlemen who know figures quite as well as yourself ?—That is quite right; why should there be two lists ? I know what that is now; that is the paper when Mr. Rees and me made out the accounts to see what balances were owing.

39,461. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I see you have got in this as well, Mr. Barber——?—That was a bill, 14*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

39,462. It does not matter at present what it was paid out for; it does not affect it ?—These are the balances.

39,463. That is money received by you ?—We never expended that.

39,464. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) According to these bills, which Mr. Rees says he made out and which seems to be a true account of all expenditure, you expended 303*l.* ?—We did not. I am sure we did not expend it, and Mr. Rees knows that that is wrong; it is merely a rough sketch. If you could get the correct copy we sent in to Mr. Smith you would find it then; that copy we signed is not the copy, and however we signed it I cannot conceive.

39,465. Tell me what it is if it is not expenditure ?—Here is Longhurst, I will take his name; there is no harm in taking his name. February 7th 1863, 30*s.* balance and six days makes 3*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*, balance due on account of Mr. Nichols 3*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, and night-work 30*s.* makes it come to 8*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; that is the same amount there on the other side, then there is Longhurst four days, and there again it is four days 1*l.* This is merely the rough copy that he made out when we had to produce the accounts to Mr. Smith; this is merely the rough copy made out from this book. He had no business to produce it, and Mr. Rees ought to have known that. I am quite sure that our accounts are made up quite right; there may be a pound or two out, but that is all; you cannot be quite certain in election matters.

39,466. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You mean that this sheet is a copy of the accounts in that ?—A rough copy.

39,467. What is this for ?—Merely to get an amount that we should claim from Mr. Smith to pay the men the 130*l.* There is no deception about it if you could get the correct account.

39,468. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You mean that this is not a part of the account ?—Not at all; that is merely a copy of this. I am only anxious that you should get the truth; I am quite as anxious as you are.

39,469. Take these three papers into your hand. (*The papers were handed to the witness*). Apart from the 80*l.*, are those accounts which you sent in ?—These are the accounts which we sent in.

39,470. Is there any sum total to them ?—No sum total as I can see, only the total of every week.

39,471. I mean the sum total of all ?—No, that was made out in another sheet.

39,472. Another sheet in addition ?—Yes, that we sent in to Mr. Smith; it was a fair copy from that.

39,473. Does that contain all the accounts you have sent in ?—Yes, all with the exception of 35*l.*, my fee, 19*l.* to J. Newman of the "Wheatsheaf," the 8*l.* that I have no remembrance of, and the 9*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, which was the balance I think owing to me, Featherstone, and Mr. Rees.

39,474. Now, mark this; these do not include a farthing of your own fee ?—That is quite right.

39,475. Altogether that makes 217*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* ?—Altogether 217*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* The 7*l.* which is more than I received was I think given. I only take it from memory.

39,476. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) 217*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* ?—212*l.* and 5*l.*

39,477. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is money you say you paid out of pocket ?—It was expended on election purposes, as is described by the bill.

39,478. There is no mistake now ?—Not the least; for the 80*l.* has nothing to do with it, which I think is proved pretty plainly now.

39,479. 217*l.* you expended ?—Yes.

39,480. How do you account for 168*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* ?—I cannot conceive the mistake.

39,481. Let me call your attention to it for a moment ?—You see it is exclusive of Barker's 14*l.* odd for ribbons and various bills which I see is in that.

39,482. Then in fact you give an explanation which, if it does not mean deception, means this, "We "have expended on behalf of Mr. Gower 168*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*, "and we have received from Mr. Gower 168*l.* 3*s.* "2*d.*" ?—And the cash you have in your hand.

39,483. You see there is 60*l.* deficient ?—It is plain we paid that away, for here are the receipts.

39,484. Would it not be better to apply your mind to accounting for the 60*l.*; can you give an explanation of that ?—I am going to try. The only explanation I can give is that is a false account which I did not make out.

39,485. A false account ?—It is not a false one to this extent, namely, that the money was paid away.

39,486. Do you see your signature to it ?—Yes, and Mr. Rees; but how we came to sign it I do not know.

39,487. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I thought before I left the Court it was a *fac simile* of yours ?—So it is; there is 217*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* We carry that out in this way.

39,488. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You mean the entries are correct, but the sums carried out are not ?—There must be something wrong; neither can I see the motive of it. I saw the account before it came out to you, and I spoke to Mr. De Rutzen about it and told him it was wrong. It is 217*l.*; the items must have been added up wrong.

39,489. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There is a deficiency to the extent of 60*l.*; you suppose it must be added wrongly up to the extent of 60*l.* ?—Mr. Allen, the Chief Commissioner, cast up the items to the extent of 217*l.*

39,490. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Yes, I did; did I do it wrong ?—No; quite right, but there must be wrong somewhere.

39,491. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The 217*l.* did not include your fee of 40*l.* ?—No.

39,492. That brings it up to 257*l* ?—Yes, I suppose so. 217*l.* and 40*l.* is 257*l.* of course.

39,493. You received 257*l.* ?—Yes.

39,494. How is that reconcilable with this, that

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you said you only received 210*l.*?—I always said that was without my fee.

39,495. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say, "It "did not include my fee"?—Yes. The 19*l.* I have explained which was given by Newman, who will explain it if you swear him.

39,496. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The 60*l.* remains unaccounted for then? Had you made any arrangement beforehand about your fee?—No; you are alluding to 1863.

39,497. How was the 40*l.* made up?—Mr. Smith gave me 5*l.* as a retainer, and afterwards he paid me by cheque 30*l.* and 5*l.* in gold. It was the 26th of May when he paid me the balance.

39,498. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The 26th of May he paid you the balance?—Yes, of 35*l.*; 30*l.* by cheque and 5*l.* in gold or by note.

39,499. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are sure of that?—Quite sure; the cheque I changed myself.

39,500. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that before the election?—It was before the election, very early he paid it me. He gave me a cheque and Mr. Gower was with him.

39,501. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received a cheque for 30*l.*?—Yes, and 5*l.* change.

39,502. Are you sure it was 30*l.*?—Yes, I changed the cheque myself; it was a 30*l.* cheque.

39,503. Are you sure it was a 30*l.* cheque?—Yes, it was a 30*l.* cheque I am positive.

39,504. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do not be so positive; I like to see a man who is not so positive?—He might have drawn the other cheque in my name and sent it by his clerk; it was drawn in two cheques, one 30*l.* and the other 5*l.*

39,505. On the 26th of May?—Yes; on the 26th of May.

39,506. Are you sure it was not a cheque of 31*l.* 10*s.*?—I am sure.

39,507. Perfectly sure?—Perfectly sure.

39,508. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Perfectly sure?—Perfectly sure. I am confident.

39,509. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I never wish to take in any one. Now I have got Mr. Smith's banking book, and you are credited for a cheque for 31*l.* 10*s.* in May?—Then the 1*l.* 10*s.* must have been for some little trifle to some person to pay some account for him.

39,510. I called your attention again and again to it, but it was all useless?—I know.

39,511. You told me you had gone to the bank and cashed a 30*l.* cheque?—(*No answer*).

39,512. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That you swore distinctly, and now you see it is a cheque for 31*l.* 10*s.*?—It must have been for some small matter; at all events it is not far off.

39,513. You have not yet accounted for the difference between the 30*l.* and 52*l.*?—I am sure I never had it.

39,514. You are as sure of that as of the other, I suppose?—I am sure of it.

39,515. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you give me the names or any of the names of parties in 1863 that have not been called here before?—No.

39,516. Just look at the book and tell me the name of any man that was not called?—Goring, James.

39,517. He has not been paid?—No.

39,518. How much did you pay him?—I paid him 6*l.* 15*s.*

39,519. What was that for?—For canvassing. Bennett and Davey, they have been called I think; then there is Kenward.

39,520. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is not that Kenward who is an agent?—He is an agent this year.

39,521. Just tell me what Kenward got. I should very much like to know what Kenward got in 1863?—6*l.* 15*s.*

39,522. Can you mention anybody else?—Henry Finch.

39,523. We have had him already; can you mention anybody else?—No, I think not; I made no other entry; it is all down here.

33,524. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think you had not been employed in any previous elections?—I had not.

39,525. That was in 1863?—Yes.

33,526. Now in 1865. I suppose you have an account of the monies you received in 1865?—We kept no accounts; our committee room was in the town hall; we kept no accounts.

39,527. That is unfortunate, is it not?—It is very unfortunate.

39,528. It will not be much worse, it could not be; still they might have assisted us?—I thought we kept the account in '63 uncommonly well.

39,529. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that Joseph Finch you told us of?—Henry.

39,530. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What arrangement did you make with Mr. Smith in 1865?—No arrangement was made; I knew I should be paid.

39,531. How much?—50*l.*

39,532. Why should you know you would be paid 50*l.*?—I did not say 50*l.*; but I knew I should be paid.

39,533. Who put you to work, Mr. Gower or Mr. Smith?—Mr. Smith.

39,534. How long before the election?—A considerable time; it was the 8th or 9th of May; the 9th of May, if I remember correctly.

39,535. At the outset I will ask you have you any mode except your memory (which you will pardon me for saying is not a very good one) by which you made out the accounts?—I have not a good memory in money matters, I am sorry to say; I wish I had.

39,536. How much money did you receive from Mr. Smith?—I received 200*l.* altogether.

39,537. Have you any mode except your memory which enables you to say how much money you received from Mr. Smith?—No, I have not.

39,538. Did you make no memorandums of any kind or sort, or in any shape or form, of the money you received from Mr. Smith?—I made some memorandums afterwards when the petition was over.

39,539. Not at the time?—No; it was after the petition that I put it down.

39,540. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) From memory?—Yes.

39,541. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Whose figures are these?—They are mine.

39,542. When were those made?—They were made very recently.

39,543. When?—Perhaps three or four weeks ago, perhaps four or five.

39,544. Where did you get the matter to make them?—Here is the account. I sent to Mr. Smith.

39,545. Did you go to Mr. Smith's office?—No, it is from my memory.

39,546. Did you go to Mr. Smith's office, or where did you get this, for instance, "June 13th, 10*l.*"?—I remember it perfectly well.

39,547. Do you mean to say that in January last you remembered it was the 13th of June you received 10*l.*?—I might have made slight memorandums at the time.

39,548. Where are those memorandums?—I have no memorandums.

39,549. You made this up about a month ago?—Yes.

39,550. What from?—From the copy I gave Mr. Smith. I had a copy, and that is a copy of the copy I had. I might make 50 copies.

39,551. You gave Mr. Smith an account; where is the copy you gave Mr. Smith?—That is it.

39,552. No it is not, it cannot be?—It is a *fac simile*.

39,553. Where is the copy itself?—That I do not know.

39,554. Where is the copy itself?—I have not got it.

39,555. Pray do attend; you say you take these

figures from a certain paper you call a copy; where is that copy?—I have no copy.

39,556. It is a hopeless embranglement. Tell me the date at which you put the memorandums down?—A month or five weeks ago.

39,587. Since the Commission came here?—No.

39,558. How long before the Commission came here?—It might have been a fortnight before the Commission.

33,559. That will now be, I am sorry to say, more than a month ago?—I say a fortnight before the Commission came down here.

39,560. Keep the account in your hand, and tell me from what paper did you make it out?—I had some memorandums at the time of the election, which were destroyed at the time of the petition.

39,561. You will not escape me, I can tell you. From what memorandums did you make this out?—None.

39,562. From what, then, did you make it out?—I made it out from memory.

39,563. Do pray now attend. Did anybody assist you in making out the first entry?—That is, "June "the 13th, 10*l.*"

39,564. Did anybody assist you to make out the entry of "June the 13th, 10*l.*," when, a month ago, you sat down to make that account out?—Nobody assisted me; money is pretty well engraven on my mind.

39,565. I thought you said there were memorandums?—There were slight ones.

39,566. Give me another entry?—June 22nd, 10*l.*

39,567. What day in the week was that?—I do not remember.

59,568. Oh, indeed! go on to the next?—There is another of 29th June, 50*l.*

39,569. Did anybody assist you in that?—No.

39,570. How did this memory of yours supply you with the date of the 29th of June?—It supplies me very well in 1865.

39,571. Was the 29th of June engraved on your memory sufficiently to account for that?—No doubt it was to the extent of my receiving 50*l.*

39,572. The next?—July 15th, 30*l.*

39,573. Anything else?—Yes.

39,574. What is it?—A loan of 10*l.*

39,575. From whom?—Mr. Smith.

39,576. What date is that?—That is set down some time in August.

39,577. Well, this miraculous memory of yours enabled you a month ago to put down what you received in 1865?—That is the account.

39,578. But these were monies you received, another man's monies that you were to account for?—Yes.

39,579. There was June the 13th, 10*l.*; June the 24th, 60*l.*; then in July, 50*l.* and 30*l.*?—Well, it was made out from memorandums.

39,580. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is the date of that loan?—I do not know, but it was some time in August.

39,581. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Why cannot you tell the particular date of that when you have got all this so pat?—I cannot tell.

39,582. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The loan was from Mr. Smith. Was that a cheque?—I think it was a cheque.

39,583. Who was it payable to?—To myself, I think. I cannot say whether it was to myself or Mr. Smith, but I should think it would be to myself.

39,584. Have you got August the 24th?—No, sir.

39,585. That is five guineas?—That is to my son.

39,586. October the 30th, 30*l.*?—That is right.

39,587. Were all these payments by cheques?—I think so.

39,588. Surely you would recollect that?—Yes, they were by cheques.

39,589. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Cannot you tell me; October is nearer than July?—Perhaps I can tell you if you will let me look at the accounts. No, I do not remember the date.

39,590. But you have such a marvellous memory?—This is not very marvellous; it is matter that gets very much impressed upon your mind, too much so, I am sorry to say.

39,591. What do you say was the first day?—June.

39,592. That you remember?—Yes.

39,593. I ask you again did you not see Mr. Smith in reference to the monies you received from him before the Commission came down here?—I have seen Mr. Smith, but not in reference to the monies.

39,594. When you saw Mr. Smith did you not speak to him as to the monies you received for the election?—Yes; we went through the accounts.

39,595. And taken from this cheque book; why did you not tell me so at once, but you said money was so engraven on your memory?—We went through the accounts.

39,596. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say you received 200*l.* altogether?—I know that from memory. I went to Mr. Smith, and we made it out from paper.

39,597. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you not tell me that? At that time you had had an expenditure of what?—200*l.*

39,598. This is what you expended; there are your receipts; you are making for yourself now an account of the monies you had expended sent in in your own handwriting?—This is it.

39,599. Allow me to see it; I dare say I have a copy of it. On one side there is 122*l.* 10*s.*, and there is 27*l.* 10*s.*, which makes 150*l.*; very nice even money; I do like nice even money; and then you put down your own fee of 50*l.*, and that made the 200*l.* very nicely; that is a very nice account of 200*l.*?—It is not such a very nice even money, because there was a balance in hand of 5*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* to carry on.

39,600. I will read it for you; it is a summary. There is 122*l.* 10*s.* and 27*l.* 10*s.*, which makes 150*l.*, and then your own fee of 50*l.* makes 200*l.*?—In making that up you will see a balance of 5*l.* odd.

39,601. I only take the summary. You were paid that in cheques?—I think it was.

39,602. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I will tell you now, Mr. Green, that I knew of the interview between you and Mr. Smith, and I will tell you the reason, because I do not want to keep anything back from you. The reason is this: in Mr. Smith's cheque book there is a deficiency of 30*l.* paid to you, and beside the loan of 10*l.* and that other of 20*l.*, for which there is no cheque. Just consider that, and come here and explain it to-morrow morning at 11.

Adjourned until 11 o'clock the following morning.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

Thursday, 20th September 1866.

HENRY GREEN called and further examined.

39,603. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You mentioned yesterday that you had received 200*l.* from Mr. Smith?—Yes.

39,604. You sent in this statement as having received 217*l.*?—That is the amount I received.

39,605. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was in 1863?—No, 1865; there is the loan.

39,606. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 100*l.* and 10*l.*, which you say was a loan?—Yes.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

H. Green.

20 Sept. 1866.

39,607. Instead of the 217*l.* which you have got in your account against Mr. Smith ?—Yes.

39,608. You give that not as the result of any momorandum of your own at all ?—No, 9*l.* I remembered after that, and that I had a cheque for 7*l.* as well as 10*l.*

39,609. I do not want you to account for it, I only want to know the monies you received ?—That is the only money I received.

39,610. You balanced the account as between you and Mr. Smith, that is a balanced account which you have in your hand now ?—Yes.

39,611. Of expenditure on your part and of receipts from Mr. Smith, that is the character of the account in your hand ?—Yes.

39,612. That is balanced on the supposition that you only received 200*l.* from Mr. Smith, if you look at it ?—Yes, it is.

39,613. Then how do you account for the balancing if you received 217*l.* ?—There was a loan of 10*l.* which Mr. Smith has not got in his account, and 7*l.* which Mr. Smith always said he paid to Featherstone, but which I did.

39,614. Then your expenditure will not balance?—This will show what I received and expended.

39,615. Do you mean to say you owe him 7*l.* ?—I do not owe him more than that, because he owes me money for other accounts.

39,616. Oh, the election expenditure ; do you mean you have 7*l.* in hand ?—I have more than 7*l.*

39,617. How much more ?—22*l.*, including the loan.

39,618. I am not speaking of the loan whatever ; how much was it without it ?—22*l.*

39,619. How much without the loan ?—Oh, without the loan it would be 12*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*

39,620. Unexpended ?—Yes.

39,621. Though your account is balanced ; when did you and Mr. Smith balance the account ?—This account was balanced about the petition time, or before the petition.

39,622. That was in November ?—Before the petition ; it was balanced when I sent in the account, which was about a fortnight or a month after the election.

39,623. You know the petition and election are different things altogether, if you will only confine your attention to the election I should be obliged. When was this account balanced ?—When I sent in the account to Mr. Smith.

39,624. I want to know when that was, how soon after the election ?—I think, as far as I can remember, a little before Christmas.

39,625. Then no expenditure was incurred since then ?—Not with the election, only the petition business, and so on.

39,626. I am speaking with reference to the election, never mind the petition now. The case stands thus : that you had in your hands 12*l.* something last Christmas, at the time you balanced your account with Mr. Smith, unexplained ; will you be kind enough to give me any sums you have there, or in any other list that we have not got ?—There are not any in this list, there are none here.

39,627. Your list corresponds with what I hold in my hand ; perhaps I can shorten this for you if I read it ?—There is Rees, 10*l.*, shall I give you the refreshments before that ?

39,628. No, never mind ; I only want the fresh sums you have ?—There are no fresh sums, there are only what you have called, I am sure of that ; there are the watchers, but they are no voters ; there is Wood.

39,629. How much did you pay him ?—40*s.*

39,630. What is his Christian name ?—Thomas ; it is Wood of Redhill, this Wood has not been up ; his name is Thomas Wood, of Warwick-town.

39,631. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is there not a man named Waghorne ?—He has been called ; he stated he received 3*l.*

39,632. Will you be kind enough to give me another name ?—That is all ; the others have been called.

39,633. You mentioned another name ?— I mentioned yesterday Gorridge.

39,634. Where is Wood in this list ?—At the end, he was paid after the election, among the last names you will find Wood, 40*s.*

39,635. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You do not find any other names ?—None other, I am quite sure all the other men have been examined, and have sworn to the amounts.

39,636. Do you know whether they agree with you in the amounts ?—Yes, they quite agree.

39,637. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Wait one half minute, I do not wish to ask you any question about your accounts, but I wish to ask you about this man, William Clarke, he stated in his evidence that he spoke to you about 10*l.* which was stated to be owing from the last election of 1863 ?—Yes.

39,638. And you said that he was well worth the money, and he should have the 10*l.* after the election ?—No.

39,639. Is that so ?—No, he hunted us all up very much, but I never said anything of the sort to him.

39,640. Did he mention 10*l.* ?—Yes.

39,641. As owing to him ?—Yes. I will tell you what occurred ; Mr. Smith was in committee, and Clarke asked for me, and I came out, and he asked me for the 10*l.* ; I said, I had nothing to do with it ; and I went and saw Mr. Smith, and his answer was that he would have nothing to do with it, which I conveyed to him.

39,642. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was the man who had kept back the 10*l.* ?—Yes.

39,643. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you remember the transaction of the two fives ?—I was in the committee room when it was given to him by Mr. Mulley ; I did not see it given, but I was in the room when it was given, with Apted.

39,644. Do you know whether, as a fact, he had authority from Mr. Smith to keep the 10*l.* for himself ?—I do not know that he had any authority for it.

39,645. Now let me ask you one general question. You have given an account of all these sums you have paid men, did you in any of your canvassing promise money to men which has not been paid ?—No, I did not ; there have been two or three men who have sworn to it, but I did not.

39,646. Do you know of any man who was put on, you understand that ?—Oh, I understand the term.

39,647. Put on to work and did not get paid ?—No ; I do not know of any men who were put on and did not get paid ; here is the list of those I put on, and they all got paid.

39,648. That I think we have a copy of ?—Yes.

39,649. I am not dealing with that, I am dealing with facts of which we have not got a copy ?—I never put on any one who was not paid.

39,650. Though you have not actually promised, was the general conviction amongst these men that those people who were put on should be paid for their work ?—I did not tell any one. I know those three have sworn against me, Robbins, Jupp, and Luck.

39,651. Did you canvass them at all ?—Yes.

39,652. In what way ?—Luck spoke truth in saying I canvassed him as he was going from work. Being in the interest of Mr. Gower I thought it my duty to canvass every one. I asked him whether he would vote for Mr. Gower, and he said, "What will you give "me." Of course I said I could give him nothing at all, and that was all that passed.

39,653. Did you ask him to work ?—No, none of those three. I asked these others to work.

39,654. Did you ask any but those who appear in your list to work ?—I did not.

39,655. Or put any on with that understanding ?—I did not, I could put on a dozen if I liked, I did not think it right to put on men, I had 14 or 15 on.

39,656. Did you pay any scores for refreshments ?—I paid Brockwell.

39,657. Is Brockwell in your account?—It is in the account.

39,658. Was the refreshment given generally to the voters?—To canvassers, not generally to the voters.

39,659. Were you present when the canvassers had their refreshments?—I was not.

39,660. Did the canvassers have authority to go into a house and get what they liked?—No.

39,661. In what way did the canvassers get their refreshments?—Of an evening.

39,662. When they closed they went into a house for an evening and drank there?—If they had done their work.

39,663. How lately up to the period of the election did the canvassers have that authority to go in and get their refreshments?—Up to the nomination day, but not after the nomination day.

39,664. Was it ever said to any of them that they were not to do so on the night before the nomination?—We did not allow any drinking on nomination or polling day, not among the canvassers.

39,665. You say that up to the nomination, the night before the nomination, these canvassers had authority to go into a house and get refreshment?—Yes.

39,666. Who put a stop to it the night before the nomination?—I stopped it.

39,667. In what way?—I told them they should have no more refreshments after that, it was not suitable.

39,668. You did not permit them to have refreshments on the night of the nomination?—Not on the nomination and polling day.

39,669. I understand you that they were to have refreshments up to the night before the nomination?—Yes.

39,670. Then you stopped it on nomination day?—Yes.

39,671. Was it done by telling the landlords to stop the supply?—No, by telling the canvassers; Room, I told him, and I told Thorpe; they were canvassers.

39,672. What was Room?—He was captain of some of the canvassers.

39,673. How many canvassers did Room have under him?—No particular number, he and Thorpe had their quantity between them.

39,674. Which Thorpe?—Edward Thorpe.

39,675. Commonly called Ned Thorpe, the man we had here the other day?—Yes.

39,676. Who put Ned Thorpe on?—I did.

39,677. Did you consider Ned Thorpe was an influential man to be put on?—We considered him a very influential man to go amongst that class of voters, he did in 1863, he was put on, and he was not on the list of voters, and we paid him the same, 7*s.* 6*d.* a day.

39,678. Then Thorpe was one of the captains?—He was one, I considered.

39,679. Did you inform Ned Thorpe that he was not to have any more refreshments?—No more on the nomination, the night before the nomination.

39,680. As you have been a very active man in the election, I want to know generally whether there is any other information you can give the Commissioners?—No.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES GORRIDGE sworn and examined.

J. Gorridge.

39,681. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A labourer.

39,682. What do you pay for you house?—6*s.* a week.

39,683. Have you got a vote now?—No.

39,684. You did not vote at the last election?—No.

39,685. Had you got a vote?—No.

39,686. Who did you vote for in 1863?—For Mr. Gower.

39,687. Who asked you to vote for him?—Nobody.

39,688. Who did you vote for him?—Because they asked me if I would go on the committee.

39,689. Who asked you?—Mr. Green.

39,690. And did you go on the committee?—Yes.

39,691. Did you do any work?—Yes.

39,692. What?—I attended the committee and took messages.

39,693. What did you receive for doing it?—7*s.* 6*d.* a day.

39,694. How much altogether?—I cannot tell you.

39,695. For how many days?—I think it was somewhere about a fortnight.

39,696. Twelve or 14 days?—14 days.

39,697. I should like to know what you did get?—I am sure I do not know.

39,698. Can you tell me whether it was five guineas?—I cannot tell, I never kept an account, but I should say about five guineas.

39,699. Who paid it you?—Mr. Green.

39,700. Did he ever read over something?—No.

39,701. Were you to have it before you voted or after?—Before.

39,702. Was that your first election?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE HEWETT sworn and examined.

G. Hewett.

39,703. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A miller and farmer.

39,704. I suppose you pay a good rental?—Something over 100*l.*

39,705. For the house that gives the vote what do you pay?—That is something like the rental altogether.

39,706. For your property in Reigate?—Yes, the property I hire and use.

39,707. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

39,708. For whom?—Mr. Monson.

39,709. Had you voted at the previous election?—Once before I voted.

39,710. When?—1863, I think it was for Mr. Gower; I have only voted twice.

39,711. Now about 1865, were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—Not that I am aware of.

39,712. How came you to change your opinions and vote for Mr. Monson in 1865; you voted for Mr. Gower in 1863?—I heard that he said he would never come forward again.

39,713. Was that the only reason?—Yes.

39,714. Did you receive any consideration?—No, none whatever.

39,715. Of any sort, shape, or description?—No.

39,716. In 1865?—No.

39,717. Was anything offered?—No.

39,718. From anybody on the part of Mr. Monson?—Not at all.

39,719. In 1863, was anything offered to you on that occasion?—No.

39,720. Did you take an active part in either of the elections?—I never took any part.

39,721. Either for Mr. Gower or for Mr. Monson?—For neither of them.

39,722. Except your vote?—Yes.

39,723. Did anything pass your hand to give to anybody?—No.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

G. Hewett.

20 Sept. 1866.

39,724. Not in the least ?—No.

39,725. I am afraid there is a mistake in your name; there is another George Hewett on the register. Where do you live ?—Trumpet-hill.

The Chief Commissioner informed the witness he was very sorry the mistake had been made; but he would take his answer in the fullest sense, that he had never received anything.

The witness withdrew.

T. Buckland.

THOMAS BUCKLAND sworn and examined.

39,726. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When did you begin to work in the elections; how far back ? Was it as far back as Doulton's election in February 1858 ?—No; I was a printer at that time.

39,727. Did you commence to work as soon as October 1858 ?—No.

39,728. There was a general election in 1859; did you commence to work then ?—No.

39,729. Then we come down to 1863; you were engaged then ?—Yes.

39,730. And you voted in 1863 ?—No.

39,731. You had no vote ?—I had none.

39,732. What are you ?—I am a land agent.

39,733. What was your vote for, a house ?—Yes.

39,734. What is the value yearly ?—10*l.*; it is an old house, and there are the repairs.

39,735. Who did you vote for last election ?—For Mr. Gower.

39,736. 1863 was your first election ?—Yes, and I had no vote then.

39,737. I want you to tell me who you were employed for in 1863 ?—Mr. Gower.

39,738. What were you employed as ?—As agent; a sort of sub-agent.

39,739. You went out canvassing, did you not ?—Yes.

39,740. Have you got a list of the monies you paid out to the voters in 1863 ?—I am sorry to say I have nothing relating to that election whatever; I was an apprentice on that occasion.

39,741. All I want to know in the first instance is how much money you paid away ?—I really have not the remotest idea.

39,742. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do not say not the remotest idea ?—I really have not.

39,743. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) We will see. Will you tell me, please, how many voters (do not mind the amount of money), but how many voters you paid money to ?—I remember paying George Curtis something at Redhill, and some companion of his.

39,744. Do you know his name ?—I do not remember his name. I have no doubt Curtis will give you the information. I know he had a companion when he came over here.

39,745. And some other voters did you pay; did you pay 20 altogether ?—I really do not remember that I paid any more on that occasion; it was not my duty to pay them.

39,746. But you did receive money to pay out ?—I think a very little.

39,747. We will come to the amount soon; but you did receive money. Now tell me about how many voters you paid money to; do you think it was 20 ?—No.

39,748. Or 10 ?—No.

39,749. Do you think you paid five ?—No, I do not think I did.

39,750. I was in hopes of getting from you a little more accurate information, but I dare say it is not your fault ?—It has passed from my mind.

39,751. All you remember at first is Curtis and his friend; do you remember how much you paid them ?—I think Curtis had 3*l.* and then 2*l.*

39,752. How much altogether ?—5*l.* altogether.

39,753. He and his friend ?—No, himself.

39,754. How much did his friend have ?—I suppose he had the same.

39,755. They were voters ?—Yes; they were out of Mr. Wilkinson's camp. I remember the reason we paid them, because they were so persecuted because they voted for Mr. Gower instead of Mr. Wilkinson.

39,756. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) They were persecuted afterwards ?—Yes; and I think that was the reason we paid them.

39,757. What is Curtis ?—A coal man, something like that.

39,758. Who did Curtis work for ?—On the railway.

39,759. Was that the reason they directed your attention to your paying them, because they were persecuted after as they voted for Mr. Gower ?—That reminded me of one point, I remember that was the reason we paid them so much.

39,760. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I suppose at the time you were receiving money in 1863 you put down what money you received ?—Yes.

39,761. Who did you account to for it ?—Mr. Smith, I should think.

39,762. Can you tell me, then, where those accounts are which you paid ?—No doubt Mr. Smith would have them.

39,763. Have you nothing whatever ?—I have not the slightest thing, except Mr. Apted yesterday referred to some book in which my writing occurred.

39,764. You have nothing whatever ?—Nothing whatever. I have got the old canvassing list I had in 1863, and that is, I believe, all I have.

39,765. If you have no memorandum cannot you tell me yourself how much money you received in 1863 ?—I really cannot; I am sorry to say I have no account whatever; but I do not doubt the account I sent to Mr. Smith was accurate.

39,766. I have no reason at present to doubt that at all. Can you tell me about the money you received from Mr. Smith in a lump ?—No, I cannot.

39,767. Did you receive any money except from Mr. Smith ?—No.

39,768. What did you do with Mr. Apted in 1863 ?—He was a friend of mine; we went together.

39,769. Any one else ?—We went together. I believe we always went canvassing together; that is, when I say always I mean generally.

39,770. Did you receive any money for yourself on that election ?—I think I received a retainer of 5*l.*

39,771. You had been retained at previous elections, had you not ?—No.

39,772. You had not been retained as early as 1858 ?—No. I was a printer; I printed for Mr. Doulton, but took no part in the election.

39,773. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you any vote in 1858 ?—No; I had no vote till 1865.

39,774. Were you a master printer ?—A journeyman printer; I managed Mr. Altringham's business.

39,775. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I rather think you received a retaining fee shortly before the election; your retaining fee I suppose was 5*l.* ?—5*l.* or guineas.

39,776. Just to remind you of it, I see you received 5*l.* on the 20th of January 1863, a little before the election, or had you been at work before that ?—I engaged when the election took place.

39,777. The 6th of February it took place ?—And that cheque I had given me there is no doubt.

39,778. Fifteen days before; on the 20th of January ?—I must have had something before that. I remember it by having felt bound by having received the retainer.

39,779. In what way did you receive the retainer, by money or cheque ?—Cheque, I think.

39,780. You cannot give me the date of it ?—I cannot.

39,781. Then I should think it must have been October ?—It was early; it was not more than a fortnight after the death of Lord Monson.

39,782. I do not know when that was?—It was at the very commencement.

39,783. I find 5*l.* paid to you on the 6th or 7th of October?—I dare say that might be about the election; it was a very long time about.

39,784. If you find you are wrong you can always set yourself right; but I will put it down "received 6th of October '62, 5*l.* retainer"?—I have no recollection of it.

39,785. No; if I am wrong, or you find that you are, it can easily be set right.—Very well.

39,786. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not remember the name of Carter's friend?—No.

39,787. Carter said that he was paid by Mr. Buckland, by one of Mr. Smith's cheques, 3*l.*, and after by Mr. Buckland 2*l.*?—That is correct; I remember the 2*l.* in gold. I believe I have now got a receipt in my cash box.

39,788. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then if you have that receipt I dare say you have a good many other receipts?—No.

39,789. You made me rather jump at that. Have you no other receipts?—No; I recollect seeing that.

39,790. I want to go quickly through this; I see you received again 5*l.* in the January following, the 20th of January?—Yes; but I have no recollection of it.

39,791. I can show you the cheque at any time.—No, I do not doubt it at all; I know I took an active part.

39,792. I suppose you were paid 5*l.* on February 4th?—I might have received it.

39,793. I mean that it appears so?—Yes.

39,794. It is unfortunate you cannot tell me how much you expended?—I very much regret it; it would be more satisfactory to me.

39,795. You think there are no means by which you could ascertain it? Did you receive a good deal of money after the election was over?—My impression is that I did not receive much.

39,796. You paid a great deal away in '63?—If I did I do not remember it; I have no doubt I had money, but I have entirely forgotten what sum.

39,797. I see on the 25th of July '63 you received 5*l.*, according to the banker's account?—On account of the election that took place in January?

39,798. Look at it.—It must be for other business; I had other business.

39,799. Look at it.—It must have been for something else; I received my fee of course.

39,800. I have got that in the beginning.—I do not mean the 5*l.*

39,801. How much?—I think it was 30*l.* or 35 guineas. I do not think this has anything to do with the election; I had other transactions with Mr. Smith.

39,802. I dare say it does, because I see here the name of Carter at the next page, 10*l.*; it looks very much as if it was for the election from that 10*l.*?—No, the cheque from Mr. Smith for Carter was 3*l.*

39,803. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was his friend working on the railway?—I believe he was.

39,804. Was his name Hitchcock?—No. If anybody has got a voters' list of that year I can tell you his name.

39,805. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I see in October '63 5*l.*?—That is the one you first referred to as a retainer.

39,806. No, the retainer was in '62, this is in October '63, a year after.—I had the retainer five or six weeks before the election.

39,807. After the election was over the payments may have been very much later?—No; I should think that everything connected with the election was settled up within six weeks or two months.

39,808. What was that 5*l.*?—That was not for the election. I was constantly going to Mr. Smith for money, and paying various things in business; I had sometimes considerable cheques to send to London.

39,809. How much was your fee when the election was over?—I believe 30 guineas.

39,810. Was it paid before the election?—After.

39,811. When?—I really cannot tell.

39,812. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I believe you are secretary to the Land Society?—No, the Holmsdale Building Society.

39,813. It is a house and freehold land society?—No, I think that is a mistake; I acted as agent, but scarcely as secretary to the Land Society; I sold land. I should be very glad to fill the post of secretary.

39,814. Did you have the receipt of money?—Yes, from purchasers of land in this neighbourhood.

39,815. (*The Chief Commissioner*) I see on November 26th, a little before the time you received the 30*l.*, you received 25*l.*?—I am in a maze about that.

39,816. The 26th of November you received 30*l.*?—I really cannot assist you in the matter; I have other business with Mr. Smith, and I think it must be that. My impression is I had very little money to expend on that occasion; I know I had a retainer and a fee, and it was 30*l.* or guineas.

39,817. Then you received 30*l.*, do you think it was your fee?—Yes.

39,818. This that you do not remember would be about a month after?—I do not think that had any reference to this election, it could not possibly be.

39,819. Was there any talk of a petition at this time after the election?—Yes.

39,820. I suppose you gave your services in working up the petition?—No, I was on the other side.

39,821. But you gave your services all the same in enabling the Gower party to resist the petition?—I do not think I took a great deal of trouble about it.

39,822. I will leave out a great deal of trouble, you did give your services?—No; we acted on the defensive.

39,823. Did you not hold up your hands on the defensive?—Of course.

39,824. And for what you did then did you not receive money?—I do not think I did.

39,825. You must know whether you received money or not?—I do not believe I did, I have no reason whatever to believe I did.

39,826. In the April of the following year, I grant you it is a year after, did you receive 20*l.*?—Oh, yes; but that had nothing to do with the election.

39,827. You are certain of it?—Yes.

39,828. You think it had nothing to do with the election?—Yes. I really wish to call attention to this, that I am constantly doing business with Mr. Smith, connected with my own private business transactions.

39,829. (*Mr. Commisioner Smith.*) Is he solicitor to the building society?—Yes.

39,830. And in that capacity having business with him would money often pass through your hands?—Yes.

39,831. When did you begin to be connected with the building society?—In 1855.

39,832. I see money is paid for the Reigate Building Society?—That is not the Holmesdale Society.

39,833. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now you must recollect that all the 5*l.* have been received by you previous to the time you received your fee?—Yes.

39,834. I see here we have 5*l.*, 10*l.*, 20*l.*, 4*l.*, 7*l.*, in all 70*l.* received?—I did not receive so much as that.

39,835. That includes the fee, not of 30*l.*, but of 35*l.*, that is the retainer?—I might have received it.

39,836. There would be just 35*l.* for the election?—It is possible I might have received it, it is just possible I may have received as much as that.

39,837. As you have no accounts all, of course I must make it out as well as I can, and I dare say we shall do very well; you have no accounts?—No, and I am sorry for it.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

T. Buckland.

20 Sept. 1866.

39,838. Do you not think you received more?—No, I do not think I received that.

39,839. Is it not possible you received more?—No, I think it cannot be possible.

39,840. Do you think that may be about what you did receive?—I really am not able to form an opinion.

39,841. Could you now tell us, having given you a notion of what you may have received, can you tell us how much money you paid to voters? that is of much more importance to us in this Inquiry than what may have been paid to you; what did you pay to the voters?—If you have got any account I wish you would refer to it.

39,842. I have not got an account. I wish I had. —My memory does not serve me on this occasion; it don't, indeed.

39,843. Now then we will go on to 1865, if you please?—Yes.

39,844. In 1865 you voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

39,845. And worked with Mr. Apted?—Yes, very pleasant.

39,846. How much money did you receive in 1865? —I have a copy, this is a mere copy of my account.

39,847. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where is the original?—It is in this old book, if you can make it out, it is more than I can.

39,848. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Take that in your hand, whose handwriting is it?—Mine.

39,849. When was it made?—This one?

39,850. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The actual one?—Six or eight weeks ago.

39,851. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Has it not been made more recently still than that?—No, I think not.

39,852. Yes, I think it has; pray tell me?—Some of the notes at the bottom have been made since.

39,853. And very recently?—Very recently.

39,854. Much later; can you not fix the time?—If I should fix it, I should say the day before yesterday, referring to Mr. Johnson.

39,855. In making out that account did you make it out along with Mr. Smith?—No, sir, certainly not.

39,856. Who did you make it out with, Mr. Apted? —Oh, no, I made it myself a very long time ago.

39,857. I know you made it yourself, it is in your handwriting, but did you not make it out in conjunction with Mr. Apted?—If I had any difficulty I certainly should refer to him.

39,858. I do not wish to delay or try to catch you, but I wish you would be candid with me, do not say would or should. Mr. Apted knows very well what he did; did you make out that account with Mr. Apted?—No.

39,859. You did some of it, you made some of it out on reference to Mr. Apted, you told me?—If I got into a difficulty I might.

39,860. Do not say might, give me a straightforward answer?—No, I did not.

39,861. You never applied to Mr. Apted about it; do not think I am laying a trap for you; you say you might have applied to Mr. Apted?—Well, suppose I had a doubt whether I paid a man 2*s.* 6*d.*, 3*s.*, or 3*s.* 6*d.*, I should ask Mr. Apted whether he remembered anything about it.

39,862. But you were working together when you paid money?—Yes.

39,863. Well, when you pay money to a man, half-a-crown as you say, you do not put your hand into his pocket?—No.

39,864. What had he to do with it, except as a stander-by?—Not particularly, only to refresh my memory.

39,865. Did you or did you not make it out with Apted; did you not make it out along with him? —Certainly not, I made my own account from memorandums.

39,866. I do not ask you whether you did not, and when a man says that I think he is not attending to the question; did you make it out along with Mr. Apted?—No, I did not.

39,867. Did he assist you in making it out?—No.

39,868. Where was it made out, in Apted's house? —Oh dear no, you will find the items in the book together.

39,869. Did you make it out in your own house?—No, in my office.

39,870. Was Mr. Apted at your office?—No.

39,871. After the account was made out did you submit it to Mr. Apted?—No.

39,872. Did Mr. Apted see it?—I might have said, "Here is my account, what do you think of it."

39,873. I will take it, "When Mr. Apted came in "I did show him my account, and asked him what "he thought of it;" may I take that down?—No, I think not.

39,874. Do not look as if we were playing at it?—I am rather excitable.

39,875. No, not at all; may I take it, "I may have "shown my account to Mr. Apted when I made it "out"?—I may have done.

39,876. What did he say to it?—I do not think he thought it of much consequence.

39,877. What he say to it?—I do not remember his saying anything to it. I believe he thought it was a very simple affair.

36,878. If you know what he thought I dare say you can tell what he said?—He did not say to me anything whatever.

38,879. Now tell me this: what did you do with that account when you had made it out?—The old account I copied.

39,880. No, no, that account you have made out? —This one?

39,881. Yes?—This is merely a copy of the account I sent to Mr. Smith, that is all.

39,882. Wait a minute. I think we are coming to something now, "This is a copy of an account I "sent to Mr. Smith"?—I copied it before I sent it to him.

39,883. Had Mr. Smith requested you to send in your account to him?—Yes, he had.

39,884. That was about eight weeks ago?—Six or eight weeks. He had had my account before.

39,885. No, no; how could he have had it before? You only made it out six or eight weeks ago according to your evidence?—Oh, but I gave him the items from that book before. He knew the amounts very well, but I had it again to refer to.

39,886. When Mr. Smith six or eight weeks ago asked you to send him your account, did he hand you over, that you might copy it, the account that you had already sent into him?—No, some time before I asked for the list, the old copy, that I might refer to certain things, the November balance or something.

39,887. Yes; when was that?—I fancy it was somewhere between November and Christmas.

39,888. How did that come to pass?—Well, we had the last of the monies somewhere about the 26th October, I think, and I thought it best to put the account of that money on the back of the old account.

39,889. So you sent to Smith, and said, "The "account is not quite concluded; let me add these "last items to it"?—Yes.

39,890. You recollect something of that sort?—Yes.

39,891. I want to know whether Mr. Smith wrote to you or told you to send in an account of the monies about six weeks ago?—No. The fact was that I had got this old account. If you will allow me to tell you in my way I think you will get at it shorter. I had got this old account I sent in at the time of the audit.

39,892. Where is that old account ?—Well, it is a dirty old thing ; I have it there.

39,893. Don't abuse it ?—It is in that book ; it is the same thing.

39,894–5. I won't interrupt your story ; you were going to tell it in your own way ?—Well, I had got the old account. I did not much approve of accounts in election matters, and I had kept this old thing on my file. Mr. Smith said he must have the accounts to produce. Of course I copied it out and sent it to him.

39,896. Then Mr. Smith did send for your account about six or eight weeks ago ?—I met him.

39,897. Never mind about the word "sent ;" but did he ask you ?—Yes.

39,898. You will forgive me for saying that you said he did not ?—I did not mean to.

39,899. You said there was an old account, and you had better add the items to it ?—Yes.

39,900. "And I made this out for him, or a copy "of this" ?—A copy of that.

39,901. Now we shall see ?—The original is this old book ; there are some observations on one of these ; of course they are private.

39,902. Oh, never mind, I won't take any notice of them, I am sure you can trust to that ; nothing that I ought not. Well, now then, I see the amounts of these two accounts tally, 220*l.* ?—Yes.

39,903. That seems to be the sum total ?—That is the sum total.

39,904. 220*l.* tallies in each ?—Yes.

39,905. Well now, this account that you say is copied ; there it is all one ? — Yes, and so was Mr. Smith's ; the one that I sent in.

39,906. Ah, Mr. Smith's was copied from that ?—It was copied from one or the other ; I really forget which, but they are all the same.

39,907. What ?—That is the original that you hold in your hand there.

39,908. This is the old one ?—That is the old one.

39,909. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When was that original made ?—Oh, the front part of it was made very early ; a very long time ago.

39,910. What do you call "very early" ?—Something like a month after the election.

39,911. The August after the election ?— Or September it might have been.

39,912. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When was the latter part made up ?—Oh, not till——

39,913. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you keep your accounts daily ; enter your payments daily ?—I am afraid not very regularly in election times.

39,914. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now tell me, if you please, this old one from which you took the copies ; the one sent to Mr. Smith and the other ; some of it was made out in August ; that side ?—I should think so.

89,915. A good long time ago this, and the other very recently ?—That was made more recently.

39,916. No, no, but *very* recently ?—More recently.

39,917. You have told me one was made the day before yesterday ?—But this is a copy of it ; I was speaking of the notes at the bottom.

39,918. When was that made, the latter part of it ; be particular about the answer, because I think I have got a check upon you ?—I really do not know.

39,919. But do tell me ?—I can scarcely see.

39,920. Oh, I beg your pardon: I do not wish to keep it out of your hands ; I have no right to do so ?—This part of it was made——

39,921. A fortnight ago ?—Oh, more than that.

39,922. Ten days ?—I think this upper part was made about December, but this summary, and so on, was made to refresh my memory.

39,923. A fortnight ago ?—Oh, more than that.

39,924. Ten days ? — This part here has been written very lately.

39,925. That was made the day before yesterday ?—No, not so lately as that. These notes here——

39,926. Oh, never mind the notes ; I mean the figures ?—The account was made long before ; that latter part of the account was made earlier than you state.

39,927. A fortnight ago ?—Yes, I should think two months, three months.

39,928. Yes, but some of it has been made much more recently, hasn't it ?—Yes, these memorandums.

39,929. Oh, never mind them ; the figures, some of the figures ?—Oh, no, you will find them in the old book.

39,930. Now when was this copy made ? Be particular about your answer. When was this copy made ? Do you want to take it in your hand ?—No. I think that was made, or the principal part of it, about the same time as Mr. Smith's.

39,931. You see you won't condescend to help me to a date ?—About dates I have no memory ; I really have not.

39,932. About when ?—I should think about the same time as the one sent to Mr. Smith.

39,933. Was it ten days ago ?—I should think about six weeks. It was soon after I made the copy for Mr. Smith.

39,934. What did you make it for ?—It was made for my own reference.

39,935. But you had the original ?—Yes, that was a dirty one.

39,936. Shall I take it, "I made the copy because "this original looked dirty" ?—Yes, I did in a great measure ; that is the same thing.

39,937. Now I see the sum total in your account, in this account, appears to be 220*l.* ?—Yes.

39,938. 220*l.* Now look at this account, or at the original, whichever you like ; there is 220*l.* I have not gone closely into it yet. Does 220*l.* represent the sum which you received from Mr. Smith altogether ?—Yes ; I must qualify the answer a little.

39,939. You shall in any way you like ?—Thank you.

39,940. I hope you don't suspect me of trying to trap you ?—No, I do not ; you are a gentleman

39,941. "220*l.* represents the sums of money that "I received" ?—That I had to account for ; it does.

39,942. You have no business to account for money you did not receive ?—I paid a few small sums, as what I consider a mere messenger ; they are in Mr. Smith's account. I certainly received the money, but I did not consider that I had to account for it, because I paid it as mere messenger. 220*l.* is all the money I received that I consider I had to account for.

39,943. How much money did you receive that you ought not to account for ?—There was a cheque for 8*l.* and for 5*l.*

39,944. Why was it you had not to account for that ?—Because it appeared in Mr. Smith's account.

39,945. Well, all these moneys would appear in Mr. Smith's account, because they were all paid to you, I presume, by cheques from Mr. Smith on his banker ?—Yes, I think they were.

39,946. They would all appear in Mr. Smith's account ?—Quite right, but I can explain that.

39,947. Why do you except this 13*l.* ? — 13*l.* altogether.

39,948. "I received 13*l.* over the 220*l.* the amount "of this account which I have not put in it or "accounted for." That is right ?—Yes.

39,949. That is the way I have taken your answer? —That is correct.

39,950. Now tell me why you did not account for the 13*l.* You may have a very good reason, but I do not understand it yet ?—If you will allow me to explain it in my way you can get at it, and then you can ask me the question after.

39,951. I am sorry I have not put it plain ?—You do put it plain, but there is something peculiar about this. These men came to my office and said they really had done work for Mr. Gower, and they

expected to be paid, and so on, and as Mr. Smith was not at home I went to his office and represented the matter for them after the election, and he gave me the cheques for 13*l.*, which I cashed, and I gave the money to the men. You will find on the cheques the names of the parties.

39,952. Wasn't it paid to you ?—Yes, it was.

39,953. It is like that other money you paid to canvassers, "Pay George Buckland or bearer" ?—No, I rather think he did not put my name. To my recollection it was "Smith," "Chilcott," and so on ; they were the names that he paid.

39,954. I shall see when I look at the cheques ?—Yes ; all I wished to guard against was that I would not say that the 220*l.* included all, because it does not.

39,955. "220*l.* represents all the money I received "from Smith but that 13*l.*" ?—Yes, sir, exactly.

39,956. I will put it down in my own words, bar that "exactly." You did not send in that account to Smith ?—Certainly not ; that is not my writing at all.

39,957. No, quite right; nor that one (*pointing to another*) ?—No.

39,958. Quite right ?—My writing is so plain to me that——

39,959. Look at that?—I cannot see at that distance.

39,960. No, no, of course you must have it in your hand. Is that the account sent into Mr. Smith ?—Yes ; oh, yes, that is my writing.

39,961. Will you say exactly ?—There is no doubt of it.

39,962. Just look at the end of it; you shall do it yourself ; tell me what it amounts to at the bottom ; you will see at the bottom, I think ?—140*l.*

39,963. That is the account you sent in to Smith ? —That is not the last one I sent in.

39,964. What ?—That is not the account I sent in. I do not think ; not now. I thought this was my own.

39,965. A man must know his handwriting ; look at the back of it ?—That is my writing ; oh, yes, clear.

39,966. Well, then, that is the account you sent in to Mr. Smith ?—Oh, no doubt of it ; I do not know why I should doubt ; it is the 80*l.* being separate, not being in this shape. You really must excuse me.

39,967. I will excuse you ?—That is my account in every sense ; I was frightened at the thing being separated, the account for the 220*l.* I looked at these figures, and it frightened me when I saw it. I thought it was not my own writing.

39,968. Well now, tell me this ; look at the first bill, how much does it amount to ; 140*l.*, or what is it ; 140*l.* odd. ?—140*l.*

39,969. Well, now, that does not account for 220*l.*? —No, but there is this separate sum.

39,970. I am coming to that ; I see there is after that another account for 80*l.* ?—Yes.

39,971. What is that for ?—These amounts were paid in November, after the audit, to men that had not been paid.

39,972. Stop.

39,973. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You sent in that before the audit ?—The one part of it.

39,974. The first account before the audit.

39,975. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You sent in the first 140*l.* before the audit ?—Yes ; I sent these both in together, understand, but they formed two separate accounts.

39,976. "The amount at the end of the account "represents sums paid after the audit account was "sent in" ?—Yes.

39,977. Now, one moment——?—That is my own services.

39,978. One moment, now, pray. Does either of those accounts include your own fee ?—Yes, the 80*l.*

39,979. Your own fee ?

39,980. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much, 30*l.* ?—50*l.*

39,981. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you tell me that before ?—You did not ask me.

39,982. And also monies you paid away to voters? —Yes.

39,983. Voters ?—Yes.

39,984. Very well, then ; that account was not delivered as a whole, you know, to Mr. Smith all in one, at once ?—Yes, both delivered together, but I separated the sum as I have it on my old account.

39,985. Never mind your old account, please ; I only want to know ; you have got all those leaves in your hand at the present moment ; three, I believe ? —Yes.

39,986. Were all those delivered at the same time to Mr. Smith ?—These two ; not that one ; these were both delivered at the same time.

39,987. Just look through them, please ?—Oh, yes, that is so.

39,988. Don't answer in a hurry. Perhaps it is my manner that appears to be hasty, but it is entirely unintentional. Just look if all these leaves were delivered to Mr. Smith at the same time when they were first delivered. Look at the 80*l.* at the end, on the last leaf. Now when was that given in to Mr. Smith ?—The same time as the other it was sent in ; one is expenses paid in November, perhaps some in December, and the other is expenses paid up to the end of the audit.

39,989. Very well. Did not Mr. Smith want your account in the first instance in order to make up his expenses for the audit ?—Yes.

39,990. Then how did he get it ?—I explained to you, I think, that this old account, a portion of it, he did have, and I asked for it back again.

39,991. Mr. Smith wanted it before the audit came on to return his expenses for the purpose of their being audited ?—Yes.

39,992. Well, did'nt he get your account to put into it ?—He had particulars ; I think he had that old statement for a time, and I got it back again ; the front portion of it.

39,993. What did you furnish him with in order to make up his audit expenses ?—That account.

39,994. Which account ?—The first one, because I had not paid the other then.

39,995. Did you furnish him with that account which you hold in your hands before he returned his audit expenses ?—Not this very one ; I did not.

39,996. When did you furnish him with this very one ?—About six or eight weeks before this Inquiry.

39,997. There it is ; now we have got it at last. Now when you furnished him with this, was this last one of 80*l.* along with it ?—Yes, I sent them both at the same time.

39,998. You sent them both at the same time ?— Yes.

39,999. About six weeks ago ?—It may be eight.

40,000. Oh, no doubt ?—I wish to give it you quite clear, and not deceive you about it.

40,001. Now then, the account which Mr. Smith had before the audit, copied from this, you know, which you sent him, of which you sent him a copy, was that for 140*l.* ?—140*l.* was my account before the audit.

40,002. "My account up to the audit was 140*l.*" Now then, will you let me look at the account, if you please ?—That, of course, includes the amount paid to Mr. Apted.

40,003. What ?—Mr. Apted and Mr. Joyes.

40,004. Includes that ?—Yes.

40,005. Then you say (it is a very curious thing), your account up to the audit was 140*l.* ?—Yes, 1*s.* 5½*d.*

40,006. Yes, yes, I dare say you are quite right. Well, your fee is after the audit ?—Yes, it is, I gave the receipt before, and I had perfect confidence in Mr. Smith that I should have it. I think my fee was included in the audit.

40,007. I understand.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That would be only 90*l.* You would be only accounting for 90*l.*

40,008. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And that 50*l.* of yours was included in the subsequent account ?— Yes.

40,009. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it 50*l.* or 55*l.* ?—I think 50*l.*

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) And perhaps there was a 5*l.* retainer included.

40,010. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was there a 5*l.* included?—I do not think I had 5*l.* on this occasion.

40,011. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) On that occasion? I dare say you will be able to explain this on behalf of Mr. Smith; I see in Mr. Smith's audited expenses he returns you there as having received your fee?—Yes, he would do so. I gave him a receipt for my fee.

40,012. But you had not received it?—I had not.

40,013. What I want to get at is this; the account first sent in was 140*l.* *plus* 80*l.*?—Yes.

40,014. Never mind the odd monies?—Yes.

40,015. That is all I want. Now tell me this; I am going to another matter; I see you claim credit for "Amount paid to canvassers after the election," you know, in this last 80*l.* account I see the name of Ede. Who is "A. Rose"?—That is "Aleck Rose" that you have heard of so much.

40,016. But you would not be paying him, would you?—Yes, I was requested to pay him.

40,017. But you will forgive me for saying Aleck Rose moved in as high a sphere as you?—Perhaps so; that is a matter of opinion.

40,018. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is a matter of opinion?—Yes.

40,019. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then we will retract that. Here is James Lucas, have we had him?—Yes.

40,020. Then here is a man named Ford, have we had him?—Yes.

40,021. What Francis is that?—That is Robert Rose Francis at the Philanthropic Institution at Redhill. That is where he works.

40,022. can you tell me the names of any person to whom you paid money that we have not examined?—Not one.

40,023. What is this man Skinner?—There is one or two I paid out of my salary there. I might as well clear it up now.

40,024. By all means?—I had forgotten till this examination that I paid Webb 2*l.* I find I have paid 2*l.* to Webb, 30*s.* to Loveland, and 1*l.* to Barret. That is not in my account. That is not in my account, it was out of my salary.

40,025. Then you have lost that money?—Yes.

40,026. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is that Webb the pork butcher?—His son.

40,027. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) If you have left it out of your account it has been in your own wrong in one sense of the word, and you must get it as well as you can. That makes no difference as regards the men who received it at all. Is Herridge one of the men?—Well, these little half-crown things have puzzled me. It only comes to about 12*s.* altogether.

40,028. Then we won't condescend to them. Is Hedlow one?—Well, that is one of the half-crown things. The poor man is dead.

40,029. Have we had George Lucas?—Yes.

40,030. Then I think there is no other name here?—I have got the receipts for most of these small things.

40,031. We know something about them?—Yes.

40,032. Did you say we have called Ford?—You have called Ford. They have all been called but Aleck Rose in the last list; and in the first list Morphy I do not think has been called. I paid him one week's wages. He was a mere porter.

40,033. How much did you pay him?—30*s.*

40,034. That is in the account?—It is included.

40,035. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He was engaged as what?—He was a porter at the committee room.

40,036. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes, I think he did. You will find his name.

40,037. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did he do as porter?—He attended at the committee room and gave information and went wherever he was required.

40,038. Was his time continuously occupied?—Yes, continuously; yes, it was. He was out of work at the time.

40,039. (*The Chief Commissioner, referring to an entry.*) Is this man's name Luce, or Love, or what?—Perhaps it is Loveland, is it at the bottom?

40,040. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Oh, it is Lucas?—Lucas, you have had him here. Can you spare me my old account?

40,041. Are there any entries in this book with reference to the election?—Yes, that is where I took my information from, the principal.

40,042. Let us know what it is?—When I received on the 29th June a draft for 50*l.* I entered it here. I thought it was not to be public.

40,043. Because you thought it was not to be public, was that the reason you made it obscure?—Well, I do not know that.

40,044. Is that inserted in pencil?—Yes.

40,045. Then where is the next item?—I have been looking it through very carefully.

40,046. Then you can point them out to me if you have?—Oh, here is one. Here are two fifties. There are are one or two private matters.

40,047. Where are the entries of the payments?—Well, I do not know. I used to jot them down sometimes at the end of a week.

49,048. Did you enter the persons' names that you paid to?—Sometimes I did.

40,049. Or did you put them so as not to keep them quite so clear?—I did not think they were very clear.

40,050. Do you keep a furnished house, or do you furnish houses?—No.

40,051. Then what does "six cream jugs, 30*s.*" mean?—Oh, I keep a little shop as well.

40,052. I do not know whether the voters might be put down as "cream jugs, 30*s.* a week"?—No, no.

40,053. Then where are the payments; where did you put down your payments?—Well, you must excuse them being very rough. They are here somewhere.

40,054. I do not care about the roughness if you will only just tell me that they are original entries?—They were paid after the election.

40,055. Show me where the entries are; the monies paid before the audit for which you made out your account?—That is one, or part of it, (*pointing to an entry*).

40,056. These are receipts, 140*l.*?—Yes, and these are the sums in total.

40,057. These are the sums in total; when were these sums in total made up?—I cannot say.

40,058. In September?—I should say so; about September these items were set down.

40,059. But your accounts went in to Mr. Smith after the audit, about a month after?—No, I think not.

40,060. Did they not?—My impression is that it was long after.

40,061. Where did you get the names of the persons to whom you paid the money?—They are here, but you cannot make much of them.

40,062. Just tell me how you made them out?—I made them out when they were fresh; some of them are entered as pocket money.

40,063. I did not venture to look at the pocket money, I thought it was private?—No, it is not.

40,064. In your account here you have got the item "for expenses of canvassers," and so on. That would

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be what you call pocket money in your account?—Yes, what I should spend out.

40,065. Refreshments would be entered in your account as pocket money?—Yes, I have got it so here.

40,066. Electioneering pocket money. Well, that does not clear up what I want to find out. Where do you get the names of persons to whom you paid money before the audit?—Well, I remembered most of them, and I am sure I shall for the next seven years.

40,067. Then you have no proper entry?—Well, I found this, but it is very indistinct.

40,068. That appears to account for 18*l.*?—Yes, that is a portion of it.

40,069. Then, in fact, you kept no regular account?—I think I did.

40,070. I do not call that a regular account?—Well, when one is out canvassing with an old book, you first stick it down at the time.

40,071. Well, that does not appear to be stuck down at the time, because sometimes an entry is in pencil, and sometimes in black ink, and sometimes in red ink?—Well, I should do it after I got home.

40,072. Where did you do it when you got home?—Sometimes, or generally, in this old book.

40,073. Then do I understand that this book was the only document from which you made out your account?—Yes, I believe it was.

40,074. Well, I have got just a few names here; Penfold?—That makes up the 27*l.* I think.

40,075. Then did you at times supply Penfold with money?—No, that is Edward Penfold that you examined. That is a man I had paid 30*s.* to.

40,076. Not Thomas Penfold?—No.

40,077. Did you pay Thomas Penfold?—One of his cheques, 30*l.* 10*s.*, was handed to me by Mr. Smith to pay him.

40,078. Are you sure it was the cheque for 30*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

40,079. Have got an entry?—Yes, "Penfold, "30*l.* 10*s.*," and I did not consider that entered into my account.

40,080. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I cannot understand why you did not enter the 13*l.*?—Well, that may have been wrong, but you will find the items mentioned in Mr. Smith's account.

40,081. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Well, why did you not get in all the accounts, so that they could go to the audit at one time?—Well, really these men had not been promised anything actually, and we had not got money enough to pay. They had not sent in their bills, and they had not really made their claims.

40,082. But there was no specific sum which was promised to them?—Not any. I never promised a man a specific sum or any sum in my life.

40,083. They were expecting they were to be paid?—They were to be paid for their work, some of them. But not near all that I did pay.

40,084. Then a great many more were to be paid who were not paid?—Oh, no; I think they were all paid; but I mean to say that it is not because I paid a man that I promised him anything.

40,085. Then I supppose you had a great many more claims than you paid?—No, we paid all something; but we did not pay all that they thought they ought to have. They made a tremendous claim, and said they had done a great deal of work. When they got up here they were rather frightened about their work. A man who uses a plane all day cannot take the notion that walking about the streets is work.

40,086. Cannot you take it that walking about the streets is work?—Yes, such as a policeman does.

40,087. You are a collector and you walk about the streets to collect your rents. And so that is work?—Yes.

40,088. You consider the walking work. I should take collecting the rents as the work. Did any of the canvassers come to you and ask what they should send in their claims for before they sent them in?—When they came to me they generally told me they had been employed a certain time and been employed a great many nights, a very different tale to what they tell you.

40,089. Did you pay them their claim?—No, I formed an opinion about what I supposed they had really spent, and paid them what I supposed they would earn at their own employment.

40,090. Then did you hear that 5*l.* was about the sum that they were to be paid?—Never; I never led them to expect such a sum. No one connected with me expected it as an ordinary canvasser.

40,091. Did you ever suggest to any persons that they were to have 5*l.*?—Never; I do not think I ever induced a single man to vote for money.

40,092. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do not say that?—I do not.

40,093. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know what the effect of that really is?—No.

40,094. The effect is that having done what you have done, you are not aware of having done it. It only comes to that, that you did wrong, but you are not aware that you did wrong, and therefore you sinned in ignorance?—I wish you had been with me all the time.

40,095. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I put the question to you in that way, Mr. Buckland, to see whether you recollected any particular or any general practice of yours in reference to those accounts, because it is right to draw your attention to a piece of evidence which I think was before us on the second day of our sitting here. One witness said that he had applied to you as to how the claim should be made out, and you said, "Make it out for 5*l.* and you "will have more if we can get it"?—I remember that man.

40,096. Was it said?—That is false.

40,097. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) No, no, no?—Yes it is.

40,098. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You say it is inaccurate?—I am very glad you referred to that man. I never mentioned any illegal expenses to the man.

40,099. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Illegal, no, no, no. He said, "He told me to charge 15*l.* to the "illegal expenses. He said, 'Why do you not send "'in a specific claim.' *Q.* I want to know why "you valued your work at 5*l.* Did anybody tell you "to put it at 5*l.*?—*A.* Yes. *Q.* Who did?—*A.* Mr. "Buckland. *Q.* Did he tell you why you should "put it at 5*l.*?—*A.* It would not do to put the "money expended, what I spent; I forget the "amounts"?—He was asked that question, but I must not go into that matter, of course.

40,100. I have read the very words that were spoken in this Court?—Well, I met Mr. Johnson at Mr. Thornton's corner, and he wanted to be paid. I said, "They will pay, why not send in "your bill?" and I believe that is every word that passed between us. In fact, I am sure that is the effect of all that passed. I met him at Mr. Thornton's corner, and I said, "Why did you not send in "your account? Send in a bill, of course he will "pay;" and the next morning, to my suprise, he sent in a bill to my house.

40,101. What was the amount?—I think it was about 4*l.* or 5*l.*

40,102. Did Johnson tell you at that time that he thought he had expended about 20*l.*?—No, never said anything of the sort.

40,103. Or that his his claim would be about 20*l.* for the money he had laid out?—He did not say that to me.

40,104. He did not?—No. I do not want to insinuate anything, but my impression is that, but perhaps I had better leave it. I do not think he thought of such a sum at that time.

40,105. But very shortly after he saw you he sent in a bill for 5*l.* ?—He sent in a bill the next morning after I saw him at the corner and said, "Why don't "you send in a bill?" If I could be favoured with those papers I should be glad.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I really think you have got them. I have got the copy. I have only got that one.

(*Witness.*) Yes, you have got your own and mine.

40,106. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) This is the one you began abusing. That is yours?—Yes, that is mine.

40,107. Well, I want you to lend me that?—I hope you will let me have this, because it is a mere copy of what you have.

40,108. I think you might let me have it?—You do not need to have it as you have got an exact copy. In question 1406, referring to this man, Johnson, before the House of Commons——

40,109. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You know if you go into this you will tempt me to cross-examine on it; and I tell you I shall cross-examine you very severely?—It is only to contradict a statement.

40,110. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In the House of Commons?—Yes.

40,111. No, no; we will not have anything that is stated in the House of Commons. I do not care what he stated in the House of Commons.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I have looked to the notes to see what he stated, but we have not asked a single question in reference to that.

(*Witness.*) No, you have not.

40,112. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are going to give me that paper?—Well, you don't want to have it. You will let me see it or look at it if I want it.

40,113. Yes. I have a right to have it. I have a right, but I do not want to stand on my right. What was the date of the first cheque received in reference to this election of 1865?—June 9th is the first I have any account of.

40,114. June 9th?—June 9th I have it. I may be mistaken as to a day or two. I should not have presented it that day. It would be later.

40,115. It was a cheque for 10*l.*?—Yes.

40,116. When should you present it?—I really do not know. If I had other business I should not present it.

40,117. June 24th, your first cheque was 10*l.*, is that right?—No, I received the cheque on June 9th.

40,118. You may have paid it in?—I may. I had another cheque after that.

40,119. I will tell you what cheques you had very shortly?—I wish just to state with regard to the man John Wheeler, he came up and he was asked if he had received 10*s.*

40,120. Well, that is all right?—And he denied having done so, which he was right in saying. The amount was paid to him.

40,121. Who for, for him?—No, for the son. He worked two days.

40,122. Was his evidence correct?—Yes.

40,123. But the amount was paid to his son?

40,124. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) His son not being a voter?—Yes.

40,125. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just tell me, you received a cheque on June 24th?—Yes.

40,126. Then you received a cheque on the 29th for 50*l.*?—Yes; but between I received a cheque for 10*l.*

40,127. I do not think you did?—I have got it down.

40,128. I cannot find it. Whom did you receive it from?—Mr. Smith.

40,129. Now, you received a cheque for 6*l.* 10*s.* on the 3rd July?—No.

40,130. Oh yes, here it is?—It must have been something else then, not the election.

40,131. I will look for it in the cheque itself?—I do not think it refers to the election.

40,132. That must refer to the election?—I think not. I do not believe I should have had such an amount from Mr. Smith in connection with the election. I was always paid even sums.

40,133. Then I will put a query to that. Now then, you have got a cheque for 5*l.* on the 13th July?—That I received on the 8th, I believe.

40,134. Well, never mind that. We are all right about that?—I did receive 5*l.* on the 8th.

40,135. Well, then you have got a cheque for 10*l.* on July 21st?—No, you are looking at when they were presented. You see you have missed a cheque for 10*l.* on the 17th June.

40,136. That is still earlier?—The 17th.

40,137. Of June?—Yes.

40,138. It must have been a private matter between you and Mr. Smith?—No, I had a cheque from Mr. Smith on the 17th June, I believe.

40,139. Very well, then, we will go on. We have got a cheque on the 13th July for 5*l.*?—Well, I presented it then. I did not receive it.

40,140. That is quite enough; I understand that. And you have got a cheque on the 21st July for 10*l.*?—No, I have not.

40,141. Well, just look a little later?—No, that must have been one of the old cheques, that was lying by.

40,142. You had a cheque for 10*l.*?—I had two 10*l.*

40,143. That is enough. Then you had a cheque for 15*l.*?—Right.

40,144. On the 14th August?—Ah! that I received on the 29th July.

40,145. Never mind, the dates are not material; the amounts are the chief thing. You got a cheque in August for 15*s.* 6*d.* I suppose you wanted to pay some man?—No; that could not have been.

40,146. Here it is. It is along with nothing but election matters?—That is for my son, then; he did act for Mr. Smith as messenger or something. He went to the "White Hart."

40,147. Has he got a vote?—No.

40,148. Very well, we will take him out; I won't keep you?—I am in no hurry, sir.

40,149. Well, the next cheque you received was 5*l.*, and that was on the 22nd of September?—No; I did not have 5*l.* then.

40,150. Yes, yes?—I only had one 5*l.* during the whole election.

40,151. Well, there it is?—Well, I did not have it.

40,152. But look at that?—I do not doubt that for a moment.

40,153. This is not Smith's writing, it is the banker's?—Well, there must be some mistake. I only had one 5*l.* Is not that the 5*l.* that we mentioned before?

40,154. Not a bit of it. Well, we will go on. Then you received a cheque for 30*l.* 10*s.*?—Right, sir. That was for Penfold. That is the one for Penfold.

40,155. Is not that in your account?—No; I merely had it to hand to him, that is all.

40,156. It was drawn in your name?—Yes, it was.

40,157 Did Penfold give account for it?—He included it in his account. He told you here that he believed that 30*l.* 10*s.* was money paid to him by me.

40,158. I have skipped the account. When was that 80*l.* received?—That was in two sums, 30*l.* and 50*l.*

40,159. But when was that?—October 26th, drawn.

40,160. You received 8*l.*?—How much?

40,161. You received 8*l.*?—I have not got it down. That is the 8*l.* I mentioned.

40,162. What 8*l.*?—That is not included in my account. That is the 8*l.* that I had with the 5*l.* 8*l.* and 5*l.* is 13*l.* I said I did not include that.

40,163. "Buckland, 80*l.*," never?—I have got it October 26th.

40,164. Never mind?—It was in two sums.

40,165. And you have got on the same date 120*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*?—That was something else; it was not the electioneering, I think. That was the building

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society. I could, no doubt, prove that sum. I never had such a sum pass through my hand.

40,166. (*Mr. Comissioner Smith.*) Did you ever have a single cheque given you for the double purpose, that is, for the two accounts; one part for the election account mixed up with the land account?—No, certainly not.

40,167. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive 30*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes; quite correct.

40,168. Then you received a cheque for 2*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*?—No; no 2*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*

40,169. It is here?—That is a private matter then.

40,170. Do you wish me to take it out?—Yes; certainly.

40,171. I will do so?—Thank you.

40,172. Then you see according to this (it is right to tell you) your account stands thus: you tell me that the amount you received was 220*l.*; didn't you tell me so?—Yes; besides the 13*l.*

40,173. And after deducting the 13*l.*, and after taking out that 1*l.*, not counting the 13*l.* (that is, the 8*l.* and the 5*l.*), and not counting the 1*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* nor the 2*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*, I find that instead of receiving 80*l.* you received 282*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*?—No, I have not.

40,174. Would you like to look at the book?—No doubt it is so, but this is the only way I can explain it: Smith is continually paying sums to me, and I do not believe he will charge me with more than I have received on the election.

40,175. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Those monies you receive on account of the society you carry into some particular book?—Yes, I do; I should be able to trace them, no doubt.

40,176. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had better do so, if you please?—Then, if you please, you must kindly give me the dates.

(*The Chief Commissioner, reading a memorandum.*) "On my showing banker's pass book to Mr. "Buckland, and showing cheques amounting to "282*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*," (that is, after making all sorts of deductions, for the first comes to 316*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*)——

(*The Witness.*) When one puts in the building society he does not first produce the deed. I am very sorry this has occured, because the public are at once ready to say we have got money.

40,177. Mr. Buckland, is this right? "On my "showing the banker's pass book to Mr. Buckland, "and showing cheques amounting to 282*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* "paid to him, he says, that they must include items "referable to private accounts"?—Yes.

40,178. That is your answer?—Yes.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not want to ask you anything more.

40,179. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are secretary of a building society, are you not?—Yes.

40,180. And that brings you very greatly into contact with persons of the humbler classes of life, who, like all of us, earn their bread with their labour?—Yes, it does.

40,181. You yourself received 50*l.* for your exertion at the election?—I did, that is all; and I was foolish enough to spend out of my own pocket.

40,182. 50*l.* was your fee; can you tell me how many classes of electors you canvassed?—Oh, nearly everybody I came into contact with. I am known to almost everybody.

40,183. How many did you "put on," to use the usual phrase?—I must refer before I can answer you.

40,184. How many of those did you put on?—I asked Mr. Ede to work.

40,185. No, no; how many did you put on?

40,186. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Those are the numbers you put on and paid?—I did not put all these on, they made their claim afterwards.

40,187. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You must have put them on?—I did ask one to work for us, and to go with me, particularly at night; you may call that putting them on. I believe I canvassed almost everybody.

40,188. And did you get a single promise from anybody besides those you put on?—Oh, yes.

40,189. Now, who voted for Mr. Gower that you canvassed that you had not employed in any way; give me the name of any one?—I think I spoke to Mr. Holden for one. He never had any money. If I had a voter's list I think I could tell you numbers. You must excuse me for not remembering names, my memory is bad.

40,190. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I will lend you a list. They all said they did not promise, and they all said they were not asked for their votes. They were put on the committee; did you put them on the committee?—I think several asked me to put their names on. If they did, I did not ask them.

40,191. When they asked to go on the committee did you ask them for their vote?—No; they had promised before I ventured to talk about the committee; and neither did I ask any man to do a single thing after he had promised his vote, certainly, because that would be an inducement to vote my way.

40,192. That is very guarded, but it won't do?—It is the fact, however.

40,193. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Shall I take your answer to be this: "I don't know of any voter "whose vote I secured without putting him on"?—No, I do not put it in that way.

40,194. Now tell me of any one whose vote you secured without putting him on?—Take Finch. I admit that I gave him a testimonial of 30*s.* afterwards, but it had no reference to his vote.

40,195. Did you in any instance pay 5*l.* to anybody?—Yes; Brown.

40,196. William Brown?—No; Edward Brown.

40,197. Has he been here?—Yes.

40,198. Did you understand the sort of sign there was going on at the time; this kind of thing (*illustrating*)?—No, I did not; I never made any signs in my life.

40,199. I did not say that you did, but had you ever seen one?—No, I never saw that plan adopted.

40,200. Do you mean to say that during the whole election you never knew that went on; now, be cautious?—No, I never adopted that plan.

40,201. I never said you did; that is not an answer to my question. Did you neither see, either by yourself or by anybody else, that sort of thing?—I have heard it joked about, but not in earnest.

40,202. Have you ever seen it done by way of an offer?—No.

40,203. You did not know it was an offer at that time?—I should have known if I had seen it done, but I had not seen it done.

40,204. You told me you had seen it done in jest, in joke?—Yes; I have seen people do it here.

40,205. No, but at the election you say you have seen it done in joke?—Yes.

40,206. How do you know you have never seen it done in earnest?—I am sure I have not.

40,207. Who else did you give 5*l.* to?—I paid Rose and Ede.

40,208. I do not mean that?—Oh yes, I did Mr. Nice; I cannot remember them all, you know.

40,209. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) James Nice?—Yes.

40,210. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You could not give me the name of any man you influenced to vote; therefore I won't ask you that. Give me the number of names of those you did get to vote. I want to know how many there were that you did put on?—Put on?

40,211. Yes, that you gave work to; how many?—I cannot say, only by going down the list.

40,212. How many?—If a person did a little job or so and earned 10*s.* I paid him; I don't know whether you call that putting on.

40,213. You set up for purity?—I tried to be pure, because I signed the petition; I paid one or two 30*s.*

40,214. I want the number of voters that you paid

anything to?—Oh, I can get that out; I should say 25 with small sums; say 20.

40,215. And yourself is 21, and multiplying that by 10, that is 210, so that the pure voters cost 10*l.* a vote?—It is not so, because there were refreshments.

40,216. That is an average?—They did not cost that.

40,217. Did you pay anybody else besides?—I do not know why I should be made to give such an answer as that.

40,218. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I will explain to you at once how my friend is right. You say a great deal of that went in refreshments, sending messages, and so on, and so it did nominally, but you recollect that the whole of that 220*l.* was spent in securing the voters, and the refreshments and carriages and so on were merely accessory to that?—Excuse me. A great part of that was distributed by Apted and Joyes, and they would bring in a larger number.

40,219. You received yourself 220*l.*?—It would be distributed over a larger number, inasmuch as——

40,220. Well, shall we double it; that will be 41?—No; taking the amount that I distributed, and that would be 47*l.* and 80*l.*, including my own salary——

40,221. You received 220*l.*, and you secured the votes of 21 persons?—Deduct 92*l.*

40,222. Well, if we double it, that would be just 5*l.* a head. It is well it should be known?—That is very different from 10*l.*

40,223. It is just as well that this should be stated once for all. Now look here, Mr. Buckland, supposing you were the agent, I really think it ought to be stated, supposing you were the agent under Mr. Gower, and there was nobody else, you received from Mr. Gower 220*l.* to secure these votes of 21 people, and you would say, "I paid that first to the men "themselves in money, next in refreshing them with "beer, next in carriages taking them to the poll, and "next in sending them circulars, and what not." That is indisputable. Well, then, Mr. Gower, if he is a moderate calculator, would say, "That is just "10*l.* a head; that is what those votes have cost"?—That is right so far, but you take the 53*l.* and the 80*l.*

40,224. Very well, we will double it, and that is 5*l.* a head you charge Mr. Gower with, and no man in England is so dull as to say he cannot see it. It is as clear as daylight that if you were Mr. Gower's agent that is how it would be reckoned?—Could I have a list of those amounts that you say I received.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I have no doubt you can presently.

The witness withdrew.

JOB HEATH APTED recalled.

J. H. Apted.

40,225. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You want to make an explanation, Mr. Apted?—There were three cheques that I had not entered in my account either as having received or paid. I have made inquiries, and I find that that one of October the 5th was paid to Mrs. Thatcher of Reigate-hill for refreshment.

40,226. How much was that paid to Mrs. Thatcher?—6*l.* 10*s.*; no, it was 5*l.* The way it was done was this; they went up to Mr. Smith for the money.

40,227. The amount of the cheque was, what?—5*l.*

40,228. Paid to Mrs. Thatcher?—Paid to Mrs. Thatcher of Reigate-hill; September 2nd, 6*l.* 10*s.* was paid to Mr. Glover. They went to Mr. Smith for the money, and he merely sent the cheques down for me to hand to them, and that is the reason that I did not put it in my account.

40,229. Where have you ascertained that fact; I have ascertained it from Mr. Smith and Mr. Glover; in fact I recollect the amounts now.

40,230. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were the cheques in your favour?—Yes, they were drawn out in my name; they were merely sent down to me, that I should know these people were paid.

40,231. What is Glover?—A beershop keeper and eating house keeper.

40,232. Was Thatcher a voter?—The son is; I suppose it is all the same; it is Mrs. Thatcher who keeps the house.

40,233. The son was a voter?—Yes, I believe so.

40,234. Then if he votes for that, it must be his in law?—He is a voter, but whether he votes for that property I do not know; Mr. Holden probably could tell.

40,235. What is the other that you paid?—The other I do not know anything about; I cannot bring it to my recollection. That is 4*l.* exactly, and I am afraid I shall never be able to give you an account of that. I have never received it; that is all I know; it has been paid away by Mr. Smith somehow; it never came through my hands.

40,236. Is the Thatcher you mean Joseph Thatcher of Reigate-hill?—Yes. Oh, I find the mother is dead; she died since. Then it is Mr. Thatcher.

40,237. He was on the register at the time of the election?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM WOODMAN recalled.

W. Woodman.

40,238. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you produce the copy of that account that you sent in?—I cannot find it.

40,239. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you carry on any other business?—Not at the present time.

40,240. Did you at the time of the election?—Yes.

40,241. What was it?—A beer house. There was one thing I was going to tell you; that amount was for the use of the room and the refreshment supplied; I made a mistake.

40,242. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Has that just come into your head?—When I was with my wife last night I thought of it.

40,243. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your wife did not know it?—No, she did not know what refreshments there were.

40,244. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did she know that your house was occupied for the election?—No.

40,245. Did she live in the house?—She did live there at the time.

40,246. And not know that it was used for the election?—She knew there was a quantity of people coming in. She was ill at the time, and did not attend to the bar or any part of the business.

40,247. How much was paid for that one night?—I never received anything for that one night.

40,248. Tell us how much it was?—I don't know how much it was; it was in the account I showed you yesterday.

40,249. Do you keep books for your beer house?—I have not got a beer house now.

40,250. You had?—Yes.

40,251. Did you keep business books of the beer house receipts?—Are you speaking of the brewer's receipts?

40,252. You can understand my question?—No, I cannot.

40,253. I ask you a general question; did you keep books of account with reference to the business of your beer house?—No.

40,254. Not in any shape or way?—No, I only had the brewer's book; that is all I had.

40,255. You never kept any account of the returns?—No, when bills came in I used to pay them.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

W. Woodman.

20 Sept. 1866.

40,256. And you kept no accounts?—No accounts; I did not require them.

40,257. How did you check your profits, then?—Oh, I did not know anything about the profits.

40,258. Who did?—Well, when the beer came in I used to get rid of it in the best way I could, sell it, and when the brewer's bill came in I used to pay it.

40,259. That would form rather an important item in your account when you kept your beer house?—Mr. Nichols told me he thought he should require my room.

40,260. When?—He did not tell me at any particular time. I received a letter to the effect that there would be a committee, and if parties required refreshment he would pay for them.

40,261. Did you make up the account on the slate?—I put it down and added it up together.

40,262. When did you add it up?—I sent the account in to Mr. Nichols.

40,263. Did you keep one slate for the purpose of keeping the account?—I kept one slate expressly for the election.

40,264. Your wife was not ill all the time, was she?—I do not say she was.

40,265. Did she help you in your business?—She used to sometimes.

40,266. You were engaged in the ordinary business of a bricklayer and builder. Who attended to the tap when you were not there?—My mother, sometimes.

40,267. Did she put it on the slates?—I never allowed anybody to have anything on credit; only when I was there.

40,268. How much did you charge for your room?—I cannot say now; I made it all up together.

40,269. Was there no agreement between you and Mr. Nichols as to what should be paid for the room?—No.

40,270. How came you to recollect when you left here that you had a meeting at that house and supplied refreshment?—Well, I thought of it just afterwards.

40,271. You were asked what you were at the time of the election; you did not say one word about keeping a beer house?—I told you I was a bricklayer and builder.

40,272. You did not say a word about the beer house?—I do not think you asked me what I had been at the time of the election; you asked me what my occupation was.

40,273. Did you see Mr. Nichols last night?—Yes, I did.

40,274. After you left here?—Yes.

40,275. Did you see a copy of the account which you sent in?—No.

40,276. Did you ask Mr. Nichols about it?—No.

40,277. Did Mr. Nichols tell you that you kept a beer house at the time?—No.

40,278. What took place between you and Mr. Nichols last night?—Nothing at all.

40,279. Do not tell me that; I shan't believe you if you do. Don't tell me that you went to Mr. Nichols after you left the court and yet did not say a word to him about it?—I had a glass of ale at his house.

40,280. And what took place between you?—He said, "How d'ye do, Woodman?" and I said, "Very "well, thank ye."

40,281. Do you mean to say you never said a word to Mr. Nichols about what took place here?—No.

40,282. Or asked him about the account?—No, I never asked him anything about the account.

40,283. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At the last election in 1865 were you keeping a beer house?—I was.

40,284. Do you recollect before the election meeting Apted at Redhill?—What Apted?

40,285. Any Apted; I don't care which?—There were five or six.

40,286. Do you remember meeting Job Apted?—I might have met him.

40,287. Do you recollect telling him that you had at your house something like this, a nest of voters who meant to vote the same way as you did?—No, I do not recollect anything about it.

40,288. That you could work them to do as you liked; tell me if you said anything of that kind?—I do not recollect anything at all.

40,289. You won't say that you did not meet Apted at Redhill?—I won't say that.

40,290. Do you remember telling him that you had a nest of voters at your house?—No, I did not say anything of the kind that I recollect.

40,291. Are you quite sure you did not say it?—I do not recollect anything at all about it.

40,292. You won't say more than that; you won't say you did not say something like that?—I could almost safely say it, but I won't swear it.

40,293. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You might have said it?—Oh, I might have said it.

40,294 Then had you a "nest of voters" at your house at that time?—No.

40,295. Then why cannot you say either that you did or did not use those words, or something like them?—If I said anything it would be in a joke, but I do not recollect anything at all about it. As I said, I don't believe I said it, and I don't believe that Apted would say I did.

40,296. You said you had 35*l.*; had not you been paid, besides that, 12*l.* 10*s.* for refreshments?—No.

40,297. Well, had not you been paid 12*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, I am quite sure I had not.

40,298. Did not you receive 12*l.* 10*s.*, I will give you the exact sum, for refreshments, in addition to the 35*l.*?—No.

40,299. Did you receive anything in addition to the 35*l.*?—No.

40,300. Nothing at all?—No.

40,301. You say that you received nothing at the last election besides the 35*l.*?—Not as I am aware of at all.

40,302. We don't want the "aware of." You know you told us the exact sum was 35*l.* Did you receive nothing besides that?—Nothing that I can recollect at all.

40,303. Were you paid for refreshments?—That included the refreshment.

40,304. Were you paid for the use of the room?—That included the use of the room.

40,305. The 35*l.* did?—Yes.

40,306. And you did not receive anything besides?—No.

40,307. In 1863, you told me, you had some little money from Mr. Nichols for work you did during the election. I asked you how much that was, and you told me that you had received 2*l.* from him?—2*l.* it was to the best of my recollection.

40,308. I dare say it was quite right, and I am not going to quarrel with it. I did not go on to ask you whether you received anything from anybody else, and you did not tell me; I daresay that was your reason. Did not you receive a cheque from Mr. Smith for some more money?—No.

40,309. Did not you receive 17*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* by cheque?—No.

40,310. Look at that (*handing a paper to witness*). That is "Woodman," is it not?—It is "Woodman," but it is not me.

40,311. You have no objection to my looking for the cheque?—No.

40,312. If a cheque is drawn "Pay William Wood-"man," then you will agree to it?—Certainly; of course, if I received that I received the money, but I never did.

40,313. If I find a cheque drawn in that way, "Pay William Woodman or bearer," you will admit it?—There might have been, I believe there was, another Woodman, behind the park, who kept a beer house.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM CARPENTER sworn and examined.

40,314. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A blacksmith.

40,315. What rent do you pay for your house?—It was rated at 11*l.*

40,316. Then it is freehold?—Yes.

40,317. You belong to the Freehold Company?—Yes.

40,318. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Gower.

40,319. Were you on his committee?—No; I do not know whether I was or not.

40,320. Were you put on to work?—I did not give no instructions to put me on.

40,321. Were you put on to work for him?—Yes, three or four days at bill sticking, Albuary asked me to go with him first.

40,322. Did Albuary go bill sticking with you?—Yes.

40,323. How long were you occupied in bill sticking?—I think if you look at his account you will see how many days it was. I have lost the recollection whether it was three or four days, or five or six.

40,324. You say you have lost your recollection?—I do not know how many days it was.

40,325. What did you get paid?—5*s.* a day, I think.

40,326. For how many days?—I do not know that.

40,327. How much did you get paid altogether?—That I do not know.

40,328. When were you paid?—Just after it begun.

40,329. Who paid you?—Albuary.

40,330. Don't you recollect how much he paid you?—I do not recollect the sum.

40,331. Whether it was 1*l.* or 30*s.*?—I think he said he had the bill; my time was so many days.

40,332. I want you to recollect how much you had, you do not know?—No.

40,333. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it a guinea?—Over that, I think, a little.

40,334. You do not recollect how many days you worked?—No, I do not.

40,335. About?—I do not know. If you were to look on the bill, that would be nighest, because he said he had got it in his bill.

40,336. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I dare say you can recollect within 5*s.*?—No, not within 5*s.*

40,337. Not within 1*l.*?—No, I don't suppose I could.

40,338. Did you get 5*l.*?—No.

40,339. Was it 1*l.*?—I do not know.

40,340. Did you get any money after the election?—No.

40,341. Not for voting?—No.

40,342. Did you attend the refreshment houses?—No.

40,343. Not at all?—No.

40,344. Had you voted before?—Yes.

40,345. When?—When Mr. Wilkinson was on.

46,346. Who did you vote for then?—Mr. Wilkinson.

40,347. Was that Wilkinson against Gower?—I hardly know.

40,348. Was it in 1863?—In 1863, I think it was.

40,349. Did you get anything at that election?—No.

40,350. Not even for bill-sticking?—No, I did not do any.

40,351. Are you a bill sticker by trade?—Oh no.

40,352. When you were sticking bills for Albuary in 1865 were you doing your ordinary work as a blacksmith as well?—No.

40,353. Were you out of work?—I was out of work.

40,354. That is all that you can tell me then, that you were paid at the rate of 5*s.* per day?—That is what I was having, sir.

40,355. Did you get it?—That I cannot tell you.

40,356. And you do not know how many days you worked?—No.

40,357. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How many do you think?—I cannot say.

40,358. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you work more than one day?—Oh yes, two or three days.

40,359. Did you work more than three days?—I do not know, because we used to work two or three hours of a morning, we were not all day on the work, it was just according to what bills we had to stick.

The witness withdrew.

FREDERICK JOYES sworn and examined.

F. Joyes.

40,360. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—I am a grocer and tailor.

40,361. What rent do you pay for the house you occupy?—23*l.*

40,362. And I believe you were concerned rather actively in the last election for Mr. Gower?—I was.

40,363. And you voted for Mr. Gower?—I did.

40,364. Were you concerned for him in 1863?—No; Mr. Wilkinson then.

40,365. In 1865 what were you to receive for your fee?—I received nothing for a fee.

40,366. Nothing in the shape of a fee?—No.

40,367. What did you receive at first for your own services?—I did not receive anything at first for my services.

40,368. In 1865, I am speaking of the last election?—I received 20*l.*

40,369. I suppose you received that at the end of the election, or did you receive some of it during the election?—I did not receive anything during the election, in fact it was a mixed-up affair.

40,370. Can you tell me how much you received altogether?—139*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*

40,371. From Mr. Smith?—No, I received 100*l.* from Mr. Smith, and 39*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* from Mr. Buckland.

40,372. Mr. Buckland handed that over to you?—He handed me the cheques generally.

40,373. Was that a cheque in Buckland's name and then handed to you?—Well, I received 10*l.*, 14*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, 7*l.*, and so on, at different times.

40,374. Did you put down on a slip of paper the monies that you received?—Not that which I received from Mr. Buckland, but I did Mr. Smith's. This is merely a copy of it (*handing a statement*).

40,375. How did you get Mr. Buckland's amount?—I asked Mr. Buckland. I knew that I had money from him, but I did not know what the amount was, and so I asked him to tell me.

40,376. You did put down what you got from Mr. Smith?—Yes, on a piece of paper, that is all; I never kept any books at all.

40,377. You have not the piece of paper now?—No, I have not. I expected I should have to give an account to Mr. Smith; but as to Mr. Buckland, we were altogether, and I did not.

40,378. How did you ascertain when you received the sums?—I thought of them at home. My wife had the slip of paper.

40,379. You received it all by cheques from Mr. Smith?—Mr. Smith's, I think, was all in cheques, I won't be sure. Then Mr. Buckland, if he got a cheque——.

40,380. Never mind Mr. Buckland?—I think it was all in cheques, I won't be certain. I don't recollect receiving anything only by cheques from Mr. Smith.

40,381. Your wife, I think, keeps a good deal of your accounts?—Yes, most of them.

40,382. Did you send in to Mr. Smith an account of the monies you expended on behalf of the election?—I did. He asked me to send in an account of what sums he gave me, and it was 40*l.* first.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

F. Joyes.

20 Sept. 1866.

40,383. And also showing how you expended them?—Yes.

40,384. You received altogether 100*l.* from Mr. Smith?—Altogether.

40,385. You sent him in an account of how that was expended, did you?—No; I sent him in an account of what he gave me first, 40*l.*

40,386. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How long afterwards?—I do not know how long, some time before the election.

40,387. To whom did you send the account?—To Mr. Smith.

40,388. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is the account you sent him in of the 40*l.*, I believe?—That is it, sir.

40,389. Keep it in your hand for a moment. When did you send him in that? Is it in your own handwriting or your wife's?—My handwriting.

40,390. Then you can tell me when was that made out?—I cannot exactly say.

40,391. I mean about?—When this Inquiry was going on, some time before the Inquiry.

40,392. Six weeks before it?—It might be six weeks, perhaps two months, when I found this Inquiry was coming on I took the account.

40,393. You only gave him an account there of 40*l.*?—Yes.

40,394. You received 100*l.* from him, you know, and there was only 20*l.* for yourself, as I understand?—No.

40,395. How was it you did not send in the account of the other 40*l.* unaccounted for?—That was because I did not know then that I had more of him. I have got other accounts, you know.

40,396. I am only stating at present that you sent in to Mr. Smith an account for 40*l.* You received 100*l.* from him, as you say, and you sent him in an account of how you expended 40*l.*, and then there would be 20*l.* for your own money, and 40*l.* besides? Have you accounted yet for the other 40*l.* to Mr. Smith?—I have not.

40,397. That is to say you have not sent him in an account of how the remaining 40*l.* was expended?—No, I have not.

40,398. I wish to give you an opportunity of showing us how you expended that 40*l.*?—I have got it here altogether, you see.

40,399. I want to know about that 40*l.*?—Well, it is not divided here, it is put altogether.

40,400. You never sent in Mr. Smith a copy of this, did you?—I never have; no one has seen it yet.

40,401. When did you make it out, I am sure you will tell me?—It was made out within this last few weeks; in fact I have made out ever so many, over and over again, entirely. That is the whole of my account.

40,402. That is the whole, entire?—That is the whole, entire; every man that I paid a farthing to.

40,403. You credit yourself here in expenditure to the extent of 169*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* You debit Mr. Smith to having expended on behalf of the election 169*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, that is so?—Yes.

40,404. It is not for us to say whether you owe them or they owe you money, but I will take the list. John Dash, 10*l.*?—10*s.*

40,405. Oh, I beg your pardon.

40,406. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is that a new name?—It is a new name; he is not a voter, but was employed for two days, on the nomination and polling days.

40,407. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When you sent in the account of 40*l.* to Mr. Smith, how was it you only sent it in to that extent?—I cannot tell you how that was. I thought I had 40*l.* of him, and I gave him an account.

40,408. But you had 100*l.*?—Yes, I cannot tell how it was.

40,409. Then Mr. Smith has never seen this account, has he?—He has never seen that.

40,410. You put down your own salary here at 50*l.*?—That is what I expected I should have had.

40,411. Instead of 20*l.*, I thought you told me your fee was to be 20*l.*?—I expected I should have had 50*l.*, and I signed a receipt for 50*l.*

40,412. When did you sign a receipt for 50*l.*?—I won't be sure when it was, whether it was before or after the election; when Mr. Smith was making up the accounts.

40,413. I suppose it was for the audit?—Yes, I believe it was.

40,414. You signed a receipt?—I signed a receipt.

40,415. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Before the election?—When the accounts were wanted to be made out; I do not know whether it would be before or after.

40,416. It would be after?—I dare say it would be; I think it was after.

40,417. You gave that to Mr. Smith?—I did.

40,418. Do I understand you to say how you made out this account? Did you make it out from memory, or what?—I had lots of bits of paper; it would puzzle anybody to know how I made it out.

40,419. Your wife assisted you?—No, I had slips of paper, but I knew most of it from memory. I know each man I had to deal with, and I know what was offered and what I gave him.

40,420. I think I can see how you came to make out that account for 40*l.* I see that Mr. Smith in his account debits you with 90*l.*, and gives you credit for 50*l.*, therefore you made out an account for the 40*l.* balance. You made in out in reference to that?—I did.

40,421. Did he supply you with a memorandum of this, or show it to you?—He told me that I had got 40*l.* to account for.

40,422. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was your share, did he say?—He said that was what he had got down to me.

40,423. But when you came to prepare for a thorough examination you called up your memory from other sources, and that is the account of the expenditure of all the monies you received?—I did; I know every man and I put it all down.

40,424. Who are these (*referring to the account*)?—They are messengers on the polling and nomination days.

40,425. They were not voters?—No.

40,226. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I don't think we have the name of Eye. Have we had him?—No. That is Turner, I employed him as messenger on the nomination. That is Turner, my next door neighbour.

40,427. Oxtoby, 2*l.*, we have had him?—Yes.

40,428. William Roberts?—Yes, you had him.

40,429. West?—You had him. There was one man you had, named Burrell.

40,430. Edward Stephens, expenses to London, what was that?—That was a deputation to Mr. Gower.

40,431. H. Phillips?—It is not H., it is James. It is a man that is coachman for Mr. May.

40,432. We had a man who was coachman, he received nothing at all. Miles we have had?—Yes, Philip Miles.

40,433. That coachman told us he had nothing?—This man was paid on the day of election. He might have forgotten it.

40,434. This man only had 1*l.* Ede, Rose, Joyes, &c., what is that?—That was after the election was ove

40,435. Who was Ede?—A man you have had here.

40,436. And Rose?—Yes.

40,437. And Joyes, what Joyes is that?—That is my brother.

40,438. Your brother James?—No, William. There were others I gave money to after the polling was over.

40,439. You gave these men money?—Yes, to settle down, to settle themselves down.

40,440. How do you mean, to settle themselves down?—For some refreshment.

40,441. 2*l.* each ?—No.

40,442. Well, here is your handwriting ?—There is a man named Walker that I gave 1*l.* to.

40,443. You say "et cetera" ?—Well, Walker is one, now I think of it; he is gardener to Mr. Conway. I gave him 1*l.* on the polling day.

40,444. Sayers ?—That is the "Bats and Ball." I paid him.

40,445. 10*s.* ?—That is for carriages.

40,446. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) "H. Phillips" you say ought to be "James" ?—I think it is James, John or James.

40,447. He was called, and he said, "I thought "there was something coming to me, and 30*s.* was "what I got from Rose after the day of the election, "I was very well satisfied with that" ?—Perhaps he has forgotten it. He cannot contradict it, because I know I paid him 1*l.* I do not know what Rose paid him.

40,448. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you think it possible that Rose might have paid him 30*s.* and you paid him 1*l.* ?—Very possible, perhaps he has forgotten it now.

40,449. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) "John Sayers," what is that ?—That was one night, refreshments, it is a public house.

40,450. We have not had him ?—No.

40,451. Where is he of ?—Reigate, High-street, London-road.

40,452. Are there any other names, fresh names that we have not had before us ?—No; I do not think you had Burrell. That is the only one that I know of.

40,453. You told me that Mr. Buckland gave you an account of the monies he handed to you, 39*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* ?—Yes.

40,454. You took that from Mr. Buckland himself? —Yes, I did not keep an account with him, because, of course, it was altogether. He would account for the money that he had received.

40,455. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was not a cheque to you ?—No, it was a cheque made out to him, in the three names, and then we divided it.

40,456. I see there are about 20 voters here ?—More than that, 30. I have not added them up, I do not know how many there are.

40,457. I see two or three cheques, I suppose they are called cheques, September 12th, 4*l.* 14*s.*; October 4th, cheque for three guineas, and so on, which you have not brought in. Oh, I suppose that is the two twenties ?—The two twenties.

40,458. Then there is a cheque afterwards, November 22nd, Joyes 16*l.*, which you have not brought in. I have not found the cheque itself ?—I do not recollect it.

40,459. Your expenditure would be larger, according to this, than the amount you received ?—I have had dealings with the land society when I have received cheques.

40,460. But this was from Mr. Smith ?—It may be, but I don't recollect it. I never received it, neither. I do not recollect the amount at all.

40,461. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you know, when you sent in your bill to Mr. Smith for the account of the 40*l.*, that he was in your debt ?—Yes, I knew that from the commencement.

41,462. You relied upon him to pay you ?—I thought he would pay me. People represented that I had had 50*l.* about the town, but I only had 20*l.* I know he owed me the other 30*l.*, at least I expected he did. I thought I should have had it, and I might get it now. Others have had their 50*l.*

40,463. I am speaking of the expenditure. That is the only thing you mean, that 30*l.*, by being in debt ?—That is all.

40,464. You mean that you have received all the monies that you expended on behalf of the election, and Mr. Smith having taken a receipt from you for 50*l.* and only have given you 20*l.* you then bring him in to owe 30*l.*, and, mixing up your own account with the expenditure, you show that result ?—Yes.

40,465. Will you look at that (*handing the statement of account*) and tell me if it is a true account of what you did receive ?—That is right, and since that there has been 10*l.* (Sayers' bill) which was not in. I went to Mr. Smith and told him that Sayers wanted his money, I did not know that he had made it out in my name, and I gave Mr. Smith the account of Sayers.

40,466. Very well, I understand it. You received 100*l.* from Mr. Smith and 39*l.* from the other man, that makes 139*l.* You have expended 119*l.*, then you have your own 50*l.*, and that is 169*l.* Now when you presented that for 40*l.* to Mr. Smith was anything said about your fee of 50*l.* ?—Nothing.

40,467. Did you yourself say anything to him ?—No, I did not.

40,468. But you relied upon being paid ?—I did.

40,469. Did you ever speak to Mr. Smith after you signed the receipt for the 50*l.* about it ?—No, I expected he would pay me some day. This petition was talked about, and I did not press for any more.

40,470. You can speak to the accuracy of this account ?—It is quite correct.

40,471. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote in 1863 ?—I did.

40,472. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you concerned at all ?—I was the same as I was with this election.

40,473. What did you receive ?—For my services ?

40,474. Yes ?—35*l.*

40,475. How much money passed through your hands ?—I cannot tell that.

40,476. Well, I won't trouble you for the exact amount. About ?—I have not the least idea whatever.

40,477. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you voted for ?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

40,478. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And were concerned for him ?—Yes, the same as I have been in this, I was a sub-agent.

40,479. And monies passed through your hands, between one and three hundred pounds ?—It might be one, it might be two, I cannot tell, I never kept any account.

40,480. From whom did you receive the money ?—I found some of it.

40,481. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) By accident ? —Yes.

40,482. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was left on the counter, I suppose ?—No, it was not.

40,483. It was placed in your way ?—A gentleman came to me and asked me if I was fond of gingerbread. I said I was, and he told me to go into a room in the "Swan" and look on the mantel-piece. I went and there I found some.

40,484. How much did you find ?—I think it was 100*l.*; I think it was on the nomination day.

40,485. I am sorry, but we must have the name of the gentlemen ?—I believe it was Mr. James.

40,486. Are you sure it was ?—Oh, I am sure it was.

40,487. Had you received some monies before ?—Well, I received monies in this way, that (I was out for Mr. Wilkinson the whole of the day,) when certain bills wanted paying I got the money from Mr. James to certain parties.

40,488. What I want to know is, did you receive money from any other gentleman except from that gentleman, Mr. James ?—No, not any other gentleman at all in any shape or way.

40,489. Your fee was 35*l.* ?—Yes.

40,490. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Excuse me, was that independent of the gingerbread ?—The gingerbread was not for myself.

40,491. The 35*l.* was independent of the sweetmeat ?—That was paid me after the election was over.

40,492. Can you tell me how much money besides the 100*l.* passed through your hands, as near as you can go ?—I cannot tell you only in this way, that if Mr. James wanted a bill paid he did not trouble me

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much, because I was not with Mr. James much. I had to meet Mr. Norman at Laker's at 10 o'clock in the morning, and I was out all day with him, therefore I had nothing to do with the affairs.

40,493. I suppose you disposed of that in the usual way, you paid voters?—Oh, yes.

40,494. I can give you the names of a few of them. Do you recollect Mr. James Dormer? You paid him?—Very likely I did.

40,495. You have no account of the money?—No account whatever.

40,496. I only want to test one or two, Amos Elliott, 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

40,497. These are some witnesses who have mentioned it?—Yes, I do not deny any of them.

40,498. You have no doubt watched the evidence that has been given before this Commission. Have you anything to say in contradiction to most of those statements?—No.

40,499. You believe them to be correct?—Yes, I paid most of them after the election was over.

40,500. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You paid them for their votes. Did you say, "You must "work"?—They always worked. I never paid for any votes.

40,501. You went through that pretence?—Yes.

40,502. But you knew it was nothing but——?—Colourable work.

40,503. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I may take it that those who voted and were paid for nominal work it was merely colourable occupation?—It was.

40,504. And that, as well as matters could be understood between parties without actually mentioning the fact, it was intended as a payment for votes?—Oh, yes.

40,505. There could be no question about it?—No.

40,506. Can you give us any fresh name in 1863? You have been giving your evidence so candidly that I ask you?—I do not think I can.

40,507. Do you think you could supply us; your memory seems very good indeed?—No.

40,508. By reference to any of the old registers?—Supply you with the names of those I gave money to?

40,509. Yes?—Oh, I could give ever so many now.

40,510. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.* We mean fresh ones that have not been before us?—Oh, some in 1863 are gone away and not voters here now. There is a man named Jackson, a plasterer.

40,511. Where is he?—I do not know where he is. He was away at the election of 1863, and we fetched him up to vote, and of course he had money from us and the other party too. That is all I know.

40,512. Any one else?—Oh, yes, others.

40,513. That have not been before us?—Well, there are the two Dewdneys that I gave money to. 10*l.*

40,514. 10*l.* a piece?—No, between the two; 5*l.* each not to vote in 1863.

40,515. Had you seen the Dewdneys?—I had not.

40,516. Do you know who had?—Mr. James Apted came to me, and said that if they had 10*l.* they would not vote; so my wife gave them 10*l.* for them not to vote.

40,517. Your wife gave James Apted 10*l.* to give to them?—Yes.

40,518. Not to vote?—Yes, not to vote.

40,519. That was a very close contest I believe; only seven or eight, or so, majority?—11 or 12, I believe; something of the sort.

40,520. Were Mr. Relf and Mr. Goldsmith active for Mr. Wilkinson on that occasion?—They were against him.

40,521. Did you ever see that 10*l.* again; was it returned to you?—No, it never came to me again.

40,522. The Dewdneys did not vote?—They did not vote.

40,523. How was it you sent it to them?—Apted came and asked for it.

40,524. You yourself had not seen either of the Dewdneys?—No.

40,525. And from information you received you found they would not vote, and you dreaded their going against you, and gave them that?—He said he could stop them.

40,526. James Apted and you were on the same side?—We were on the same side.

40,527. Was any account brought you afterwards of that 10*l.*, what had become of it?—No; I never heard any more of it. From what I have heard in evidence I fancy——

40,528. From the Dewdneys?—Yes.

40,529. You fancy what?—That they have not had it.

40,530. That is a matter that may affect others, and you know nothing about it. Is there any other?—I gave William Holdsworth 10*l.* to give to Weedon.

40,531. Did you get back that 10*l.*?—No.

40,532. Did Weedon vote on that election, Mr. Joyes?—He voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

40,533. You do not know whether he received the money or not?—I do not.

40,534. But he voted?—Yes.

40,535. You knew the man was a man likely to be led in the direction of the money?—Yes.

40,536. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you say you gave the 10*l.* to Weedon?—To Holdsworth for Weedon.

40,537. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Anything else?—James Apted 5*l.* for Bentley; Apted had 5*l.* for him.

40,538. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is he here now?—No; he has left Reigate.

40,539. Did he vote?—Yes.

40,540. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He voted?—Yes. And William Jackson, a plasterer, had 5*l.*; it was through Apted for Jackson; he has gone away.

40,541. I suppose, Mr. Joyes, the money came out of the 100*l.*?—All of it.

40,542. Then it would be almost on the very day of the election?—I only had it the day before; it was all on the day of election.

40,543. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you receive any directions at all from Mr. Smith as to the application of the money?—None at all.

40,544. You simply understood what it was meant for?—I understood certainly what it was meant for.

40,545. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Jackson was the last you told us of, 5*l.*; do you recollect any other?—No. I gave my next door neighbour 5*l.*; it was Richard Turner, who did not have it at the time, but acknowledged to having received it afterwards.

40,546. He received it in the spirit you gave it, and went away?—He did; he went away on purpose.

40,547. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is he?—He is a whitesmith.

40,548. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You do not know whether the money went to the sweep, the gentleman who went away with his wife?—No.

40,549. Anything else?—No; I recollect I had 11*l.* out of the 100*l.*, and I gave that back to Mr. James.

40,550. You paid the 100*l.* away on the nomination morning?—On the nomination morning. It was all paid before the polling.

40,551. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you paid any money before the year 1863?—No.

40,552. Did you pay money away otherwise than you have told us?—If Mr. James asked me to pay a bill I did it.

40,553. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you get rid of all of it?—I had 11*l.* left, and I gave it him back after I had sent our accounts in.

40,554. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Of course Mr. James knew you had the 100*l.*?—Yes.

40,555. Did you communicate to anybody else that you had this 100*l.*?—I do not expect I did, except to my wife.

40,556. Of course you mentioned it to your wife; she would have had it out of you; it is human

nature?—Some of our own sub-agents, perhaps this is the first they have heard of it.

40,557. Did any one except Mr. James (who is dead, unfortunately,) know that you had received the 100*l.*?—None of them; I do not think any one knows except myself.

40,558. Of course you do not know where Mr. James had the money from?—No, no; not at all.

40,559. Did any one connected with the election know you had the 100*l.*?—No; I do not believe any one in the town knew it.

40,560. Out of the town, not even Mr. Wilkinson's party?—No; I do not know that they knew, or know to this day; in fact I dare say Mr. Wilkinson will be surprised when he hears it.

40,561. Is there anything else, Mr. Joyes, you can state for our information? Your answers are so straight and to the purpose that we wish to gain all we can from you. Do you know of anything further connected with the election it is important for us to know that you can tell?—I do not recollect.

40,562. If you should recollect anything you will let us know?—Yes, certainly.

40,563. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You will do so?—Yes.

40,564. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know of any other election you were engaged in?—Yes, I know of all.

40,565. I will not take you to 1857, but do you recollect the October of 1858?—Wilkinson and Monson; I worked for Wilkinson the first at that election.

40,566. I will not take you through that; you received a fee, I suppose? Did you receive anything in 1859; it was a sham election if you recollect?—It was.

40,567. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was there any money passing?—No; not a farthing to any one.

40,568. We have had evidence to a certain extent of it, though it might not be to your knowledge?—No.

40,569. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien*) In the October of 1858 you were for Mr. Wilkinson?—Not the mock election.

40,570. I will pass over 1859, the mock election; but in the October of 1858 you were for Mr. Wilkinson?—I have always been for him.

40,571. It was Lord Monson and Mr. Wilkinson fought in October 1858, if you recollect, on Sir Henry Rawlinson's promotion to the India Board?—I do not recollect it, but I have always been for Mr. Wilkinson.

40,572. Were you employed as agent?—Yes; the same as now.

40,573. What did you receive?—Once I got 20*l.*; another time 35*l.*, and one was a mock election.

40,574. And you received nothing?—Just so.

40,575. Did you work for him in the same way?—Just the same as I have done now.

40,576. Did any money pass through your hands?—Always, when I was with Mr. Wilkinson.

40,577. Did any money pass through your hands on that first occasion?—There might be.

40,578. I do mean a bit of stationery; anything in that mock way?—Most likely there was; there always has been.

40,579. You think there was?—Most likely I paid money to men as I did before; I had 10*l.* for Mr. Hackblock's election; 20*l.* the next; and 35*l.* the next.

40,580. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are speaking of the election of 1857?—I do not know the date.

40,581. Hackblock and Rawlinson?—Yes.

40,582. Hackblock came in?—Yes.

40,583. You had 10*l.* for Hackblock?—No.

40,584. In '58 how much?—20*l.*

40,585. For whom were you agent in February 1858?—For Mr. Wilkinson; the first was Hackblock.

40,586. In October 1858 did you receive anything?—What election was that?

40,587. Monson and Wilkinson.—I had 10*l.* first, 20*l.* next, 30*l.*, and 35*l.*

40,588. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were agent for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes, till he lost on the ballot. I went with Mr. Wilkinson till we lost the ballot, and then Mr. Truman offered me 40*l.* to go with them, but I refused it on account of the way Mr. Wilkinson was served over the ballot.

40,589. You were offered 40*l.* by the Doulton party?—Yes.

40,590. And thinking your friend Mr. Wilkinson had not been well treated you refused?—Yes.

40,591. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the reason?—The ballot I thought was not fair. Mr. Wilkinson was balloted out; I considered it was not fairly done, and I would not have anything to do with it.

40,592. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The balloting took place the day before the nomination?—Yes.

40,593. And the 40*l.* was, I suppose for your vote and countenance?—Yes, I walked over to the "White Hart" with Mr. Truman when he offered it me, but I refused.

40,594. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was a day or two before the election?—Yes.

40,595. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And you went into the "White Hart"?—Yes, I went into the "White Hart" with Mr. Truman.

40,596. Can you fix the time the money was offered you?—I think it was the night of the ballot.

40,597. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that the day before the nomination?—No, I think not; two or three days, it might be a week, before; it was a few days before the nomination. I think I had been to and come back from Redhill and was standing by side of the hall when Mr. Truman saw me and came up to me, he asked me if I would go in, I said, "No," he said, "If you will come to the 'White Hart' I "will give you 40*l.*; come with me to the 'White "Hart,'" and I did.

40,598. But you refused to receive the money?—Yes.

40,599. At that time there was no sufficient time for work?—No.

40,600. Is there anything else that you would like to tell, and which you think would be useful to us to hear?—No, there is not; but I shall be very glad if you will allow me to make one remark; I do not suppose you will, for I know you have refused it to others.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Yes we will, what is it.

(*The Witness.*) Johnson in his evidence said, when you asked him with respect to the booth at Earlswood-common, and asked whether I was there, he said, "Yes." "Was Joyes active?—Yes." "What was "he doing?" he said I was in and out. "What do "you mean by in and out?—In and out of the house;" and he said I ordered beer, ale, cider. I can bring 20 witness to prove I was not there.

40,601. I suppose some of the money passed through your hands for refreshments?—Oh yes, I supplied lots of refreshments, but not there.

40,602. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Though you did not pay money there for refreshments you had paid for refreshments?—Oh yes, for lots.

40,603. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) A great deal of money was paid for refreshments?—Yes, every time we had a meeting there were refreshments.

40,604. In 1865?—Yes, and at all the elections.

40,605. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I am going to ask you this question as to the '57 election: did you

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take part in that?—Yes, Hackblock's; I took an active part then, as I did at the last election. I was under Mr. Smith.

40,606. Were the voters paid in the same way?—I only heard of one case, and that was only from report.

40,607. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You do not know anything of yourself about it?—No.

The witness then withdrew.

J. Apted.

JAMES APTED recalled and examined.

40,608. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you receive from Mr. Joyes the 10*l.* in 1863 he has mentioned upon the day of the election?—I heard what Mr. Joyes said, but I have no recollection of it.

40,609. It was for the Dewdneys?—Yes, I heard what he said, but I have no recollection of it.

40,610. You went to Dewdney?—Yes.

40,611. Did you give him the 10*l.*?—No.

40,612. Did you offer it to him?—No.

40,613. When you went to him what did you say?—My instructions from Joyes and Mr. James were to go and get the two Dewdneys at any price, and if I could not get them to vote to keep them from voting. I went down to Mead-vale and saw William Dewdney, and said, "Which way are you going to "vote," he said, "I do not know what to do, I wish "to vote for Mr. Wilkinson and so does my brother "James, but we do not know; I am afraid of my "landlord." I said, "Who is your landlord; what "has he to do with it?" He said, "It is George "Morrison." I said, "If you wish to vote for Mr. "Wilkinson, Mr. Morrison is too much of a gentle-"man to take any notice of it," and, I said, "I will "meet you at James Dewdney's at 2 o'clock." I went and saw Mr. James and told him what he said. Mr. James then said to me, "Keep them back from voting "if you can if you can't get them." I went back and was there an hour and a quarter, and I think we emptied eight bottles of old wine, wine 10 years old in bottle. I kept them in tow, clinking and jingling the money in my pocket, till the chime stroke for 4, when it was too late to vote, and as the clock struck 4 I ran down the garden, jumped over the fence, ran away, and left them.

40,614. I suppose you paid for the wine?—No, I did not, I never parted with the coin. It was rare wine, Dewdney's old grape wine, the father's.

40,615. Rare wine?—Yes, the father made it.

40,616. You kept jingling the sovereigns?—Yes, and said, "How much."

40,617. However, the hope of the 10*l.* kept them from voting?—Yes.

40,618. A man of the name of Bentley was spoken of. Mr. Joyes said he gave you 5*l.* for Bentley, you did not hear his evidence?—I never received 5*l.* for a man of the name of Bentley.

40,619. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you receive any money from Frederick Joyes or Apted?—I did at different times.

40,620. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It is some time ago, in 1863, you may have forgotten?—No, I do not forget. I can tell you from the first time to the last. Several gentlemen here have told you when the first bribery commenced here, but they have not given you the straight tip. I can do it.

40,621. I am sorry you did not do it before, but it is never too late to mend.—I can give it you from the beginning to the end, and I can tell you all about Job Apted's mock election. Mr. Wilkinson told me of it after they brought him up at the last moment.

40,622. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Yes, whenever you like?—I wish it, and I will give you a straight tip.

40,623. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you not recollect having received money for Bentley?—I never did.

40,624. Or for Jackson at the last election?—No, Joyes paid him himself; he took him up to Ben Farrington's, locked him up at night and took his shoes off, Joyes had him locked up all night; that is a straight tip for you.

The witness then withdrew.

W. Bundle.

WILLIAM BUNDLE sworn and examined.

40,625. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A carman.

40,626. What do you pay for your house that gives you a right to voting?—I never paid nothing.

40,627. Do you live in your own freehold?—I pay rent yearly.

40,628. What do you pay yearly?—25*l.*

40,629. And you pay it by the year?—I pay it quarterly.

40,630. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

40,631. Did you get anything?—Yes, sir.

40,632. Do you keep a beer shop as well?—I keep a public house.

40,633. What were you paid?—I was paid 15*l.* during the election.

40,634. Did you have many meetings?—No, sir.

40,635. How many meetings?—I do not know whether it was one or two.

40,636. It might be one?—I could not tell whether it was one or two of a truth.

40,637. Was there any refreshment at the meeting?—Yes.

40,638. And you were paid for that refreshment?—Yes.

40,639. Who paid for that?—I do not know.

40,640. What did you get?—I could not tell whether it was 1*l.* or 2*l.*; I was paid for it, but as to who paid me it was no odds to me so that I was paid for it.

40,641. Who paid you for the room?—Mr. Smith.

40,642. Did you send a bill in?—Yes, I did, and he paid me.

40,643. Who paid you?—Mr. Smith himself.

40,644. What is the sign of your house?—The "Marquis of Granby," near the station; it is well known.

40,645. When were you paid?—After the election.

40,646. After the election?—Yes, I do not say whether it was one week or two, I could not say that. Mr. Smith sent me a cheque for the amount.

40,647. That was all you got?—That was all I had.

40,648. Have you voted in earlier elections?—I have voted for Mr. Gower twice.

40,649. You voted in 1863?—Yes.

40,650. Did you live at the "Marquis of Granby" then?—Yes, and voted at the two last elections for Mr. Gower. I never had anything for '65.

40,651. Then what you have been speaking of happened in 1863?—Yes, that is quite right what I say.

40,652. That had reference to '63 and not '65?—Yes, I know nothing at all about the last election.

40,653. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

40,654. And they did not hire your rooms?—No.

40,655. Did they have any meetings?—They had one or two, what they had was paid for.

40,656. The bill you had in 1863 was 16*l.* 5*s.*?—I could not say to a pound.

40,657. That is your bill (*showing it*)?—No doubt.

40,658. 15*l.* for the room and 1*l.* 5*s.* for refreshments perhaps?—Refreshments perhaps.

40,659. You said you took the money at the time?—It was paid that evening, I should say.

40,660. You sent in a bill for 16*l.* 5*s.*?—It included refreshments, that is quite right.

40,661. And you had nothing in 1865 but for refreshments?—No, the rooms were in 1863.

40,662. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did they offer to take your house in '65?—They did not.

40,663. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you canvassed in 1865 by the Monson party?—No, I was canvassed only by Mr. Gower, and I promised to vote for him and no other man.

The witness then withdrew.

RICHARD LAKER sworn and examined.

R. Laker.

40,664. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—An hotel proprietor.

40,665. Where?—At the "Railway" hotel, Redhill.

40,666. Is that your own, is it a freehold?—It is mine.

40,667. How much would it be valued at; how is it rated?—Rated at 135*l.*, 10*l.* for the refreshment room, that is 145*l.* I occupy the refreshment rooms.

40,668. At the last election who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

40,669. And I believe you were on his committee?—I was.

40,670. Did you take an active part all through his election?—I did not, I did not out of my own house. I attended one committee at the hall at Redhill for about 10 minutes.

40,671. Was it a part of your business in the election to receive money to pay out?—Not at all. I never received a farthing, neither have I paid a farthing.

40,672. I do not mean for yourself?—No, neither for any one else.

40,673. I mean for other people?—I have never been asked that question during all the time I have lived at Redhill, for 11 years.

40,674. You received no money to pay away?—No, neither have I been asked or offered.

40,675. I suppose you have canvassed?—A few I have, five or six men in my own yard I have asked; I have told them Mr. Gower was coming.

40,676. Did you manage to carry those men with you?—I did.

40,677. Can you tell me whether you have heard their names?—One of them.

40,678. What is his name?—Sendall, a gardener, he received 5*l.*, I think he told you, from Mr. Mulley.

40,679. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There was another man a driver of yours?—Yes, Wornham.

40,680. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You canvassed how many?—Five or six, and it might be more.

40,681. Will you be kind enough to give me their names?—Henry Sendall, you have had before, and Peter Wornham, William Apted, Edward Hoare, and Thomas Barnett.

40,682. We have not had those before us?—You have had Barnett, Mr. Smith paid him 2*l.*

40,683. William Apted and Hoare, we have not had either of them, I think?—No.

40,684. Are they both in your service?—No, Hoare I discharged yesterday morning.

40,685. Where is he now?—He is living at Redhill.

40,686. He has a house there?—Yes.

40,687. Is William Apted at Redhill?—He is my ostler, and has been so 16 years.

40,688. Edward Hoare is living at Redhill, has he a house now?—Yes, in Warwick-road.

49,689. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He has only just left your service?—No, yesterday.

40,690. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you canvass him yourself?—I went into the yard, and said Mr. Gower was coming out.

40,691. Did you get him put on to work?—No, they asked me whether Mr. Gower was coming forward.

40,692. When they asked you that, then perhaps they asked you?—Oh no, I would not listen to it; not to any one.

40,693. Were they put on to work?—I do not know.

40,694. Can you tell me whether William Apted and Edward Hoare were put on to work?—I do not believe they were.

40,695. When you asked them for their votes did they promise you?—They said they would go which way I did.

40,696. Were there any committee meetings at your house?—Not at all, there was no committee meeting.

40,697. Were there any refreshments ordered at your house by Mr. Gower's people, which they paid for?—None at all.

40,698. I mean what were called election refreshments?—Yes; none at all.

40,699. Therefore you received no money from them for election refreshments whatever; if refreshments were ordered people paid for them?—If refreshments were ordered people paid for them, there were very few came, only gentlemen. My house is more for travellers, it is not so much for the neighbourhood.

40,700. On the day of the polling you took an active part, I think?—I supplied the carriages.

40,701. Had you supplied carriages on any other day besides the day of polling?—Yes, on the nomination day I supplied carriages to Mr. Gower. During his canvassing also his carriages were not here.

40,702. Then the whole time the election was going on you supplied carriages?—I did.

40,703. Who employed them?—Mr. Smith might order a carriage, or Mr. Gower might; I do not think there was anybody on the committee.

40,704. Who did you send your account into for the carriages?—Mr. Smith for 43*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, I think.

40,705. After the election?—Yes, a very short time after the election.

40,706. Was that the only claim you made?—That was the only claim I was paid.

40,707. Was that sum paid, the account you claimed?—It was.

40,708. That is to say your bill was paid?—My bill was paid within a few days after. Mr. Gower's wife was down, but it was not a very large bill, it came to 8*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, and they had a private room there; Mrs. Gower was there.

40,709. That is a private bill, that is another matter altogether?—That was all the money I received at the last election for carriages, and nothing for refreshments at all.

40,710. That is all the money you received at the last election?—That is all.

40,711. I mean no other money came to you last election excepting 42*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*?—That is all.

40,712. Then in 1863 what part did you take in that election?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

40,713. Were you on his committee?—I believe I was. I do not think there was a list of the committee out in 1863. I voted for him.

40,714. You took an active part?—I did with regard to my own men, I just asked the men.

40,715. Tell me how many persons you asked that time; tell me the number of your own men first?—About five, I consider there were; no, only four.

40,716. Did you give them anything for their votes?—I did not.

40,717. I ought not to have said votes, but did you give them anything for work?—Not a bit.

40,718. Did you get them what we call put on?—No, I did not.

40,719. You understand?—Yes.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

R. Luker.

29 Sept. 1866.

40,720. Did you get them put on ?—No, I did not; I do not understand the words "put on ;" I never laid myself open to that sort of thing.

40,721. Did you get them employed, so that they might be paid for the work done ?—I did not.

40,722. On that occasion did you supply carriages ?—I did.

40,723. Are you aware that any of those four men did receive money from anybody ?—I believe Sendell did ; he told you the other day he received 5*l.* from Mr. Gower.

40,724. Did they pay your bill ?—They did.

40,725. Do you remember the amount of that ?—I think the carriages were had about 13 weeks at work, and my place was Mr. James's office.

40,726. What was your bill for the carriages ?—A little better than 100*l.*, what I paid away.

40,727. I have not come to paying away ?—Well, about 90*l.* my own bill.

40,728. That was for carriages ?—Yes.

40,729. Did you pay any money away ?—Money to drivers.

40,730. I do not care about that, include the drivers and tell me about how much it was ?—About 90*l.*

40,731. Including the drivers ?—Yes.

40,732. Have you any other bill which you were paid ?—The committee rooms and the clerks' room.

40,733. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. James made your hotel his office ?—Yes.

40,734. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The committee and the clerks' room ; how much were they ?—They were there 13 weeks, and upon the petition they came down and took the same room again ; it was 42*l.*

40,735. 42*l.* was not for the election ?—Yes, during the time of the election.

40,736. It included the petition ?—Yes, then they came back again, so I put it altogether.

40,737. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that included in the 90*l.* ?—No, 42*l.* for the rooms.

40,738. Did you receive any other monies ?—Only from Mr. James, he had his bedroom there.

40,739. Oh no, that was in the ordinary course of your business ?—I supplied nothing further for the election, it was only carriages and rooms.

40,740. I suppose you cannot tell me what the committee room bill was ?—The two rooms 42*l.*, together with fire and lights, I think it was cold weather.

40,741. Was that a fair charge at any time ?—Well, I charged 5*s.* a day for the sitting room, and 1*s.* a night for lights, and 2*s.* for a fire.

40,742. Never mind, you think that was a fair charge ?—Yes, I should have had more for my room.

40,743. Did you for your own personal services receive anything ?—I did not.

40,744. You told me that at the election before, you did not, and I give you the same opportunity of saying it about this one ?—Yes ; I never had anything.

40,745. Now tell me about the election of 1859 ?—In 1859 I did not vote at all, I do not know anything about it; I was quite surprised when I heard Mr. Wilkinson was nominated.

40,746. Do you know anything about the election in 1858, between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson ?—I did not vote at all.

40,747. Had you not voted before 1863 ?—For the present Lord Monson, when he was engaged with Sir Henry Rawlinson.

40,748. That would be in February ?—Yes, on the Doulton election.

40,749. Who did you vote for at the Doulton election ?—For the present Lord Monson.

40,750. You had got the "Railway" hotel then ?—Yes.

40,751. Did you do anything for them then ?—For Mr. Wilkinson till he was balloted out, and I told him I could not vote for him, for I had promised Lord Monson years before that if ever he came forward I would not oppose him.

40,752. When Mr. Wilkinson was ballotted out, you voted for Lord Monson ?—Yes.

40,753. Whatever bill you had against Mr. Wilkinson at the time he was balloted out he paid ?—Yes.

40,754. I will not inquire what that was, I suppose you had hardly time for much charge against Mr. Monson ?—No.

40,755. Did he employ your house at all after Mr. Wilkinson had given up ?—I hardly know whether they did or not.

40,756. Very well ; that was the Doultion election ?—Yes.

40,757. Had yon anything to do with Mr. Doulton ?—Not the least in the world.

40,758. Did you not furnish him at all with rooms ?—No, they came once or twice and wanted to take rooms.

40,759. Did they make any particular offer ?—No.

40,760. Do you recollect their coming and offering to throw your vote in with the rooms ?—No.

42,761. Did you see anything more of Mr. Doulton after that ?—No ; my house lies away from the place.

40,762. I am merely asking these questions to give you an opportunity of putting yourself correctly before the public ; were there refreshments on that election furnished at all ; I mean the Doulton election ?—No, not unless the money paid was paid down.

40,763. No sort of election refreshments at that time ?—No ; a long time afterwards, after the election, Mr. Monson had a dinner at my house.

40,764. Never mind that ; which he paid for, I hope ?—Mr. Hart paid for it ; some of his committee were there.

40,765. And I dare say they were very well pleased with their dinner ?—They were.

40,766. You appear to me to have answered very well. Have you any further information to give us ?—No.

40,767. If you have I should be obliged to you for it ?—No, I have not got any.

40,768. This man Sndall was your gardener ?—He has been with me 19 years.

40,769. Was he in regular employ at that time, at the time of the election, with you ?—Yes.

40,770. And receiving regular wages by the week ?—Yes.

40,771. Do you know at all what he did for Mr. Monson ?—He used to run about at nights, because I used to blow him up for his being late of a morning.

40,772. He said, "I received 5*l.* for that from Mr. "James, and I was busy at the election" ?—He used to be out at nights. I believe he was half asleep all day long, so I suffered for that.

40,773. But what he was doing during the night you do not know ?—No.

40,774. He might have been enjoying some very good refreshment at some other house besides yours ?—He never had it at my house.

40,775. I mean some other house ?—I do not know.

The witness withdrew.

W. Joyes.

WILLIAM JOYES sworn and examined.

40,776. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a newsvend, I think ?—Yes.

40,777. What rent do you pay for your house ?—10*l.*

40,778. Did you vote at the last election?—I did.

40,779. For whom?—Mr. Gower.

40,780. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

40,781. Did any money pass through your hands?—Yes.

40,782. Can you tell me from whom you received the money?—I received a cheque from Mr. Smith for 16*l.*

40,783. Was that before the election or after?—The 22nd of November.

40,784. A long time after?—Yes.

40,785. Had you received any money before that?—I had. I was engaged in canvassing and other work during eight weeks, and I was allowed 10*s.* a week for my expenses. 3*l.* I received from Mr. Buckland and 1*l.* from Frederick Joyes.

40,786. I mean from Mr. Smith?—Oh, no; I beg your pardon.

40,787. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was not that a cheque for 16*l.* 10*s.* that you received from Mr. Smith?—I believe it was; I am not certain whether it was 16*l.* or 16*l.* 10*s.*

40,788. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was the only amount you received from Mr. Smith?—It was.

40,789. But during the canvassing you had received for your own services 3*l.* from Mr. Buckland?—Not for my services.

40,790. You received 3*l.* from Mr. Buckland and 1*l.* from your brother?—Yes, for my expenses.

40,791. What did you do with the 4*l.*?—It was to come in the shape of 10*s.* a week during the time I was canvassing, as my expenses.

40,792. I meant it for yourself; I do not mean your services; it was intended for yourself?—Yes, I received 5*l.* for my services.

40,793. You received 5*l.* for your own services, of course; was that out of the 16*l.* 10*s.*?—It was.

40,794. That would leave you 11*l.* 10*s.* to account for?—Yes.

40,795. How did you expend it?—I paid Job Apted 4*l.* 10*s.*, Goldsmith 1*l.*, Thomas Dale 30*s.*, John Thrift 30*s.*, Thomas Wood, and Stone; you have had all those men.

40,796. How did you pay 4*l.* 10*s.* to Job Apted?—2*l.* he owed me and 2*l.* 10*s.* he had not put in his bill when he gave his bill to Mr. Smith, and as I had not sent in my bill at all he asked me if I would put it down. He said, "I have omitted to put it in my "account, and if you will put it in your account and "give it me," and the 2*l.* which I had not had. I did so, and handed him the money and put it in my bill.

40,797. He came to you, I understand, and said, "I have drawn my money from Mr. Smith, and do "not want to draw another cheque, but as you have "not sent in your bill put these two sums in it"?—He asked me about the 2*l.* for Attwood, which he had omitted, and wanted me to have the kindness to put it in my bill, which I did.

40,798. And the 2*l.* 10*s.*?—The 2*l.* 10*s.*, I think, I lent him to pay a bill; he had not the money; he met me promiscuously in the street, and he told me to put it down in my bill.

40,799. Had he paid it on the election?—Yes.

40,800. I do not understand about the 2*l.* 10*s.*; that would be a private affair?—That, I believe, was to pay a score of Hodge's, of Woodhatch.

40,801. But your information from Job Apted was this; he said, "I have expended 4*l.* 10*s.* which is not "in my bill; but will you be kind enough to put it in "yours"?—Yes.

40,802. It was not a good way of business. The other you accounted for; did you pay the other to the men?—I did.

40,803. They have all been examined?—Yes.

40,804. Did they admit receiving the money?—They have all admitted it.

40,805. Did Dale admit it?—He admitted, I believe, that I paid it to him.

40,806. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you pay it to Dale himself or through Mr. Barker?—I believe I paid Dale himself; that is, Thomas Dale, of London-road.

40,807. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You only received 5*l.* for yourself?—That was all.

40,808. How long had you been working?—I worked eight weeks, or nearly, within a few days.

40,809. What had you been doing; had you distributed the newspapers?—No, I did not do anything of that sort.

40,810. I only want to know what you did; did you take out bills?—I canvassed, and I was in the room below addressing circulars and going through the list of voters; that was part of my duty.

40,811. What else did you do?—I attended several committee meetings of an evening to look at the register there.

40,812. That was not much pay for eight weeks' work, was it?—I expected more.

40,813. Did you send in any bill for more?—No, I did not.

40,814. You must have sent in an account in order to get the 16*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, I went to Mr. Smith and asked him to allow me some money. He said, "How "much do you want"? I said, "These men are "bothering me for money."

40,815. And he told you to put on the 5*l.* for yourself?—Yes, and to pay over to the other men what remained of the 16*l.* 10*s.*

40,816. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The sums which you have given us in detail make up 16*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, and I paid no other money away whatever.

40,817. Now the 4*l.* you had received for expenses, did you expend that?—I did.

40,818. You expended it?—My wages of 10*s.* a week was not much for canvassing.

40,819. Did you say Hood or Wood?—Thomas Wood, of West-street.

40,820. What did you pay Wood; was it 30*s.*?—Yes.

40,821. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you been engaged on former elections?—I voted on one election, but I have never been engaged before on any election.

40,822. When did you vote?—I voted when the present Lord Monson and Mr. Wilkinson contested the borough.

40,823. That would be in 1858?—Yes.

40,824. Did you vote in 1863?—No.

40,825. Did you vote in 1859, when Mr. Wilkinson put up?—If that was the last time that Mr. Monson was returned I did.

40,826. Were you on the committee?—No, I did no more than give my vote; I had nothing else to do with it.

40,827. Did you receive any money?—I did not.

40,828. Had you ever received any more than at this last election?—I have nothing.

40,829. Nothing except the 4*l.* for expenses and 5*l.* for your services?—I have not.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES WOODHOUSE sworn and examined.

J. Woodhouse.

40,830. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A stonemason.

40,831. What rent do you pay to put you on the register?—20*l.* a year.

40,832. For whom did you vote at the last election? Mr. Monson.

40,833. Who canvassed you for Mr. Monson?—Himself.

40,834. Were you afterwards spoken to by any of his canvassers?—Yes, I saw Mr. Nichols, and he asked me if I would like to be on the committee, and I said if he liked.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

J. Woodhouse.

10 Sept 1866.

40,835. Where was it that you saw Mr. Nichols?—In the street. I was coming up Bell-street at the time.

40,836. How long was it after you had promised Mr. Monson?—It might have been a week perhaps, I could not say to a short time.

40,837. How long before the election?—I saw him several times.

40,838. How long before the election, after you had seen Mr. Monson?—Some six weeks before the election I dare say it was.

40,839. Did you receive anything?—Yes, after the election.

40,840. What did you get?—2*l.*

40,841. Who paid you?—Mr. Nichols.

40,842. Did you know what it was paid for?—Oh, yes.

40,843. What was it paid for?—For services I suppose during the election; I did a little canvassing, I talked to all my friends about the election.

40,844. Over a cup of tea I suppose?—No, not over a cup of tea, nor yet over much ale. I went and canvassed a voter some miles away.

40,845. Who was that?—John Ashdown; he was paid his expenses. He was canvassed by Mr. Gower's party and he promised them, but he would not vote without his expenses.

40,846. Which way did he vote?—For Mr. Monson.

40,847. How far did he come to vote?—I should think it must be nine or ten miles from here.

40,848. Was he living nine or ten miles away?—Yes.

40,849. He had left the town?—Yes.

40,850. Had you any instructions from Mr. Nichols to offer him anything?—None whatever.

40,851. Not even his expenses?—No.

40,852. You did not succeed in getting him?—Yes.

40,853. Did you?—Yes.

40,854. Did you bring him with you?—No, I dare say it was a week before the election when I went. He said he would come if his expenses were paid, and I told him I would guarantee his expenses if I could not get him something.

40,855. He came for his expenses and voted?—He did; I paid them him.

40,856. I suppose you got that from Mr. Nichols?—I did.

40,857. It was not a portion of your 2*l.*?—It was not.

40,858. Was that all the money you got?—That was all.

40,859. What, were your expenses to go to this voter Ashdown?—I do not think you could put it down under 5*s.* or 6*s.*

40,860. I suppose you went over in the morning and came back in the afternoon?—No, I went in the afternoon.

40,861. And came back in the evening?—Yes.

40,862. Did you go after you finished your work?—No, I left my work.

40,863. Was it on a Saturday?—I think it was on a Monday.

40,864. On Holy Monday?—No, I do not have a holiday; when I can work I do. Unfortunately I cannot at the present time.

40,865. Had you voted before?—Yes.

40,866. When?—In '63.

40,867. Who did you vote for?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

40,868. Did you get anything that election?—I did.

40,869. How much?—2*l.*

40,870. Who paid you?—Frederick Joyes.

40,871. What had you done for that?—What I did was at night after my work, going round and attending meetings; I know what you will put that down as, doing nothing.

40,872. That is what you call being put on?—I never heard that before, not till yesterday.

40,873. It is a very good term. Had you voted before?—I had a vote before, but I did not exercise it; it was in the sham election. I promised Mr. Wilkinson, and he disappeared, and I never voted at all.

40,874. I believe that is all you know about the election?—That is all.

40,875. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where is J. Ashdown now?—I cannot tell you, I forget where he is, I cannot tell you just this moment.

40,876. Where was he at work when you last saw him?—I cannot remember the place now, I think I can before I leave the Court.

40,877. I wish you would tell me now. Were you paid your expenses for going to him?—No.

40,878. You cannot remember where he lived?—I cannot think of the name at the present time, I will let you know at all events.

40,879. Did you not get the 5*s.*?—No, Mr. Nichols said "I think for what you have done two sovereigns "will pay you."

40,880. Was that for the afternoon's work in going there?—No, I chatted and talked and went about the committee meetings. I went to the "White Hart" committee meeting five or six times.

The witness withdrew.

G. Nichols.

GEORGE NICHOLS sworn and examined.

40,881. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A smith.

40,882. A whitesmith?—Yes, and a shoeing smith.

40,883. What is the value of your house?—20*l.* a year.

40,884. Is it rented?—Yes.

40,885. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

40,886. Had you voted in previous elections?—Yes.

40,887. Had you voted for Mr. Gower at the election of '63?—Yes.

40,888. On this last election of 1865 were you on the committee?—I thinky name was on.

40,889. Who put it on?—I do not know; I suppose it was put on because I signed the requisition for Mr. Monson.

40,890. Who was it who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—No one.

40,891. How was it you came to vote for him?—This time?

40,892. Yes, this last time?—Because I signed the requisition to ask him to come forward, and after that Mr. Gower came forward.

40,893. I believe you took an active part?—No, not much this last time; very little.

40,894. Did you pay much money away to voters?—None at all.

40,895. Did you not receive any money from any one to pay away?—No.

40,896. But you canvassed, did you not?—I occasionally asked people to vote.

40,897. Did you give, then, no account of what you had done to anybody?—No, not at all.

40,898. Was there any person over you; I mean some higher agent?—No; we used to talk together of an evening.

40,899. Who?—Several of us.

40,900. Where at?—The "Grapes."

40,901. Is that the house kept by James Nichols?—Yes.

40,902. Is he your brother?—Yes.

40,903. He keeps the "Grapes," then?—Yes.

40,904. He paid a great deal of money away, did he not?—I believe he did; I do not know.

40,905. Did he not have occasion to pay you some money to pay away?—No, never.

40,906. Did no one hand you over money to pay away to anybody?—No.

40,907. Not for refreshments?—No.

40,908. Did you not on one occasion pay some refreshment bill for the committee, or something of that sort?—No, I think not; I did not pay any refreshment bill.

40,909. Did you receive any money before the election at all?—No money at all.

40,910. No money at all?—No money at all about the election.

40,911. I do not mean about the election, but did you receive any money at all before the election?—No.

40,912. Did you receive any money after the election?—No.

40,913. But you said just now you did not receive any money at all before the election about the election; never mind whether it was about it or not?—I mean that, of course; I received money in my trade, and that was all.

40,914. You mean your trade as a whitesmith?—Yes.

40,915. I am not referring to whitesmith's bills. Did you receive any money at all before the election?—No.

40,916. Never mind whether it was about the election or not?—No, it was not; I received no money whatever.

40,917. You said you did not receive any money about the election?—All the money I received was about my business.

40,918. Was there no cheque paid to you at all?—No, I do not recollect any cheque.

40,919. Try, if you please?—No.

40,920. Did you not receive a cheque about the time of the election?—No.

40,921. I thought that you had?—No.

40,922. You know I have got the cheques here, but I have not looked as yet; try and recollect. Your name is George; did you receive a cheque?—No.

40,923. Not before the election?—No.

40,924. Did you receive a cheque after the election?—No.

40,925. Do you recollect making up some accounts about the time of the election?—I went into an account with my brother for work which I had done for him.

40,926. Before or after the election?—I received money from my brother frequently; I do not know whether it was before or after the election.

40,927. I understand your answer to be that you made up an account with your brother for work done, and handed it to him?—I made up an account, but I never made up a bill.

40,928. You made up that account for work done for your brother with him?—Yes.

40,929. Do you recollect whether that account was made up before or after the election?—I do not know.

40,930. Did he pay you that account?—He paid me some on account.

40,931. How much did he pay you on account?—Oh, several sums.

40,932. I wish you would be good enough to tell me how much; that is the information I want?—Sometimes 5*l.*, and sometimes 10*l.*; he would pay me sometimes on a Saturday night, when I wanted to pay men.

40,933. Did he pay you in cash or by cheque?—Sometimes money, cash; and sometimes by cheque.

40,934. Did that last during the whole time the election was going on?—It lasted all the time; and for some years past we have had an account, but have never settled up.

40,935. I do not want to go into any private matters previous to the election, but during the time the election was going on, can you tell me what money you received from your brother, on account of work done for him?—30*l.* perhaps.

40,936. For work done for him?—Yes.

40,937. I have taken it at 30*l.* perhaps. I do not want to tie you to the sum. Can you tell me whether it was by cash or cheques, or both?—Both, I should fancy.

40,938. Pray understand me, I am not at all going into private matters, but the 30*l.* related to work which you had done for your brother during the time of the election?—I think so.

40,939. I do not want to go into anything about the time of the election. Your brother was a very active man about the election?—Yes.

40,940. Was it in this way, that while your brother was out canvassing and doing what he had to do, you attended to his work at the "Grapes" for him?—I did my own work.

40,941. What was this paid for?—For work done, and I assisted in the house.

40,942. Was the 30*l.* paid to you for assisting in the house during the election, while your brother was out, attending of course to the election business?—I asked him for some money once, and he gave me a cheque to pay a bill. I suppose it was so.

40,943. Was that money which he handed over to you to pay a private bill?—We never had a settlement.

40,944. You asked him for a cheque, and he handed it over to you?—Yes.

40,945. Did not that cheque refer to a bill?—I do not understand that it is that; he wrote me out a cheque.

40,946. What the amount of the cheque?—I do not know.

40,947. What bank was it on? Did you take it to this bank here?—I think it was the New Bank.

40,948. What was the New Bank?—The English Joint Stock Bank.

40,949. Is that here now?—No, it has since broken down; he had an account at both places.

49,950. I only want to know where you took the cheque?—I sent it up to London. I paid it away in London.

40,951. You gave us first of all to understand that it was on a bank here?—Payable here, and I sent it away.

40,952. You did not get money for it here?—No.

40,953. You remember now to whom it was paid; I dare say you can recollect the amount?—Well, about 30*l.*

40,954. That was for 30*l.*?—Yes.

40,955. Remember that it was a 30*l.* cheque, and tell me this truly; did you owe the whole of that 30*l.* to anybody in London?—Yes, and more too.

40,956. Can you give me the date when you sent it?—No.

40,957. Can you tell me about the date, it was during the election; the election was the beginning of July?—It was before that.

40,958. It was before July?—Yes.

40,959. Are you able to tell me to whom you paid that cheque in London?—I do not remember now.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien implored the witness to be cautious and to think over his evidence during the night.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY.

J. Mazden.

21 Sept. 1866.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY.

Friday, 21st September 1866.

JAMES MAZDEN sworn and examined.

40,960. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—An inn keeper.

40,961. Where at?—Mead-vale.

40,962. What rent do you pay?—35*l.*

40,963. Whose house is it?—Neale Mellesh's.

40,964. Did you vote for Mr. Gower at the last election?—I did.

40,965. You were on his committee and took an active part?—I did.

40,966. I believe you were one of those who received money?—I did; here is the account.

40,967. Your account with whom?—Mr. Smith.

40,968. Who did you receive monies from in the first instance?—Mr. Smith.

40,969. All the monies you received?—I received small sums from Mr. Penfold, between 3*l.* and 4*l.*

40,970. Never mind that?—All the monies then that I received from the election were from Mr. Smith.

40,971. In what way?—In cheques.

40,972. Be good enough to tell me how much money you received altogether?—64*l.*

40,973. In cheques?—In cheques.

40,974. You are sure of that?—Yes, according to the best of my knowledge that is the amount.

40,975. In various amounts?—Yes, in various amounts; the first cheque I received was for 30*l.*

40,976. What was the first cheque?—I have not got the date of when I received it.

40,977. Can you give me the amount?—The first was 30*l.*

40,978. Do you know the second?—I think it was 15*l.*; then 10*l.* and 9*l.* I think they were the four cheques I received.

40,979. Does that make up the amount?—Yes.

40,980. That is all you received, and that was previous to the election?—After the election most of it.

40,981. What were you to receive for yourself?—50*l.*

40,982. When was that agreed upon?—At the commencement of the election, about six or seven weeks before.

40,983. The amount was agreed upon, the sum?—Yes, the amount was 50*l.* down; that was agreed upon at the beginning of the election.

40,984. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Between whom?—Between Mr. Smith and myself.

40,985. You talked of the sum?—That was the sum.

40,986. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you get paid that?—No, I did not.

40,987. None of it?—Yes, 30*l.*

40,988. When?—At the commencement.

40,989. Is that the first cheque?—That is the first cheque.

40,990. Tell me, when did you get paid the 20*l.*; 30*l.* and 20*l.* makes 50*l.*?—I was not paid the other.

40,991. I asked you whether you had been paid or not. I want to know whether you were paid it?—The 30*l.*?

40,992. No, the 20*l.*?—I have not been paid it; I have not received it.

40,993. Are you quite sure you have not received it?—I am quite sure; if I had received it I should tell you, but I have not received it.

40,994. Have you received money under any other heading which would cover it?—No, I will show you correctly how my account stands.

40,995. How much money have you paid away altogether in regard to the election?—I have paid away altogether 75*l.* 10*s.*, including the 30*l.*

40,996. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Never mind the 30*l.*; you did not pay that away?—I received it. I spent 75*l.* 10*s.* including the one I received.

40,997. Exclusive of what you received yourself?—Deducting that amount it would be 45*l.* 10*s.*; you would have to deduct 30*l.* from 75*l.* 10*s.*

40,998. How much money did you pay away altogether with regard to the election; do not let us have a conversation about it?—45*l.* 10*s.*

40,999. That is all you have paid away?—Yes.

41,000. After the election did you send in to Mr. Smith by his desire an account of the monies you had paid away?—I sent in an account.

41,001. It is a perfectly simple question; did you, after the election, send in to Mr. Smith an account at his request?—No, I saw it advertised in the papers.

41,002. Do not let us have any conversation, it is only asking you very simply aye or no; did you, after the election, send in to Mr. Smith, at his request or desire, a list of the monies you had paid away?—No.

41,003. You are quite sure of that?—Yes.

41,004. When did you send in to Mr. Smith an account of the monies you expended?—Soon after the election.

41,005. I should be obliged if you would tell me a little nearer?—I should think it would be the week following.

41,006. Why did you do that?—Because I saw it advertised that the accounts were to be sent in, that all accounts were to be sent in to Mr. Smith, on or before a certain date.

41,007. That was your reason?—Yes.

41,008. You had no conversation with Mr. Smith on the subject?—Not the slightest. I did not.

41,009. What was the the amount you sent in of money you had paid away?—I sent in the amount which I thought was due to me.

41,010. I ask you what amount?—I cannot tell you now.

41,011. "I cannot tell you what amount I sent in," shall I take that?—Yes; I do not think I should have any account.

41,012. "I cannot tell the amount I sent in to Mr. "Smith;" be kind enough to tell me how you know the amount now?—Because I have gone into it since.

41,013. Then, when you sent in your account to Mr. Smith, you sent it in without going into it?—Yes.

41,014. Then it was quite capricious what sum you put down?—20*l.* I considered was about what was due to me.

41,015. But you sent in an account; now, it comes to this, "I sent it in to Mr. Smith in the first instance, "without going into it;" what I want to know is what was the account you sent in to Mr. Smith?—20*l.*; I received some of the cheques after the election to pay the men.

41,016. I did not say one word about the monies you received, as your payments were sent in after the election to Mr. Smith; you sent in an account of what you had had?—Of the 20*l.* the payments were most of them after the election.

41,017. You sent in an account to Mr. Smith of payments you had made, and what was the amount of it?—20*l.*

41,018. You saw in the newspaper that it was necessary that the accounts by agents should be sent in to the authorized agent, Mr. Smith?—That is right.

41,019. In consequence of seeing that in the advertisements did you send in your account of disbursements?—Yes, of my claim.

41,020. Now, I want to know according to that what was the amount of the disbursements you sent in to Mr. Smith?—45*l.* is what I paid away altogether, but then I received it after.

41,021. We are getting into a conversation, and I should be much obliged if you would not do so, because I shall be obliged to press you for an answer?—20*l.* is what I say.

41,022. What do you say about 20*l.*?—20*l.* is the balance of my account.

41,023. I do not want a syllable about the balance of your account; I want to know when you saw this notice in the paper and what is the amount of the account you sent in?—20*l.*; but I received some cheques from Mr. Smith after the election to pay them.

41,024. To pay what?—To pay those men that I had got down.

41,025. You had paid them?—I have.

41,026. You had paid them?—No, not till after the election.

41,027. How much money had you received before the election?—30*l.* for my own account.

41,028. We will go into that account afterwards; do not if you please confuse accounts at all?—I cannot say what I did receive before the election; I received 45*l.* altogether before and after the election to pay these men with; that was all I received from Mr. Smith.

41,029. I want you to divide that into what you received before the election and what you received after?—I cannot tell you, or of course I would.

41,030. Now I must ask you this question, tell me exactly what sort of an account you sent in to Mr. Smith after the election in consequence of seeing this advertisement in the paper?—I sent in an account for 20*l.* due to me.

41,031. Was it for "Monies paid away by James "Mazden," was it something like that?—I cannot tell you now, but it was something like that I think.

41,032. You are a man of business?—Well, these are electioneering matters, and I forget them generally after the election and cannot remember it, and think they ought to be forgotten.

41,033. Pray do not let us have any conversation or interjection?—I did not want to accept any money, because ——

41,034. Tell me what the amount of the account was you sent in to Mr. Smith?—I do not know.

41,035. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you ever send in an account of the monies you expended?—I went to Mr. Smith and drew the money, as I thought, to pay the men.

41,036. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you ever send the account in?—I only sent in the account I tell you of. I never sent in an account of what I expended, because it was such a complicated affair, as I could not get the money to pay the men until after the election.

41,037. I have got it down that it was after the election, whatever it was. I have got it down that "After the election I sent in an account to Mr. Smith "for the monies I expended," and now I have just taken your last answer down, "I never sent in an account "to Mr. Smith of the monies I expended"?—I tell you I sent in an account to Mr. Smith at the first commencement.

41,038. Of what?—Of what was owing to me.

41,039. I ask you what was the account you sent in to Mr. Smith?—I sent in 20*l.*

41,040. What was the 20*l.* for?—For the balance of the fee.

41,041. The 20*l.* was the residue of your fee?—Yes.

41,042. Did you think that satisfied the advertisement you saw in the paper?—Of course it did.

41,043. It is not my duty to find fault with you. My only business is to get the facts?—I will tell you the truth.

41,044. Tell me, if you please, whether Mr. Smith has ever had from you an account of how you spent the 45*l.* 10*s.* you received?—He had the vouchers of it that I paid the men.

41,045. When?—As I paid them I have sent them over to Mr. Smith. I think it was after the election. So soon as I could get the money to pay the men I sent the vouchers too.

41,046. I suppose when you paid A. B.; you know what I mean, any voter?—I know what you mean.

41,047. Did you, after paying them, send the receipt for it?—I always had a receipt.

41,048. I suppose you kept that by you and put it in your account?—If Mr. Smith gave me a cheque for 20*l.*, and I paid it away, I sent the vouchers to him as I paid the money. I did not get it all at once, and I used to receive it in different cheques.

41,049. That being so, you have never since the election sent in a general account of monies paid away by you to Mr. Smith?—No.

41,050. Then Mr. Smith is only aware of what money you paid away by looking through the vouchers he received from you?—All the money I paid he has got the vouchers for.

41,051. You say you paid 45*l.* altogether before and after the election?—Yes.

41,052. Does the 45*l.* include anything for yourself?—No; that is what I paid away, 45*l.* 10*s.* I received 64*l.* from Mr. Smith altogether, and I paid away 34*l.*, deducting my fee of 30*l.*

41,053. Then we have got it wrong on the notes?—I paid away altogether 34*l.*, and there was 30*l.* for myself.

41,054. That is 64*l.* exactly?—Yes.

41,055. Putting out of your account altogether your fee what is it?—I received 34*l.*

41,056. I have got it all on my notes, and it quite startles me to question about it. It is wrong what I have got, that you received in all 64*l.* in cheque?—That is right.

41,057. "Of the 64*l.* I paid away 45*l.* 10*s.*"?—That is right, but I received from Mr. Smith 34*l.*, and paid away 11*l.* 10*s.* more than I received.

41,058. Out of your own pocket?—Yes.

41,059. Have you ever had that back?—No.

41,060. Then Mr. Smith owes you now exactly 31*l.* 10*s.*?—That is right.

41,061. 20*l.* for your own fee, and 11*l.* 10*s.* for money which he has never provided you with?—That is right.

41,062. When you say you have paid away about the election 45*l.* 10*s.* you mean you have in fact paid it away, but of that sum you have only received 34*l.* to meet it from Mr. Smith?—Yes.

41,063. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I thought you said you sent in the vouchers to Mr. Smith?—So I have.

41,064. Why did not Mr. Smith pay you the 11*l.* 10*s.* for which you had got the vouchers?—I never applied for it; in fact, until I went into it I had no idea about what it was.

41,065. Has he get the vouchers for the 11*l.* 10*s.*?—He has got all the vouchers for the 45*l.* 10*s.*

41,066. Then he has got them for the 11*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

41,067. Have you ever seen that paper?—No.

41,068. That is Mr. Smith's?—I have never seen that.

41,069. Cheque 15*l.*, cheque 10*l.*, and cheque 9*l.*?—The 20*l.* cheque, I think, must be a mistake. I think it is 10*l.* I received instead of 20*l.* I never saw that before. There is not my signature.

41,070. There is no signature to it?—No; what I have paid you see; you see all I received.

41,071. The 20*l.* you say is a mistake?—I think so; I think it was 10*l.*; but upon my word I did not keep an account of it, and cannot tell you. I believe it was 10*l.* I dare say you can tell by the cheque book, for I have not seen Mr. Smith to ask him about it.

41,072. Will you be so good as to tell me what the

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY.

J. Mazden.

21 Sept. 1866.

amount is you have got in your hand?—I will give it you.

41,073. Tell us what it is?—75*l.* 10*s.* These were the men I had to pay.

41,074. That was the amount. When was it made out; was it the other day?—No; that is an old account.

41,075. When was it made out?—That I copied over a fortnight ago.

41,076. What did you copy it from?—From the list you see there; there is the amount I paid the men, and I took it all off in rotation.

41,077. This list is made out lately?—No.

41,078. Is that an old list?—That is an old list; one of the electioneering papers.

41,079. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When was it made?—It has been made these 18 months. Those were the monies that I paid. Our district extends a mile and a half, I dare say. Earlswood common is in it, and those were the men I paid.

41,080. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to know what this list is?—That is the account copied from the names in the paper.

41,081. Those are the names of the men, and here are the amounts?—Those are the amounts I paid.

41,082. Are the monies the same here as there?—Quite so.

41,083. I see that you have paid out according to the list apparently 75*l.* 10*s.*?—That is quite right.

41,084. Why did you tell me you paid out 45*l.* 10*s.*?—If you look you will see my fee is included in that. I gave you an account of that.

41,085. When did you last see Mr. Smith about this matter?—I have not seen Mr. Smith for a very long time; not since this Inquiry has gone on. I have not been to him. I thought my account was straightforward, and I would not go to him.

41,086. How long is it since you saw him?—I cannot tell you.

41,087. Did you see him during the time the accounts were sent in; about the audit?—No.

41,088. Did Mr. Smith desire you to put your own fee down at 30*l.*?—No, he did not.

41,089. He did not?—Never. I put down what I had received from him.

41,090. You had not received your fee according to your account?—I received 30*l.*, and I put that down.

41,091. Can you tell me when it was you received the first cheque?—That was the commencement, the 30*l.*

41,092. No, not the 30*l.*; it was afterwards, in October. You do not know when that was paid you, I suppose?—I could not tell.

41,093. Are you quite sure it was paid you?—Do you mean the 15*l.* cheque?

41,094. No. You say you received a cheque for 10*l.*, which you see in this account I have shown you is 20*l.*?—Yes, it is.

41,095. Supposing it was wrongly entered as 20*l.*, can you tell me when it was paid you?—No, I cannot, I have not the accounts.

41,096. Oh, here it is, "On the 1st of November 20*l.*;" so there is not much doubt about it?—I cannot tell you whether it was 10*l.* or 20*l.*

41,097. This is not in Mr. Smith's account, this is from the bankers who paid it?—Then it must be so; there is no doubt about it.

41,098. There is no doubt about it?—Of course there is not, if that is the banker's book; then, of course, it is right.

41,099. So that the money you received altogether amounts to 74*l.*, and not to 64*l.*?—That is right.

41,100. Now we will just look at this; you have received 74*l.* altogether, and you have paid away 45*l.*?—45*l.* 10*s.*

41,101. Yes, 45*l.* 10*s.* Then there is 20*l.* instead of 10*l.*, so that he owes you 30*l.*?—Yes.

41,102. Will you tell me what name is on the bottom of that paper (*handing paper to witness*)?—William Terry's.

41,103. We have not heard him?—No.

41,104. Where does he live?—Mead-vale.

41,105. Is he a voter?—Yes.

41,106. I see there it is 7*l.*?—1*l.*

41,107. It looks like 7*l.*, but perhaps I read it wrong?—It is 1*l.*

41,108. Now tell me this, if you please. In 1863 what part did you take in the election?—I took a part for Mr. Wilkinson.

41,109. What is Hewett's christian name?—George.

41,110. Where does he live?—He lives at Mead-vale, only he has left.

41,111. Has he gone away altogether?—Yes.

41,112. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you pay him?—No.

41,113. In 1863 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes, I voted for him three times.

41,114. Did you work for him?—I did, and he had a committe room at my house; nine weeks I think the election was on.

41,115. Did you receive a fee on that occasion?—I did, 25*l.* for the committee and my services.

41,116. Who paid it you?—Mr. James, who is since dead.

41,117. There was a committee room at your house?—Yes, there was for nine weeks, all the time the election lasted.

41,118. You say the 25*l.* included the room and your services?—Yes.

41,119. Do you remember, have you mentioned it in your account?—No; I sent in the account "For "self and committee room."

41,120. You were paid for refreshments?—Yes.

41,121. From time to time as you went on?—Yes.

41,122. Who paid you?—A man of the name of Rose.

41,123. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Alec Rose?—No, Ephraim Rose.

41,124. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Could you tell me how much?—No.

41,125. Nothing like it?—No, I could not tell you at all.

41,126. Did you pay out any money?—No; the money did not come through my hands at all, it came through Rose's hands.

41,127. Did you pay any money at all?—I do not think I did.

41,128. Try and recollect?—I do not think I did; it principally came through Rose, he had the handling of all the money, I believe, at that election.

41,129. When were you paid; I think you were about to tell me?—After the election.

41,130. In 1859, can you tell me?—I did not take much part in that election; it was only a blank election.

41,131. Who did you vote for?—Wilkinson; I voted for Wilkinson three times.

41,132. What did you receive on that occasion?—I think it was 10*l.* that I received.

41,133. Who from?—That I cannot tell you.

41,134. I wish you would?—I do not know who was the agent at that time.

41,135. Was it Cape?—Cape I think was the person.

41,136. Did you pay out any money on that occasion?—No, I did not have the handling of any money on that occasion.

41,137. Can you tell me how you voted on the second election in 1858?—I had not a vote at the time of Doulton's election.

41,138. But after that?—For Wilkinson, and the election after that; I voted for Wilkinson up to this last election.

41,139. Did you work for him?—No, I did not take any part.

41,140. Did you receive anything on that occasion?—I do not think I did.

41,141. I wish you would try and recollect, for it may make the account wrong?—No, I do not think I did; no, I did not; no, I am sure I did not.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY.

J. Mazden.

21 Sept. 1866.

41,142. As I do not wish to tie you down to it, I had better take it, "I do not think I received anything in "Doulton's election, which was in the February of "that year." Did you vote for him?—No; I had not a vote; I took my house the following week after the election.

41,143. Did any money go through your hands?—No, I had nothing to do with it. I took no part at all in that election.

41,144. Have you any list by which you can give me the names of persons to whom you paid money in 1863?—I did not pay any money away then, Ephraim Rose handled the money then.

41,145. I had forgotten what you told me, I understood you to say in 1863 you did not pay yourself? No, Rose paid all the voters.

41,146. I dare say you know the name of Elcock; we have had him under another name?—No, I do not know him.

41,147. We have had Broom?—Broom I do not know; he was not in my district at all.

41,148. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were there any committee meetings at your house in 1865?—There were a few; the committee men used to meet, and would, perhaps, appoint, men to go and see voters.

41,149. Did persons in your rooms have refreshments?—In small quantities, not much.

41,150. Did you pay them?—No. Penfold paid about 3*l.* 10*s.*; that was the amount all through the election; I think he has got the bills.

41,151. Whatever it was, he has the bill?—Yes.

41,152. Did any one come and pay?—Yes, I think so; the amount for the whole election was only 3*l.* 10*s.*; it was only a little drink that was going on.

41,153. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There is the name of Thatcher; which Thatcher is it?—John Thatcher, of Mead-vale.

41,154. Is he there now?—He is there now. There is one thing I wish to ask.

41,155. Yes, what is it?—There was a man of the name of James Apps, who told youI offered him 5*l.*

41,156. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith, reading.*) He said "He asked me for my vote, and said as I got "nothing the time before, if I came on their side "he would give me 5*l.*, as they were all going to "have the same?"—I can contradict that, I can bring a witness to corroborate and prove what I say.

41,157. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You deny it?—Yes, I do deny it.

41,158. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You could only have a witness to prove a negative?—Yes, it is a negative, but I do not wish to put up with a calumny. I am quite ready to put up with and bear the blame of all I did myself.

41,159. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You canvassed him I suppose?—No, I did not, I did not canvass him at all.

41,160. You spoke to him about voting?—No, I would not have anything to do with the man.

41,161. Do you mean to say you never spoke to the man at all?—I never spoke to the man at all, not on this election; I knew him on the former election; I knew he was a man not to be depended upon.

41,162. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He voted against you?—Yes, this election; I wish to contradict his statement.

41,163. When did you know he was going to vote against you?—I never inquired of or asked him.

DAVID DURRANT sworn and examined.

D. Durrant.

41,164. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think you are a publican?—No, a small brewer.

41,165. What rent do you pay for your house?—It is rated at 22*l.*

41,166. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

41,167. You took an active part?—Yes.

41,168. Money passed through your hands?—Yes.

41,169. From whom did you receive the money that you paid away?—I received three cheques from Mr. Buckland.

41,170. From whom?—Mr. Thomas Buckland.

41,171. Did you receive money from anybody else?—Yes, from Mr. Smith.

41,172. How much did you receive from Mr. Buckland?—15*l.* first.

41,173. No; no. How much in all? If you will attend to my questions; how much money did you receive from Mr. Buckland?—65*l.*

41,174. How much money did you receive from Mr. Smith?—40*l.*

JAMES NICHOLS called.

J. Nichols.

41,175. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want from you, Mr. Nichols, all documents which you have got, if you please, referring to the last election of 1865?—Yes.

41,176. And 1863?—I have none of 1863.

41,177. Oh, very well, then I want all documents you have connected with the election of 1865, and banker's books and vouchers, if you will let me have them; everything. I want particularly the pass book and the book with the counterfoils?—Showing all the monies that I paid away?

41,178. Yes; I don't want to swear you at present; if you will get me those and let me have them as soon as you can?—Some time to-day?

41,179. I shall be much obliged if you will go and fetch them for me, and let me have them by 1 o'clock. You will be good enough to let me have everything, and that will save the trouble of calling for further documents?—You can have the whole of it in one document.

11,180. That will be no use?—That is the only one I have.

41,181. You have got the pass books and counterfoils?—I have got the counterfoils.

41,182. You have two accounts at different bankers, I want both?—Very well.

41,183. We have got them all, as far as I know, from the other side, and we want to get yours.

DAVID DURRANT.—Examination continued.

D. Durrant.

41,184. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 65*l.* from Mr. Buckland and 40*l.* from Mr. Smith?—The whole of it was from Mr. Smith, but Mr. Buckland brought part of it to me.

41,185. Then we had better take it as all from Mr. Smith?—It is all in my accounts as from Mr. Smith.

41,186. Then you received in all 105*l.*?—Yes.

41,187. Did you receive it in cheques?—Yes.

41,188. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The cheques were drawn in your favour and in your name?—Yes.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY.

D. Durrant.

21 Sept. 1866.

41,189. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you received the money before or after the election ?—I received two cheques before the election.

41,190. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How many afterwards ?—Two afterwards.

41,191. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much of that money did you expend on behalf of the election ?—I believe I spent nearly the whole of it. I may have been a pound or two short.

41,192. You have no accounts ?—No, I have no accounts.

41,193. That is not the way in which persons do business on their own account ? Did not Mr. Smith call upon you for an account ?—Yes.

41,194. He handed you over 105*l.* First of all, how much were you to have yourself ?—25*l.*

41,195. Was that agreed upon ?—Mr. Smith promised me 30*l.* himself, but when this Inquiry had taken place I understood that I had to account for 80*l.*

41,196. Was your 25*l.* agreed upon when you were set to work. Had you agreed, "I will work for you "for 25*l.* ?"—Yes.

41,197. That was agreed upon ?—Yes.

41,198. Then you know there was in your possession 105*l.* which you received from Mr. Smith, and deducting your own 25*l.* there was 80*l.* that you had to account for ?—Yes.

41,199. Did you send in to Mr. Smith an account of how you expended that 80*l.* ?—No.

41,200. Did he ever ask you for an account of it ?—Yes, seven or eight weeks ago ; then I sent it in, but never before.

41,201. He never asked you for it till seven or eight weeks ago ?—No.

41,202. Then you, not having kept an account with yourself, could only send him in a very loose one ?—That is all. I had not a correct account, so I only sent in an account as well as I could.

41,203. You did not know how you paid it away ?—I sent it in as near as I could.

41,204. Mr. Smith requested you to do it ?—Yes, he said I had 80*l.* to account for.

41,205. Did you know how much you had to account for till he told you how much it was ?—No.

41,206. And then, I see, to the best of your recollection, you made it out 79*l.* 3*s.* I think that is it ? 79*l.* ?

14,207. Look at that (*handing an account to the witness*). Is that your handwriting ?—No, it is not.

41,208. How much did you make it out in that account which you sent to Mr. Smith ?—Well, it was something like 70*l.* ; some odd pounds ; it did not quite reach 80*l.*

41,209. You came near it, I think ?—Yes.

4I,110. Look at the account again (*handing same*), and see if it is not in your handwriting ?—Yes, I see it is ; I thought at a distance it was not, but it is.

41,211. Well, I will take it for what it is worth Mr. Durrant, which is nothing you know ?—Very well, sir.

41,212. Cannot you give me an account of how you spent the money ? How many did you put on ?—I never bribed any.

41,213. No ; how many did you put on ? I really did not mean it ; how many did you employ ?—I think I paid something like five and twenty voters ; I think it was three or four or five and twenty.

41,214. That is what I want to know ?—There might have been one or two over, and there might have been one or two under.

41,215. Are the names here (*referring to the account*) ?—Not all of them.

41,216–7. I want the names. If you will give me the names of the voters I will not trouble you about the account ?—You have had most of them, I believe.

It is the hare we have not hunted that we want.

41,218–9. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You try and make the 25 ?—How many have you got there ?

41,220. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We have had Williams, T. Williams, jun. ?—Yes.

41,221. And we have had Mr. Champion ?—Yes.

41,222. We had not Wilkins, had we ?

41,223. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have we had Stanton ?—Yes.

41,224. We have had all these, have we ? Tell us some we have not had, if you please. Who is Pelham ?—Pelham has been.

41,225. That is Pelling ?—I suppose it is spelt wrong.

41,226. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Be good enough to look at the list and tell us some that we have had not had ?—There is Benjamin Smith.

41,227. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Of where ?—The freehold.

41,228. What is he ?—A shoemaker.

41,229. What did you pay him ?—2*l.*

41,230. Tell us another ?—You mean men that have not been examined ?

41,231. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Yes ?—I think there are but two.

41,232. Which are they ?—Mitchell of Dover's-green.

41,233. George Mitchell ?—I do not know his name. You will find Smith has been examined, only he is not in that list.

41,234. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that Henry Mitchell ?—He has not been examined.

41,235. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you pay him ?—10*s.*

41,236. For what ?—Loss of time.

41,237. What others are there ?—Fuller, of Dover's-green.

41,238. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have not we had him ?—No, I think not.

41,239. We have had a Fuller ?—I don't know whether you might have had him.

41,240. What Christian name ?—I do not know.

41,241. What did you pay him ?—10*s.*

41,242. Anybody else ?—I don't recollect any one else but what you have examined.

41,243. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was it Frederick Fuller ?—You have had all the others except them two. I don't think Fuller has been up.

41,244. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For whom did he vote ? He voted on your side, did not he ?—Yes, for Mr. Gower.

41,245. Had you been concerned in 1863, Mr. Durrant ?—Yes.

41,246. For whom ?—For Mr. Gower ; I voted for Mr. Gower.

41,247. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

41,248. What did you receive for your own fee on that occasion ?—15*l.*

41,249. Did any money pass through your hands ?—Yes ; I really cannot tell from——

41,250. About how much ?—I should think from 12*l.* to 14*l.* Mr. Wicks and me were at work together in the freehold, Mark Wicks.

41,251. Who paid you your fee in 1863 ?—It was paid by a cheque from Mr. Smith.

41,252. Wicks and you then worked at the freehold together ?—Yes ; I think it was from 12*l.* to 14*l.* that I received, and I think I gave Wickes 6*l.* of it.

41,253. You did not do much then ?—There was very little at the freehold ; they were very strong for Wilkinson at the freehold.

41,254. Is there any name of that time that you can recollect you paid money to that we have not had ?—Yes ; William Sherlock.

41,255. Is he there now ?—No.

41,256. How much did you pay him ?—5*l.*

41,257. Anybody else ?—No. John Martin I paid 1*l.* to, but he has been examined.

41,258. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The only one we have got of you at present, I see, of 1863, is

Thomas Bradford; you paid him 2*l.* I dare say we may have more. John Martin; did you pay him?—Yes, John Martin; he has been examined.

41,259. You paid him, how much?—1*l.*

41,260. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was there anybody else? Who told you about the cannon; Who brought word to you about it?—Mr. Williams.

41,261. He came himself?—Yes.

41,262. You sent a man. Who did you send about the cannon?

41,263. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was Russell?—I never sent to Russell. I never had anything to do with it. Williams came to me.

41,264. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) (Williams came to you and you sent him to Russell about the cannon?—I entirely left it to Williams about the cannon.

41,265. What money did you give him?—6*l.*

41,266. You put it down, did not you, in your account?—Yes, as paid to Williams for services.

41,267. You put it down as paid to him?—Yes; I told him I should do so at the time if I had to account for the money.

41,268. You told him so at the time?—Yes.

41,269. You know he had not done any service?—I know he had.

41,270. But he said that he had not. He said he did not receive any of it?—He was a man that worked as hard as any man in the parish.

41,271. How much money did he receive?—Nothing at all. He is a man who would be offended if you offered him anything.

41,272. Who? Williams, jun.?—Yes.

41,273. Then it was not very pleasant for him to be put down here as being paid 6*l.*?—It was quite his own doing. He came to me and said that Russell had got a cannon, and he should like to have it. He said, "I should like to have wheels put to it, and I could "keep it at Mr. Waters', so that I could put a horse "and have it up to the park at any time and back "again;" I said, "I can't say anything about that, "Mr. Williams, but I will inquire of the committee "about it." I came up to the town, saw Mr. Buckland and named it to him. Mr. Buckland said, "We "shall be very sorry to offend Mr. Williams; he is a "man that has taken a very active part in the election, "and everything he does is quite gratis, so let him do "as he likes; but recollect," Mr. Buckland says, "I will "have nothing to do with it myself, but let Williams "do as he likes about it." Williams came to me "again, and I says, "You can have the 6*l.*, but if I "have to give an account to Mr. Smith it will stand "against you as for your services." So I gave him 6*l.*

41,274. Was there any other member of the committee present when you spoke to Mr. Buckland?—No, not any one.

41,275. Mr. Buckland and you were working together?—Well, I was really sub-agent under Mr. Buckland. I most applied to him for any information I wanted, I never went to Mr. Smith.

41,276. Before 1863 had you been employed at an election, Mr. Durrant?—Yes, I worked in 1859.

41,277. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was the general election?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

41,278. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There was no work then; that was the election when he did not come forward?—Then it was not at that election.

41,279. Then perhaps it was in 1858?—Well, it might be 1858.

41,280. October 1858; that was Wilkinson and Monson?—Yes, it was Wilkinson and Monson.

41,281. Tell me, what did you receive at that election?—10*l.*

41,282. In the October of 1858?—Yes.

41,283. Did you pay any monies away?—I did, but I do not know what the amount was; 3*l.* or 4*l.* out of my own pocket during the election at meetings; refreshments.

41,284. Who repaid you that?—Well, after the election I sent in my account.

41,285. To Mr. James?—To Mr. James; 10*l.*

41,286. Who paid you?—He paid me.

41,287. Had you been engaged in the election which took place in the early part of 1858?—No, I voted for Rawlinson.

41,288. But I mean were monies passing through your hands?—No, I never took an active part.

41,289. And you got no money?—No.

41,290. Do you recollect whether you voted at all in 1859?—No, the election after that 1858 one I did not vote.

41,291. Did you supply any beer; were orders given you to supply beer after the election? We understand that you supplied a man with beer?—Which election?

41,292. The last election?—No.

41,293. Do you recollect a man who as a beershop keeper had his beer from you, and did not get his license afterwards; I forget his name?—I never supplied it.

41,294. Perhaps it is another brewer?—Yes.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I dare say you will be kind enough to look at that list. Is not it a correct list? I have taken it down as a correct list of the names of persons you paid money to; I will read it if you like. (*The list was handed to the witness and read.*)

41,295. Do you know whether there are any more?—No.

41,296. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did anything take place between you and William Humphrey? Did you offer to strike anything off?—If he would go to work for us in 1863.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Those that we have got proved in 1863 are Bradford, Martin, and Sherlock; you have not furnished us with any more yet.

41,297. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There was James Woodman, that was in 1863?—Yes, he sent his account in to Mr. Smith.

41,298. John Martin was in 1863?—Yes.

41,299. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you employ a man named Wilkins?—Yes.

41,300. What is his name?—Thomas Wilkins.

41,301. What did you pay him?—I paid him 4*l.* 10*s.*

41,302. He was examined on the 27th August, and he said he had nothing; he said he got a blank?—There are plenty to prove that I paid him.

41,303. Then I must go into particulars in regard to that. Do you recollect whether you paid him anything before the election?—He had it all before the election. As soon as he left off work and I saw him he had his money, every week.

41,304. You paid him in three 30*s.*, did you?—Sometimes as soon as he had done the work he would come, and I would pay him there and then. If I did not pay it myself I gave it to some one else to pay.

41,305. How much money did you hand him yourself; we must have all the particulars, because he has denied it?—How much to him myself?

41,306. Yes?—I really cannot say how much I did.

41,307. Did you hand him any?—Yes.

41,308. About how much?—The first time I gave him 10*s.*; I cannot recollect any further payment myself, but I know that he had 4*l.* 10*s.*

41,309. That won't do in contradictory evidence, you know; it is very important that we should have the particulars. To whom did you give the money to give to him?—William Groom, I believe, paid him some.

41,310. You only recollect paying him 10*s.*?—I do not recollect anything further; that was at the commencement. Pelling paid him some.

41,311. Do you mean the man who was called up when you were examined?—Yes.

41,312. Is he a voter?—Yes. I think it was some thing like 30*s.* he paid him, I am not certain.

41,313. Who else paid him?—I really do not know whether I paid him more than 10*s.* or not; I know I paid him 10*s.*

41,314. Your man that was employed by you paid him?—Yes, I do not recollect any one else paying him.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY.

D. Durrant.

21 Sept. 1866.

41,315. Why did not you call our attention to that? You knew he was down in the list for 4*l.* 10*s.*, and you knew he denied it?—I thought as long as it come from me it was sufficient.

41,316. But you did not tell us now?—It come from me, you see.

41,317. I mean before. Why did not you tell us before that, before you were leaving the box; because you knew that he denied he had received any?—Well, I thought as you had got it in my account it was quite sufficient.

41,318. Your account is nothing to us at all, it is only between you and Mr. Smith. You should have told us; I should have thought you would have been anxious yourself, you know, to have said that?—The fact is, I did not think of it.

41,319. Ah, I think that is about it?—The thought did not come into my mind.

41,320. Who else did you vouch?—William Groom and Pelling.

41,321. The man who went to Woodman to canvass him?—Yes.

41,322. I see you paid a large amount in expenses?—Yes, refreshment.

41,323. The "Barley Mow," the "Bee Hive," &c., 37*l.*

41,324. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The amount you paid to voters was 41*l.* 16*s.*?—Yes.

41,325. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The "Barley Mow" is your house?—It is now; it is freehold.

41,326. It was then?—Yes.

41,327. I mean you supplied it with beer?—Yes.

41,328. There was a handsome breakfast there on the polling morning, was there not?—I don't know about handsome; there was a breakfast.

41,329. It is your own property, and you let it out to a tenant?—Yes.

41,330. There was a breakfast there on the polling morning?—Yes, there was.

41,331. And you ordered it, did not you?—I do not know about that. Yes, I believe; probably the fact is I went the day before the polling to Mr. Waters, and stated that there would be flymen down to and fro, and he was to provide for them, and they boiled a piece of beef, and there was part of it taken there, and in the morning we were all off early.

41,332. Then do you mean that this piece of beef was for the flyman?—Of course there was more than one; there were several down. I don't say that they had it all, I had some myself.

41,333. You know George Room?—George who?

41,334. Room?—No, not to my knowledge.

41,335. He keeps a private house?—No.

41,336. Did not you know of some of the voters being at Room's on the night before the polling?—No; William Groom?

41,337. Well, at Groom's house?—Yes.

41,338. Do you know of some voters being at Groom's house the night before the polling?—Yes.

41,339. You took rather an active part in seeing that they were there, did not you?—I did not.

41,340. You took part in seeing that they were there?—I were not there.

41,341. I know you were not, but you took an active part in directing that those voters should go there?—The house closed at 11 o'clock, and the men arranged among themselves for to go there. There were some voters who said they should not go home.

41,342. Did they tell you so?—I heard them say so.

41,343. Where?—Up at the "Barley Mow."

41,344. Can you give me the name of any one of them that you heard say they should not go home?—Yes, three of them.

41,345. Give me the three?—Balchin, Warren, and Gorringe.

41,346. Who was with you?—Some of the Gower friends.

41,347. All these men you knew to be shaky, did not you?—I do not know about that; they promised Mr. Gower, and always stuck to it that they should vote for him.

41,348. Did you hear any story about their coats having been a little torn, and a new coat being given to them?—Warren told me that James Apted promised him a new suit of clothes.

41,349. And had paid for the suit?—Not then. It was not paid for then.

41,350. Was not that the reason why you got some of these gentlemen to be put on?—They said they were afraid to go home; they got put on themselves.

41,351. They had got so much money in their pockets they were afraid to go home?—They said, "We shall not go home, for we shall get no rest if "we do."

41,352. Did you direct them to Groom's, or suggest that they should go there?—No, Groom did himself.

41,353. I dare say you thought it was a very good plan?—Perhaps I might.

41,354. You approved of it. Did you give directions as to how the men should be taken care of?—No, not all.

41,355. Now, just before the election had not your garden been in rather a disordered state?—Yes.

41,356. It required a great many men to take care of it?—No, I did not employ many men in my garden.

41,357. How many men did you employ to cut the hedges and just take the weeds up?—Three.

41,358. Who were they?—Wilkins was one, and Warren.

41,359. Wilkins is the man you mentioned, and Warren was one of the men who went to Groom's?—You asked me who I employed in my garden.

41,360. I only want to identify them?—Wilkins, Warren, and Sandford.

41,361. How long were those men employed in your garden?—Why, Wilkins was at work throughout the time, a great deal you know.

41,362. They were each of them rather shaky voters were not they; doubtful men?—No, I do not know about that; I do not know that they were.

41,363. Warren was one of the names you mentioned who went to Groom's because he was afraid of the Monson party?—Yes, he had just received 5*l.* from them.

41,364. That was after he had worked in your garden?—Yes.

41,365. What did you pay those men for working in the garden?—Why, let me see. Warren was at work a week in my garden, and I paid him 1*l.*; the other two I paid 5*s.* 6*d.* a day.

41,366. I am sure you will tell me. Did they really have *bonâ fide* work to do, honest work in your garden?—Yes.

41,367. You are quite certain of that?—I am quite certain of that.

41,368. Were the hedges very bad?—There were no hedges to do.

41,369. Because one of the men said he was put on to cut the hedges in your garden?—Not mine, he was not.

41,370. If my recollection bears me out, one of the witnesses said so?—It might have been cutting a laurel hedge, or anything of that; I don't know.

41,371. Have you got a laurel hedge?—Yes, a laurel hedge. I do not think he was, but still he might.

41,372. Do you recollect being at the "Angel" one evening?—No.

41,373. Were you ever at the "Angel?—I never was.

41,374. Or at the door?—No.

41,375. The "Angel" is not a house of yours, is it?—No.

41,376. Now don't you recollect one evening before the election telling the people who were at the "Angel" that they might go up to the "Barley Mow"?—I recollect very well never being at the "Angel."

41,377. Then do you recollect telling anybody that they might go up to the "Barley Mow"?—Where from?

41,378. From any house; to go from any house to the "Barley Mow." Did you invite your friends, and tell the people that they might go to the "Barley Mow" and get what they liked?—No.

41,379. Never?—No, nothing of what they liked.

41,380. Thomas Chitty was examined, and he said he was at the "Angel," and you came there and told the men who were there that they might go and get what they liked at the "Barley Mow"?—I never was at the "Angel." There is plenty to prove that I was not there.

41,381. You paid accounts of the "Angel," did not you?—Yes, I do not know what was paid there; not much.

41,382. You did pay something?—What was paid the men have gone and paid for, and I have paid the men the next day.

41,383. Have you carried that all into account?—Everything that was expended at the four houses.

41,384. Did you send in your account for what was paid at the "Barley Mow"?—Separate from the others? No.

41,385. Who paid for the breakfast?—I did.

41,386. How much?—About 7*l.*; it is included in the account.

41,387. Were you often at the "Barley Mow"?—Well, yes, occasionally. I have never been there during the election for half an hour at a time; no more than in and out.

41,388. Did you take an active part at the other meetings, the public house meetings?—No.

41,389. Did you take the chair?—No.

41,390. Where did you get that 6*l.* from that you gave to Williams for the cannon?—It came down with the first two cheques that I received.

41,391. You did not go direct to Mr. Smith for it?—No, Mr. Smith knew nothing of it till it was brought into Court.

41,392. Did you tell Mr. Buckland that the 6*l.* was wanted for the cannon?—I told Mr. Buckland.

41,393. You knew where the cannon was?—Of course I did.

41,394. And you knew that that man who sold it had not got it?—The cannon was up in the park.

41,395. You knew it was there?—I knew it was there.

41,396. You knew it was a useless old cannon?—I do not know about a useless one.

41,397. And did you not know at the time you parted with the 6*l.* to Williams that it was for the purpose of buying a vote?—Well, it was for the cannon of course; there was nothing named about the vote decidedly.

41,398. Let us have some plain English about that. Did you not know, as a fact, that that 6*l.* was for the purpose of buying a vote?—Decidedly I did. I was quite aware of that.

41,399. Did you authorize a man named Harsant to get ribbons?—No, I came up on the polling morning, and spent 15*s.* for ribbons. My little girl came and fetched them.

41,400. Were those ribbons distributed?—Yes.

41,401. Did you not authorize Harsant to buy ribbons?—Austin?

41,402. John Harsant?—No.

41,403. Or Sargent. Did you authorize anybody with a name like that?—Not any one. What there were I came and got myself.

41,404. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid 3*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* for ribbons, and never got the money back. He said, "Mazden told me to get the ribbons"?—Yes, Mazden.

41,405. Oh, it is quite right; of course it was not you?—No.

The witness withdrew.

JEREMIAH DEADMAN sworn and examined.

J. Deadman.

41,406. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

41,407. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

41,408. For whom?—For Mr. Monson.

41,409. What rent did you pay for your house?—22*l.*

41,410. Were you on Monson's committee?—No, I was not.

41,411. Were you put on to work at all, to canvass?—No.

41,412. Did you receive anything on account of the election?—Not myself; not a farthing.

41,413. Who did?—Well, I had the paying of about 20 or 21 of the men called "roughs."

41,414. You paid the "roughs"?—Yes. I did not know anything of it. Mr. Nichols beckoned to me on the nomination morning. There was a lot round him, and he said, "Just take the money to these "men," and I said, "How many?" and he says, "20." I did not know anything about it then. I gave him the list of the names the morning after the election, and he said, "Oh, you had better take the "money and get rid of them."

41,415. Did Mr. Nichols keep the list?—I cannot say.

41,416. You did not have it again?—No; it might have been left in the room or not. I do not know.

41,417. Did you see these men paid?—Yes.

41,418. You paid them yourself?—Yes.

41,119. How much did you pay them?—7*s.*, two days each. 7*l.* 10*s.* I had to give them a little beer.

41,420. I suppose it was 3*s.* 6*d.* a day each?—Yes, 7*s.* for the two days

41,421. Did you pay 20 or 21?—21.

41,422. And what did you get for yourself?—Nothing.

41,423. Nothing at all?—Not a farthing.

41,424. Then how come you to pay these men?—I did not know I was going to pay them, only Mr. Nichols said, "You had better pay the money, and get "rid of them."

41,425. Did you know Mr. Nichols before?—Yes, I knew him.

41,426. Had you been in the habit of going to his house?—Well, I belong to the Foresters' Court there. I had the management of the order at the "Grapes," and I knew him of course, but nothing further than that; nothing whatever.

41,427. Is that all you know about it?—That is all I know about it.

41,428. Did not you receive anything from the roughs?—No, I had them bothering me for beer. I was glad to get out of them. No, I had no money; neither did I know I was going to pay them. Mr. Nichols merely asked me just to put the names down.

41,429. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

41,430. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

41,431. Did you get any money in 1863?—Well, I took a very active part in 1863. Mr. James asked me to do so.

41,432. What did you receive in the shape of money?—Well, some time after the election as I was going up the town Mr. Joyes called me in, and said ——

41,433. Which Joyes?—Frederick Joyes. He said, "You have never made any claim upon us for all the "time you have lost;" and he says, "Here is 2*l.*" I said I did not wish for anything of the sort. He says, "You have lost time, and there is no reason "why you should not be paid."

41,434. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The 2*l.* was forced upon you?—I never asked for a farthing. I was employed by Mr. James. He asked me on the nomination day if I would assist in bringing up the voters.

41,435. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You took the 2*l.* that was forced upon you? Now what are these

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(*referring to some papers*) ?—They were given to me by Mr. James. He asked me to assist in getting up the voters.

41,436. Were these the names of those you had to bring up ?—Yes.

41,437. I see you had to bring up Mr. William Carruthers ?—No, that is the wrong name ; that is the opposite side, if you read that.

41,438. Did any money pass through your hands to pay away in 1863 ?—Not a farthing.

41,439. Did any monies besides the 7*l.* 10*s.* pass through your hands in 1865 ?—No, not a farthing.

41,440. Had you voted before 1863 ?—No, I think not.

41,441. Were you an elector before 1863 ?—Oh, yes. I am not certain whether I had a vote at any election before. I have been here this 10 years. I never voted before 1863.

41,442. Had you ever received money not to vote ?—No, nor offered a farthing.

41,443. You were never offered money not to vote ?—Never offered a farthing not to vote.

41,444. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not quite understand the position which you filled in 1865. You see Mr. Nichols really made use of your services to pay other men, and they were not very pleasant men to have any dealing with. Are you sure you did not get any consideration for the trouble you took ?—Not a farthing.

41,445. Why did you do it ; I wish you would explain it ?—I had not the least thought of doing it. He nodded to me, and I went across to him. I had not the slightest thought of doing anything of the kind.

41,446. That is quite right. I am only trying to make your position a more reasonable one ?—Neither did I know that any money was to pass through my hands. He merely, as it was the nomination and he was in a hurry, asked me to put the names down. They were not voters any of them.

41,447. No, but they wanted to be paid for their time ?—Yes.

41,448. Had Mr. Nichols canvassed you much for your vote ?—Never in his life. He never asked me for a vote.

41,449. Am I right in saying that you voted for Monson out of your previous friendship for Mr. Nichols ?—Not at all.

41,450. You had repaired his house ?—No, I said I had the management for Mr. Thornton.

41,451. Did you vote for Mr. Monson by way of sticking up for your clan man ?—Not the least. Mr. Monson asked me.

41,452. And you received nothing at all for your vote ?—Not a farthing.

41,453. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a carpenter. You could tell the names of these roughs ?—No, I cannot. Some of them were Dorking men.

41,454. You said you took down the names ?—Yes, but I could not recollect them.

41,455. But you knew them ? Where did they come from ?—I think there were one or two from Waltham-heath.

41,456. Who brought them ?—They came up out of their own head, I suppose.

41,457. Did you know them all ?—No, I did not know them all.

41,458. Why did you call them "roughs" ? Were they navvies or what ?—That is the name they have gone by. I do not know any other way to explain it.

41,459. There were none of them Reigate men, I suppose ?—Oh, yes, some of them were ; but none of them had any votes.

The witness withdrew.

T. Wood.

THOMAS WOOD sworn and examined.

41,460. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A labourer.

41,461. What kind of labourer ; we are all labourers ?—Any sort of labourer.

41,462. Agricultural labourer ?—I generally works about at one place and the other.

41,463. What rent do you pay for your house ?—15*l.* 12*s.*

41,464. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Gower.

41,465. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

41,466. Did you receive any money ?—Yes.

41,467. How much did you receive ?—1*s.* 4*d.*

41,468. I don't mean that ?—I am speaking the truth.

41,469. You said you were upon his committee, and I asked you, did you receive any money. Is 1*s.* 4*d.* the only thing you received ?—Yes.

41,470. Who gave you that ?—Mr. Green gave me a shilling on the 15th May 1865.

41,471. I really don't mean that. Did you receive any money at all after the election ?—No.

41,472. After you had voted ?—No.

41,473. Did you do anything for Mr. Gower ?—I was on the committee.

41,474. Did you canvass for him ?—No, I did not.

41,475. Who put you on the committee ?—Mr. Green.

41,476. Who did you work for ?—Who was I working for ?

41,477. Yes.—Mr. Carruthers.

41,478. And who canvassed you ?—Mr. Green.

41,479. Did not he tell you that you would be paid ?—He told me that he would see that I was paid.

41,480. That is what I want. He told you that he would see that you were paid. And then, I suppose, you allowed yourself to be put on the committee ?—Yes.

41,481. And you did expect to be paid ?—Yes, I did.

41,482. And who took you up to vote ?—I went myself.

41,483. To whom did you apply afterwards for the money ?—I never applied to any one.

41,484. Why did not you apply, as Mr. Green had said, and you promised under that expectation, that you should be paid ? Why did not you apply to him to be remunerated for your trouble ?—Mr. Green met me, and he spoke to me.

41,485. Yes, what did he say ?—He said that everything should be settled in a fortnight, but it is a very long fortnight.

41,486. How soon after the election was that ?—That was in September.

41,487. He told you in September that everything should be settled in a fortnight, and, as you say, that is a very long fortnight. He never settled with you ?—No.

41,488. Did you tell him how much you claimed ?—You merely said, "What am I to have ?"—No, I did not.

41,489. You said something of that kind to him ?—No.

41,490. What did you say to him ?—I did not say anything to him.

41,491. He spoke to you ?—He spoke to me.

41,492. I suppose your face looked inquiringly as a kind of introductory ?—Yes.

41,493. What did you expect, might I inquire ?—Well, I thought if I was paid I ought to have 5*l.*

41,494. Had you heard what the men were getting ?—Yes, 4*l.* 10*s.* and 5*l.*

41,495. Were you a Redhill voter ?—Yes.

41,496. Had you voted before ?—No.

41,497. Never before at any election ?—No, never.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN SAYERS sworn and examined.

41,498. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you, Mr. Sayers?—I keep a public house, the "Bats and Ball."

41,499. What rent do you pay for it?—25*l.*

41,500. Were you on either of the committees?—No.

41,501. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Gower.

41,502. Did you have a committee meeting at your house?—No.

41,503. Or did you have any meetings of that sort?—Parties called in of an evening.

41,504. When they called in of an evening did they have refreshment?—A little to drink.

41,505. Is yours a licensed house?—Yes.

41,506. A little to drink in the shape of spirits?—Not spirits, very little spirits.

41,507. Who paid for refreshments?—I could not tell you one in particular.

41,508. Did you send in any bill to Mr. Smith? Did you have any claim at all, on account of the refreshment, against Mr. Gower?—No.

41,509. Did you receive any money at all on account of the election?—No, only what I had worked for.

41,510. You did work?—Yes, I had a pair of horses and a carriage.

41,511. When was that work given you?—At the election time.

41,512, How many carriages did you supply?—I had only one; a pair of horses and a man.

41,513. What claim did you send in?—10*l.*

41,514. Was that for the horses for one day?—Oh, no, three or four days; several journeys.

41,515. And was that all the monies you received for or on account of the election?—Yes.

41,516. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you get the 10*l.*?—Yes, of Frederiek Joyes.

41,517. Did you send the account in to Mr. Smith?—The bill of it.

41,518. You had nothing for the use of your house?—Not at all.

41,519. How much did Mr. Joyes pay you?—10*l.*

41,520. That was in 1865, at the last election?—Yes, the last election.

41,521. Did you receive anything in 1863?—I think I did.

41,522. Do you know who you voted for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

(*Frederick Joyes.*) That was the 10*l.* that you said I did not account for. I received 90*l.*, and this was a bill I had to pay Mr. Sayers.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you receive the 10*l.* in a cheque?

(*Frederick Joyes.*) There was an account between us, and it was settled in an account between us.

41,523. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith, to the witness*). Is that so?—Yes.

41,524. The account was settled between you and Mr. Joyes in other business transactions?—Yes.

41,525. Was your house used as a committee house in 1863? You voted for Wilkinson?—I do not think it was used for the committee.

41,526. Did you have any claim against Mr. Wilkinson's committee in 1863?—I do not recollect that I had.

41,527. You do not recollect whether you received anything?—No, I do not.

41,528. If you do not recollect what occurred in 1863, it is probably useless to ask you about any other election?—I have a very bad recollection.

41,529. (*The Chief Commissioner*) You say your horse and carriage——?—It was a pair of horses and a carriage.

41,530. Was only employed one day?—No, I did not say so.

41,531. Then I was wrong. How many days was it?—Three or four days. There were journeys to Gatton and other places.

41,532. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you keep a pair of horses, Mr. Sayers?—I did at that time. I do not now.

41,533. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received 10*l.* altogether. Now tell me this. How much of that 10*l.* did you put down for the horses, and how much did you put down to yourself?—Well, there was 1*l.* a day for the horses.

41,534. That is 4*l.* Was it 5*l.* for yourself?—I dare say it was 5*l.* for myself.

The witness withdrew.

CHARLES JOSEPH SMITH called, sworn, and examined.

C. J. Smith.

41,535. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Smith, you are a solicitor here, in the first place?—I am.

41,536. You have got a vote, I suppose?—Yes.

41,537. Did you vote for a freehold house or a rented house?—I voted for a rented house.

41,538. Of the value of what?—80*l.* a year. It is my own house, however. I vote for it on the rental. I live in my own house.

41,539. It is freehold house?—Yes.

41,540. You voted for Mr. Gower at the last election?—I voted for Mr. Gower. I may say that I am also entitled to a vote for my offices.

41,541. You were Mr. Gower's principal agent?—I was.

41,542. Appointed by him in writing?—Yes.

41,543. Under the Act of Parliament?—Under the Act of Parliament.

41,544. How long had you been at work for him before the polling took place at the last election in 1865?—In May, about the first week in May, just after Mr. Wilkinson's death.

41,545. After Mr. Wilkinson's death he came into the field as soon as a vacancy was created?—Yes.

41,546. Did you commence work by at once appointing sub-agents, committees, and so on?—By appointing sub-agents, immediately.

41,547. The names which are familiar were the sub-agents who were under you?—They were.

41,548. Did you at once begin by paying money to them?—I did.

41,549. Without referring, can you tell me whether you began paying money to them in the month of May?—I can hardly tell that. I think pretty soon. There were some meetings held. At first, perhaps, I did not pay them.

41,550. As the election came on you from time to time paid out monies to them, and the money you paid was generally drawn by cheque?—Always so.

41,551. I was going to ask you whether always?—Always at this last election; in every case I drew a cheque.

41,552. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You paid all the election expenses by cheque?—This last election.

41,553. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was what I was leading up to; all election expenses of 1865?—There might be some small sums, 1*l.* or 2*l.*

41,554. I ask you that in case I should find two or three small sums?—Some small sums. I paid 50*l.*, 20*l.* at a time, and that was always paid by cheques.

41,555. Then we may take it that the large sums were paid by cheques?—Always.

41,556. And if I stumble upon a small sum of 1*l.* or 2*l.* I may take it that that was paid in money?—Yes, some small sums.

41,557. Were they voters, do you think?—Voters came to me and asked me for small sums. I do not think it would be much.

41,558. Then I suppose you would repay yourself by putting them together, and drawing a 5*l.* cheque

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afterwards ?—I put them into a book, of which I have given you a copy.

41,559. You have not given me an account of little sums expended from time to time ?—I think so.

41,560. I have not got it ; it is very likely you have ?—Yes, I have.

41,561. I don't think I have it. You have given me a cheque book ?—There is a long account.

41,562. On paper ?—On paper ; from the very beginning, in May to December, of every farthing, even shillings.

41,563. But that was not made out at the time ?—It was made out at the time.

41,564. But it was not made out from time to time ?—Yes, from time to time.

41,565. I will come to that in a short time. I want to know this, whether, whenever you paid out smaller sums than you cared to draw a cheque for, you entered the payment anywhere ?—In a small book that I had at the time. This book I have got, and I have given you a copy of it. I put it down at the time, therefore I know I was correct in the payments I made. I entered them every day.

41,566. What was the course of business ? A sub-agent came and said, " I want 20*l.*, would you give it " to me ?" without anything more ?—If the sub-agents came to me and asked me for money, I drew them a cheque for 50*l.* or 20*l.* I was engaged canvassing all day long with Mr. Gower, from 9 o'clock in the morning till 9 o'clock at night. Therefore I paid it on the faith that they would use the money properly ; and I gave them the cheque without inquiring further.

41,567. I am not speaking of the fees now ; it was to cover advances made by them, or to be made by them ?—By them.

41,568. Do you know whether it was always intended to cover monies paid away by them, or was it intended to meet payments which they would have to make ? Are you able to distinguish at all ?—I don't think I can distinguish. I think it was both.

41,569. I was going to ask this question next ; you think it was both ?—Yes.

41,570. Did they ever hand you over any vouchers if it was to cover payments already made ?—Not at that time, not before the election. I never asked them for any.

41,571. No, I am asking, did they after the election profess to hand you over vouchers for the monies they had paid away ?—They did to some extent ; or, rather, accounts of the monies they spent, different accounts of the monies they spent.

41,572. Suppose a sub-agent paid any voter 3*l.* or 4*l.*, did the sub-agent afterwards hand you over a receipt by A. B. the voter, of having received the 3*l.* or 4*l.* from him, the sub-agent ?—In some cases they did.

41,573. In many cases ?—Generally, I should say, but not with regard to vouchers.

41,574. Those would be vouchers. You say not to any extent. I should like you to tell me, was it ever done ? Was it the course of business ? because you would have them now if they handed them over ?—I should have them now.

41,575. Have you anything like a number of vouchers ?—No, I have not, not more than I have handed in.

41,576. I mean, compared with the payments they must have made, the vouchers would be trifling ?—Oh, very trifling.

41,577. Was it after the election that you came to a settlement with the sub-agents ?—After the election.

41,578. About how long ? Was it at one time ?—At various times, within a month after the election.

41,579. Pretty nearly, as far as you remember, all within a month after ; I don't want to tie you ?—No, because they brought in accounts long after, two months after the election.

41,580. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Which you had no knowledge of ?—Which I had no knowledge of. I had other claims made upon me by them, and I applied to Mr. Gower.

41,581. Claims to a very considerable extent ?—500*l.* I think. That was the last cheque I think that was paid me.

41,582. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not care about any particular amount, but what I want is, the entire accounts, both the original account and the claims which were subsequently made by the persons who sent them in ; were both those sent in to what is called the audit ?—No, they were not ; only those claims that I received within the month I sent in.

41,583. You sent them in to the returning officer ?—To the returning officer.

41,584. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The returning officer was the mayor ?—Yes.

41,585. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You would at once send them to the mayor ?—I took them myself.

41,586. Can you tell me the date when they were handed over to the mayor, the accounts ?—About the 13th of September, I should think ; I did it within the two months, just within.

41,587. Perhaps I can help you ; there is the 12th of September ?—That would be the time, or the 13th.

41,588. It is dated the 12th ?—That would be the time then. I did it just within the two months.

41,589. Did you before you got those accounts from the sub-agents give them notice to produce them, or something of that sort ?—No.

41,590. Did they bring them in voluntarily ?—They brought them in as they came in.

41,591. Had there been any advertisements in the papers ?—No.

41,592. Nothing at all ?—No.

41,593. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There was no advertisement ?—Not by me.

41,594. Of course you would be the party to advertise ?—I made no advertisement.

41,595. And you saw none ?—I saw none.

41,596. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Of course there was only one advertisement from you, calling for the accounts, immediately after the election ?—No.

41,597. Did you not advertise ?—No, I didn't advertise. It is very often done by agents ; I didn't do it. I never have done it.

41,598. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then they came in apparently as each found he would like to be paid ?—Yes.

41,599. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But they were all in before the first two months ; the agent's accounts. You do not mean the supplementary ones ?—Yes, they were all in within the two months ; the first ones.

41,600. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said, afterwards you had further claims. But I understand you to say that all the first accounts from the agents came in within the two months ?—Yes, or within one month that I had an account from. The agent is bound to send in within two months.

41,601. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) All accounts are bound to be sent in within a month ?—Yes, or the parties are not liable ; and the agent is bound to return those within two months.

41,602. It is usual to intimate to the public, that the accounts should be sent in within the month, or the candidate will not be liable ?—It is done in some places. I never did it myself. I don't think the other agents here did.

41,603. I think somebody said he sent in the accounts in consequence of seeing the advertisements

in the papers. I don't know who it was?—I think Mr. Hart inserted it.

41,604. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When they sent in the first accounts before the month was up, did you render them any assistance in making out the accounts?—I think it most likely I did. They perhaps asked me what money I paid them, or what they received, and no doubt we went through them.

41,605. With your permission I will take it, "I did "assist them"?—Yes, by informing them what I paid them; I do not know what they had paid.

41,606. Of course not. Now, I suppose that system commenced pretty near as soon as the election was over?—Yes.

41,607. The latter end of July?—Yes.

41,608. As you are speaking of agents, my learned friend reminds me wisely, that I had better ask you the names of the sub-agents at once?

41,609. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Those that you recognise as sub-agents?—Yes.

41,610. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were they Buckland, Green, Job Apted, Joyes, Mazden, Durrant, Penfold, and Toplis?—Yes.

41,611. I see those are all you have put down?—Those are the principal agents.

41,612. Those are the sub-agents you recognise?—That I recognise as sub-agents.

41,613. As sub-agents who could send in accounts to you? If they had sub-agents they would receive accounts from them?—Just so.

41,614. Your system began in July?—Very shortly after the election.

41,615. You set to work early in July; they sent in their accounts within the month, having been assisted by you in ascertaining what monies had been advanced to them; and you of course believed, when you sent in what are called the election expenses, on the 12th of September, that those contained all the demands there were against you?—I only took cognizance of those demands that were then made. To say I believed there were not others, I could not say I believed there were not others, for I thought very likely there would be others; but I did not know of them myself.

41,616. The way in which it was done was this: They came to you and said, "Assist us, let us know "what money you have advanced us," and you told them. Then they set to work and sent in an account of the monies they advanced. That in an ordinary transaction would lead you to believe that the accounts they sent in exactly balanced, as near as they could, the monies they received?—Yes.

41,617. Therefore am I not right in saying, on September 12th you believed you sent in all the demands which you believed anybody had against you?—All that I was cognizant of in any way; I was not aware of any others.

41,618. But more than cognizant of; you said now you thought there would be some more, but you did not know what they would be?—No, I did not know.

41,619. I want you to explain that. Why did you think there were any more?—Because I thought there were claims that would come in from men for payment, which had not been made at the time.

41,620. That would make no difference according to my view of the case. A man comes to you and says, "I want to send in my accounts, Mr. Smith; "how much money have you paid me?" You say, "I have paid you 10*l.*, no more." He sends you in, that you may return it, a debit account which exactly covers that 10*l.*; 7*l.* paid away to voters, 3*l.* to himself. You do not deal with such small sums as that but that is an illustration; therefore you must have believed, must you not, that there were no more demands to be made against you?

41,621. Now, Mr. Smith, I will put it in this way; you said you thought other claims would be coming in. I want you to explain that. I do not see how you can have thought so?—It was only an impression; I did not know of any.

41,622. No, you didn't know of any; but these men when they sent in their accounts did not say, "These are the best accounts I can make out at "present, but I have got other demands against you"?—They said nothing of the sort.

41,623. Then what makes you think there would be other claims?—I scarcely know whether I thought so at the time. It was more from their coming in afterwards that has given me that impression now.

41,624. It rather reflected back, and you think you must have had the impression produced when you saw them?—Yes, at the time.

41,625. The shadow of that was cast before?—Yes.

41,626. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you been conducting agent in former elections?—I had.

41,627. Then probably your experience enables you to speak?—I experienced that very severely. Perhaps it was in consequence of that I said I thought there might be other claims come in that I knew nothing of then.

41,628. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I can understand that very well indeed; but that would apply to claims made by other people. I am not referring to claims made by other people; I am referring to claims made by these same sub-agents who came in the first instance?—In former elections I had after claims made by sub-agents.

41,629. I quite understand you that you had; your previous experience would tell you, not only in elections, but in almost all other matters, that when you think you have paid everybody you find you have not?—Yes.

41,630. That is what you mean?—That is what I mean.

41,631. But this is very different. Ten men, say, come to you, sub-agents, and you assist them in the way you have described in making up their claims, and they send them in. Surely you would think there was no more money due to them?—I did not consider there was any more money due to them. If I said "I believed," it was from knowing that at former elections claims came in afterwards.

41,632. Not from those men?—Not from those men.

41,633. I want you to see the distinction; from other men, not from those men?—Made by other men upon them afterwards.

41,634. Yes, but they had accounted for all monies they had received; they had no further claim for that at all. I want you to bear this in mind. A sub-agent had received from you, according to your own showing, 20*l.* in all, for instance; you had informed him of that; he sent in a claim which, with his own fee and payments, just met that 20*l.*?—Yes.

41,635. Then you could not expect a further claim from him?—Not from him.

41,636. Were you much surprised when you found after the 12th of September that further claims did come in from the sub-agents?—I was, at the amount that was made.

41,637. Were you surprised at the fact at all?—I was at the amount.

41,638. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What was the amount?—Nearly 500*l.* I applied for a cheque for. I must state that the fees that I put down had not then been paid to the canvassers.

41,639. Had not been settled?—Had not been

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settled. They had been accounted for, but I had not paid them.

41,640. That is, when the election expenses went in?—Yes, they had not been paid, except that I considered they had been paid by the money I advanced them.

41,641. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now, the amount of fees which the sub-agents were to receive, that was settled, was it not, before the election?—No, I do not think it was. They made the claim afterwards. I agreed with Mr. Mazden, and I agreed with Mr. Toplis, but with no one else. Mazden I paid 30*l.* to.

41,642. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you agree with Mazden for?—50*l.*, and I paid to Mazden 30*l.*

41,643. I am speaking now of the distinct agreement?—Yes.

41,644. With Toplis?—Yes.

41,645. The same amount?—25*l.* I paid Toplis.

41,646. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the agreement with Toplis?—I think the agreement was for 50*l.*, but I paid him 25*l.* Toplis was to have no more except he worked; that was the understanding. I was to pay him if I considered he earned it.

41,647. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You agreed with the others as to the amount of their fees?—No.

41,648. You speak that confidently?—Yes.

41,649. I will take them separately; had you agreed with Durrant as to the amount of his fee?—No.

41,650. Nor Buckland?—No.

41,651. Nor Green?—No.

41,652. Nor Apted?—No.

41,653. Nor Frederick Joyes?—No.

41,654. Nor Penfold?—No.

41,655. Then what fee they were to receive was to be settled after the election?—Yes. I do not think I said anything at all to them about it, except that I would retain their services.

41,656. A word, first, as to "retainer." Besides the fee which they got for their services, had you in each of these cases given them a 5*l.* retainer; do you recollect?—I don't think I did at this election; I did the last, in 1863.

41,657. Do you recollect whether you did in this?—I do not think I did.

41,658. Did you not do the same?—I cannot speak from recollection.

41,659. You will not say for certain?—I will not say for certain; I may have done.

41,660. Supposing you paid them 5*l.* and called it a retaining fee at starting, was it stated that that was to go as part of the general fee, or to be over and above?—No.

41,661. Nothing said?—Nothing said.

41,662. If there was you do not recollect it?—I do not think there was; I am sure there was nothing said about going in part.

41,663. My recollection is that you paid one 5*l.* to Mr. Apted?—It may be so; I could not recollect without my book.

41,664. Did Green have a retaining fee?—I cannot speak to that.

41,665. Then, in the election expenses which you sent in, how did you fix their fees?—They said what they should require to have.

41,666. And what did you put them down at?—At the different sums there stated.

41,667. They are not here, I have not got them? I mean in the detailed department of what I rendered to the mayor.

41,668. Of what you handed to the mayor?—Yes, I think they are separate there.

41,669. (*The Chief Commissioner, handing witness the account.*) Is that it?—Yes, but that does not seem to be so.

41,670. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is the draft of what you returned to the returning officer?—Yes, quite right.

41,671. What you returned to the returning officer des not give the details; it is a mere lump sum?

41,672. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In the accounts which you returned, before you sent in the accounts to the returning officer, you charged those fees at some particular amount?—305*l.*

41,673. But you had fixed the amount of each sub-agent's fee?—Yes.

41,674. Can you tell me what you paid them, or charged?—50*l.* to Mr. Buckland.

41,675. That is in the account as returned to the returning officer?—Yes, I thought I had put them separately.

41,676. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You returned Buckland 50*l.*?—Yes, Green, 50*l.*; Apted, 50*l.*? Joyes, I think, was 50*l.*; Mazden, I think, 50*l.*; Durrant, 25*l.*, I think; Penfold, 25*l.*; and Toplis, 25*l.*

41,677. No, Toplis, 50*l.*?—I didn't pay him 50*l.*; I only paid Toplis 25*l.*

41,678. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That would be 325*l.*?—I only returned Mazden at 30*l.*

41,679. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you any paper in your possession which gives you a detailed account of that 305*l.*?—Yes, I have.

41,680. Contemporaneous paper?—Yes, a rough draft.

41,681. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have a reason for asking you this. What is the return of the election; what is the lump sum?—305*l.*

41,682. That is not quite the same?—No, it is not.

41,683. And in that you have charged Mazden 25*l.* instead of 50*l.*?—30*l.* instead of 50*l.*

41,684. But you could not very well have allowed him 50*l.* I think you must have made a mistake about that. He was a person with whom you agreed beforehand a stipulated fee?—Yes.

41,685. I think there is a mistake about that?—I returned Mazden at 30*l.*, and he ought to have been returned at 50*l.*

41,686. Therefore it would come higher?—It would come higher.

41,687. Instead of being 305*l.*, it ought to be 330*l.*?—325*l.*

41,688. Now you probably recollect about this matter pretty well, because there was some talk of it both before and after, was there not?—Yes.

41,689. I mean some talk between you and the sub-agents before you returned the expenses and after?—Yes.

41,690. Did they not tell you, and was it not arranged before you sent in the election expenses, that they should receive 50*l.* a piece, with the exception, perhaps, of Durrant and Toplis; with the others was it not agreed that they should receive 50*l.* each?—Yes.

41,691. Have you not, in fact, calculated their fee in the election expenses at 30*l.*, and allowed them in the account 30*l.* for their own fee?—No, I think not.

41,692. Bear that in mind; just consider that. Did you not before you returned the election expenses arrange to return their fees in each instance at 30*l.* instead of 50*l.*?—Oh, no; decidedly not. I do not know what occurred, I never arranged with them.

41,693. But you had a conversation with them both before and after as to the amount of their fee?—Yes.

41,694. And they told you their fee was 50*l.*?—Yes.

41,695. I infer that from what I have heard. Did you not after that return them in the election expenses as at 50*l.* a head?—No.

41,696. I think I had better show you (*passing an*

account to witness)?—I think not; I would not say without knowing. They are different accounts. I have put down, "deduct fee."

41,697. You agreed with Mazden for 50*l.*?—Yes.

41,698. That is the account sent in to the returning officer (*passing the same to witness*). There you have charged his fee at 30*l.*?—Yes, I have; and I have never paid him the other 20*l.*; at least I had not then. I make that out 305*l.*; Buckland, 50*l.*; Green, 50*l.*; Apted, 50*l.*; Joyes, 50*l.*: Mazden, 30*l.*; Durrant, 25*l.*; Toplis, 25*l.*; Penfold, 25*l.* That makes 305*l.*

41,699. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Instead of 325*l.*?—Yes.

41,700. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How do you make it out; I do not quite follow you?—It is 30*l.* to Mazden. I had got down 50*l.* instead of 30*l.* That makes it 305*l.*

41,701. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The difficulty remaining on going into details is rather as to Mazden?—That is 30*l.*

41,702. Why didn't you put him down 50*l.*?—That I cannot tell you.

41,703. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had taken a receipt from him for 50*l.*?—I think I had; I do not know how that was.

41,704. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had taken a receipt from him before the election?—Yes, for 30*l.* He did not give me a receipt; I paid him 30*l.*

41,705. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But he gave you a receipt for the 50*l.*?—Afterwards I think he did.

41,706. That receipt was given by Mr. Mazden for 50*l.*?—It is very likely he did; I know there were some receipts given for fees.

41,707. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now, then, having received their accounts, and having sent in to the election auditor the account which we have before us, you found after that 12th of September that further claims came in?—Yes.

41,708. First of all, had you paid the first set of claims before the others came in?—Not wholly, I do not think.

41,709. You had not satisfied them, you had not paid them at the time the accounts went in on the 12th of September?—No; principally I had.

41,710. Principally, but not entirely?—No.

41,711. You paid them by drawing cheques upon your banker?—Yes.

41,712. How did you pay the further claims that were made?—By cheques too.

41,713. Now, have you any of the further accounts which you received from the agents?—The total amount?

41,714. Yes?—No, I think not.

41,715. But they would come to you?—I gave them back. Prior to the petition I gave the accounts back to them again, and I have never had them since.

41,716. No, not the prior accounts; but these eight men sent you certain accounts, which you paid, and put them in the election accounts; and then they sent you in further claims?—Yes.

41,717. I suppose that was on paper?—Yes.

41,718. What has become of those further claims?—I returned them. Mr. Buckland, I returned his account. They have accounted for all this money in the accounts which they presented to you, all the other claims.

41,719. You paid these men so much apiece; and then, when they had been paid, they came back, and said, in fact, "You have not paid me enough; I find I "have other claims against you." Those claims would be on paper?—Yes.

41,720. Where are those claims?—I have not got the particulars. I gave them to the men I have not had them since, except what papers I have given up to you. There may be some accounts there.

41,721. I think not?—Then I have not got them; I gave them back again.

41,722. After you had sent in your account to the returning officer did you have a meeting with the sub-agents about their further claims?—I did.

41,723. Did you write or give them notice in the first instance, before they made any claims, and tell them to come and look into their accounts with you?—They said they had further accounts, and I said we should have a meeting.

41,724. My question is the other way. Before you received any claim, or any notice of a claim, did you invite them in the first instance to come in and go into their accounts with you?—No, I did not invite them.

41,725. You understand what I mean?—I do not.

41,726. Did it emanate from you?—Not for them to come again to go through the accounts.

41,727. But you did go through the accounts again with them. How did that come to pass?—I do not exactly understand you.

41,728. You sent in on the 12th of September what was believed to be the finish of everything?—Yes.

41,729. Now, after that I used the expression "invite," I thought you would understand it. Did not the sub-agents, at your suggestion, come to you to go further through the accounts?—No, not at my suggestion.

41,730. I mean, by that expression, did it not emanate from you, that they should come again and go through the accounts?—No, it emanated from them, if anything. They had further accounts, and that is why we went into them.

41,731. Perhaps they had, but you did not know it at the time, because you were surprised at the amount, if you were not surprised at the fact. But what I want to know is, who first started the second set of accounts, you or the sub-agents?—The sub-agents started it by making demands upon me.

41,732. Are you quite sure of that?—Yes, I think I can speak to it.

41,733. But I want you to consider about your answer; therefore I will ask you it again. I dare say you are right; but did you not tell them, or send to them, to desire that they would come and go through their accounts with you?—I have no recollection of doing so at all.

41,734. May you have said so? May it have been the case?—I do not think it was the case. I did not want to have any further accounts, and I should not send to them. That is my impression that makes me give the answer.

41,735. I do not want you to give your answer from the probability of the thing, but to give your answer from strict memory and recollection. It is not long ago.

41,736. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Although you did not send for them, you got them?—Because they brought them in; I didn't go after them.

41,737. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you not say to one of these men, "Well, come to me at such a "time, we'll go through the accounts, and see how it "stands"?—I may have said such a thing; I do not recollect. I may have said so.

41,738. I must take it down: "After I sent in the "election expenses I may have said to the sub-agents, "'If you come to me I will go into your accounts "'again.'" I will not take it down unless you assent to it.—I may have said so.

41,739. I think I will carry it a little bit further, only a very little. Don't you recollect that you did propose to them, perhaps I am wrong about that, to come to your office and go through their accounts?—I may have done so; I really could not say so.

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41,740. How do you reconcile that with the fact that you believed you had paid all the other accounts?—In consequence of the statement that they had further accounts against me.

41,741. They did not tell you that they had further accounts?—Or, rather, that I had applications from many men for money that had not been paid, and then I referred to the agents.

41,742, But the agents had no money to pay them?—No.

41,743. On the contrary, you told the agents before that, that they had drawn so much money, and they had accounted to you, or for as much as they had received; therefore, when a particular voter came to you and said, "Please, sir, I want more money," it would be useless to refer him to the sub-agent?—No, I did not refer him to the sub-agent; I referred to the sub-agent to know whether it was correct. That is the way the appointments came afterwards, in consequence of the persons who worked; because I was besieged with people coming, and, of course, I went to my agents to know what all this was.

41,744. Did you not know very well, at the time you sent in the election expenses, on the 12th of September, that there were several outstanding claims?—Yes; I think I may say I have no doubt of it. I won't say any one in particular.

41,745. You will not say any one in particular, but at the time you sent in the election expenses?—I did not go after them. If I thought there were, I did not go after them.

41,746. Among the outstanding claims did not the fees of the sub-agents themselves form items?—Yes, except (I think I mentioned that before) on the part of Mazden and Toplis.

41,747. You mentioned that Mazden and Toplis agreed beforehand?—Yes.

41,748. I see this account is headed by you "Particulars of expenses incurred in the above election." That professes to be, does it not, an account of monies paid, actually paid?—Yes, and incurred—paid, I should say.

41,749. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) No, no, there is a great difference.—No; if they were incurred they were paid.

41,750. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You see it is headed so all the way through. You returned it as such, and it is signed by you?—Yes.

41,751. I suppose it is all your own handwriting?—Yes.

41,752. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Does it purport to be monies actually paid?—It does.

41,753. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I see the whole amount of election expenses amounts to 1,356*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*?—Yes.

41,754. But did you not after the 12th of September, when the election expenses went in, go through their accounts separately with each of the sub-agents, and make out a further account from them?—I think very likely I did. Yes, I believe I did. I haveno doubt we went into the whole account; most likely we did.

41,755. It was not very long ago?—About October I think; when I drew the last cheque was about the time when I went into this, when Mr. Gower paid me the last cheque; that was in October.

41,756. Have you gone through their accounts with them again since that?—Yes, sir.

41,756*a*. Much later than that?—Yes.

41,757. It is not so long ago, not so very long, since you made up these accounts with him?—No.

41,758. Is that about eight weeks ago?—Yes, they wanted again to know the payments I had made to them.

41,759. In the election expenses, you had really debited Buckland, Green, Apted, and Joyes at 50*l.* each for their own fees? How is that?—No.

41,760. At 30*l.*?—No.

41,761. You had not?—I put them at 335*l.* with the travelling expenses, and I deducted them in the election accounts as if they had been paid, exactly as if I had advanced them money.

41,762. They had not been paid?—No, that makes an error till explained; but it is explained.

41,763. "In the election expenses I had not stated "the sub-agents as having been paid 50*l.* instead of "30*l.*"?—It came to 305*l.*, some 50*l.* and some 30*l.*, put together.

41,764. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Green, Apted, Joyes, and Buckland were all with Mazden to receive 50*l.* each?—No; Mazden 30*l.* only; 305*l.* and 30*l.* expenses make the 335*l.*

41,765. What is the 30*l.* expenses?—For travelling expenses.

41,766. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is 335*l.* in the account; then can you tell me (perhaps you cannot) whether you had put down Buckland, Green, Apted, and Joyes at 50*l.* apiece?—Yes, I made it up, Mazden 30*l.*

41,767. I need hardly ask you whether when you went into these accounts eight weeks ago it was not with a view of ascertaining what money passed through your hands, with reference to this Inquiry; it was not an unnatural thing to do?—Yes.

41,768. And that was done in order to meet us?—Yes.

41,769. I only mention it that it may not stand unaccounted for?—I wished them to give every account they could to you, and it was for that reason I met them.

41,770. You have told us these expenses amounted to so much, which is noted in the expenses rendered; will you tell me whether the expenses rendered, the account I received from you gives the account commencing in April 1865?—The account beginning in April 1865 goes down to January 1866, and is a copy of the bills I spoke to at the time.

41,771. Does this contain any items registered in the election expenses?—Yes.

41,772. Look at the back of it, you will see it is endorsed, "Account of expenses for above and other "matters"?—Yes, "For above and other matters;" there are some small matters of Mr. Gower's.

41,773. Well, they are very small, never mind them, give me the words?—It is rather curiously written.

41,774. I see it is, "Reigate election expenses paid "by Mr. Smith for above and other matters"?—I mean for the above election.

41,775. Tell me what this account is. What is this account?—It is an account of all monies I paid in respect of the election of 1865 and some other matters of Mr. Gower's.

41,776. Those are so very trifling, they are not above 20*l.* in the whole, so that there will be no difficulty about it. When was this account made out?—I made it from time to time as I paid it.

41,777. You made it in the office?—Yes, and the account I made up myself, that I copied myself from my book.

41,778. When did you copy that from your book?—It was for this Inquiry.

41,779. "I copied this further account," I will put it?—The whole account.

41,780. "For the purpose of this Inquiry," and the book you have left from time to time?—From time to time, and there were a few items with regard to the election petition, I have not extracted those.

41,781. Why did you not make up your election expenses from this account?—I did up to a certain extent; up to a certain time, till the demands I received from the people.

41,782. You have got your receipts and account book in which you put down the payments as to that?—Yes.

41,783. Why did you not send a copy of the day books, separating it under headings in election expenses?—I made an account from my day book, from which I took out certain items which did not belong to the election.

41,784. But this all refers to the election?—Yes, it does.

41,785. But at the time you made out the election accounts had you made all these later payments?—I stated, if you recollect, I only made up the accounts to a certain time; my book goes on after I sent in my accounts.

41,786. Did your book go on after the expenses, I mean did the entries go on?—Yes, as I paid bills.

41,787. Did you go on entering election expenses day by day after the 12th of September?—Yes, and I could not send to the election auditor what I had not paid. I made up my book daily.

41,788. I know you did before; that was so?—Yes.

41,789. Now bear it in mind, the date you have given, the 12th of September, as to election expenses?—Excuse me, I had only to account for accounts I had received up to the 12th of August, and that was the month I made up my accounts to.

41,790. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were not legally bound to pay anything that came in afterwards?—No, not legally.

41,791. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I find that under the date of October 26th, Buckland 30*l.*; Buckland again 50*l.*; Apted 30*l.*, ditto 30*l.*; Frederick Joyes 20*l.*, ditto 20*l.*; so that Buckland received 80*l.* after the election expenses had gone in?—Yes, that is correct, that is according to the payments.

41,792. How do you account for that? I was very particular in preluding this, they came to you and would tell you what money you had advanced and what they had paid, or you would say when they came, "I "have advanced so much money, now tell me what "you have paid." Now in October you paid 80*l.*?—When I had further demands made upon me. I know I went to Mr. Gower as to a further sum of money.

41,793. Did it not occur to you they were not in reference to election expenses, were you not surprised at fresh demands?—I did not receive any demand from them; it was in October.

41,794. I am quite aware it is in October?—I knew nothing in July.

41,795. I asked you particularly whether you were surprised at further demands being made on you, and you will see my object in asking that question some time ago; did you not know at this time there was a claim by Buckland against you of 80*l.*?—No, I knew that his fee was not paid.

41,796. Why did you put it down in the election expenses?—I put it down and deducted it as paid from the various amounts I had given him.

41,797. But you knew it was not paid?—Yes, I knew it was not paid, and I wrote to Mr. Gower at the time that the canvassers were not paid.

41,798. There are various demands afterwards, and cash to them too. You knew that Buckland, though entered as having received part of the 305*l.*, that in reality he was not paid?—Yes, I knew that, having paid large sums to my sub-agents, I deducted their fee from the sums I paid them.

41,799. On the face of the accounts those sums were put down as having been received?—They were so.

41,800. Mr. Apted is put down as receiving 30*l.* in this month of October and 30*l.* too, making 60*l.*; it is the same I suppose as regards Apted about his fee in the election expenses received?—Yes.

41,801. And that reminds me as I pass of a question I wished to ask you about this matter. I see on October 26th Apted 30*l.*, ditto 30*l.*; can you explain this? You would expect 50*l.* was what you wanted to pay him for his own fee, and I find in a cheque which that represents, and which I have got here, you gave him one cheque for 60*l.*, and you wrote on the stump of it 30*l.* for himself and 30*l.* for canvassers; why did you not put 50*l.* for himself, do you recollect?—Oh, yes, I recollect it perfectly.

41,802. Mr. Apted told me you had drawn the cheque in his favour for 60*l.*; he said 50*l.* was due to him for his fee, but that instead of drawing the cheque for 50*l.* you drew a cheque for 60*l.*, and you put it on the stump 30*l.* for his fee and 30*l.* for canvassers?—Yes; and I did the same for the other canvassers as well, for I wished the money to go as far as it could.

41,803. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I perfectly understand what Mr. Smith means; he wanted the canvassers to have 30*l.*, and though Mr. Apted appropriated to himself 50*l.* and not 30*l.*, yet Mr. Smith only meant he should have 30*l.* and the canvassers 30*l.* too?—Yes, that is what I meant.

41,804. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You mean Mr. Apted was to go away unpaid 20*l.*?—Yes.

41,805. Then I suppose Mr. Apted would in that way have a charge of 20*l.* against you at this moment?—Yes, sir, I suppose so.

41,806. Well, but he does not think so I can tell you, so you need not be under any alarm as to that, for he told me himself he took the 50*l.* He said, "I "took the 30*l.* and the 20*l.* out of the others to make "50*l.* for myself"?—I did not pay him the cheque in that way.

41,807. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was he authorized so to appropriate it?—No.

41,808. Is it intended to pay him the balance in future?—Yes, I hope so, what is fair and honourable.

41,809. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But he paid himself, but I should like to know why you put this 30*l.* for himself and 30*l.* for canvassers?—Apted came to me and said the canvassers wanted money, and I divided the money as well as I could.

41,810. Mr. Apted through the canvassers' claims made a pounce for himself, and he would let them go on for a portion of theirs?—Nothing of that kind was said.

41,811. You did not wish him to appropriate it as he did?—No; but only according to the stump that is here.

41,812. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you explain that to Mr. Apted?—I told him at the time I gave him 30*l.* for the canvassing fees, and 30*l.* for himself. I did not say canvassing fees, but canvassers.

41,813. You are enough of a lawyer, Mr. Smith, to know it is only the man who pays who can appropriate and not the man who receives; did you explain to him 30*l.* was for the canvassers, and 30*l.* for himself?—That is the way in which he asked me for the money.

41,814. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How was it that he asked you for the money?—He asked me for 30*l.* for himself and 30*l.* for the canvassers; he might have asked me for the 50*l.*, but I know I only paid him 30*l.*

41,815. Was Green the same?—Yes; he was not paid the 50*l.*

41,816. I think, but I am not sure, it was the same with Frederick Joyes, that his 50*l.* had not been paid?—Yes.

41,817. Then that would account, would it not, for finding Buckland down for 30*l.*, and Apted for 60*l.*, and Joyes for 40*l.*?—Yes.

41,818. Then I suppose Penfold was the same; I mean here in this further account, as I venture to call it. I see Penfold is put down for 30*l.* 10*s.*, would that be the same, Penfold's fee?—No, it would not, for his fee. I could never get a satisfactory account from Penfold, and I deducted the 25*l.* from his fee.

41,819. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Penfold said he never received a farthing for his exertions?—I

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never paid him further than the monies I paid to him, deducting the 25*l.* for the reason I stated.

41,820. He said in his examination he never received a farthing for himself?—The others, you see, I paid afterwards; but Penfold I did not, because I could get no satisfactory account from him.

41,821. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) On the face of the accounts it appeared as if you had paid him the same as the others?—I did not give it him as his fee, it was for further claims made on him.

41,822. I wish to touch on that again. When Penfold made a further claim through Buckland did he send you vouchers?—I could get no vouchers.

41,823. Why did you pay the 30*l.* 10*s.*?—I thought I could get the vouchers afterwards, and that was the reason why I did not pay him the 25*l.*

41,824. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say, "I "could get no vouchers from him. I paid him by "Buckland 30*l.* 10*s.* in November, a further claim; "I expected it. I received no vouchers from him, "and have never received any." I read it to you because I do not wish to put down anything you do not entirely assent to?—Yes.

41,825. You see without explanation it would look very much like the other?—Yes, that is a copy of my private book, which I can understand myself, and nobody else, except so far as figures are concerned.

41,826. Now I come to this fact, the monies you paid between the month of April 1865 and January 1866—I do not care about this dinner at the "White Hart," I do not know about that; but between the April of 1865 and the January of 1866 I find by the accounts you have spent in the election 2,020*l.* I will strike off the 1*l.* 19*s.*?—There are some payments I have made independently, but say 2,000*l.*

41,827. I will say 2,000*l.* I do not think the payments stand exactly for that amount, but I will say 2,000*l.* From April 1865 up to December 1865, only in reference to the election expenditure, the amount of election expenses was 1,338*l.*, and there is the difference between that and 2,000*l.*?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) According to the calculation there is still owing to the sub-agents about a hundred pounds.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Yes; I see Mr. Apted says Mr. Smith gave him a cheque for 60*l.* There was to be 30*l.* for himself and 30*l.* for the canvassers; so that there is 20*l.* there. It is either real or imaginary.

41,828. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It would be over 100*l.*?—Yes, sir; you see there was no settlement as regards the 50*l.*

41,829. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) This account will be plus those sums; you will have to add those to these sums?—Yes, if I paid him 50*l.*

41,830. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have particularly confined myself to the election expenses according to this account?—Yes.

41,831. So that the advance would be 644*l.* Did you become aware afterwards of any more money being due? I have been confining you purposely to the account?—Do you mean whether I am aware now that more money is due?

41,832. No; were you aware, over and above the 2,000*l.*, there were monies still due for the election?—I do not know that there are any more monies due now.

41,833. Then I will come to it by degrees; was the 2,000*l.* ever paid?—Every farthing of that has been paid.

41,834. Now, what I want to know is this, how much money have you received? I suppose you received your money to pay away from other persons; somebody or other paid you money to meet this expense?—No; every time I paid the money myself from my banker's account, and then I asked Mr. Gower for cheques at different times.

41,835. Those cheques would be in your favour; they would be his cheques?—Yes.

41,836. How much money have you received from Mr. Gower?—I think it is 1,900*l.*

41,837. I am speaking with reference to the election entirely. Pray always understand that, for I might leave it out. Have you received any more money than 1,900*l.* from Mr. Gower?—No; I think that is the amount of the cheque. I have received no more money than those cheques represent.

41,838. Never mind whether it correctly represents the amount you paid away or not. How much money have you received in any way from Mr. Gower?—Only 1,900*l.* according to the amount of the cheques.

41,839. I have no doubt you are accurate about it tallying with the cheque; do not suppose that I mean to say you have paid more than you got from Mr. Gower. How much money have you received from Mr. Gower without minding the cheques?—1,900*l.*

41,840. Have you received any more money from Mr. Gower?—No.

41,841. Not counting in before and after the election?—Not at all.

41,842. How much money, if any, is still due for the election?—Due from Mr. Gower?

41,843. How much money is due for the election?—I do not know of any monies due for the election.

41,844. You have received 1,900*l.*, and I make no doubt, though I have not asked you the question at all, that you have properly appropriated the 1,900*l.*?—I have.

41,845. I make no doubt about it, therefore, there is none of that left to pay anything. How much money is still due?—There would be 100*l.*

41,846. I do not mean between you and the difference of the fee; I have got rid of that altogether. Mr. Gower has paid 1,900*l.* worth of bills which you have submitted to him. How much does he owe for the election?—Nothing, that I am aware of.

41,847. I am going to take your answer?—Nothing, of course. I spent 2,000*l.*, but that is a private account.

41,848. That is a private account, you say, between yourself and Mr. Gower. I am coming back to that. I shall be very easily satisfied with your explanation of that. I want to know, beyond the 1,900*l.*, if there is any money due for the election?—No, none at all, excepting the election petition.

41,849. I have nothing to do with the petition?—Then there is none at all.

41,850. Are you aware of any claim, or have you been threatened with any claim? I mean, by threatened, told that they are not satisfied. I do not mean legal process?—I think there is one bill at the "White Hart" not paid of 8*l.* I have told you of that; there is nothing else.

41,851. Never mind that, it may be disputed?—Well, I did not pay it.

41,852. You are quite right, I have got it in the accounts. There is a letter sent in, there is a bill at the "White Hart," which is stated to be not paid?—Yes, that is the only sum I know of, that is the only claim.

41,853. You think that, leaving behind the 1,900*l.*, Mr. Gower is free to go where he lists in regard to claims?—Yes.

41,854. You are not aware of any person threatening a claim or putting forward a claim?—Not at all, I have had no application.

41,855. If 2,000*l.* was the amount of expenses incurred on the election, does Mr. Gower still owe 100*l.*?—Yes.

41,856. I do not mind about that; it is only to balance it; it is a very small and insignificant sum comparing it with such large ones. Now, Mr. Smith, your own fee is not included in the 1,900*l.*?—Yes.

41,857. Are you aware of any other fees left unpaid?—Nothing except those I have mentioned.

41,858. I have already satisfied you that if any one has a claim it is not the sub-agent Mr. Apted, but some canvassers who have been left in the lurch. I have been confining myself to the accounts. Previous to May 1865 had Mr. Gower, so far as you

know, incurred any election debts by anticipation, as it were?—No, he had incurred no debts at all.

41,859. I mean with reference to the 1865 election, in prospect?—None whatever.

41,860. He had not set anybody to work before May?—No.

41,861. I understand you to say when the sub-agents brought in their accounts previously to the 12th of September that you took their word for the payments they had made in most instances?—Yes.

41,862. There were a few vouchers; you did receive a few vouchers from the sub-agents?—Yes.

41,863. Do you recollect in any instance their giving you vouchers, not at all for committee rooms or refreshments, but for money paid to voters?—Only for a few.

41,864. Are those the receipts which you sent in?—Yes, some went up to London, and I think some got lost; they were small accounts.

41,865. But usually you took their word when they told you, for instance, they had paid away 20*l.*?—I did.

41,866. Now then I am going to 1863; were you associated with anybody then as agent?—I was agent for Mr. Gower.

41,867. In which election have you been along with Mr. Morrison?—For Mr. Rawlinson.

41,868. In 1863 you were authorized agent for Mr. Gower in the same way?—I was.

41,869. You recollect, with regard to the 1865 election, I have been asking you how money was expended at that election. I want to know whether any other money was, to your knowledge, paid before the election of 1865 than what passed through your hands?—None to my knowledge. I am sure there was none for Mr. Gower.

41,870. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We mean on his side; knowledge that came to you at that time or since?—No; Mr. Gower has paid no money since, or myself.

41,871. There may be friends?—Oh, yes; but I have no knowledge of it.

41,872. You have no knowledge of monies coming from any other source?—No.

41,873. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1863 you had the same duties to do as this time?—Yes; more than I could perform, inasmuch as I could not attend to the accounts as I ought to have done. The whole management was left on my hands, and it was more than one man could do.

41,874. Was that election more expensive than the last one?—Yes.

41,875. Can you tell me how much the election cost altogether?—I rendered an account; about 2,500*l.* I think it was.

41,876. On your side?—Yes.

41,877. Are you pretty accurate about that?—I think so, but I do not remember in 1863 so well as 1865. It was 2,500*l.* odd.

41,878. At that election your bills for refreshments were a good deal more than this?—Very heavy indeed.

41,879. How long did the election last?—It began the end of December and it went on, I think, to the middle of February.

41,880. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The 6th of February it was over?—Yes, and it began at the end of December; it was on six weeks.

41,881. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect a bill at one house for 100*l.* for refreshments?—No, I never knew such a bill.

41,882. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the "White Hart" bill?—Oh, nothing like that; the largest was, I think, at Redhill.

41,883. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that election, so far as you were concerned, conducted much in the same way as the election of 1865, with reference to sub-agents?—There were more payments made; we took all the committee rooms; every committee room I could secure I took in 1863. It was quite a fight between us who could get the largest number.

41,884. Did sub-agents advance money then as they did this last time?—Yes, in the same sort of way.

41,885. The sub-agents paid money away and were paid by you much the same as in 1865?—We paid weekly in 1863, more systematically. We paid the men who were employed weekly.

41,886. Then after the election was over the sub-agents had not so many long running accounts to bring in to you?—Oh, yes, they had larger ones, I think.

41,887. I thought that if you had helped them to pay the men by the week their accounts would not have been so large. They were paid in the same sort of way?—Yes.

41,888. Can you tell me what was the difference then between the accounts sent in to the election auditor and the actual expense?—I think I sent in 1,900*l.* odd.

41,889. I think in 1863 they took away the election auditor?—Yes, he sent me back all the papers, and said his occupation was gone.

41,890. I do not want to go through the mode in which the 1,900*l.* was arrived at at all. Had you been in the election of 1859?—Yes.

41,891. The election between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

41,892. You were an agent then?—Yes.

41,893. Who were you for?—I was agent for Mr. Monson.

41,894. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You and a gentleman were associated together?—Mr. Hart and myself were associated together.

41,895. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Going back to the election of 1863; so far as you know, were all the expenses incurred in the election of 1863 paid before the election of 1865 came on?—Yes, except as regards myself.

41,896. I may take it that you believe they were all paid?—Yes.

41,897. I want to ask you the same question as regards this as I asked you before. Do you know of any monies being paid on that election except through your hands?—I believe no monies were paid except through my hands.

41,898. In the 1859 election was the same system pursued as we have been talking about?—I had nothing to do with the accounts. Mr. Hart was the election agent, and I had to do with the management of the election.

41,899. Were sub-agents employed?—Sub-agents were employed, but not so much as in 1858.

41,900. In 1859, when Mr. Wilkinson was put up, there were not so many?—There was not anything much done. There were some agents employed.

41,901. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And some canvassers?—Yes, a few; but we did not think there was any fight.

41,902. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had not much to do with money; did you yourself have any money to pay to voters?—No, I do not think I paid any money.

41,903. In 1858, at the second election, in the month of October; was that a severe election, only 15 majority?—That was a severe election.

41,904. What were you?—Agent for Mr. Monson.

41,905. Sole agent?—No, with Mr. Hart.

41,906. Had you anything to do with money matters?—No.

41,907. On that occasion did you pay any money away yourself?—Not at all.

41,908. It was much the same duty, I presume, as in 1859?—Yes.

41,909. Seeing the committees arranged?—Yes.

41,910. I do not think you are able to give me much information about money matters?—Nothing at all.

41,911. What monies Mr. Monson had to pay did he pay to you or Mr. Hart?—To Mr. Hart.

41,912. Now we will go back to the Doulton election in February 1858; what were you then?—I was engaged by Sir Henry Rawlinson in conjunction with Mr. Morrison.

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41,913. Did you manage money matters then?—Yes, I did.

41,914. Was that a severe contest?—Yes; Sir Henry Rawlinson got a very large majority, but there were so many candidates then. I think he polled double Mr. Doulton.

41,915. Had you anything to do with Mr. Doulton on that election?—No; he applied to me to be agent, and I said I was engaged for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

41,916. Did he come down some time before the election?—Yes, about the beginning; just after Mr. Hackblock's death.

41,917. What month was the election in?—February; and Mr. Hackblock died the beginning of January, because circulars with black-edged paper were sent round.

41,918. Do you know the amount sent in to the auditor for Sir Henry Rawlinson's election expenses on that election?—I cannot tell you from memory.

41,919. Do you know at all the monies which passed through your hands on that occasion. I am rather getting your assistance now?—I should think about 1,100*l.* I have given the accounts in. I am not certain.

41,920. You are not able to say what was the amount you sent in?—I cannot.

41,921. To whom did you send those in?—To the auditor.

41,922. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The auditors were established by the Act of 1854?—Yes.

41,923. As it concerns Mr. Doulton, and you have not got the accounts here, we will not go into that?—I have sent you an account, and a newspaper in which you will see Mr Monson's, Mr. Doulton's, and Sir Henry Rawlinson's advertised expenses.

41,924. Did any money pass through your hands for the voters in the Doulton election?—I paid sub-agents in the same way, only to a very limited extent, as I have done since.

41,925. Did you pay them money to give to voters in the same way that you did in 1865?—I gave money to sub-agents to pay away.

41,926. Did you on that occasion pay any voters, not through sub-agents, but yourself?—No; some voters may have come to me, and I may have paid any demand like that, but I never went round.

41,927. I think the number of the constituency was about 505?—Yes.

41,928. On that very matter of paying individual voters I want to ask you a question. You appear to us in some instances in 1865 to have paid away money yourself to voters; small monies, sums of 2*l.* and 3*l.*; was that so?—Yes, they were sent by some sub-agent to my office, and on inquiry I paid them. I may say that every one that I paid I inquired of my sub-agent or inquired myself whether he had worked; the men declared of course that they had worked very hard, but they have come here and said they did nothing; they told me they had worked very hard for six weeks.

41,928*a*. Oh, I do not doubt that. You paid a man; say 2*l.*, who came to you; that went into no sub-agent's account at all?—No.

41,929. That would simply be a cheque?—It would go down there.

41,930. Then you see in fact it is very difficult to separate them; you did in fact pay voters in 1865?—In that way; the sub-agents not having done it the voters came to me, stating they had worked.

41,931. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And sometimes complain they had not been paid?—Yes.

41,932. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you any reason to think that money which the sub-agents received to pay to voters never found its way to the voters?—I cannot say that I had.

41,933. You had not?—I had not; I could not trace it at all.

41,934. Did you know of any arrangement being made that every man on Mr. Gower's committee was to have 5*l.*?—No, I never heard of it, except during this Inquiry.

41,935. You were not aware of it?—No.

41,936. You never acted upon it?—Never.

41,937. I see these sums which you have paid to voters yourself for remuneration you have given in very few instances 5*l.*; they were smaller sums?—Yes.

41,938. And you say you know nothing about the 5*l.* arrangement; you know what I mean by that?—Nothing whatever.

41,939. I see among your cheques, if I am not mistaken, you have paid a cheque to Mr. Nichols, who was on the other side, for 16*l.* odd, if I recollect rightly?—I paid Mr. Nichols a cheque for 25*l.* before the election of 1865, and I paid a further account that Mr. Gower asked me. Mr. Nichols was paid his fee in 1863, and he sent a further account in to Mr. Gower, for which Mr. Gower sent me a cheque for 25*l.* to pay Mr. Nichols, and that cheque I have paid him.

41,940. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That would be Mr. Gower's cheque?—No, I think Mr. Gower sent me the cheque, and I paid him; I kept it some time, as he did not seem inclined to take it.

41,941. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know anything of a sum being due in 1863 to a man named William Clark whom you had employed?—Nothing whatever.

41,942. Do you recollect William Clark coming to you about it, about a sum of 10*l.*, which he said you owed him for the last election?—No, he came to me and asked to be employed, but not with reference to 10*l.*

41,943. Why did you not employ him?—Because I had enough canvassers; that was one reason.

41,944. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There were other reasons?—Yes.

41,945. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you owe him on behalf of Mr. Gower, that you are aware of, 10*l.*?—Not anything.

49,946. Did you refer him to Mr. Nichols and say, "If you want to be paid the 10*l.* you had better get it "from Mr. Nichols"?—No, I never heard him ask for 10*l.*

41,947. I will tell you first his evidence, as I wish you to know it. He says on the election of 1865 there was yet unpaid to him a sum of 10*l.*, which he ought to have been paid from the Gower party (that is I suppose from you) and he went to you and told you about it, and you referred him to Mr. Nichols?—I never remember anything said about 10*l.*

41,948. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And at the same time it came out that he had retained in his possession 10*l.* which he had received?—I do not think he mentioned to me anything about 10*l.*

41,949. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Oh yes, he said he applied to you for 10*l.* as owing from 1863, and you said you could do nothing about it, and that he was to go to Mr. Nichols who had been acting for Mr. Gower in 1863, and he went to Mr. Nichols, and he paid him the 10*l.*; so far as you know, is it true?—No; there was a cheque for 25*l.* to Mr. Nichols.

41,950. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you know of a deputation of the sub-agents waiting upon Mr. Gower himself just a little before the polling day, and asking for increased powers, in order that they might employ more men?—Yes, there was some application like that some time before the polling day, an application was made by the sub-agents to myself, that I referred to Mr. Gower, and it came before the committee, and the result was they granted a larger amount of money.

41,951. More money?—Yes. The result was the next morning I gave 100*l.* amongst the whole of them to go on with; then they drew money out as fast as they could afterwards, and I had to be as hard as I could.

41,952. Could you tell me the date of that?—I think it was about the 25th of June.

41,953. Not nearer the election than that?—No.

41,954. They told you, of course, that all the voters would be purchased by the other side?—They would be bought on the other side if we did not give money.

41,955. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was, in fact, to counteract the supposed bribery on the part of Mr. Monson?—That was the effect of it.

41,956. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) "16*l.*, 14th "December 1865, Mr. Nichols," you see that here (*handing document to witness*)?—It had nothing to do with the election; it regarded the taxes.

41,957. If it had nothing to do with the election, that is quite enough for me. George Carter Morrison, who had been associated with you, had he anything to do with the election in 1865?—Nothing whatever; in May 1865 I issued some notices for a meeting and put his name down with mine, and so I went and telegraphed to the paper to stop it, because he would not take the part of agent for Mr. Gower.

41,958. He is a solicitor?—Yes, and private agent for Mr. Gower. I found that he would have nothing to do with it.

41,959. Have you anything to do with Mr. Gower's expenditure irrespective of the elections?—No.

41,960. You never pay monies for him?—No, not irrespective of the election.

41,961. During the election I see sums of money paid out by you to Mr. Morrison?—No, I paid no sums to Mr. Morrison with reference to the election.

41,962. I do not say in respect of the election?—In my business I should, I mean in my own private business; he is a solicitor of the town, and of course we have cheques from him to me, or from me to him. I paid nothing to him, and he paid nothing to me, in respect of the election.

41,963. You see there are two or three items in this banking book of monies paid by you to Mr. Morrison; are those items in any way connected with the election?—No, no way whatever.

41,964. You are quite sure?—Quite sure.

41,965. I only thought it was just as well to have it?—Yes, I wish that to be known.

41,966. You told me that Mr. Gower paid you the election expenses?—Yes, he gave me cheques; he paid me at different times, as I asked for it.

41,967. Was it always by cheques that he paid you?—Yes, I think so.

41,968. I suppose he never paid you in cash?—Never.

41,969. Do you know the bank Mr. Gower's cheques were drawn on?—Drummond's.

41,970. All drawn on the same bank?—Yes.

41,971. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is your bank here?—The London and County Bank.

41,972. Did you hear Mr. Green examined?—No, I was not here the whole time.

41,973. Look at this, you see it is "Cheque for "Redhill and Reigate messengers, 52*l.* 10*s.*" (*the document was handed to the witness*). I called Mr. Green's attention to that a dozen times, and he insisted it was only 30*l.*?—I think Mr. Rees had some part of the 52*l.* 10*s.*

41,974. It was admitted they were together?—I think in my pass-book you will find that I drew a cheque for 100*l.* and 40*l.*

41,975. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is the date of that?—The 31st of January '63. Sometimes I overdraw a cheque, and put the balance, the cash, in my pocket.

41,976. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Could you also explain Mr. Green's discrepancy in this; he and Mr. Rees sent in an account to you for 168*l.*, and they had received from you 218*l.*?—No, I cannot at all. We had several accounts, and one account might be 168*l.*; however, I cannot explain it. I do not understand it. It appears to me that Mr. Green would not have all this; Mr. Apted might have had some for the Reigate messengers. I could not charge him with having the whole sum. Mr. Green did not do Reigate.

41,977. You can give no other account of it?—No, I cannot from this. I can only say that if I paid the money the counterfoil of my cheque book might explain it. I generally make some memorandum.

41,978. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think we ought to know a little more with regard to the deputation; you said that you paid 100*l.* a day or two after the deputation?—Yes.

41,979. Was that distributed amongst the canvassers?—Amongst the sub-agents.

41,980. Was Mr. Gower present at the time?—Yes, Mr. Gower was present. The agents first came to me and said that money was being spent and persons employed on the other side.

41,981. Did they say how they were employed?—They said they were paid weekly; they did not say how they were employed and paid, and they could not go on; the expression used was a very strong one, "that I was starving the election." I objected to pay any money unless I had authority for it from Mr. Gower or the committee. We held a committee meeting, and I think Mr. North, the chairman, was present, and Mr. Gower was present. We agreed on what canvassers should be employed, and discretion must be used as far as possible not to employ more men than what was proper. Next morning I said, "At "all events they must have some money." I knew men had been employed and not paid, and therefore I paid money to my sub-agents.

41,982. Did you at all inquire what class of men were going to be employed?—No.

41,983. Were not the number of canvassers or paid workers who were on quite sufficient for the purpose of merely asking a man for his vote?—At that time?

41,984. Yes?—Yes, quite sufficient.

41,985. And therefore if any more were employed they would be supernumeraries?—More might be engaged for the purposes of the election, but not for asking for votes.

41,986. What do you mean by saying "for the "purposes of the election"?—For attending committee rooms.

41,987. As committee men?—No; it was necessary to have men to send out from the committee rooms. We were in constant communication with Mead-vale, Redhill, and Reigate.

41,988. I understand then, that after you became aware that Mr. Monson was employing men and paying men you began to deliver circulars?—Oh, no; we had delivered circulars before that.

41,989. But you delivered more circulars afterwards?—Yes.

41,990. So as to get more employment. More employment was made in that way, which, of course, for the purposes of the election was not required?—Perhaps not.

41,991. Now I am sure you will give me an honest answer. Was not the work made for the purpose of getting his vote?—Yes, no doubt it was.

41,992. Before the election many of the men were not paid, as you found out afterwards, and they came and troubled you very much, and then you referred them to the agents. Then when Apted came to you for money to be paid to Rose for these men you were pretty well aware at that time what the men were doing; they were engaged for the purpose of taking out the circulars?—I had no idea that there would be a claim for Mr. Rose and Ede's men for 40*l.*

41,993. No, but it was paid?—Yes.

41,994. When those applications were made to you for large amounts after the election, and after the returns had been sent in to the returning officer, you applied to Mr. Gower for 500*l.* Did you explain to Mr. Gower what that demand was for?—I told him I had demands for some sub-agents, for men who were not paid, and out of the 500*l.* I paid this 40*l.*

41,995. You are a professional man, and of course understand the law by Act of Parliament. I put it to you, and I feel bound to get your explanation of it. You were the expense agent, and you know the Bribery and Corruption Act of '54. I want to know what your construction of that Act is, whether you considered these to be legal expenses, employing men in that kind of way?—I considered that to employ a certain number of canvassers was a legal act.

41,996. Then supposing they are "put on," as the

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term is, merely as a colourable employment to get a vote?—That would not be a legal payment.

41,997. I think I ought to ask you this question further. Why did you not refuse to pay them?—Because in honour to Mr. Gower I thought I was bound to pay them, but I considered that there was no legal liability.

41,998. The question is whether you considered there was a legal payment. You were the expense agent?—Yes.

41,999. You knew that irrespective of that fact?—Yes.

42,000. I only ask you whether you consider that was a proper payment to pass through your hands as Mr. Gower's expense agent?—Perhaps I ought not to have done so.

42,001. Did you at any time express to Mr. Gower that view?—No.

42,002. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am not at all referring to your duty, which I am satisfied was well discharged, but in '63 there was a petition?—Yes.

42,003. And that petition was compromised. It is the subject of our Inquiry, otherwise I would not go into it?—It was withdrawn, but I was not a party to the settlement of it.

42,004. You were not a party to that?—No; I was telegraphed down the petition was withdrawn. I was not a party to that settlement.

42,005. You were aware there was a petition charging bribery?—Yes, I had a brief for the defence. I went up on Monday morning, and I found there was no requirement; the withdrawing of the petition had been signed on the Saturday beforehand.

42,006. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had to pay about 600*l.* after the election audit in '63, and I suppose you called Mr. Gower's attention to that fact?—Yes, he must have known it.

42,007. Was that paid before the petition was withdrawn?—Yes; at least I have made a mistake, for the petition was within fourteen days after the election, and I did not send in any accounts until two months after.

42,008. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The petition was withdrawn before anything was paid?—Nothing was paid then; of course we were careful not to pay anything until we knew what the result was.

42,009. So soon as the attachment was withdrawn you paid away?—Yes, we paid away.

42,010. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is there anything else you wish to add?—There was merely a statement of Allen Edwards which I wish to refer to.

42,011. I call your attention to it, because in the course of the Inquiry things may have come out which you would wish to give an explanation of?—I wish to say, with regard to Allen Edwards, that he denied at all that I made him an offer of 5*l.*, but I have heard since that he has made a statement that I offered him money.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There was a statement put into his hand, which he had signed in the presence of Mr. Gilbert, in which he said you had paid him 5*l.*, but when he came into the box he contradicted it. I made a note of it at the time

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) He informed us that he made the statement as a frolic.

Adjourned until 11 o'clock the next morning.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

T. North.

22 Sept. 1866.

Saturday, 22nd September 1866.

THOMAS NORTH sworn and examined.

42,012. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—Do you mean by position?

42,013. Yes?—A member of the Stock Exchange.

42,014. Are you a gentleman residing in this borough?—I have resided here 11 or 12 years.

42,015. Is it your own property that you reside upon?—No.

42,016. I suppose you reside in one of the larger class of houses?—Yes, you may call it one of the larger class of houses.

42,017. Did you take an active part in the last election of 1865?—I was Mr. Gower's chairman of the committee.

42,018. You were chairman to Mr. Gower's committee in 1865?—Yes.

42,019. And you of course as acting chairman took an active part in the arrangement?—Yes.

42,020. Do you recollect a deputation of the sub-agents waiting upon Mr. Smith?—Yes.

42,021. When Mr. Gower was present were you present at the same time?—Yes.

42,022. That deputation consisted, I believe, of Mr. Apted, Mr. Joyes, and Mr. Buckland?—I am not quite certain of Mr. Joyes; yes, Mr. Joyes was present.

42,023. And Mr. Buckland?—I do not know that Mr. Buckland was present.

42,024. I suppose Mr. Apted was the principal person of the deputation?—Yes, he was the principal person of the deputation.

42,025. And probably the spokesman?—Yes.

42,026. Did you hear all that took place between Mr. Apted, Mr. Joyes, and Mr. Smith?—I did.

42,027. Mr. Apted has told us that the deputation was to represent to Mr. Gower that the persons acting on the part of Mr. Monson were expending money for votes, and that they found their exertions were cramped?—That was in effect what was said; but there was a sort of round-robin signed by the sub-agents which was sent in the first instance, which was sent to me before we met them.

42,028. What was the nature of the round-robin?—Very much as Mr. Smith has stated to you; that money was being spent very largely on the other side, and that they must have a sum of 500*l.*, or else they could not carry the election; that was the substance of it.

42,029. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were there the eight sub-agents?—Yes.

42,030. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that addressed to you?—No, it was sent to Mr. Gower and Mr. Smith. I am not certain to whom it was directed, but Mr. Gower sent for me, and I saw him privately at the "White Hart," and he submitted it to me. I went with him to Redhill, and met him there with Mr. Smith and Mr. Webb; at all events, I met him in the presence of Mr. Henry Webb, the chairman of the Redhill district committee.

42,031. Then the first time you saw the round-robin was when Mr. Gower handed it to you?—Yes.

42,032. Do you know where that document is?—No.

42,033. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is Mr. Webb's Christian name?—Henry Webb.

42,034. Where does he live?—At Redstone Manor; he was chairman of the Redhill district.

42,035. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell us the substance of the round-robin?—I do not remember.

42,036. Perhaps Mr. Gower has the document still?—He may have it.

42,037. (*Mr Commissioner Smith.*) When Mr. Gower comes perhaps he may produce it. Was that before you saw the deputation?—I saw this document before I saw the deputation.

42,038. Were you personally aware from any source before you saw that document that the Monson party were distributing money amongst the voters?—No.

42,039. Was that the first time you became acquainted with the fact?—I should say so.

42,040. Did you and Mr. Gower discuss together the nature of that document?—Yes.

42,041. Tell me the nature of the conversation between you and Mr. Gower in reference to that document, before you saw the deputation?—Mr. Gower decided to reject the amount named in that document.

42,042. Now, after that conversation you met the deputation?—Yes.

42,043. Were you present at the deputation?—Yes.

42,044. Where?—At a room at the market hall, Redhill, which was used as our committee room.

42,045. Was Mr. Gower present?—Yes.

42,046. And yourself?—Yes, and Mr. North, Mr. Ivimy, and Mr. Smith. I think Mr. Ivimy was present; he was there in the evening.

42,047. Who was present of the deputation?—Mr. Apted was the spokesman, and I think Mr. Joyes, Mr. Mazden, and Mr. Penfold, and there may have been one or two more.

42,048. The others were represented?—Yes.

42,049. Was the question of money being spent by the Monson party then fully gone into?—I think not.

42,050. Was it discussed?—Yes; that the election could not be carried without that expenditure of money, that the money they claimed was necessary for the success of the election.

42,051. How much had they asked for?—500*l.*

42,052. Do you know on what day that was?—I should say somewhere about the 22nd, or 24th or 25th of June; it was something like the third week in June. I have a very bad recollection of dates. I should think it was between a fortnight and three weeks of the election.

42,053. The election was on the 12th?—Yes, the 12th or 13th.

42,054. And the nomination the previous day; that would make it somewhere about three weeks before the election?—Something like three weeks.

42,055. What was the answer given to the deputation?—If you could examine me upon one or two points before which led up to this, I think I could explain.

42,056. No, we will go shortly to the point?—Mr. Gower stated to the deputation what he had stated before, and said he would have nothing whatever to do with it. Mr. Apted made a speech to him, opening the business of the deputation, of a somewhat bumptious character.

42,057. I want to know what was the answer to the deputation?—Mr. Gower refused.

42,058. Do you mean to say that Mr. Gower positively refused?—Yes, positively refused. One of the objects of the deputation was to press upon Mr. Gower that he was not doing sufficient canvassing. He said that he would come down more often, and he would do as much canvassing as ever they pleased, but he would not have an undue expenditure of money.

42,059. You were in the Court yesterday and heard Mr. Smith's evidence?—Yes.

42,060. You heard Mr. Smith say yesterday that on the following day after the deputation they advanced 100*l.* to the agents?—Yes.

42,061. That was for the purpose of engaging men as canvassers?—Yes, engaging as canvassers; for the expenses which the sub-agents necessarily incurred.

42,062. Was it not a fact that the sub-agents required of Mr. Gower that they should be supplied with more canvassers?—No, I think not. I heard Mr. Smith say so yesterday, but I did not hear anything spoken about canvassers.

42,063. You say you are not certain, but are you prepared to contradict in positive terms the evidence of Mr. Smith?—No, I am not prepared to contradict it; my own impression is that nothing was said about canvassers.

42,064. This is a very important topic, and I do not want impressions, I want positive facts. Was it not decided at that interview that more money should be handed to the deputation?—It was not decided at that interview; it was not decided on the part of Mr. Gower, but I said to Mr. Smith afterwards, when Mr. Gower was not present, "What are you going to do "with these men, are you going to give them any "money?" And I said, "I think they ought to have "some money; they must have some money."

42,065. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that after the meeting was over?—Yes, I spoke to Mr. Smith privately.

42,066. Do you mean that you spoke to him in committee or out of committee?—Privately.

42,067. Was Mr. Gower present?—No.

42,068. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long had Mr. Gower left the room before you said that to Mr. Smith?—I am not certain that he had left at all. I think I spoke to Mr. Smith in the passage; we had two rooms there, the deputation was left in one room, Mr. Gower, Mr. Webb, and Mr. Ivimy in the other room, and I think I spoke to Mr. Smith in the passage.

42,069. Was the sum of 100*l.* mentioned?—Mr. Smith said he would give them 100*l.* What I said was this, "They must have some money;" they had threatened to strike altogether if they could not engage men; at least, they said they must have some money. I said that they ought to have some, and I thought it was a very moderate sum.

42,070. Was not the threat to strike because they could not counteract the expenditure on the other side?—I am not clear on that point. I would not say that they threatened upon the ground of expenditure on the other side, but that they could not carry on what I then understood were the legitimate purposes of the election without some money.

42,071. Now, as chairman of the committee were you not aware of the fact that many of the voters were put on as canvassers?—I was aware of it; I was aware that canvassers were put on, and that canvassers were necessary.

42,072. And were to be paid?—And were to be paid.

42,073. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You mean necessary with regard to their votes?—Necessary to the legitimate carrying out of the election.

42,074. Necessary to the success of the election?—Necessary to the success, to carrying out the election in a legitimate manner.

42,075. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did the sub-agents return to the committee the names of the persons who were put on as canvassers from time to time?—No, that was entirely left in their disposition I am sorry to say.

42,076. Did you know of any more money being paid in the same way before the election?—If the

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Commissioners will allow me to explain without stopping me——

The Chief Commissioner informed the witness that he would have an opportunity of explaining afterwards, but that he must confine himself to answering questions till the conclusion of his evidence.

42,077. Give me a fact in reference to this present point?—As to the necessity there is here for having more canvassers?

42,078. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I want to know why you should have canvassers here?—A very large proportion of the respectable electors of this borough are persons, like myself, engaged in London. They are rarely down here, they have no local influence, and they are unknown to the people generally; therefore, except in the immediate neighbourhood, among the tradespeople who have recently come down here, they have very little influence. A candidate has very little unpaid support from persons who will give their time to canvassing; it is necessary therefore, and he is compelled, to hire canvassers.

42,079. Tell me this, whether you consider it necessary for the legitimate carrying on of the canvass that all the gardeners in the place should be engaged as canvassers?—Certainly not.

42,080. Did you know before the election that that was a fact in the election, that most of the gardeners had been put on as canvassers?—Certainly not.

42,081. You knew of it I suppose after the election?—No, I did not.

42,082. Did any monies pass through your hands?—Certainly not.

42,083. Not for payments?—Certainly not.

42,084. Not the signing of cheques on the part of Mr. Gower?—Certainly not.

42,085. Did those monies, do you know, all pass through the hands of Mr. Smith?—To my knowledge, undoubtedly.

42,086. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You became aware by what you have called the "round-robin" that money was wanted; you then said that you became aware for the first time that the sub-agents thought more canvassers were required, and you in short knew what they wanted?—I knew that they wanted additional assistants.

42,087. That is what I mean?—Yes.

42,088. Then you met them at Redhill afterwards in the presence of the gentlemen you have mentioned?—Yes.

42,089. After the deputation had been received do you recollect Mr. Gower saying something to you which induced you to have a conversation in the passage with Mr. Smith?—Mr. Gower did not say anything to me at all, it was entirely my own doing.

42,090. Do you recollect having an observation or two with Mr. Gower before you had a conversation with Mr. Smith?—Certainly not.

42,091. Did you see Mr. Smith and Mr. Gower have a conversation together before you and Mr. Smith met in the passage?—I have no recollection of anything of the kind.

42,092. Then when you had that conversation with Mr. Smith in the passage had you received any suggestion or heard from anybody at all?—No.

42,093. No?—Certainly not.

42,094. Are you quite clear?—Perfectly clear. These financial matters were generally left with the agent. I asked Mr. Smith merely as a matter of curiosity what he was going to do.

42,095. I suppose you asked him, "What is the "best thing to do with this deputation?" I mean in that line?—Something like that.

42,096. I suppose I may take your answer, that before you asked him that question you had received no suggestion from any other person?—Certainly not.

42,097. Now I want to know this: did you and Mr. Smith come back into the room?—Which room do you mean? where the deputation was?

42,098. You left the deputation; I presume they had gone away?—I do not think they had, I think they were in the room.

42,099. You came back in the room and found Mr. Gower there?—I do not recollect.

42,100. I want to know this, if you please, as it is rather an important part of the scene. When you and Mr. Smith had a conversation, which you think was in the passage, I understood you to say Mr. Gower was still in the house?—Yes, I think he was. I think after that I went home.

42,101. Did you see Mr. Gower at all after you had had that conversation with Mr. Smith?—Not to my recollection, not to have any conversation bearing upon it all.

42,102. I will take your answer, "not to my recol-"lection;" do you think you had or not?—I think I had not.

42,103. When did you see him again?—I can hardly tell you, I was constantly seeing him.

42,104. Do you think you saw him the next day?—I might have, but very likely not, because he was down here very little until the beginning of July.

42,105. Will you say you saw him within two days?—I might have done so.

42,106. Do you remember saying to him something of this kind: "I think we did well with the deputa-"tion, that paying them 100*l.* was the best thing "that could be done"?—Certainly not.

42,107. Do not suppose I mean in those words at all?—No, nothing like it.

42,108. What did you say to him with respect to the 100*l.*?—I never had any conversation with him on the subject of that conversation in the passage.

42,109. On the subject of the 100*l.*?—I never had any conversation with him about it.

42,110. Do you state that with tolerable certainty?—Yes, certainly.

42,111. I will put it down thus: "I think I had "no conversation with Mr. Gower about the 100*l.*"? I said "I *think* I had not." I understand you to say that you believe you had not?—I know I had not.

42,112. Then I will take it so. When you had that conversation, do you recollect whether you saw Mr. Ivimy and Mr. Webb still there?—No, I do not remember. I might have had a conversation afterwards with them about it.

42,113. Tell me, if you please, how long this was before the meeting in the town hall here, and at Redhill too by the way, when Mr. Gower is supposed to have said that all persons who worked for him should be paid?—I am sure that the meeting in the town hall below when that supposed declaration took place was a few days before this.

42,114. Are you sure about that?—Yes, quite sure. It might be three or four days.

42,115. I should be much obliged to you if you would tell me as near as you can what was stated in the round robin, as you call it; if you cannot I am quite satisfied, but I should like to know what was said?—I really cannot tell you.

42,116. We know the purport of it?—I only know the purport of it.

42,117. The purport of it was, the sub-agents told Mr. Gower and you they were starving the election?—That was the purport of it.

42,118. I should very much like to know, if you could tell me, what was said?—I can really only recollect the purport of it.

42,119. You cannot recollect nearer than that?—I cannot.

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42,120. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose from an expression which fell from you, that from the attitude of the sub-agents you judged it was necessary to do something to soothe them?—That was exactly what I meant.

42,121. That was necessary?—Yes, to do something to soothe them; it was not advisable to leave them.

42,122. To leave them in the frame of mind they were then in?—Yes.

42,123. I gave you a friendly hint not to go into the necessity of having those canvassers: you do not now say that was necessary?—No, I do not.

42,124. You do not now say it was necessary to have all the canvassers who have been called?—I should not call those persons canvassers. I am speaking of canvassers as men who canvassed some time.

42,125. Like the sub-agents?—Yes, and a person like William Featherstone, a man who is devoting his whole time; that person I call a canvasser, an assistant to the sub-agents.

42,126. You do not think it necessary?—No, certainly not; there might be seven or eight sub-agents and a dozen or a couple of dozen canvassers.

42,127. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where did the document go to?—I dare say it was torn up, I think it was.

42,128. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you see the sub-agents afterwards in a body?—No.

42,129. That was the last time they came?—Yes.

42,130. And their representative?—Yes.

42,131. Were you aware the deputation had gone up to London before this deputation to Redhill?—Not until yesterday; the deputation I think met before I was appointed chairman.

42,132. Just bring your memory to trace the little succession of incidents. Had not the committee met the deputation before Mr. Gower saw them?—No, there was no committee meeting that evening.

42,133. Just recollect?—No, there was no committee meeting. I met them first there. You see there is a sort of committee, and persons who call themselves committee men; a habit has been got into lately of putting everybody on the committee, but those men do not really act.

42,134. You were the first person who saw them?—Mr. Gower and myself.

42,135. When you saw Mr. Gower he held the document in his hand; how did he get that?—It was sent to him. How it was sent I do not know. He sent to me to show it to me.

42,136. It was sent to him?—I presume so.

42,137. Was that meeting called because of the document having been sent to him?—Mr. Gower merely asked persons more intimately connected with elections, myself and others to meet with him.

42,138. Was that in consequence of that document?—In consequence of that document.

42,139. Then you, as the chairman of this committee, after that conversation with Mr. Gower, spoke to Mr. Smith?—Yes. I should like to notice one or other points very important, to show——

42,140. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) As matters of fact or speeches?—As matters of fact. I wish that it should be known what took place between Mr. Gower and his more intimate committee at the time I was selected chairman.

42,141. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think we ought to hear it?—The committee where I was elected chairman took place in the small room at the "White Hart," Mr. Smith, Mr. Clutton, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Gower, and Mr. Webb were present, and many other gentlemen, and the whole of the sub-agents. After I had taken the chair Mr. Gower addressed his friends present, and spoke in the first instance of the last election, and amongst various other things he expressed himself very strongly that nothing of that kind should occur again, he would have no undue expenditure at all. I know amongst those present there was a sort of feeling that the election could not be carried on——

42,142. Without some undue expenditure?—Without some undue expenditure the thing could not be done. Mr. Gower said, "I will tell you what, I "adhere to my feelings about it on that point. I "will tell you what I will do; if I am beaten in "endeavouring to carry on the election in the way "I propose, I will petition against the return, and I "will petition for the seat, as I will not have an "undue expenditure." We adjourned from there to the meeting where Mr. Gower made that declaration as you call it, which, if you wish to have any explanation of, I can give it you.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien remarked that he had no doubt Mr. Gower would give an explanation himself.

The witness stated that he had only wished to explain to the Commissioners what he might call the programme with which Mr. Gower started on that election.

The witness then withdrew.

CHARLES JOSEPH SMITH recalled and examined.

C. J. Smith.

42,143. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before I ask you any other questions I think it right to draw your attention to this fact, because you have not yet had an opportunity of answering it. It is a fact which is found by the committee of the House of Commons, that it has been proved that George Charles Beales received the bribe of 1*l.* from Charles Joseph Smith, the authorized agent of Mr. Gower. Before the committee you had no opportunity of being asked about it, but I think here you ought to have an opportunity of explaining?—I should be glad.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien stated that he had no objection to hear Mr. Smith, but that they had not investigated that fact.

42,144. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is a fact, is it not, that you paid 1*l.* to Beales?—It is a fact I paid 1*l.* to Beales in December. He came to me and stated he had worked very hard for Mr. Gower, he was then in a bad state of health, and that his wife's sister was dead, or something of that kind, and he wanted to go to the funeral. I did inquire of Mr. Joyes whether he had worked, and he himself told me that he had worked very hard for Mr. Gower. I told him all the election expenses were paid, and I gave him 1*l.* I did not know the man when I saw him; this was in December. I gave it more out of charity than anything else.

42,145. Partly in charity, and partly in consequence of the work he had done?—Yes.

42,146. Was that carried to Mr. Gower's account?—Yes. I believe he spent the money in drink; he told me after he never went to the funeral.

42,147. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was carried to Mr. Gower's expenses?—Yes.

42,148. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You told us yesterday you paid 100*l.* for expenses to the agents after the committee meeting when Mr. Gower and Mr. North were present?—Yes.

42,149. Was that paid by cheque?—Yes.

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42,150. In one or several cheques?—In several cheques.

42,151. Was that drawn on your private account, or on what account?—On my own account; I never had any other account. I drew all on my own account.

42,152. Before you paid the 100*l.* did you speak to Mr. Gower upon what sum should be advanced?—Not at all.

42,153. Not as to the amount?—No.

42,154. That was left to your discretion?—That was left to my discretion. I told Mr. North, I think, what they ought to have, but I do not think I saw Mr. Gower.

42,155. Before the deputation left, or during the meeting of the committee, we will call it a committee, I mean the meeting of yourself, Mr. Gower, Mr. North, Mr. Webb, and so on, was it decided that something should be advanced to the canvassers, whatever that sum might be?—It was not decided what the sum should be at all, that was left to me, and I went and spoke to Mr. North.

42,156. Was it decided in the committee that something should be advanced to the sub-agents?—It was not decided at all, it was left for me.

42,157. To deal with the sub-agents?—Yes; there was a conversation held before, and I was asked how many canvassers could legally be put on, and what I thought were legal payments; and I was to do what was requisite, but no amount was mentioned.

42,158. The amount was left to your own discretion in committee?—Yes.

42,159. Did you see the document Mr. North has alluded to?—I suppose I must have seen it, but I do not remember it at all, not the contents, except that it was a request for money. I am sure the object and the reason the document was presented was in consequence of the expenditure on the other side.

42,160. Can you show at all how long this discussion lasted upon the document, in respect to the deputation, for putting on more canvassers?—A very short time.

42,161. It was a short consultation?—Very short.

42,162. And was the tenor of the conversation a discussion as to how you could best act as against the money that was being spent by the Monson party?—That was the effect of the conversation.

42,163. That was the effect of the conversation; there is no doubt about that?—No doubt.

42,164. And in that conversation did Mr. Gower join?—Yes.

42,165. And the result of it was that you received general instructions to do the best you could?—Yes.

42,166. That you received from the beginning?—I had those instructions from the beginning.

42,167. I mean in counteraction to what was going on?—Yes, in counteraction to what was going on; I was to do everything I could to counteract the money that was being spent.

42,168. So the result was, that in order to counteract the money which was being spent, you spent money on your own side?—I spent money on my side.

42,169. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to ask you a question about this. Can you tax your memory about this matter? You know at this committee meeting the committee were present?—Yes.

42,170. Can you tell me whether the discussion in committee took place after the deputation had withdrawn?—We went into another room.

42,171. The committee men?—A few of us went away from the general committee men and went into another room.

42,172. Was that yourself, Mr. Webb, Mr. Gower, Mr. North, and Mr. Ivimy?—I do not remember Mr. Ivimy, but Mr. Webb, Mr. Gower, Mr. North, and myself went into another room.

42,173. Instead of the deputation withdrawing, you withdrew from them into another room?—Yes.

42,174. Be so good as to tell me, as well as you can recollect, what was the substance of what passed in the room?—That passed in the room when we adjourned.

42,175. That passed in the room you withdrew to?—The discussion was how many canvassers we could legally employ, and how many persons could be employed for the purposes of the election, to counteract the money that was being spent on the other side, and Mr. Gower then stated that he would not expend any money improperly, and no result was come to further than it was left to my discretion; and then I saw Mr. North after.

42,176. Was it left to your discretion how much money you should advance them?—At this time.

42,177. I mean the time your discretion resulted in the advance of 100*l.*?—Yes.

42,178. Was that left to your discretion how much money you should advance to the sub-agents?—Yes, at that time.

42,179. I am confining myself exclusively to that time. Then it was agreed that you should advance some money if you thought fit?—Yes.

42,180. And we know what you did; you did the next day?—Yes.

42,181. Did you send it back by the committee?—No, next morning they came to my office, and I then gave them power.

42,182. When did Mr. Gower become aware of the way in which you exercised your discretion?—I do not know that he knew it at all; I never informed him at all of it.

42,183. I do not know whether you can tell me the contents of that document?—I cannot.

42,184. Do you know what became of it at all?—I do not.

42,185. My friend has asked you about Beales' evidence before. I suppose the amount paid to Beales was paid by you much as other small sums were paid to voters who you found, after the election was all over, still had claims?—Yes.

42,186. You told me yesterday that you paid away small sums to some voters who it appears had never been paid, and you were induced to hand them over small sums?—Yes, after inquiring of the agents whether they had done the work. I always made inquiries.

42,187. Did you make any inquiries about Beales?—I did.

42,188. And you found he had done work?—He professed to have done work.

42,189. Your payment to Beales was much like the payments to the other men. I will take one of the names and see; here, for a sample; there is the name of Gillett, perhaps you remember him?—No.

42,190. I take it that the payment to Beales was of the same character as the payments you made of small sums to men who had claims after the election was over?—Not altogether; because as regards Beales, I had finished up all my expenses, and I should not have paid any more if he had not come with the story he did.

42,191. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You mean to say he applied to you?—He applied to me to let him have something as he was in distress; the others did not say anything about that.

42,192. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) This is material to you in reference to your conduct as found by the House of Commons?—Yes; and I took my purse out and gave him a sovereign, which I used not to do in other cases; it was always a business account.

42,193. You see it was not only because he appealed to your feelings that you gave him the 1*l.*, because you did take the trouble and occasion of inquiring of Mr. Joyes whether he had worked?—Yes.

42,194. But to a certain extent you distinguished

his from the others ?—I do, because of the statement he made about the funeral and all that.

42,195. "To a certain extent only I gave him the "1*l.*, because he appealed to my feelings, but not al- "together, because I had taken the trouble to apply to "Mr. Joyes to see whether he had done work"?—Yes.

42,196. It probably has occurred to your mind before now, that the House of Commons might have hit on a stronger case of bribery against you if they had taken any of the others ?—Yes, if that is bribery, certainly.

42,197. The House of Commons has found it so ?—Yes.

42,198. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They had no explanation ?—No explanation. I had no opportunity of making a statement.

42,199. Do you recollect giving a small sum of money to a man name Hulder, who was clerk to the Mead-vale committee ?—No.

42,200. You did so, but I cannot tell under what circumstances ?—I do not know the name of Hulder.

42,201. Look at the cheque ?—It is Fielder, he was clerk to the Mead-vale committee.

42,202. On the 22nd of April you paid a cheque for 4*l.* for Gillett. I suppose he had something to do with the election ?—Yes.

42,203. Who is Gillett ?—It must have been one of the men at work.

42,204. Then I had better ask Mr. Apted about it, because Mr. Apted will remember whether he was a canvasser or not, or what he was. I see you paid Mr. Apted for J. B. Thatcher 5*l.* on the 10th of October. What is Thatcher ?—He kept a beer shop up the hill.

42,205. He was a voter I suppose ?—Yes.

42,206. What was his Christian name ?—J. B. Thatcher.

42,207. Do you know who Gillett is ?—No.

42,208. It is called R. Gillett ; it is the only one that is put down like that ?—It was paid on the election.

42,209. Who is the man ?—He is a voter, I think ; that was for some subscription.

42,210. It is not the same as David Gillett ?—Yes.

42,211. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was the man who was suspected to be cruelly treated by his master, Mr. Simpson ?—He was going away, and Mr. Apted asked me to give a subscription for him. He asked me to subscribe as he was out of his place. I do not know who the others were.

42,212. Then that is David Gillett ?—Yes.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

C. J. Smith.

22 Sept. 1866.

42,213. How is it he only got 1*l.* 10*s.* ?—I left that with Apted ; you will see it was Gillett and others.

42,214. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There is another man's name. On the 23rd of August you paid a man named Shilling ?—Shilling ?

42,215. Yes, like the coin ?—He is a non-voter.

42,216. You are sure of that ?—Yes, if the name is Shilling.

42,217. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Shilling, a messenger ?—Yes ; he is a non-voter.

42,218. You see you applied to Mr. Gower after the election for the money ; 500*l.*, I think ?—Yes.

42,219. Was that done by letter ?—No.

42,220. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There was a man named Beales who was examined here. In his evidence before us he told us nothing about it, but it was brought out in cross-examination that he made that tale to you about his wife. Do you recollect what it was he did say ?—He said that his wife's sister was dead, and that his wife wanted to go to the funeral, and that he had no money ; at least, she had not money to buy any mourning, or to go with ; and he said more too, that he had been ill, and everything like that.

42,221. May I take it from that that you hesitated to give him the 1*l.* when he first applied ?—I did hesitate, because I had paid all my expenses, and it was in December.

42,222. There is only one question. I am rather doubtful whether I ought to ask you it, but I think I am bound to. Have you put down and charged to Mr. Gower a sum of 10*l.*, that you lent before the election to a certain man ?—I put down everything.

42,223. I will call your attention to a circumstance. I do not wish to mention names. Have you charged Mr. Gower a sum of 10*l.* that you had given as a loan to a man before the election commenced ?—If I can have the name I will immediately tell you.

42,224. You will see the name there ; do not mention it, and you will know why I do not wish it to go further when you see the name. I am sorry I am obliged to ask you this ?—(*The witness looked at the name.*) Oh yes, I put that down to Mr. Gower ; you will find it under the names ; the money I advanced him. Nothing was said about the election ; but I put it down to Mr. Gower. I have got the man's I. O. U.

42,225. You have got an I. O. U. for it ?—I have.

The witness withdrew.

JOB APTED recalled.

J. Apted.

42,226. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) With respect to Mr. Gillett, Mr. Apted, I put him down before you were asked as having been paid 3*l.*, and you struck off 30*s.* and made me put it at 30*s.* I did it at your desire. You will see on going down the list "David "Gillett, 3*l.*," and you made me strike off 1*l.* 10*s.* ?—No. If you look at my evidence, I think you will see that is entirely wrong.

42,227. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Very likely. I think you said you made a kind of subscription ?—Yes. I forget the amount ; but, I think it was between 3*l.* and 4*l.* Mr. Smith only gave 2*s.* 6*d.* out of that.

42,228. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you say what the money was you received ?—Mr. Smith wrote out a cheque at first, I believe, for me to hand to Gillett ; and I then reminded him he had said he should not be paid, and he wrote, I think, "and "others" on the cheque, or something of that kind ; "Gillett and others," so that I should take the cheque ; and I believe it was paid for some account or other. I think it was paid to Hodge of Woodhatch.

42,229. Do you mean I must take on the 1*l.* 10*s.* ?—I have paid him nothing, only the subscription.

42,230. You certainly made me take out the 3*l.* and told me to put down 30*s.* ?—Then it was quite a mistake, for I never paid him a farthing ; that was Gibbs.

42,231. No ; I have him too ?—He had 3*l.*, and I told you he came and demanded payment twice, and there was only 30*s.* that Mr. Gower had paid, and the rest I lent out of my own pocket. The name was Gibbs, and not Gillett.

42,232. Oh, I see my mistake, and you are perfectly right ; tell me if you can the tenor of the paper which Mr. North calls a round-robin ?—The only reason why I said it was not a round-robin was, that there was nothing secret or dreadful about it, and I was not ashamed of it.

42,233. But I want you to be kind enough to tell

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

J. Apted.

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us what was in it?—We made a statement to Mr. Gower, that, according to our estimate, the whole expense of the election would be 1,500*l.* Mr. Gower did not accede to that. We then thought that we could go on to the day of polling with 500*l.*; and that was the tenor I believe of the note, that we were to receive 500*l.*, and that we were merely to go with that.

42,234. Now I want to know this, it was a written sort of paper, whatever you choose to call it; an address?—It was written here in Reigate.

42,235. It was something like this, was it not, "That the sub-agents thought it right to inform Mr. "Gower"?—I forget whether it was to Mr. Gower or to Mr. North.

42,236. I do not mind which. Of course I am inventing this now, "But that unless money was "advanced"?—I had previously put the question to Mr. Gower, "If we go on without charging anything, "will you petition for the seat." He distinctly said he would not, and I said, "We will go on without any "money at all, we will expend nothing and charge "nothing, if you will petition for the seat, and give us "your word for it; then we will go and do the best "to carry you in;" but he would not give us that promise, he would not pledge himself.

42,237. Will you tell me as near as you can the words?—I think it was an application for 500*l.*

42,238. For what?—To go on till the polling day.

42,239. Was nothing more specified?—No; only to let us have it at our discretion; that is what we were in the habit of doing.

42,240. No doubt of that. Tell me then the words of the address?—I am sure we should not tell Mr. Gower how we should spend it.

42,241. You might tell him what you wanted it for?—To put on more canvassers and messengers.

42,242. Are you quite sure that was in it?—I think I could take upon myself to swear upon that.

42,243. That you wanted money to put on more canvassers and messengers?—I represented distinctly, before the writing was put down, we must get every voter to come and sign his name on the committee, and we must employ men to go and get those people.

42,244. I want to know what you mentioned to Mr. Gower?—That was the basis of the application, to get 500*l.* until the polling day.

42,245. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Just for my own information I wish to ask you this question; you know the borough very well?—Yes.

42,246. You said it could be carried for 1,500*l.*; that was the statement you made?—I believe it would have been.

42,247. I am satisfied you will give me an intelligent answer, but I think you will also give a candid answer to this inquiry. In your opinion what ought to be the legitimate expense of this borough. I should say myself 700*l.* or 800*l.*, but what should you say, would be the legitimate expense?—That is entirely dependent on whom you have to contend with; if the expense of both sides was purely legitimate.

42,248. I mean both sides determined to act properly?—Then I think 800*l.* would do if you had a fair opponent.

42,249. I mean paying men for their honest labour and work?—Yes, I think 800*l.* would do.

J. Fuller.

JOHN FULLER sworn and examined.

42,250. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A farm labourer.

42,251. Had you a vote in 1865?—No.

42,252. You had no vote?—No.

42,253. Had you a vote in 1863?—No.

42,254. Have you ever had a vote here?—No, not before this election.

42,255. Then you had a vote the last election?—Yes.

42,256. What rent do you pay for your house?—6*l.* a year.

42,257. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

42,258. Were you on the committee?—No.

42,259. Who asked you to vote?—Mr. Durrant.

42,260. What did he tell you?—He told me I should be paid for my day.

42,261. Paid for what?—For the day.

42,262. And you did vote, and what were you paid?—10*s.*

42,263. No more?—No more.

42,264. Did he pay you?—Yes, he left the money at my house.

42,265. And then you got it when you came home?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

J. Mitchell.

JAMES MITCHELL sworn and examined.

42,266. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A labourer.

42,267. An agricultural labourer?—Yes.

42,268. Have you a vote?—Yes.

42,269. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

42,270. What rent did you pay for the house at the last election?—5*l.* 4*s.*

42,271. You pay by the week; that is 2*s.* a week?—I pay by six months.

42,272. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

42,273. What did you get?—10*s.*

42,274. From whom?—Mr. Durrant.

42,275. How long have you had a vote?—Once before this.

42,276. You voted in 1863?—Yes.

42,277. Out of the same house?—Yes.

42,278. For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

The witness withdrew.

J. Thatcher.

JOHN THATCHER sworn and examined.

42,279. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A labourer.

42,280. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you vote?—10*l.* 16*s.*

42,281. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

42,282. What did you receive?—I never received anything there; Mr. Mazden gave me 1*l.* six weeks before last Christmas.

42,283. Mr. Mazden, I suppose, put you on Mr. Gower's committee?—Yes.

42,284. Did he come to you or did you go to him?—He gave it me as I was going by.

42,285. Did he tell you for what?—No, he did not tell me for what then, he did afterwards.

42,286. What did he say afterwards?—He said if I drove up he could give me 1*l.* towards the election, or something like that.

42,287. Had you voted before?—Yes, for Mr. Wilkinson.

42,288. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—Mr. Mazden.

42,289. What did he give you in 1863?—10*s.*

42,290. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) From whom did you receive it?—I do not know who gave it to me; I had it brought to my house; so I cannot say who left it.

42,291. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They left it there?—Yes.

42,292. I suppose it was left with your wife?—Yes.

42,293. I dare say she told you it was brought by Mr. Mazden?—No, I think it was by Sendall from Penfold; I will not be sure who it was that did come.

42,294. But it was Mr. Mazden who put you on the committee, to vote for Mr. Wilkinson in 1863?—Yes.

42,295. Did you vote before 1863?—No.

42,296. You had no vote before?—No.

42,297. Are you sure you got no other monies than what you told us?—No, I was never offered any.

42,298. You were put down for 1*l.* Mr. Mazden put you down for 1*l.*?—Yes.

42,299. You got 10*s.* in 1863?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

GEORGE HARMAN sworn and examined.

G. Harman.

42,300. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

42,301. What rent do you pay for your house out of which you voted?—14*l.*

42,302. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

42,303. Were you on his committee?—No.

42,304. Who spoke to you about voting for Mr. Monson?—No one in particular.

42,305. Who did?—Several people spoke about the election, but of course I used my own discretion, and voted for whom I thought best.

42,306. Who canvassed you?—No one ever persuaded me at all.

42,307. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—No.

42,308. Did you do anything for him?—No.

42,309. With which of his agents were you more particularly engaged?—With none whatever; I was not with them at all.

42,310. Did any of his agents speak to you?—No. not particularly.

42,311. Tell me who did?—I do not know who did.

42,312. Did any of them?—No, not particularly.

42,313. Do not mind the particularly, did any of them?—No, I do not recollect them.

42,314. Did none of them speak to you about voting, remember there were a great many about?—Mr. Holdsworth spoke to me and asked me.

42,315. He is the gentleman of the "Red Cross"?—Yes.

42,316. Were you in his house at that time?—No.

42,317. Where did he meet you?—At Redhill.

42,318. He came to you at Redhill?—I came to him, I believe; I met him in the road.

42,319. Where had you come from?—Sydenham.

42,320. Were you at work at Sydenham?—Yes.

42,321. How long before the election was it you came to him?—About a week, perhaps.

42,322. You had been at work at Sydenham?—Yes.

42,323. And I suppose you heard at Sydenham that the canvass was going on?—Yes.

42,324. You came from Sydenham to Redhill; do you live there?—Yes.

42,325. Then you went to Mr. Holdsworth?—Yes.

42,326. Did he tell you that it would be better to vote for Mr. Monson?—No, he asked me who I was going to vote for, and I told him I had not made up my mind.

42,327. What did he say?—He said, "You had "better make your mind up;" that is all he told me.

42,328. What did you say?—I told him I should not yet.

42,329. When did you make up your mind to vote for Mr. Monson?—A few days before the polling day.

42,330. Did you remain in Redhill during the week, or did you go back to your work?—No; I came back to Redhill the night before the polling day.

42,331. You were put to some expense in coming and going?—Of course I was.

42,332. Who paid you the expenses?—Mr. Nichols, I believe that is the name.

42,333. How much did he allow you for the expenses?—He did not give me any money.

42,334. How then?—He gave me a cheque.

42,335. To what amount?—5*l.*

42,336. As soon as you voted, I suppose?—No, not for two months afterwards.

42,337. Did you apply to him?—Yes.

42,338. How came you to apply to Mr. Nichols?—I heard the other people were receiving their expenses, and I thought I might as well go and get mine.

42,339. You heard that other people were receiving money under the name of expenses?—Yes.

42,340. Did you not send him in a bill at all, or merely say, "Give me 5*l.*"?—No.

42,341. How did you fix the 5*l.*?—He gave me what he pleased.

42,342. You mentioned something, did you not?—I asked him for my expenses, and he gave me what he pleased.

42,343. Had you that before?—Yes.

42,344. For whom did you vote before?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

42,345. What did you get for your vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—1*l.* from Wesley.

42,346. You got more than 1*l.*, did you not?—No.

42,347. Was that all you received?—That was all I received.

42,348. I have seen your name down for more, I think?—Not much, I think.

42,349. Did you not receive anything from anybody else?—Not a farthing.

42,350. Did you get that before you polled or after?—Before I polled.

42,351. In 1863?—Yes.

42,352. The morning of the polling day I think?—No, previous to that.

42,353. Was it the nomination day?—No, a few nights before.

42,354. Did Wesley pay you alone, or were you with others?—There were more in the room at that time.

42,355. And more that he paid money to I believe?—I believe so.

42,356. What room was it?—Toplis's, I believe.

42,357. There were a good many there that night?—Yes.

42,358. Plenty of beer?—No, I did not see any refreshments.

42,359. There were above a dozen there?—Perhaps there might be.

42,360. You saw him pay others?—Yes, I saw him pay others, but I do not know the amount.

42,361. Had you voted before?—Yes.

42,362. In 1859 did you vote?—Yes, I believe I did.

42,363. I suppose you got nothing at that election?—No.

42,364. There was nothing going?—No.

42,365. Do you remember whether you voted in October 1858?—I am sure I forget.

42,366. Just recollect. I will tell you who the candidates were. There was Mr. Wilkinson and the present Lord Monson?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson all along.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

G. Harman.

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42,367. What did you get in 1858 ?—Nothing at all.

42,368. Then the amount you got in 1863 was the first time you were paid any money ?—Yes, the first time from Mr. Wilkinson's party.

42,369. Did you vote at the Doulton election ?—Yes.

42,370. For whom ?—Mr. Doulton.

42,371. I suppose you had been employed on behalf of Mr. Doulton ; there were a good many employed ?—I do not know in particular.

42,372. You supported him, I mean ?—Yes, I voted for him.

42,373. You held up your hand for him and shouted for him, and all that kind of thing ; what did you receive ?—It is so long ago I forget all about it.

42,374. Tell me about ?—I have no recollection about it at all.

42,375. You will remember, I think ; there was much more money about, was there not ?—Perhaps there might be.

42,376. I think you received between 7*l.* and 10*l.* at that time if I recollect rightly ?—Me ?

42,377. Yes ?—No, I do not know it.

42,378. I want to get it from you ?—I do not know what I got.

42,379. I do not want to the farthing you received ?—I cannot tell you.

42,380. I do not want to the shillings even, but give me the pounds ?—I cannot tell you, but somewhere about 2*l.* or 3*l.*

42,381. More than that ?—I cannot say, there might have been more money, but I did not get hold of much of it.

42,382. Who paid you ?—I think Mr. Truman ; I am not certain, but I think he was the person.

42,383. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I wish you would tell us, it would save you trouble ?—I cannot tell you.

42,384. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Shall we say 3*l.* ?—You may say that.

42,385. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it more ?—It might be a trifle more, but I cannot say.

42,386. Do you think I might put it down 4*l.* ?—I cannot say.

42,387. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where you paid before or after the polling ?—After the polling.

42,388. Not before ?—No.

42,389. Some of the men were paid before, that is the reason I asked it ; how soon after the polling ?—I think I was paid the polling night.

42,390. Where ?—At the "Royal Oak."

42,391. There were a good many paid there at the same time, I think ?—There were a good many down there. I did not see them paid.

42,392. Waiting like yourself. What room was Mr. Truman in when the people were about ; were you called in ?—It was on the first floor.

42,393. Was your name called out, or did you go in, or how ?—They kept pushing in, and I followed them.

42,394. A whole stream of people ?—One and t'other going in and out.

42,395. You, thinking there was some attraction where all were going, thought you would go with the stream. What took you to the "Royal Oak ;" you had some intimation of what was going on ?—No, I knew there was something to go for, or else I should not have gone.

42,396. Who told you it was at the "Royal Oak," do you recollect that ?—No one ever told me that I recollect.

42,397. Then you smelt it out ?—Yes, I smelt a rat.

The witness withdrew.

W. Terry.

WILLIAM TERRY sworn and examined.

42,398. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A labourer in the Fuller's Earth Works.

42,399. What rent do you pay for the house out of which you voted ?—4*s.* 6*d.* per week.

42,400. You pay weekly ?—Yes.

42,401. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

42,402. Which of the agents spoke to you about voting ?—Neither one ; Mr. Gower himself canvassed me.

42,403. But some of the agents afterwards spoke to you about it ?—Mr. Mazden did.

42,404. He told you, of course, you would be paid for your loss of time and work ?—Yes.

42,405. How much did he pay you ?—A sovereign.

42,406. After the election ?—After the election, but I cannot exactly say how long after ; two months I think.

42,407. Did he send to you, or did you go to him ?—It was at his house.

42,408. He is a brewer ?—A publican.

42,409. And you asked him about it ; you said, "What am I to have for what I did, or for my vote ?"—Yes, I did.

42,410. And he said, "I have a sovereign for you" ?—Yes.

42,411. Did he promise you anything more ?—No.

42,412. Or that anything more was coming to you ?—No, not exactly.

42,413. Was this your first time of voting ?—Yes.

42,414. You had not voted before ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

A. Rose.

ALEXANDER ROSE sworn and examined.

42,415. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A shopkeeper in Nutley-lane.

42,416. What rent do you pay for your house ?—18*l.*

42,417. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

42,418. And you took rather an active part, I think ?—Yes.

42,419. You were a sub-agent ?—Yes.

42,420. What money passed through your hands to be expended ?—30*l.*

42,421. And what was your own fee ?—Not anything.

42,422. From whom did you receive what you expended ?—Mr. Apted.

42,423. But all from Mr. Apted ?—Yes, the 30*l.* I received from Mr. Apted was for paying men for their work ; but I received something further.

42,424. Did you send Apted an account of how you paid it out ?—Not particularly ; oh no.

42,425. Do not say to me "oh no," because my impression would be that you would have done so ?—No, I have no recollection of sending a bill ; we might talk it over.

42,426. You are a shopkeeper ; that is not my question ; when I say an account, I mean an account in writing, as if you were giving an account of goods you purchased yourself. You did not send in an account ?—Not at the time I expended the money.

42,427. At any time ?—Yes, he has seen the account I sent to Mr. Smith.

42,428. Before you sent that to Mr. Smith did you send it to Apted ?—Yes, I showed it to Apted before I sent it to Mr. Smith, because I was asked for my account.

42,429. How did you dispose of the 30*l.* ?—Well, I paid it to men what engaged to work.

42,430. Who were they ?—I do not know ; I cannot tell you all.

42,431. Yes, you can ?—I cannot tell you all ; they are all in the list I gave in to Mr. Smith.

42,432. Tell me how many there were first of all?—Something like from 14 to 20, I should say.

42,433. Tell me what they were; were they all voters?—No, not all.

42,434. The greater part of them?—Yes.

42,435. Were there non-voters amongst them?—There was Phillips, he was a voter.

42,436. I want to know who were not voters?—I beg your pardon. Wells was not a voter; in fact, there were several who I could not really call to mind that I paid small sums, something like 5*s.* or 10*s.*, or like that sort of thing.

42,437. I want to know the names of those you paid 2*l.* and 2*l.* 10*s.* and 30*s.* to?—Well, Phillips was one.

42,438. What Phillips?—Holmesdale-road. I paid him 30*s.* He was a voter; and there was James Dormer, of Holmesdale-road. I paid him 30*s.*, and Miles I paid 2*l.* to, and Brooker, of Glover's-fields, I paid 30*s.*

42,439. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not pay Brooker?—No. I made a mistake, not Brooker, Merle, of Glover's-fields, I paid 30*s.*; Pullen, of Glover's-fields, I paid 2*l.* too.

42,440. I do not think you did, begging your pardon?—Yes, I think you will find it in my list. Parfitt, I paid him 2*l.*

42,441. How much did you say you paid Pullen?—2*l.*

42,442. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you recollect any others?—There were others, but I really do not feel that I can recollect names.

42,443. That does not go far in disposing of the 30*l.*, and I dare say you can recollect others?—But then look you here, there was 7*l.* I paid to Ede, which he paid over; I thought you were speaking of what I paid myself.

42,444. What Ede?—James Ede. I have not mentioned his name at all.

42,445. Who was Ede to pay?—Steer; and I mentioned Brooker, but I believe James Ede paid Brooker instead of me, and Fuller he paid, and there was 1*l.* I gave him to pay Josiah Ede.

42,446. Anything else?—I cannot tell you any more.

42,447. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I dare say you made a mistake of some of them?—I may have.

42,448. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you remember a name that has not been mentioned during these proceedings, the name of any voter?—That has not been called, you mean.

42,449. Yes?—No.

42,450. You see that is the great difficulty we have in getting out of the agents the names that have not been called; we do not want the names we know?—I do not know of any.

42,451. What did you receive yourself?—Nothing. I never received one farthing for my labour.

42,452. What did you receive at all?—I received 5*l.* from Mr. Buckland.

42,453. When?—It was some time after the polling day, but I could not tell you exactly when it would be; it would be two or three, or it might be five weeks.

42,454. That was for yourself?—No. When you say for myself, I took the money in this way.

42,455. You appropriated it to yourself, that is what I mean?—Yes. Well, I say I did, for myself, for money which I expended during my canvass. I did not take it.

42,456. You had monies in your possession, Mr. Rose, from time to time; then you would expend those in canvassing as well as paying away. You had no settling of your accounts at that time, I do not believe, when you received the 5*l.*?—I received it after the election.

42,457. You had had no settling of accounts with Apted at that time?—I think I had settled before I received mine.

42,458. I asked you that, and you said when Mr. Smith called upon you for your accounts, then you submitted them to Mr. Apted, and that was long after?—I was speaking of when we were called upon; when this Commission came on our accounts were called in.

42,459. You never submitted before that anything in writing of how you expended the 30*l.*?—Yes, in the first instance I gave an account of the money, and what work they had done.

42,460. Did you give an account of the money you had expended to Mr. Apted?—No, I did not give him an account in that way; I merely showed him my list, nothing further.

42,461. Will you tell me in what way you did not settle with Apted until you received the 5*l.* from Mr. Buckland?—I went into Mr. Buckland's office. I had business there, and Mr. Buckland said, "I have "got 5*l.* for you," and I said, "What is it for?" I said, "I suppose it is for my expense money," which I paid out of my own pocket; he said he did not know anything at all about it, but there it was.

42,462. He merely said he had 5*l.*, and handed you it?—Yes.

42,463. Had you voted before this election?—Yes.

42,464. In 1863?—Yes.

42,465. For whom?—Mr. Wilkinson.

42,466. And had you taken an active part in that election?—Not so much as I did in this.

42,467. What monies did you pay away in that election?—Not anything.

42,468. Did no money pass through your hands?—No, I paid no one.

42,469. Did any money pass through your hands?—I had a trifle for my own services.

42,470. What had you for yourself?—I think it was about 2*l.*, I will not say in fact, but I think I may say 2*l.*

42,471. Who paid you?—Mr. James.

42,472. After the election?—Yes.

42,473. After the polling?—Yes, it was somewhere within a week.

42,474. I think Mr. James paid his accounts very quickly?—Yes, it was somewhere within the week.

42,475. The polling day or the day after?—It was after the polling day.

42,476. Had you voted before 1863?—No.

42,477. Never voted before?—No, I had not.

42,478. You had no vote before?—I was not on the register. I have only been here five or six years.

42,479. You cannot give me any fresh name at all?—I think you have had every one up that I canvassed at all, to the best of my recollection.

42,480. One question I want to ask you, particularly about this; when were you put on to canvass by Job Apted?—On the first commencement.

42,481. How long before the polling?—Well, I do not know; but it was 9 or 10 weeks, I should think.

42,482. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just help me. I want to correct the account. You have put down William Turner in your account 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

42,483. I think then he says you paid him 2*l.* 10*s.*?—No, 1*l.* 10*s.* I forgot him; when you asked me I could not call him to my mind.

42,484. He says he received 50*s.*?—It is a mistake.

42,485. I have put you down 2*l.* 10*s.*?—It is a mistake; he did not receive it.

42,486. Do not say so if you are not quite sure; are you quite certain? I have got that he got 6*l.* 10*s.* from the other side. He voted against you?—No, I think it was a mistake.

42,487. He got 6*l.* 10*s.* from the other side?—I think not.

42,488. Do you recollect the man?—Yes, I recollect the man well, and I think the man I paid you will not find received a farthing on any side but my own.

42,489. He said he did; here he says he received 6*l.* 10*s.* from the other side?—I think that must be another Turner.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

A. Rose.

22 Sept. 1866.

42,490. No, here he puts "Rose" down?—That is Rose, of Mead-vale.

42,491. Ephraim Rose?—Yes, it is Ephraim Rose, not me; it is William Turner.

42,492. Very well; look at the last name. Tell me whether you are sure it is right. I think there is a mistake about it; tell me if it is what you have got in your list?—Yes, that is right.

42,493. Did you pay a man named Stone?—Yes, 2*l.*

42,494. And you paid a man named Alvin Street?—Yes.

42,495. You have not put him down?—Yes. I will tell you why I did not enter him there. I received a cheque from Mr. Smith for 5*l.*, and I believe I was asked to put it in my account. I said, "You had "better put it in your account," so that Mr. Smith has that in his account, the 5*l.* I gave Mr. Smith 4*l.* and 1*l.* was 1*l.* that Edward Ede had.

42,496. He had 2*l.*?—Yes, you will see in my account there I have only got 12*s.* 6*d.* down, because that went in other accounts.

42,497. You paid Ede 1*l.* 15*s.*?—1*l.* 15*s.* was what he had.

42,498. I am quite right in saying you paid Alvin Street 4*l.*?—Yes.

42,499. You paid Amos Elliott 1*l.* 10*s.*?—No.

42,500. Who did?—Mr. Apted stated he did.

42,501. You paid Charles Smith 30*s.*?—No, I do not recollect him.

42,502. I will take him out of your account then. You paid Luck?—Yes, I have paid Luck.

42,503. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have given us no fresh names?—No, I do not know of any; I believe you have all I canvassed and all that voted. I do not know whether you have had a witness of the name of Denyer up.

42,504. Can you tell me any other voter?—No.

42,505. What is Denyer's Christian name?—I cannot tell you.

42,506. Is he a gardener?—Yes, for Mr. Simpson.

42,507. What did you pay Denyer?—I did not pay him anything. I canvassed him, and he entered the hall with me, and had his name placed on the committee. Some few days, or a week I may say, after he came to me again, and he told me he was very sorry, but he must withdraw his name from the committee, owing to Mr. Simpson, for he certainly must look out for himself if he voted for Mr. Gower, and in fact he said he should lose his service, "and with that "reason," he said, "I am bound to turn round and "vote for Mr. Monson."

42,508. Can you tell me where he is now?—Yes, in Holmesdale-road.

42,509. He still works for Mr. Simpson, does he?—Yes.

42,510. Did you tell him you would pay him for his services?—I told him if he did any work I would pay him for it.

42,511. The same as the others?—Yes, if he did any work I would pay him.

42,512. He is now gardener for Mr. Simpson, of Wray-park?—Yes.

42,513. Had he attended any meeting?—Yes, at the hall.

42,514. Meetings for Mr. Gower?—Yes, at the hall, and several different meetings in the room below.

42,515. You did not give him any money or offer him any?—No, he did not do any work.

C. Emery.

CHARLES EMERY sworn and examined.

42,516. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A licensed victualler living at Horley.

42,417. What house do you keep?—The "Prince Albert."

42,518. I thought Mr. Featherstone kept the "Prince Albert"?—I have kept it this four and twenty years.

42,519. What rent do you pay for the "Prince Albert" a year?—20*l.* a year.

42,520. Whom did you vote for at the last election?—I have no vote. I do not live in the borough. I have no vote for Reigate.

42,521. Did you interest yourself about it?—I did a little.

42,522. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On behalf of Mr. Gower?—On behalf of Mr. Monson.

42,523. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And were you on the committee?—No, I was not, nor at any of their meetings. I do not think I was out of my own parish.

42,524. You received some money, didn't you, among other things, to pay away?—I did.

42,525. How much did you receive?—I received 15*l.*

42,526. To pay away?—To pay away.

42,527. And did you pay it away?—I did.

42,528. Who gave it to you?—William Langridge.

42,529. And you paid, among other people, a William Brown?—I did, 5*l.*

42,530. He was a voter?—He was a voter; yes, he is a voter.

42,531. And whom else did you pay?—William Nash.

42,532. Has he been here?—I do not know.

42,533. William Nash, of where?—Of Reigate, Earlswood rather, which is in Reigate.

42,534. And whom else did you pay?—River Cornish.

42,535. Where does he live?—He lives at Earlswood.

42,536. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is he?—He is a brickmaker.

42,537. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is that in the "Foreign"?—I suppose it is; yes, it is.

42,538. 5*l.*?—Yes.

42,539. Did you pay anybody else?—No, that is the only money that I had. I paid away 15*l.*

42,540. That was all?—That was all.

42,541. Was there a room at your house engaged for committees?—No, no room, nor no committee, nor no promise of any money.

42,542. No promise of any money?—No, not a bit.

42,543. But you paid money to other people; what did you get for yourself?—Nothing.

42,544. You received nothing?—Nothing at all. I did it out of friendship.

42,545. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) William Nash, he voted for Monson?—He did.

42,546. All these people voted for Monson?—All three voted for Monson.

42,547. What I want to know is; in 1863, had you a vote then?—I had no vote. I never voted for Reigate.

42,548. And you never did?—No.

42,549. Did you take much part in the election between Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson?—I did, on the part of Wilkinson.

42,550. Will you be kind enough, with the aid of your paper, or out of your own head, to tell me whom you paid during that election?—There was William Brown.

42,551. That same man?—Yes.

42,552. How much?—Well, that I cannot tell; it was paid them weekly.

42,553. But just give us a notion?—I cannot. The fact is when it went out of my hand I never took account of it.

42,554. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) About 30*s.* a week, was it?—Well, that was about it.

42,555. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And about how many weeks?—That I cannot tell.

42,556. Well, who else?—Thomas Brown.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

C. Emery.

22 Sept. 1866.

42,557. Was that his brother?—His brother, yes.

42,558. How much did you pay him?—That I do not know.

42,559. The same?—The same.

42,560. And who else?—Thomas Steer; he is dead now.

42,561. And anybody else?—William Vigor, the blacksmith.

42,562. What did you pay him?—Somewhere about the same, I think.

42,563. Who else?—I believe that is all.

42,564. How much money did you receive to pay away?—They generally came to me and gave it to me weekly. I generally gave it over directly. I kept no account.

42,565. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who gave it to you weekly? — Sometimes Mr. Langridge, and sometimes, I think, one of Mr. Monson's agents; but I cannot tell.

42,566. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Perhaps Langridge could tell us how much he gave you in 1863?—He didn't give me it, it was an agent of Mr. Wilkinson.

42,567. Now, in the year 1859, do you recollect whether you paid money away then?—Whose election was that?

42,568. That was the election between Wilkinson and Lord Monson?—That is the election that I mean, that I am speaking of.

42,569. No, I think not. The election you are speaking of is between Wilkinson and Gower, isn't it?—No, Wilkinson and Monson.

42,570. What did you do at the election between?—I had nothing to do but with the two elections.

42,571. Which two? The two last?—Wilkinson and this last election, Monson and Gower.

42,572. But haven't you had something to do with two Gower elections, two elections when Mr. Gower has stood?—No.

42,573. Do you recollect when you assisted Mr. Wilkinson against Mr. Gower? Was it the general election or the election of 1858?—Well, that I cannot tell.

42,574. You recollect the last election?—I do. I have given you account of it.

42,575. One moment. Previous to the last election Mr. Gower had stood once before, you know; that was in 1863?—Well, I had nothing to do with that election.

42,576. Well, now then, there was another one in 1859, the next before that?—Well, I think I did take a little part in that.

42,577. Very well, the next before that again was the election in 1858, the end of the year, when Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson stood?—That is the election, I think, that I was telling you about. I was only concerned in one election for Wilkinson; the other I do not consider any election at all.

42,578. You think it was Mr. Langridge who gave you the money very likely?—The last 15*l.*

42,579. Yes, but the other?—I received from two or three.

42,580. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Langridge was one?—Yes; and as for the sum I cannot tell you.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM LANGRIDGE sworn and examined.

W. Langridge.

42,581. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A licensed victualler.

42,582. What is the sign of your house?—The "South-eastern Hotel."

42,583. At Redhill, I think?—Redhill, yes.

42,584. What rent do you pay?—100*l.* a year.

42,585. You took, I believe, an active part on the part of Mr. Monson at the last election?—I did.

42,586. And paid away monies?—I did.

42,587. Now, tell me, how much money did you receive to pay away?—180*l.*

42,588. How much?—180*l.*

42,589. Will you show me that bit of paper?—Certainly. (*The paper was passed to the learned Commissioner.*)

42,590. When was this bit of paper made out; I think it was rather recent?—Oh, yes; I made it out from memory a day or two ago.

42,591. A day or two ago?—Yes.

42,592. Then it is not of much value?—Well, I know what is on it.

42,593. Oh, yes. If you made out the paper a day or two ago it is rather of little value. Now, tell me, you received 180*l.* First let me ask you, from whom did you receive it?—Received it from Mr. Nichols.

42,594. Eh?—From Mr. Nichols, James Nichols.

42,595. You received all that 180*l.* from Nichols?—I did.

42,596. Of course you can tell me the sums in which you received it?—Yes, I received it in two fifties and two forties in notes.

42,597. That is, in fifties on two occasions and forties on two occasions?—Yes. They were most 5*l.* notes.

42,598. Never mind the notes. Now, can you tell me the first time you received 50*l.* by notes?—Well, it would be when the election about began. I could not tell you the day. I have no dates.

42,599. Well, it is not the custom to receive 50*l.* every day; perhaps you can tell me about the first, the first fifty?—No, I cannot tell you the dates, all I can tell you is that I had the money.

42,600. No, no, I am not doubting you at all, but I like the dates?—I have not got the dates, only the day I received it; I might have recollected a day or two after. I never entered the dates. I never do.

42,601. Hadn't you any memorandum in which you would put down "Nichols, so much"; wouldn't you put down "N. 50*l.*"?—No, I should not.

42,602. But what would you do?—Would not you put it down on a slate or anything?—I should not put it down at all, because I was so thoroughly convinced what I received.

42,603. But you were not convinced then?—I am now.

42,604. Didn't you make any memorandum?—No.

42,605. Didn't you put it down at all?—No.

42,606. When did you receive the next 50*l.*?—I think the next was a forty, if I recollect rightly.

42,607. How soon after did you receive the next fifty?—A few days after.

42,608. Didn't you make any memorandum?—No.

42,609. You received a lot of notes amounting to 40*l.*?—Yes.

42,610. When was the next?—I think it was forty, forty or fifty, I do not recollect which.

42,611. Did you receive it all previous to the polling?—Previous to the election, to the polling.

42,612. And previous to the nomination?—Yes, previous to that.

42,613. You did not take any memorandum at all of those monies?—No.

42,614. Didn't Mr. Nichols require from you a receipt?—No, he did not.

42,615. I am only astonished at the mode of doing business, that is all?—We do a good deal of business together.

42,616. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What?—We have done a good deal together in money matters.

42,617. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I rely upon it if you received money on your own account you would have kept an account; you might lose your memory of it. You gave, I suppose, after the election Mr. Nichols a written account of how you expended the money, of course?—I did not.

42,618. Then I am out again. I am very far astray. Didn't he ask for it?—No.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

W. Langridge.

22 Sept. 1866.

42,619. You gave him, of course, the names of the men written that you gave the money to, that is, a list?—Well, I fancy Nichols knew that through the men themselves.

42,620. I am asking you what you did yourself; never mind how Nichols knew. You sent him a list of the names and the monies, didn't you?—I have no doubt that I did.

42,621. Do you remember how soon after the election you sent that bit of writing?—I did not send him the writing, but there is no doubt that previous to the election I did tell him.

42,622. I am not asking you about telling?—Well, I did nothing in writing.

42,623. You do not like it? You can write and keep accounts?—Yes.

42,624. Keep your own accounts?—Yes.

42,625. And have your own books?—Yes.

42,626. And brewer's books? Well, it is strange you had nothing in writing between you and Mr. Nichols. You did not like writing?—Well, Mr. Nichols and myself have had many transactions without writing.

42,627. Had you agreed together that there was to be no writing?—Certainly not.

42,628. He never asked for any writing from you, did he, how you expended the 180*l.*?—He never did.

42,629. Well, now we are depending upon memory, how do you know it was not 280*l.*?—I am so certain of the sums that I received from him at the time.

42,630. Did you ever account to him at all?—Did I ever account to him at all?

42,631. Yes?—I never accounted to him until the Inquiry was going on. That I did not.

46,632. Tell me how soon before the Inquiry, or was it while the Inquiry was going on that you accounted to him?—Well, I told Nichols what money I had had.

42,633. That is what I thought. When was that?—Well, it might be a week or two ago.

42,634. I suppose Mr. Nichols sent for you?—No, he did not.

42,635. Then you visited him?—We are often in each other's company.

42,636. I know. Of course friends are. I suppose the accounting took place in the "Grapes"?—Well, I do not know whether it did.

42,637. I am out again then?—Let me see.

42,638. What is the name of your house?—The "South-eastern Hotel."

42,639. Well, that would be a long way off. Where did the accounting take place?—Well, I cannot tell you.

42,640. Oh dear me, your memory can recollect fifty and forty, fifty and forty; and can't you tell me within the last fortnight where you accounted to Nichols?—Let me see. I think it was in the square here.

42,641. What?—I think it was in the square.

42,642. In the market place?—Yes, where we first talked about it.

42,643. That is more strange still. Oh dear no, that could not be. You know friends do not account in such places for monies expended a year and a half ago?—It was only a question what money I received.

42,644. My question was, did you account to him of how you expended it?—Oh no, I beg your pardon; certainly not.

42,645. Never at all?—Oh yes; I did after the election, certainly. I misunderstood the question.

43,646. Tell me, when did you account to him for the monies expended?—Well, I do not know that he knew much about it till he knew about it a fortnight or three weeks ago.

42,647. That is what I say; that is the time—the time in the market place?—Oh, no, in the "Grapes."

42,648. Will you kindly go on?—I told him what money I received.

42,649. No, no; we will go to the accounting two or three weeks ago in the "Grapes." I thought it was in the "Grapes." You did not recollect?—I did not understand your question.

42,650. Did you go to Nichols, or Nichols send for you?—Nichols never sent for me.

42,651. Well, did you go there then?—Oh, yes, I frequently go there.

42,652. Never mind frequently. You went there?—Not on purpose for this.

42,653. Then, being there accidentally, you and he got talking?—Yes.

42,654. Whereabouts in the "Grapes"?—I believe it was in the smoking room; in the public room.

42,655. A public room would not be a convenient place to settle matters. Just recollect?—It is quite right what I say.

42,656. Who were there?—I do not expect there were any persons there but ourselves.

42,657. Why do you put the public room upon me then?—Because I believe it was there, in that public room.

42,658. Was it there this bill was made out?—No; I made that out myself. Mr. Nichols has never seen that bill.

42,659. Was it after the conversation with him you made out that bill?—Yes. I knew I should be called during the Inquiry.

42,660. Was it after the conversation with Mr. Nichols that you made out this bill?—Yes, certainly.

42,661. When you went home that night?—Oh dear no.

42,662. When did you make it out?—I do not think I made it out more than two or three weeks ago.

42,663. Had you any memorandums you could show Mr. Nichols of the monies you paid out when you talked to him in the smoking room? Had you any memorandums?—I had not.

42,664. No memorandums in writing at all?—Not any.

42,665. Did he take down from you anything in writing as you stated to him the men you paid?—No.

42,666. Then how did you calculate it up?—I said I had 180*l.* He trusted to me. It is all down on that paper where it went to.

42,667. But that paper was not in existence then?—No.

42,668. But I am bringing you before Mr. Nichols. Mr. Nichols gave you 180*l.*, and it was he that had a right to call upon you for the mode in which that 180*l.* was expended?—Yes.

42,669. Now, how did you give him that?—I gave him no writing whatever.

42,670. How did you explain to him that you had expended that money without any writing on his part, or any writing on your part?—We understood each other.

42,671. Then you did not give him any names at all?—I did not.

42,672. Not a single name?—Not a single name.

42,673. Nor an amount?—The amount, of course, was 180*l.*

42,674. No, no, but the amount you paid to the different individuals?—Yes, 180*l.*

42,675. You did not give him any particular amount that you paid to any particular individual? You did not say, "I paid 5*l.* to this man, and 3*l.* to "that man, and 2*l.* to the other"?—No.

42,676. Then your account was this; you said, "I "have expended 180*l.*"?—Yes.

42,677. Now, honestly, as a respectable man, with a house of a large rental, do you mean to tell us that you told Mr. Nichols that you had had 180*l.* from him, and you had expended 180*l.*, and he was satisfied?—Yes.

42,678. You knew it was not Mr. Nichols's money?—Yes.

42,679. And he was quite satisfied with that?—Yes.

42,680. Did Mr. Nichols tell you that you had received 180*l.*?—No, I told him.

42,681. Then I suppose he referred to his book and said, "Oh, you are right, Langridge, you have a very "good memory; here is 50*l.* down here, and 40*l.* "here, and 50*l.* here, and 40*l.* here"?—No, he did not.

42,682. Did not refer to anything?—No.

42,683. But he said, "Quite right, Langridge"?—Yes.

42,684. Very good. That is the mode in which you accounted together for the 180*l.*?—It was.

42,685. I am afraid you cannot give us a very reliable account then; how many men did you pay?—You must let me look at that paper, if you will.

42,866. Oh dear yes. You made that out of your head two or three days ago. Why won't your head do now?—Well, I think it would. Well, Shepherd I paid.

42,687. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you?—Yes.

42,688. What did you pay him?—Well, I think he stated in his evidence. I paid him 99*l.*, but I only made it 97*l.*

42,689. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think he had 33*l.* three times?—Yes, that is what I think he said, but I only made it 97*l.*

42,690. He said he received it from you in the evidence?—I do not know whether he said it, but he did receive it of me at any rate.

42,691. Where did you get it?—Got it from Nichols; part of this money that I am speaking of.

42,692. Did you take it to him?—No, he came to me.

42,693. Where?—Came to the house for it.

42,694. What sums did you pay Shepherd?—Well, he had a weekly list made out.

42,695. What sums did you pay him?—Let me see. That must have been three weeks; 33*l.* each week.

42,696. If you paid him 99*l.* that is the way you paid him?—It must have been that.

42,697. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that before the election?—Yes.

42,698. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was all before the election?—Yes.

42,699. Very well, we will take that; Shepherd three thirty-three's?—That is what he says. I cannot make it so by 2*l.*

42,700. Never mind the 2*l.*; go on. Whom else did you pay?—Well, Ireland and Miller. They are both dead men. 15*l.* I took to them, but Mr. Emery explains that in his evidence.

42,701. But Mr. Emery did not pay these men?—Oh, no, certainly not.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) How do you mean he accounts for it? I do not understand it.

42,702. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are the two dead men you paid?—Are you speaking of the railway men?

42,703. No, I am speaking of the two men?—Well, 15*l.* I paid to Emery. I paid three guineas for horse hire.

42,704. Who are the two dead men?—Those are the men I gave the money to to pay Emery. It came from me.

42,705. But Mr. Emery says he received it from you?

(*Charles Emery.*) No; I was not at home when it came.

(*Witness.*) It is the same 15*l.* I paid three guineas for horse hire.

42,706. To whom?—William Comber of Earlswood.

42,707. Yes; go on?—I paid 2*l.* for a watchman.

42,708. Yes; go on?—And I fancy it was 12*l.* for two men down at Godstone, but I am not certain of the amount. They were two voters.

42,709. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What were their names?—Denman and Jeal.

42,710. Where do they live?—Well, I do not know where they live now. I think Denman has left the neighbourhood. Jeal might live over on what they call Wiggey. "Wiggey, Redhill," would find him.

42,711. You are not speaking of Deadman; you are speaking of Denman?—Yes, Denman. "Wig-"gey" will find Jeal.

42,712. Where does Denman live?—I do not know where he lives now. He was at Godstone.

42,713. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is this next—Ward or Renward (*referring to paper*)?—Kenward. He was a canvasser.

42,714. 31*l.*?—Yes, that is right.

42,715. And Fuller?—10*l.* He was a canvasser. Richard Fuller; and Cook and Peters.

42,716. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) We have had Cook and Peters here, haven't we?—Neither of them. Cook was the driver of a Reading train at that time, and I paid him 5*l.* to canvass two men who were with him every day as guards of the train.

42,717. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What has become of Cook?—Well, Cook's home is at Reading, but he is up and down here.

42,718. He goes up and down in the train?—Yes.

42,719. As guard?—No; he is a driver.

42,720. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where is his home?—At Reading now. I can give it to you directly.

42,721. And haven't we had Peters?—No. "The "Locomotive Department, Reading," will find Cook.

42,722. And what will find Peters?—Well, Peters is an old gentleman where we have had money different elections. He is bedridden now. We went up there many times.

42,723. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was a voter?—He was a voter.

42,724. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you give Denman, do you recollect; five or six?—Well, I cannot say.

42,725. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was not his ten or twelve; you cannot say?—Ten or twelve.

42,726. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is Cook's Christian name?—William. You have had all the men here.

42,727. All of them except those you have mentioned now recently. Denman, Jeal, and Cook, and Peters?—Peters is bedridden.

42,728. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I find that comes to nearly 180*l.*?—Yes; there is 2*l.* deficient.

42,729. Well, but what is this (*looking at paper*), "Hart's house bill"?—That is the expenses of the house.

42,730. For your own house, 53*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*?—Yes.

42,731. That was for refreshments. How much did you receive for yourself?—Not anything.

42,732. But you received that?—I received that in the way of business.

42,733. That is what I mean. How much did you receive altogether?—About 45*l.* I should think, more or less, with a few shillings, more or less.

42,734. You were paid by Mr. Hart, were you?—Yes.

42,735. He paid you by cheque, I suppose?—He did.

42,736. Did you send in a bill?—Yes.

42,737. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is that other amount?—Horse hire.

42,738. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I apprehend you gave items?—I think you will find it in Mr. Hart's bill.

42,739. When did you receive that?—I received that in September last year.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

W. Langridge.

22 Sept. 1866.

42,740. Then out of the 180*l.* you had nothing for yourself?—Not any.

42,741. You had money transactions you told me, several money transactions, with Mr. Nichols?—Oh, yes, but I did not want to receive anything myself.

42,742. I dare say you did not want to receive, but did you do anything taken into account?—Not in the least.

42,743. Between you and Mr. Nichols?—No, not any.

42,744. Nothing whatever?—Nothing whatever.

42,745. Had your house been used at former elections?—No.

42,746. You voted at former elections, didn't you?—Yes.

42,747. I see Cook is down here. You say Cook voted for ——?—No, he is not a voter; I beg your pardon. He is a non-voter.

42,748. But you paid him 5*l.*?—I paid him 5*l.*

42,749. In order to bribe these two men?—In order to canvass them, or bribe them, whichever you like. They were two men who were with him every day, 12 or 14 hours.

42,750. Who were they?—William Hind and Thomas Whitmore.

42,751. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Whitmore has been here?—Yes, I think so.

42,752. And Hind?—I do not know about Hind.

The Chief Commissioner read an extract from the evidence of Whitmore down to the words, "he took 2*l.* for himself."

(*Witness.*) I believe he did, and I was not very pleased with it.

42,753. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was Mr. Monson's money?—Yes; but I had spoken to Cook two or three weeks before the election.

42,754. For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

42,755. Of course you were on the committee?—Well, I took an active part in it. I dare say I was on the committee.

42,756. Did you canvass many on that occasion?—They canvassed themselves then. I wish they had done so this time.

42,757. They canvassed themselves; that is what we have been saying. Every man was a canvasser. Did any money pass through your hands then?—Not to the railway men.

42,758. Oh! no, no; did money pass through your hands?—Well, I have heard so, but I forget it. It has been given in evidence here.

42,759. From whom have you heard it?—Well, I say it has been stated in evidence, and I read it in the newspapers that it was so.

42,760. But you forget it?—I do forget it. I would not say I did not have some. No doubt it was so. I believe Barker, in his evidence, said so; Barker of Redhill.

42,761. Don't you remember a milkman?—Oh, Vigor.

42,762. You know the man?—Yes; I call him old sky blue.

42,763. He lives up your yard?—Yes; he is a very respectable man.

42,764. I did not say anything against the man. You recollect a dealing with him in 1863?—No. I had not.

42,765. You had not?—I assure you it is correct; I had not.

42,766. Can you tell me any monies you paid away? Your memory does not seem good about 1863. Can you tell me any monies you paid in 1863?—Barker—Thomas Barker, in his evidence, said I received some money from Mr. James to give him, some five and twenty pounds or so. I do not recollect it. If he said so, very likely it is correct; but Mr. James must have given it to me without talking about what it was for.

42,767. You have no recollection of it?—No, I have not any recollection of it.

42,768. Was your house used on the part of Wilkinson?—It was not built then.

42,769. But you had another house then?—Oh, no, not where I lived then. It was a private house up a street.

42,770. You were then in a private way?—Well, it was not exactly private, but it was not used.

42,771. Were you a publican then?—No.

42,772. A licensed victualler?—No.

42,773. What line were you in?—I had a confectioner's shop; and there was a beer bar.

42,774. What money did you receive then for the active part you took in it?—I received 35*l.*

42,775. You told me very fairly that you took an active part on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson. You received that money from Mr. James?—Yes, previous to the election. Mr. James sent for me, and I said, "Well, I don't care much about doing anything;" and he said, "Mr. Norman Wilkinson will give you a "cheque;" but he didn't. Mr. James gave me 35*l.*, and I was quite satisfied.

42,776. Did you speak to Mr. Norman Wilkinson about it?—No.

42,777. Nor he to you?—Nor he to me.

42,778. Well, now, you can tell me whom you canvassed, whom you were to work for in that election?—I was more in the office with Mr. James than I was out canvassing, he being a stranger here.

42,779. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were in the office with Mr. James?—I was in the committee room along with him; in his private room.

42,780. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were in the office with Mr. James? You were in his secrets a good deal, were you not?—Not in many monetary secrets. I used to go out. He was too good a general for me to be there when he was talking about money.

42,781. You used to go out?—Oh, yes, I used to retire.

42,782. At his suggestion?—Well, I understood it so. When anybody came in on any private business, I went away.

42,783. Don't you recollect anything about the gingerbread?—No, I don't think I do.

42,784. You were in the confectionery line?—I don't know anything about it.

42,785. I dare say that gingerbread was made in your house?—I don't know any more about making gingerbread than you do.

42,786. You had a confectionery shop?—I do not know anything about the gingerbread.

42,787. Was that your first election?—No.

42,788. You did not tell me the men you canvassed?—I do not think I canvassed any one particular that year.

42,789. Did you get any one to vote?—No, I do not think I did.

42,790. You must have got some one to vote for Wilkinson for the 35*l.*?—No doubt I did, but I assure you I did more with Mr. James, he being a stranger.

42,791. He was new to Reigate?—He was. I do not suppose he was ever in Reigate before till that election.

42,792. And you were his right-hand man?—Well, as far as knowing the situation of houses and voters.

42,793. Pointing out to him where he could get a voter. Were there many canvassers out in that year?—Well, I do not know. I am sure I could not tell you.

42,794. I think you said they canvassed each other that year?—That is the railway men I was speaking of.

42,795. Oh! the railway men canvassed each other that year?—Yes; they had no money that year.

42,796. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What, in 1863? —1863.

42,797. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I did not understand the word "canvassing" meant without money?—It is the best canvassing.

42,798. Did you vote at the election in 1859?—1859? let me see.

42,799. That was the sham election?—Yes, I voted for Wilkinson.

42,800. You were not employed in that election?—No.

42,801. Were you in 1858?—Yes.

42,802. That was rather a sharp contest?—I took an active part it.

42,803. Did you take an active part in 1859?—I do not know; very little, I believe. That was a sham election.

42,804. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Didn't you receive something for what you did?—There is no doubt that I received for what horse hire there was.

42,805. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you receive anything?—I did not for personal services.

42,806. The horse was not a voter; we will leave him out?—I received nothing for personal services.

42,807. You were employed in 1858 on the part of Mr. Wilkinson?—I took an active part in the election.

42,808. I mean that. And did you vote then out of the shop you had up here in the town; out of the house?—My vote, I think, was at Redhill at that time, 1858. Yes, it would be so, at Redhill.

42,809. And what did you receive?—Not anything.

42,810. Not for the active part you took?—No.

42,811. You were employed?—No; I took personal interest in Mr. Wilkinson being returned, and I had no money.

42,812. Did any money pass through your hands?—Yes, I believe that I paid for many of the committee rooms.

42,813. I do not mean that?—I had nothing else to do.

42,814. Was your house engaged at Redhill?—No, I lived in a private house at Redhill at the time.

42,815. Did you take part in the Doulton election?—I voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

42,816. Then you had nothing for that, had you?—Yes, I had.

42,817. Very well. You see I am very much out?—I had.

42,818. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You voted for Rawlinson?—I did.

42,819. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What had you?—I had 25*l.*

42,820. Who paid you?—Well, I had no engagement. Mr. Morrison was the agent with Mr. Smith, and I canvassed a great deal with Sir Henry, knowing the parish perhaps as well as most men; and after the election was over Mr. Morrison said, "I think "you are entitled to five and twenty pounds, Lang-"ridge, and I will give it to you."

42,821. Was Mr. Morrison one of his conducting agents?—He was.

42,822. Along with Mr. Smith?—Along with Mr. Smith.

42,823. Who told you to canvass upon that occasion?—Which?

42,824. Upon the occasion of 1858. Who put you on canvassing?—Oh, I did not go on canvassing; I never thought of canvassing.

42,825. But you did go on canvassing?—Yes.

42,826. Who suggested it to you?—It is so long ago I do not recollect. I went with some of my own neighbours.

42,827. But you must have seen something of Sir Henry Rawlinson yourself, or some of his friends or agents?—I went into the committee room myself. There is no doubt about that.

42,828. That was for your own services, the five and twenty pounds. Did any money pass through your hands?—No.

42,829. Now, is there anything else you wish to tell us?—No, there is not anything else.

42,830. In reference to any one of the elections?—No, I cannot tell you anything more than you have asked me.

42,831. You knew no one in the transaction but Mr. Nichols. At the last election you knew no one but Mr. Nichols?—Mr. Hart and Mr. Nichols.

42,832. You mean Mr. Hart for the bills that you had sent in for the use of your house, refreshment, and things of that kind?—Yes.

42,833. And you received that after the election, I suppose?—I did; I received it in September last year.

42,834. Had you sent in that account before the September? You had sent it in before, I suppose. What time did you send it in?—I think about a fortnight before the election.

42,835. You saw the advertisement then?—Yes.

42,836. Was there anything deducted from your account that you sent in?—No.

42,837. You received the amount you sent in?—I did.

42,838. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Some little time ago you said the first conversation you had with Nichols was in the market-place here, about the monies you received, in the square?—I think the first time we met, when this Inquiry was going on, was in the square, and we walked down to his house afterwards.

42,839. That was previous to your meeting him at the "Grapes," and you had a conversation with him about monies during the election, about monies that had been received?—Well, I think it was a day or two after the opening.

42,840. I was quoting you; I thought you told the Commissioner?—There is no doubt but what I did.

42,841. You found, did you not, in fact, at that time that Mr. Nichols knew quite as well as you did what money you had received?—Well, I cannot exactly say that, that he did.

42,842. Just try and recollect. Perhaps I can remind you of it. You found that Nichols knew the sum you had received to be 180*l.* quite as well as you did, didn't you?—I fancy he did not.

42,843. Well, but I mean he named the sum, didn't he?—No, oh no, certainly not.

42,844. But the first time you came to figures at all, and mentioned them, didn't you find that Nichols knew what money you had received quite as well as you did?—He did not.

42,845. Didn't he?—No.

42,846. Didn't he tell you what monies you had received?—No, I told him.

42,847. Yes, I dare say you found he was right; but didn't he tell you what monies you had received?—He did not.

42,848. Are you sure of that?—Quite certain of it.

42,849. Well, but didn't you find, when you went to the "Grapes," that he knew what monies you had received quite well?—He did not.

42,850. Not when you went to the "Grapes"?—No. Until I told him he did not know what monies I had received.

42,851. Then you told him, wherever it was, you did tell him, either in the square or in his own house?—Yes.

42,852. Perhaps you mean, then, it was necessary to give him some explanation. He was not quite correct, but he knew just about to a very little sum, didn't he?—I have no doubt but what he did.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

W. Langridge.

22 Sept. 1866.

42,853. But more than that. Didn't he mention it? I think you were rather surprised to find that he knew so well what you had received?—I think he said to me, "What money have you received, "William, do you know?" I said, "Yes, 180*l.* I "received." They were the words.

42,854. Yes; but did not you find from something that passed, didn't you find that he knew quite as well as you did?—I fancy he did not.

42,855. Then I am wrong?—Perhaps so.

42,856. When you went to the "Grapes" after that you were not surprised to find that he knew quite as well as you did about the sum of money that you had received?—Well, I thought he knew pretty well. I should think he would.

42,857. Before you told him, I mean?—Yes.

42,858. Didn't you ascertain that he knew pretty well before you told him? that he knew the sum?—No, I never spoke to a third person about it.

42,859. I do not mean that you had ascertained from some third person; but when you met Nichols himself, nobody being by, didn't you ascertain from Nichols, from what he said himself, that he was quite aware what money you had received?—Mr. Nichols did not know what money I had received, not the exact sum, until I told him.

42,860. I dare say he was wrong as to a pound or two; but did not you ascertain that Nichols knew as nearly as possible? Did not he tell you?—There is no doubt, I should think, that Nichols would know pretty well what monies I had received.

42,861. From having kept an account what monies he paid you?—I should suppose so.

42,862. I want you to call on your memory a little bit more as to that?—Yes.

42,863. Didn't you ascertain that he knew exactly it was 180*l.*? There is a difference (170*l.*), but didn't you ascertain from him that he knew pretty nearly before you mentioned it what sum you had received?—No, I did not.

42,864. Are you sure?—Quite certain.

42,865. Don't you recollect Nichols mentioning a sum to you? Don't you recollect Nichols saying to you, before you told him what you had received, "Why, William," (using your own phrase, if you will forgive me) "you have received about 170*l.*," or something like that?—No, I do not recollect that.

42,866. But something of that kind?—That might have taken place.

42,867. Showing that he knew before you told him?—Yes; all that is very likely.

42,868. Am I not correct in saying that Nichols told you what you had received before you told him?—Certainly not.

42,869. You say he may have said, "Why, William, "you have received about 170*l.*"?—He may have said that, but I do not know that he knew the exact sum.

42,870. But am I not correct in saying that Nichols mentioned a sum before you did?—No.

42,871. Now, don't you recollect his saying this, "Now, William, we must make out the account right; "you know you received about 170*l.*," mentioning "some sum, whatever the sum may be, in the first instance? Don't you recollect that?—No.

48,272. You only say he may have said so?—I say he might.

42,873. I thought perhaps I should have called something to your mind showing that Nichols was quite as well aware as you were of the amount, as he ought to have been, of course?—Yes.

42,874. And not only so, but that he was the first person to mention a sum, whether a right or wrong sum?—I mentioned the first sum.

42,875. Very well. You are quite sure of that?—I am certain of it.

42,876. Well, you know it is quite obvious that Nichols ought to be the first person to mention a sum, because you give credit to him for having made accounts, and you admit you had made none?—I had not made any. I trusted the men I paid the money to.

42,877. It would be natural enough that you had gone to Nichols for information, and then it would be that Nichols would be the first person to name the sum, wouldn't he?—Yes, but I was certain what monies I had received.

42,878. But hadn't he had a previous conversation with you in which he had reminded you that you had received about 180*l.*?—Not previous.

42,879. I mean previous?—No.

42,880. What I want to get you to recollect is, if you can remember it, that the first person that mentioned a particular sum was Nichols, and not you?—It was myself.

42,881. It was yourself? When you mentioned the sum of 180*l.*, was Nichols prepared at once to acquiesce that that was the right sum?—He was.

42,882. When you were talking to him in the market-place, in the square?—In the square, or in his own house.

42,883. Had he any documents before him?—He had not.

42,884. He had no papers? You know I do not care whether it is 180*l.* or 170*l.* Are you able to tell me what means he had, then, if documents were not before him, what means he had of acquiescing or agreeing in what you stated?—No, I have not any knowledge of that.

42,885. Did you go to him then and say, "Nichols, "our accounts must be made up, the Commissioners "are come down, and the sum I got from you is "180*l.*"?—Yes.

42,886. Well, did he say "Done" at once to that?—I fancy he said I had not had quite so much.

42,887. Perhaps the difference between 179 and 180?—It might be.

42,888. You cannot tell that? You could not specify?—No, I cannot.

42,889. Never mind that. Now, had Nichols written to you about that beforehand?—No.

42,890. No letter at all?—Not any.

42,891. Had you received a letter from him about this time?—No.

42,892. You are sure of that?—Quite certain of it.

42,893. Had you received a letter from him on other matters about this time?—I do not think I have received a letter from Nichols for a year and a half or two years.

42,894. Didn't it strike you as rather odd that Nichols who kept the account, as he did, should not tell you the sum you received before you told him? Doesn't it seem to you more natural that you should go to him and get the information you wanted?—I did not think so between ourselves. We have been in business transactions together many years.

42,895. But if there were other accounts between you, it would make it more difficult to separate them in his own mind, wouldn't it; these election accounts from all other accounts?—Well, he could trust to me and I could trust to him.

42,896. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where did you receive these fifties and forties and forties and fifties?—Mr. Nichols brought them to me at Redhill.

42,897. He brought them to you?—He did.

42,898. And counted them out to you?—Yes.

42,899. Who was there besides you?—Only ourselves.

42,900. How often did he come; four times?—Four times.

42,901. Did any writing pass between you at all?—Not any.

42,902. Were you indebted to Nichols or Nichols to you, independent of this election? Do not tell me the amount?—I do not know whether there was any-

thing. We have got a running account. Whichever it might be I do not know.

42,903. You have not settled it yet?—No, it is like all old neighbours.

42,904. When was your last settlement?—Well, I do not think we have settled for this five or six or seven years.

42,905. Then it is a puzzle. You do not know how you stand with your accounts?—No, I do not.

42,906. You could make that out, I have no doubt. You and Mr. Nichols do not depend upon your memory for that. You have that in documents?—I expect they are in some rough books at home, in different years.

42,907. And you gave him receipts for all the money you received on that account?—No doubt.

42,908. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now there is one other matter, perhaps not very material. What Barker said was, that in 1863, the day before the polling, Mr. James asked him to go and see some voters who were standing out, and he took their names on paper, and brought their names into the "Swan," and gave them to William Langridge to take into Mr. James, and Mr. James sent out the money; no doubt by you?—I do not remember, but no doubt it is correct.

(*The Chief Commissioner, reading from his note of Shepherd's examination.*) "The 5*l.* was for "expenses I had incurred. I had 33*l.* three times "over. The 5*l.* was paid in sovereigns, and the 99*l.* "all in a bag in gold."

42,909. Well now, did you pay him that?—I can make out from memory 97*l.*, but he says, 99*l.*

42,910. Never mind the 99 and 97. He says he received it in gold in a bag.

42,911. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) From Nichols?—Oh, no, he could not have received it from Nichols, because I received it from him, and I should have changed the notes, because he would be able to distribute the money better. I should not pay him in notes.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I will tell you what Shepherd said: "I received the money at Langridge's "to pay the voters; I received 99*l.* to pay them, at "three different times."—If I didn't pay him, it was paid at my house. The money I received from Nichols was what Shepherd received.

42,912. Well now, was it you who paid him, or was it Nichols that handed him the bag of sovereigns? Was Nichols present?—Oh, no.

42,913. Nichols was not present?—No. Either I gave it him or my wife gave it him. There is no doubt about that. I made the money up for him, if I did not give it him actually.

42,914. "From me, not from Nichols?"—Certainly not from Nichols.

42,915. He does not say exactly in words that he received it from Nichols.

42,916. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He does not say in words?—No no, he did not receive it from Nichols.

42,917. The arrangement was with Nichols? He had made an arrangement with Nichols?—Well, I do not know exactly that.

42,918. Did he make it with you?—Well, when the election first came on Shepherd was rather blamed about this thing. When the election first came on I went to Shepherd myself first, and I said, "Well, do you know which way the railway men "are going to vote?" He says, "No, I do not know; "I will ascertain as well as I am able." And in the course of a day or so I saw him, and he said, "Well, "I am afraid they are going to vote for money this "time. I said, "I am very sorry to hear it." Then another day or two transpired, I dare say, and he came to me, and I said, "I do not know anything about "money affairs; somebody else must see to this "thing."

42,919. You said to him?—Yes. And I believe one or two of the men went to see Nichols, and I believe one or two of them went over to the other party, Gower's party. However, it was agreed that these men should have this money, but I knew nothing about the money after that.

42,920. Well, the arrangement for money was not with you?—No, it was not.

42,921. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have only one question to ask you. Did you show that account to Nichols?—No, I did not.

The witness withdrew.

JOSEPH KENWARD sworn and examined.

J. Kenward.

42,922. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A carpenter.

42,923. What do you pay rent for your house?—6*s.* a week.

42,924. And whom did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

42,925. I think you were on his committee?—Yes.

42,926. Took an active part?—Yes.

42,927. You received money, did you not, to pay away?—Yes, I did.

42,928. In the course of the election?—Yes.

42,929. Whom did you receive it from?—Mr. Langridge's house; some from Mr. Langridge and some from Mrs. Langridge.

42,930. Are you able to tell me how much you received in all, to pay away?—Yes; 31*l.*

42,931. Can you tell me how you got rid of it?—Yes.

42,932. Well, have you got a note of it there?—No, I have got it all in my head.

42,933. Will you tell me?—Yes, I will, from the beginning to the end. Then you can put it down.

42,934. I have got it down. What makes you recollect it so well?—Oh, I recollect that little bit.

42,935. Now for it?—Mr. Pike, 30*s.* a week for two weeks, 3*l.*

42,936. Well?—The next?

42,937. Yes, go on?—Edmund Baily, 3*l.*, Mepham, Ladbrooke.

42,938. What is his Christian name?—I do not know.

42,939. What did you pay him?—3*l.*, two weeks' payment.

42,940. And who else?—Briggs the same, 3*l.*

42,941. That is right. Edward Manning?—Yes. I have not got to him yet.

42,942. I beg your pardon. I won't interrupt you.—Edward Feldwick, Ladbrooke, 3*l.* for two weeks. Briggs you have got. Now we come to Parsons; 3*l.* to Mr. Parsons. Mr. Davy, two weeks' employment. Robert Worsfold, two weeks' employment.

42,943. How much?—3*l.*, two weeks' employment.

42,944. Well?—James Stevens, 2*l.*

42,945. 2*l.* 10*s.*?—No, 2*l.* I never engaged to him at all; I had the money given to me to pay him.

42,946. Didn't he say——?—I do not know nothing what he said. I know what I did. I had nothing to do with him.

42,947. Then you had Thomas Denton?—Yes; I paid him 30*s.* for two weeks.

42,948. Then Richard Bennet.—30*s.*, yes.

42,949. And Edward Manning 30*s.*?—Yes.

42,950. Is that all?—Yes; I think you will find that quite right; 31*l.*

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

J. Kenward.

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42,951. Did you pay anybody else?—No.

42,952. Did you receive any other monies besides that?—No, not for no one else.

49,953. That is what I mean?—No.

42,954. What did you receive for this?—I sent my account in to Mr. Hart. I never had any answer. I afterwards saw Mr. Nichols, and Mr. Nichols gave me 5*l.*

42,955. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you charge to Mr. Hart?—I sent in an account for "employment for six weeks at 30*s.* a week."

42,956. 9*l*?—Yes.

42,957. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Hart sent no answer?—I never had any answer. I never sent again.

42,958. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He took no notice of it?—No; I never heard anything about it.

42,959. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was that all the money transactions you had of any kind?—Yes.

42,960. Entirely?—I believe so. That is all I have any recollection of.

42,961. Oh, you have a capitally good recollection of these particular sums?—Yes; I think you will find my account quite right.

42,962. I correct mine by it. Then your having such a good memory as to them leads me to think you would recollect if you received any more money?—No, I think not.

42,963. Why are you sure?—Well, I am so sure that I believe I did not, or else I must remember it if I did.

42,964. Who put you on the committee?—Mr. Monson. I had been with Mr. Monson in the November before the election came off. I told him I would work for him and do the best I could.

42,965. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In November?—Yes; he was round at our place.

42,966. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In the November before?—Yes.

42,967. That was before Mr. Wilkinson's death?—He came round and said Mr. Gower would never put up for Reigate any more, and would I promise him. Well, I said if Mr. Gower never came out any more I would, and I would do my best for him.

42,968. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you tell me the dates?—No, I do not know no dates.

42,969. It was in November or December?—Somewhere in November.

42,970. He then spoke to you about your becoming a canvasser for him?—No, he did not.

42,971. What did he say?—He asked me if I would promise my vote. I told him I could not do that for the present. Then he said, "Mr. Gower is "not coming out for Reigate any more;" and I said, "If he does not, of course I will do the best I can for "you."

42,972. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was in November, before the election?—Yes.

42,273. In 1863 you had gone for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

42,974. You had voted for him?—Yes.

42,975. Had you been at work for him?—Yes.

42,976. Did you pay away money then?—No.

42,977. Not any?—No.

42,978. Did you know of money being paid to particular persons?—No, only myself.

42,979. How much did you receive?—I received 30*s.* a week for three weeks, 4*l.* 10*s.*; and then 3*l.* at 7*s.* 6*d.* a day afterwards.

42,980. 7*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

42,981. Who paid you the 7*l.* 10*s.*?—I believe Mr. Green and Mr. Rees. The money was laid on the table for me; but it came from them weekly.

42,982. Well, that is all you have got to tell us particularly about 1863?—Yes.

42,983. We will go back again. Were you in the election of 1859?—No, no elections at all before.

42,984. Were you on the committee in 1863?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

S. Glover.

Samuel Glover sworn and examined.

42,985. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—An eating house keeper. I sell beer as well.

42,986. What rent do you pay?—25*l.*

42,987. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

42,988. For whom?—Mr. Gower.

42,989. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

42,990. And worked for him?—No, I did nothing.

42,991. Did any money pass through your hands.—No.

42,992. No money at all passed through your hands to pay away?—No.

42,993. How long had you been on the committee?—From the first.

42,994. Did you attend many of the committee meetings?—I attended one here and one at Redhill.

42,995. Did you receive nothing for—— ?—No, not anything.

42,996. I mean for attending, for loss of time?—No.

42,997. Nothing during the election?—No.

42,998. Nor after the election?—Only for refreshments.

42,999. Then your house was engaged for refreshments?—Yes.

43,000. Quite right. There were meetings held at your house?—No.

43,001. The house supplied refreshments?—They supplied the hall here principally.

43,002. What did you receive?—I received a pound or two before the election, Apted paid me, and 5*l.* after the election.

43,003. A pound or two?—More than that I should think. Perhaps it might be three or four pounds.

43,004. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was before the election?—Yes.

43,005. Well, 4*l.* before the election, and 5*l.* after?—Yes.

43,006. Did you receive it, did you say, from Apted?—Yes.

43,007. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) From Job Apted?—Yes.

43,008. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Both sums?—Yes.

43,009. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you sent in any account?—I took in a little bill of 7*l.* 10*s.* after the election to Mr. Smith, and he asked me to go to Apted and get it signed, or to Buckland; and I went to Apted, and he said he would get the money from him; and he said he thought the sum was rather too much; and he said he could get 5*l* for me; and I told him it was correct as far as—it was correct—the account was correct, and I ought to have the money; and he said after the business was settled I should have the remainder, 2*l.* 10*s.*

43,010. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And did you get it?—I never received the 2*l.* 10*s.* I think the other money was in gold. Mr. Apted said something about a cheque, but I am sure it was gold.

43,011. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You do not know how much, accurately, you received before the election?—No. I put it on a slate, and Mr. Apted generally paid me every week, perhaps a pound, or something like that.

43,012. That was the way you received it?—Yes; he said they wanted to pay as they went; but I suppose they got short of money a week or two before, and did not pay it.

43,013. I cannot make it out. If you supplied refreshments to the extent of 7*l.* 10*s.* I cannot for the life of me understand why you should be satisfied with 5*l.* ?—Well, I could not get the other, and I took that.

43,014. But who ordered it of you?—Mr. Apted generally ordered men to have refreshments.

43,015. Very well. Then he would be a good mark for 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—Oh, there is no question but what he will pay.

43,016. In the bill you sent in to Mr. Smith did you specify all that had been supplied, and deduct what you had received?—No. I put for refreshments during the three weeks, or whatever it was—fortnight or whatever it was—7*l.* 10*s.*

43,017. "For refreshments 7*l.* 10*s.* ?"—Yes.

43,018. In making out the bill you gave credit for what you had received before ?—Yes.

43,019. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had already received before the election 4*l.* ?—Well, I should think it was between 4*l.* and 5*l.*

43,020. Perhaps 5*l.* ?—No, I do not think it was as much as that.

43,021. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was made up of small items?—Yes.

43,022. I cannot make out why you were content with less than 7*l.* 10*s.* Why didn't you say, "I won't "be content with that 5*l.* ; I will have all the money. "Why it is enough for me to have given my vote" ?—I did not know I should not get it.

43,023. I should have said in your place, "It is "quite enough to give my vote to Mr. Gower, with-"out being cheated out of the 2*l.* 10*s.*" ?—I thought I should receive it, and there is no question but what I shall. I told them I should not take less than 7*l.* 10*s.*

43,024. I may be allowed to ask you, honestly and fairly does that sum represent to the full extent (I do not say to a farthing or a shilling) the goods you supplied ?—It does.

43,025. Should you have charged A., B., C., or D. the same amount?—Yes.

43,026. Any name in the alphabet you would have charged the same amount?—I should have charged the same to any one.

43,027. To any one ?—Oh yes, most decidedly.

43,028. There was nothing for your own services? No, I did nothing ; and I have never received anything else in my life.

43,029. In that account there was nothing taken into account for your own services?—No.

43,030. That is what I want to know ?—Oh dear no.

43,031. Did you give Apted bills? You had the items on the slate?—I had them on the slate.

43,032. And he came in?—He came in and paid me.

43,033. You voted before ?—Yes.

43,034. For whom ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

43,035. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

43,036. Had you received anything for that?—Not anything.

43,037. You had received nothing for yourself?—No, not any.

43,038. And had no monies to pay away ?—Yes.

43,039. You had monies to pay away ?—I received 10*l.* from Mr. William Holdsworth to pay Mr. Wheedon. He is dead.

43,040. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What for ?—To vote.

43,041. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For a vote? —Yes.

43,042. Did Wheedon vote ?—He did.

43,043. For Wilkinson ?—Yes. He asked me to hold his watch while he went and voted. I did so. When he came back I gave him the watch back again.

43,044. Was he afraid of the roughs?—I do not know whether he was. I did not ask.

43,045–6. Well, tell me, had you yourself received anything at that election ?—No.

43,047. How often had you voted?—Voted since Mr. Hackblock.

43,048. Had you given the 10*l.* ?—Yes.

43,049. To him ?—Yes.

43,050. And he gave you the watch ?—Yes.

43,051. What for ?—As security I suppose.

43,052. As a pledge that he would vote ?—Yes.

43,053. I thought he was afraid to keep his watch ? —He was a very shifty party.

43,054. He was a shifty party, and you secured the watch ?

43,055. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had had a little experience in canvassing ?—No.

43,056. Well, perhaps not in canvassing; in the management of things?—Well, I took the management of that.

43,057. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Very well; you had voted since Mr. Hackblock's time?—Yes.

43,058. How came you to go on the committee this time ?—Mr. Apted asked me if I should vote for Gower? I said I should. I always promise directly the candidates come out. Never give them any trouble at all.

The witness withdrew.

CHARLES KNIGHT sworn and examined.

C. Knight.

43,059. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you a voter?—Yes.

43,060. Were you in 1865 ?—Yes.

43,061. What are you ?—Clerk to Messrs. Clutton.

43,062. Have you been for some time ?—Yes, for the last 20 years.

43,063. Whom did you vote for ?—Mr. Gower.

43,064. Were you on the committee ?—I think I was. I am not quite certain of that. I think my name was down.

43,065 What rent do you pay for your house ?—It is my own house.

43,066. Freehold ? What is the value of it ?—50*l.* a year, probably.

43,067. You are with Mr. Clutton now ?—Yes.

43,068. Do you know a man named James Mitchell?—Yes.

43,069. What is he now ?—A labourer to Mr. Clutton.

43,070. Do you know whom Mitchell voted for ?—I believe he voted for Mr. Gower.

43,071. Did you know of his receiving any money ? —I heard that he received 10*s.* on the last occasion.

43,072. Did you hear that from himself?—Yes.

43,073. He said here to-day that he received 10*s.* from Durrant ?—Well, that was it, I suppose.

43,074. Now, did you know whom he voted for in 1863 ?—He voted for Mr. Gower then, I think.

43,075. He did ; at least he said he did. Do you know of his receiving any money in 1863?—After the election of 1863 I was in the town and I met Mr. James Nichols, who came to me and said, "Why, "what have you been doing ; stopping the man's "wages? The bailiff at your place has been stopping "a man's wages on the day of polling." I said, "Of "course he would do so, unless he had express "directions. We don't pay the men when they don't "work." He said, "I wish you would take him "10*s.*;" and so I did.

43,076. You gave him the 10*s.* after he had voted in 1863. He gave us to understand that he got it

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

C. Knight.

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rather from his master, Mr. Clutton?—Well, he seems to think so. He did not ask me from whom it came. I gave him the money.

43,077. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You gave it to him?—Yes. I did not tell him from whom it came. I told him it was because his wages had been stopped.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I will correct his evidence, by saying it came from Nichols by Mr. Knight; credit Nichols with it.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We are very much obliged to you; although I must confess it did not leave the slightest impression upon our minds against your master.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned to Monday, September 24th, at 11 o'clock.

TWENTY-NINTH DAY.

Monday, 24th September 1866.

TWENTY-NINTH DAY.

R. Worsfold.

24 Sept. 1866.

ROBERT WORSFOLD sworn and examined.

43,078. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A labourer.

43,079. What do you pay rent?—5*s.* a week.

43,080. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

43,081. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—Yes.

43,082. Who put you on?—Mr. Hanbury.

43,083. Mr. Philip Hanbury?—Yes.

43,084. Do you stand in any relation to Mr. Hanbury?—No.

43,085. Are you in his service, or anything of that sort?—Yes, I am in his service.

43,086. That is what I call standing in a relation to him. Were you in his service?—Yes.

43,087. What sort of service?—Cowman.

43,088. Are you still in his service?—Yes.

43,089. Did Mr. Hanbury ask you how you were going to vote?—No; he asked me who I was going to vote for, and I told him I should vote for Mr. Monson.

43,090. Was that the way he voted?—Yes, sir.

43,091. Did anything else pass between you and Mr. Hanbury?—No, sir; he told me I might vote for whom I liked.

43,092. When he found you were going to vote for Mr. Monson did he say he would put you on the committee?—He asked me if I would go on.

43,093. And you said, "Yes," and he put you on?—Yes.

43,094. Was this your first vote?—No.

43,095. In 1865 did you receive for two weeks the sum of 30*s.* for each week?—Yes.

43,096. From whom?—Kenward.

43,097. How much before the election?—3*l.*

43,098. And how much after?—Not any, sir.

43,099. Did Mr. Hanbury recommend you to go on the committee?—No.

43,100. Did he mention Mr. Kenward's name to you?—No.

43,101. Not in any way?—No.

43,102. Did you mention Mr. Kenward's name to Mr. Hanbury?—No.

43,103. You are sure of that?—Yes.

43,104. Did you tell Mr. Hanbury before the election what money you had received from Mr. Kenward?—No.

43,105. Be very cautious how you answer that question. I have no doubt you want to tell the truth, but do it very carefully. Before the election did you tell Mr. Hanbury what you had received from Kenward?—No.

43,106. You are sure of that?—Yes.

43,107. Did you tell him afterwards?—Not till the other day.

43,108. Did you tell him within two or three months after the election?—No, sir.

43,109. Are you sure of that?—I am sure of it.

43,110. Do you know whether he was aware of your having received 3*l.* from Mr. Kenward?—No; he says he was not.

43,111. He says so now?—Yes.

43,112. But you are not aware whether he was aware of it at the time?—I was not.

43,113. You swear that?—Yes.

43,114. Did you do anything for the 3*l.* you got from Mr. Kenward?—Yes.

43,115. What?—I went out every night and tried to persuade all the voters I could for Mr. Monson.

43,116. Who did you try to persuade?—Any one I could light on; I asked them, but I can't say I secured any, there were so many canvassers and so many canvassed.

43,117. Did any one canvass you on Mr. Gower's side?—No.

43,118. You are sure of that?—Yes.

43,119. And you cannot say you secured the vote of any person?—No.

43,120. In 1863 who did you vote for?—For Mr. Gower.

43,121. Were you on his committee?—No, sir.

43,122. What did you receive for your vote then, if anything?—Nothing at all.

43,123. Was that your first election?—Yes.

43,124. You are quite sure in the election of 1863 nothing was paid you, either before or after the election?—I am quite sure.

The witness then withdrew.

J. Nichols.

JAMES NICHOLS sworn and examined.

43,125. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Nichols, you keep the "Grapes" inn?—Yes, sir.

43,126. Besides that, I believe you hold some office in the county court?—Yes, sir.

43,127. What is it?—I am high bailiff.

43,128. And are you overseer of the parish?—I am asistant overseer.

43,129. Appointed by the magistrates?—Appointed by the guardians.

43,130. You are a parish officer?—Yes.

43,131. You are sanctioned also by the magistrates?—Yes.

43,132. For what?—For the old parish of Reigate.

43,133. Do you hold any other office?—I am clerk to the burial board.

43,134. Anything else?—And sheriff's officer.

43,135. Did you in the years '64 and '65, as overseer, make out the borough voting lists?—Yes.

43,136. Had you made them out previous to 1864?—Yes.

43,137. For how long?—As long ago as the year 1850.

43,138. Is it rent you pay for your house, the "Grapes"?—Yes.

43,139. And is it for that you vote?—No; it is for a house in the High-street.

43,140. What rent do you pay for the house on which you vote?—26*l.*

43,141. Are you in partnership with anybody in any other business?—Yes.

43,142. Is that in the business of tailoring?—Yes, sir.

43,143. Who is your partner? Is it published and known?—Yes.

43,144. Who is it?—Eliza Joyes.

43,145. What relation?—She is my sister.

43,146. Are you brother-in-law to Frederick Joyes?—No, sir, he is dead.

43,147. You voted for Mr. Monson at the last election?—Yes.

43,148. You were the principal agent under Mr. Hart?—Yes.

43,149. Who appointed you?—Mr. Monson.

43,150. Mr. Monson himself?—Yes.

43,151. Then Mr. Hart did not appoint you?—No, sir.

43,152. Were you appointed to act under Mr. Hart, or appointed to act independently?—I do not know.

43,153. Was the appointment made by Mr. Monson in conversation, or did he come to you and ask you to act, or did he write to you, or what?—I think I saw him.

43,154. I wish to know how you became appointed?—I had seen Mr. Monson several times on the question, or rather he had seen me, and I said I could not promise him until I knew Mr. Gower had decided on not coming forward.

43,155. At the end of these interviews were you at last appointed?—Yes.

43,156. Can you tell me when that was, about; I do not wish to know the exact date?—Conditionally in the September of '64.

43,157. Was that conditionally on Mr. Gower's coming forward?—Yes, sir.

43,158. And if Mr. Gower did come forward then you were to act as Mr. Monson's agent or his sub-agent?—No; it was on the condition that Mr. Gower did not come forward.

43,159. Had you been previously concerned for Mr. Gower in 1863?—Yes.

43,160. As what?—As sub-agent.

43,161. And you took a very active part?—Yes.

43,162. Now, being appointed in September conditionally on Mr. Gower's not coming forward, was it at that time arranged if he did come forward you were not to be agent?—Yes.

43,163. Then tell me shortly how it was that as he did come forward you were agent?—On the 29th of November of the same year he made a public statement, and consequent on that it was Mr. Monson agreed to commence canvassing that night; I think it was the 29th.

43,164. You had seen Mr. Monson several times, in fact, before that?—Yes, sir, twice at least.

43,165. Had it been here you had seen him or away from this place?—I saw him at Burton.

43,166. That is in Lincolnshire?—Yes.

43,167. Was any one present when you had an interview with him at Burton?—No.

43,168. Is it Burton-park?—Burton-hall.

43,169. And no person was with him?—Not when I was engaged with him.

43,170. Well, at any interview with him at Burton-hall?—Lord Monson was there.

43,171. An interview about the election?—Yes.

43,172. Any one else?—Captain Burton, I think.

43,173. Another brother?—Yes, sir.

43,174. Was any one present on your side?—Yes, Mr. Page.

43,175. Had he gone down with you?—Yes, sir.

43,176. The interview at which they were present was previous to the final arrangement on the 29th of November?—It was in September.

43,177. Had you any other interviews with him at Burton-hall that you recollect?—None, sir.

43,178. Now I still want to ask you, when you were appointed on the 29th of November, what was the nature of your position; did he explain to you you were appointed under Mr. Hart, or whether you were appointed on your own account?—It was well understood between us; I was to act with Mr. Hart as I had done many times before.

43,179. Was Mr. Hart present?—No, sir.

43,180. Was anything said about whether you would receive instructions from Mr. Hart, or was anything at all said. I rather wish to get at the terms?—I think it was understood between us I was to act by myself.

43,181. Was anything said about your drawing cheques and paying money away according to your own discretion?—Yes, sir; that was understood, if not said.

43,182. You could not understand well about money was; it said money would be paid on your account, which you would have to dispose of without reference to Mr. Hart?—Yes.

43,183. It was stated?—Yes.

43,184. May I say it was stated and arranged?—Yes.

43,185. I may take it, "It was agreed I should "pay money away independently of Mr. Hart"?—Yes.

43,186. I wish you to understand how I take your answer, and you say on the evening of the 29th of November you did set to work?—Yes.

43,187. Can you tell me when the first money was paid to you?—Some time in December.

43,188. Can you give me the date, do you know whether it was the 29th of December?—I do not know, but it was somewhere between Christmas day and New Year's day.

43,189. How was it paid to you?—I think by cheque.

43,190. To you or to your bankers?—It would pass through my bankers if it was a cheque.

43,191. Then I will take it if you agree, "In "December, perhaps the 29th, the first money was "paid into my bankers"?—I think so.

43,192. What bank was that, the London and County?—No, I think the English Joint Stock Bank.

43,193. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you pay it in yourself?—I dare say I paid it in myself, I cannot recollect.

43,194. What I want to know is how the first payment was made?—By letter.

43,195. Was it paid into your bank by yourself, or to your account?—By myself.

43,196. That is what I want to know, how you got it into the banker's hands; did you receive a cheque of a certain amount?—Yes.

43,197. By letter?—Yes.

43,198. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You paid it into the bank?—I should think so.

43,199. How much did you receive to pay in?—200 guineas.

43,200. And who did you receive it from?—Mr. Monson.

43,201. Can you tell me whether, as a fact, you did pay this cheque of 200 guineas into your bankers?—I cannot without my book; that is not the book, I think.

43,202. I do not know; you shall, of course see it, and judge for yourself; this is the London and County Bank; you had at that time an account with the London and County Bank?—Yes.

43,203. You also had an account at that time with the South-eastern Banking Company?—Yes, sir.

43,204. Can you tell me how the cheque was drawn?—"Mr. James Nichols or order."

43,205. You received it from Mr. Monson, but whose cheque was it?—Mr. Monson's cheque.

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43,206. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) His own cheque ?—Yes.

43,207. Drawn in your favour ?—Yes.

43,208. Are you sure of that ?—I will not be quite sure of that.

43,209. What was the form of the cheque ?—I am sure it was "Mr. James Nichols or order."

43,210. Might it not be "self or order" ?—I will not swear.

43,211. It is a mere matter of detail ?—Yes.

43,212. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) This is the London and County Bank, there is the date, please to look at it (*handing bank book to witness*) ?—It is not there.

43,213. It is not there ?—No.

43,214. There are payments to your credit there about that time ?—Yes, sir.

43,215. You see there are several about that time, but none that would exactly fit it, no one or two would exactly fit it ?—No, I am pretty certain it was in the other book.

43,216. I wish you to look at that and say any one or two sums together, or more than two together, represent the 210*l.* cheque ?—No, sir.

43,217. They do not represent the cheque of the 29th of December ?—No, I think not.

43,218. Tell me, Mr. Nichols, about that time, the 29th of December 1864, you had another account at what was called the South-eastern Banking Company ? I had.

43,219. I have not received as yet your pass book ?—I have not received it yet, but I have sent for it; it is at the London office.

24,220. In the meantime I will put these cheques into your hand, though I have not received your pass book, but which I should have been very glad to have received. What I wish you to look at (though I do not think you will be able to make much more of it than I am) — these are the cheques of the South Eastern Banking Company, and there are the dates, 30th of November, 17th December, 29th December, one I think of the 3rd of December, and then I come to January ?—Yes.

43,221. I may have overlooked it, but I do not find the sum of 210*l.* represented by any cheque of yours ?—No, that would not be so.

43,222. I suppose it would be paid by Mr. Monson to your account ?—In Mr. Monson's name.

43,223. You would find it in your pass book ?—Yes.

43,224. Hence the necessity of my having it ?—Yes; I have sent for it.

43,225. It is possible the cheque may have been drawn by you, and the amount paid in in some other shape, and therefore it was right to tell you I do not find it here ?—No, it is not there.

43,226. Will you tell me what you did with the cheque of 200 guineas, and then we shall be able to trace it ?—I think I paid it into the English Joint Stock.

43,227. Into your account there ?—Yes.

43,228. Into your account of the South-eastern Banking Company ?—Yes.

43,229. They had a bank here, had they not ?—Yes.

43,230. What has become of it ?—Blown up.

43,231. How shall I manage then about your pass book ?—I told you I had written and expect it by post to-day.

43,232. Are they documents in Chancery or something of that sort ?—They are being wound up.

43,233. I suppose you know where to apply for them ?—At 29, Clements'-lane, it is called the English Joint Stock Banking Company.

43,234. Are you able to tell me whether the English Joint Stock Company took up what money they had and what debts they had, did they take up the concern ?—No, they changed their name merely.

43,235. Can you tell me whether they were wound up or merely merged into the English Joint Stock Company ?—Just so.

43,236. Then this company have all the banking documents of the other firm ?—Yes.

43,237. When did you commence money payments in this way for Mr. Monson ?—That I cannot tell you.

43,238. When did you commence making payments ?—I cannot tell you.

43,239. I do not want the date of the first cheque you drew, but about the time you began to make payments. You received this cheque on the 29th of December, '64; now, supposing it was that date, did you begin to pay monies out at once ?—I think not for some two or three months.

43,240. I have taken it, "I think I did not begin to "make payments for some two or three months after;" are you sure it was something like this time ?—Yes, sir, quite.

43,241. When did you receive any other monies; what was the next, are you able to tell me ?—May the 29th.

43,242. Before I go to that question I wish to go back for one moment. You say the first cheque "or "order or bearer," but which you do not recollect ?—I do not, but most likely to order.

43,243. Now the 29th of May, how was that ?—I think they were notes, but the manager of the bank has told me he can tell me.

43,244. How did you receive it ?—By post.

43,245. Cannot you tell me in what shape it was received by you ?—If not by cheque, by bank notes.

43,246. Have you not got an account of what monies you received ?—Yes, sir, here (*producing a paper*).

43,247. I do not wish to take that out of your hand, it is an account from memory ?—No; I got it from Mr. Gilbert, the parliamentary agent, the witness you had here.

43,248. How did he get it ?—I do not know.

43,249. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Have you not any memorandums of your own ?—No, I do not know but from this the date at which I received it.

43,250. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you any memorandums of your own from the commencement, the 29th of December and the 29th of May, which will tell what money you received ?—No, sir.

43,251. How much did you receive on the 29th of May ?—According to this, 150*l.*

43,252. Have you any memorandums of your own of money received ?—No, sir.

43,253. Are you able to tell me when the next payment was; a man of your business habits and knowledge of business would, I should have thought, have kept some memorandums ?—No, I am not able.

43,254. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith, to witness.*) I think you had better not look at that document at the present moment; it is not a document made contemporaneously, and is not made by yourself.—No, sir.

43,255. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell me when the next payment was ?—No, but it was soon after that.

43,256. Can you tell me for what amount ?—50*l.*

43,257. When was the fourth payment made ?—Soon after.

43,258. You cannot give me the date ?—No.

43,259. Do you know the amount ?—500*l.*

43,260. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much ?—500*l.*

43,261. Do we understand you are giving this from your own recollection ?—Yes, that item I can.

43,262. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Independently of any information you received from Mr. Gilbert ?—Yes, that one only.

43,263. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say you received four payments, of which one was 500*l.* ?—Yes.

43,264. How do you know that; do you recollect it?—Yes, sir, that was a cheque.

43,265. Whose cheque was it?—Mr. Monson's.

43,266. Drawn by Mr. Monson?—Yes.

43,267. Are you quite sure of that?—Yes, sir.

43,268. And was it drawn on you; the money made payable to you?—I think not, not payable to me; it would be made payable to Mr. Humphrey.

43,269. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who is Mr. Humphrey?—Mr. John Humphrey, the coroner for Middlesex.

43,270. How did it get into your hands?—I called on Mr. Humphrey for it.

43,271. Was it made payable to bearer or order?—I do not know, I went and got the money.

43,272. Do you know whether his name was endorsed on the back of it, or whether there was no endorsement?—I cannot remember that.

43,273. What did you do with the cheque in the first instance?—I went to the bank and got the money.

43,274. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In London?—Yes.

43,275. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What bank?—I cannot tell you the name of the bank, but I can tell you where it is, it is in Fleet-street.

43,276. That would be Hoare's?—Yes.

43,277. You took the cheque to Hoare's, and got it cashed?—Yes, I got it in bank notes.

43,278. And brought the money down here?—Yes, sir.

43,279. I do not wish to go into detail now, but you have told me it was Mr. Monson's cheque?—Yes.

43,280. And when you got the money in bank notes you brought that money down here?—Yes.

43,281. Did you begin at once to pay out of it, or did you first pay it into the bank?—I began to pay out of it.

43,282. Did you make any payments during the election otherwise than by a cheque?—Yes, nearly always.

43,283. What, in money?—Yes, in money.

43,284. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And not by cheque?—I do not mean to say there were no cheques.

43,285. *The Chief Commissioner.*) "I began to "pay it away as it was required, in notes." Is that so?—Yes, I did not pay the notes into my bankers.

43,286. Then I understand you to say, "The money "I paid away during the election was in notes, not "cheques." I am not binding you to this, that there were no cheques at all?—Yes, and gold.

43,287. You may have paid away some in cheques?—I have no doubt I have paid away some in cheques.

43,288. Now are you able to tell me whether you had received some other sums before you received this sum of 500*l.*?—I told you that I had.

43,289. I think the better way will be for me to tell you what I think you did receive?—I told you 150*l.*, 50*l.*, and 500*l.*

43,290. And did you not receive on June the 22nd 200*l.*?—Yes, there or thereabouts.

43,291. And did you not also receive on July 4th 300*l.*; that was about a week before the 500*l.*?—Yes; I am telling you this only from having seen that account; I can recollect the amounts, but not the dates.

43,292. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You recollect the amounts?—Yes, I recollect the amounts, but not the dates.

43,293. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) After the 500*l.*, I think on the 17th July, you received a sum of 200*l.*?—Yes.

43,294. And I think on the 22nd of the same month of July you received 120*l.*?—Yes.

43,295. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you speaking from your memory as to the amounts?—And from being refreshed by that (*pointing to a document*).

43,296. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Since your memory has been refreshed by that memorandum, your memory, along with the memorandum, makes you certain as to the amounts?—Yes.

43,297. Are you aware of the whole amount you received from December the 29th to July the 22nd?—By being refreshed, as I have said.

43,298. Is that amount 1,730*l.*?—That is the sum.

43,299. They do really amount to that?—Yes.

43,300. You quite understand I am not binding you to particular dates?—Yes.

43,301. Between the 29th of December and the 22nd of July 1865 the amount was 1,730*l.*?—Yes.

43,302. Were all those monies you received about the election?—The first 200 guineas was for my trouble in getting up the requisition.

43,303. Well, that was about the election?—Yes.

43,304. The requisition to him, Mr. Monson?—Yes, to him.

43,305. When had you got up the requisition, was it before the 29th of December?—The 29th of November, on the night Mr. Gower expressed his intention of not standing.

43,306. And you were appointed agent as you have mentioned?—Yes.

43,307. Then according to your account the 150*l.* you received on the 29th of May was the first money you received especially to pay out?—Yes, sir.

43,308. That was to pay out, was it not?—Yes.

43,309. Had you before used any of the 200 guineas, which was for yourself, to pay out monies?—Yes.

43,310. Do you recollect any person to whom you paid money out of the 200 guineas?—No, I do not.

43,311. You had been helped to get up the requisition by somebody else?—Yes.

43,312. By whom?—By Mr. Thomas Page.

43,313. Was any part of the 200 guineas for anybody else, or was it your own fee?—It was my own fee.

43,314. Can you tell me any person to whom you paid money as early as the 29th of December or the 1st of January?—I think Richard Steer.

43,315. How early?—I cannot bind myself to March, or April, or May.

43,316. You mean some time previous to May, when you received the 150*l.*?—Yes.

43,317. Do you recollect what sum you paid him?—I think 50*l.*

43,318. What money would that come out of then?—My own.

43,319. Then it was out of your own money?—Yes.

43,320. Can you tell me how you paid him, in what shape?—No.

43,321. Whether by cheque or in cash?—No, if it was by cheque my book would show.

43,322. That is the misfortune of not having the pass book here; do you know what it was for you paid Steer?—Yes, I paid it to Steer as his fee to assist me.

43,323. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was Mr. Steer a voter?—Yes.

43,324. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where does he live?—In Linfield-street.

43,325. There is no name, but are these the stumps of the South-eastern Company's cheques?—Yes.

43,326. At this time you were receiving money and paying it away in May; do you know whether Mr. Hart had been appointed regular head agent then?—I think he had before.

43,327. Perhaps you do not know the date of his appointment?—No, I have forgotten it.

43,328. Then that will answer a previous question, I suppose, that these payments show you were acting independently of Mr. Hart?—Quite so.

43,329. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not consult him?—No.

43,330. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now I wish to give you an opportunity, if you please, of stating in what manner you paid out at this earlier time. The first disbursement was the 50*l.*?—No.

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43,331. Quite right; but it comes to the same thing, for when you received the 150*l.* you would reimburse yourself with 50*l.* out of that amount?—Yes.

43,332. Can you tell me any one else to whom you had paid money?—Toplis.

43,333. This is before May the 29th, when you received 150*l.*?—I do not know whether it was before, but it must have been very nearly about that time.

43,334. Are you able to tell me, referring back to the matter about Steer, are you able to tell me, whatever the sum was, whether it was paid by cheque or by notes?—I can't.

43,335. Do you know how much you paid Toplis?—40*l.*

43,336. Was that done during the election?—Yes.

43,337. What was it for; you can tell me that?—There is the agreement (*handing a paper writing to the Commissioner*).

43,338. (*The Chief Commissioner, reading.*) "In "consideration of the payment to me of the sum of "40*l.* by Mr. James Nichols"——That is on the 27th of May, therefore it would be about that time?—Yes.

43,339. Are you able to remember any other sums? I am obliged to ask you this, for if it was paid in cash and not in cheques your pass book would not mention it?—No, sir.

43,340. And therefore I can get no information; not from yourself?—No.

43,341. Can you tell me any other sums you paid about May or early in June?—No; I began to disburse pretty freely then.

43,342. And your disbursements were made in cash?—In cash, except in some few instances.

43,343. But generally speaking in cash?—Yes.

43,344. Do you remember paying to any particular person about this time any large sum? Do you remember paying a large sum to any agent?—No, we should be getting on later if we paid large sums.

43,345. So I thought, and that made me ask you the question what payments would be required so early for, as the canvassers had not begun much?—Yes, some of the smaller canvassers would have begun.

43,346. Payments made by you?—Yes.

43,347. First of all I want you to look at this (*handing witness a banking book*), which seems to be your private account at the London and County Bank. I wish to exhaust this; looking at that, tell me whether you find any payments about May 1865 in reference to the election. I do not think you will, and if not we shall be confining it to the South-eastern Bank?—None, sir.

43,348. You do not find any?—No.

43,349. As far as it does, that appears to be entirely your private account?—Yes.

43,350. I see on the first of July you withdraw your account?—Yes.

43,351. And you did not renew it until the English Joint Stock had failed. You close your account the 20th of July 1865, and you do not reopen your account there until the May following in 1866?—Quite right.

43,352. That appears to be so?—It is right.

43,353. I wish to give you an opportunity of saying whether there are any payments in this book in reference to the election. I think there are not; it is the same question I asked you just now. Just look, you had better. Do you see, when you were appointed on the 29th of November, whether you drew any cheques in that book at that time?—No, sir.

43,354. Then you may keep the book, and I dare say I shall not want it any more, but if I should want it I will ask you for it; it is your own private account at the London and County Bank?—Yes.

43,355. Have you any list to which you can refer for your payments made from the beginning of June and the last payments ending with the election?—Yes (*producing a paper writing*).

43,356. What is that amount made from?—From memory.

43,357. Will you let me look at it?—Yes (*handing paper to the Commissioner*).

43,358. This is made recently?—Yes.

43,359. Do you believe that this correctly represents the payments you made?—Yes, pretty nearly so. I dare say there are a few money payments I made that are not down there at all.

43,360. From this you would appear to have received 1,730*l.*, which is the sum already proved to have been received by you, and then there is an account of disbursements to the extent of 1,640*l.*, within a little of a 100*l.* deficient?—There have been several sums mentioned in this Court during this Inquiry that are not down here.

43,361. There was 7*l.* 10*s.* and 15*l.*?—Yes.

43,362. Take that in your hand and, looking at the list, tell me whether you find the name of any person there whom we have not called as a witness. I dare say you know pretty well what has been going on, and I wish to find out whether there are any new names. I did not catch one as I went down it myself?—There is Steer.

43,363. I do not know what gave me the notion Steer was dead?—There is one Steer dead.

43,364. All the others, as far as I know, have been called. I think I know something or other of all of these men; do you not think I do?—Except that item there (*pointing to an item in the list*).

43,365. I noticed that myself, but all the others I rather think we know?—Yes.

43,366. Now I see one of the items (it had not escaped my notice) is a sum put down for "specials," 110*l.*?—Yes.

43,367. What is that?—We call them roughs.

43,368. That is a great deal more than was paid them?—No.

43,369. Who paid the roughs?—I paid Mr. Jarvis, clerk of the works at Waterlow, 35*l.*

43,370. I was going to exhaust this?—In my account the item for 110*l.* for specials consists of 35*l.*, two thirties, and 35*l.*

43,371. 35*l.* paid to who?—To Mr. Jarvis.

43,372. Who is Mr. Jarvis?—He is clerk to the works on Waterlow's estate.

43,373. Waterlow's estate is an estate being built on down here?—Yes.

43,374. What is his Christian name?—I do not know.

43,375. Is he there now?—That I do not know.

43,376. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Where is he living?—I cannot speak positively to it, but I believe in Hollin's-lane; he is sub-architect and clerk to the works.

43,377. Explain that item of 110*l.*; further, if you can, explain this item about Mr. Jarvis. How do you account for it?—There were other squads than mine.

43,378. Did you pay your sub-agents to pay them?—No, I paid them in my own house.

43,379. You did not pay them through one of their own men?—I recollect one man of the name of Collins to whom I paid a sum of 15*l.* for a squad.

43,380. To be divided among his men?—Yes.

43,381. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or as you term it, what?—Squad.

43,382. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell me any others?—No, I do not know that I can.

43,383. That is hardly half of it; were there more roughs, specials? I do not care on which side they were, but were there more on Mr. Gower's side?—I think there were more roughs on ours.

43,384. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Deadman paid roughs for you?—Yes.

43,385. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had Deadman and Steer paid any for you?—Yes, but I did not know that until Deadman gave his evidence.

43,386. This sum of 7*l.* 10*s.* you mean should be on this side, as the sum you paid out?—Yes.

43,387. What is this, T. Steer; that is another Steer?—It is Steer the builder.

43,388. Who is Steer the builder, to whom you paid 15*l.*?—He was a builder, living at the bottom of Earlswood-common.

43,389. Is he a builder?—He was a builder; he is dead.

43,390. What did you pay Steer 15*l.* for?—For canvassing; he had several men under him.

43,391. But none of the 15*l.* would go among those men; none of Steer's 15*l.* would go among those men?—No.

43,392. I should like to have the men's names that Steer canvassed?—I dare say he can tell you the names.

43,393. What is Mr. Steer's Christian name?—Richard.

43,394. He has not been called?—No.

43,395. Where does Mr. Richard Steer live?—At Redhill.

43,396. I see, Mr. Nichols, there are no small sums paid out, not to speak of; there is one, Upton 1*l.*?—There were several I paid, but I can't remember now.

43,397. There is Mr. Bolster 2*l.*, and Woodhouse 1*l.*; there are no other small sums?—No; there are a great many sums I paid, but I cannot recollect them.

43,398. I think the sum you paid Mr. Jarvis was not 35*l.* but 31*l.*?—Yes, but then after that he sent in a certain number of his men, and I paid them some money in cash.

43,399. Now, among these cheques I think you will find James Cooke for 2*l.* 15*s.*, which I do not find down here, which will rather go to assist you. Just look at the left hand corner of the book; you may look at anything you like, but in that corner there is Cooke 6*l.* 10*s.*; did you pay it?—Yes.

43,400. Then there is James Cooke 2*l.* 15*s.*?—Yes.

43,401. What, was that with reference to the election? I think I took these different items from the stumps of your cheques?—I cannot tell you.

43,402. That will go to account for some more payments still than those you have made on this list?—Yes.

43,403. Can you tell me whether each of these men was connected with the election?—Finch was.

43,404. Is he down in the list, I did not catch his name?—There is Harman also 5*l.*

43,405. Well, he is not here. What is the date of Finch's cheque?—The 15th of July.

43,406. Is that an election matter?—Yes.

43,407. I wish to get as many names as I can. Joseph Finch said, "After the election Mr. Nichols "paid me 10*l.*;" just scratch him out of my note. What is the next I have named?—Cooke.

43,408. Can you tell me what Cook that is?—Yes; I have no doubt it is the Cook you have had here.

43,409. What is the cheque for?—2*l.* 15*s.*

43,410. Here it is 6*l.* 10*s.*?—It is the same one.

43,411. Then you see he does not agree with you; have you made a mistake, or has he made a mistake?—I do not know.

43,412. Can you tell me what he is?—A bricklayer in Mead-vale.

43,413. Do you know his Christian name?—John Cook.

43,414. What is the payment you have there?—2*l.* 15*s.*

43,415. "John Cook. Mr. Nichols paid me after "the election 8*l.* 10*s.*" At that rate you have not put down near enough?—No.

43,416. Who is right, you or he?—Most likely he.

43,417. Will you be kind enough to take him out? (*The witness scratched his name off the list.*) What is the next name you have got down from the top?—Mr. Jordan.

43,418. Is that John Jordan?—Richard Jordan.

43,419. Is he down there for seven guineas?—Yes; but I think it has nothing to do with the election.

43,420. If you feel sure of that knock it out. When is that?—October; August you have put.

43,421. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is a cheque before and after; it may draw your recollection to the fact?—I do not think it is.

43,422. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Take him out of my list, will you; do you know whether he is a voter?—Yes.

43,423. Where does he live?—High-street.

43,424. What is his Christian name?—"Richard "Jordan, High-street, seven guineas."

43,425. Tell me the next. I can read it for you. (*The list was handed to the Commissioner.*) Harrowell; that had nothing to do with the election?—Yes.

43,426. You are quite sure of that?—Yes; it is J. Harrowell.

43,427. Now at the same date you will find Harman 5*l.*?—What date is Harman?

43,428. The same date, 28th October?—He does not appear to be there at all. It is quite right; that was for a voter.

43,429. Harman was?—Yes.

43,430. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 27th October, paid under the election?—Yes, at that date.

43,431. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is his name?—George.

43,432. Who is George Harman; where does he live?—At Redhill.

43,433. What is he; I want to know him?—A bricklayer.

Mr. Commissioner Smith stated that George Harman had said on Saturday he received a cheque for 5*l.* from Mr. Nichols.

43,434. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then you ought to have added Harman. Oh, you have begun the name of Harman here?—I did not know it until somebody told me he had given evidence.

43,435. Then you ought to have added Harman; anybody else?—Yes, Finch 10*l.*

43,436. I see on the 7th there is a man named David Pitt 12*l.*; that I struck out myself; I cannot recollect why; did you pay him for his vote?—No.

43,437. 37*l.* 10*s.* and 2*l.* make 39*l.* 10*s.*; just on 40*l.* ought to be added to your list of money paid away, which would make 1,647*l.* into 1,687*l.*; so that you in that way may be said to have accounted, instead of 1,647*l.*, for 1,687*l.*?—Yes.

43,438. Or 1,690*l.*?—Yes. Then there is my pocket money. I must have spent 1*l.* a day for six or eight or ten weeks.

43,439. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you enabled, Mr. Nichols, to give a more definite sum of payments to Langridge; you say from 180*l.* to 210*l.*?—I thought he had about 200*l.*

43,440. You put it from 180*l.* to 210*l.*, that is a wide margin; are you able to go closer than that?—No, I am not; from his evidence I cannot do it.

43,441. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then suppose you make it 1,885*l.* you have accounted for, and then there is money you say you have expended as pocket money. Don't say too much. I want everything to be accounted for; keep within the mark?—You see it would not be six weeks right off, because I was not engaged in all the six weeks perhaps on Mr. Monson's business; I mean he would not be charged with all the money I spent.

43,442. Can you give me an estimate; I suppose

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you cannot very accurately do it; but can you give me a kind of estimate of what money you paid out in going about the election business?—I recollect only lately that I stood a dozen of champagne.

43,443. That would be to voters?—To get voters to sign the requisition.

43,444. That is very early; it would come in certainly?—Yes.

43,445. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did those persons afterwards vote for Mr. Monson who signed the requisition?—No.

43,446. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told me in the first instance 210*l.* was paid to you for getting up the requisition?—Yes.

43,447. The 210*l.*, I suppose, was to cover all expenses?—I suppose so.

43,448. Then we will only have money subsequent to that. I do not mean any monies out of pocket, but what probable expense would there be? Can you give us an estimate? It is fair if there was anything it should be deducted in making up your accounts as between you and Mr. Monson?—I think 1*l.* a day would be fair.

43,449. I do not know how many days it would be; at 30 or 40 I think 1*l.* a day would be rather high?—No.

43,450. You would not have much money out of pocket, it would only be this owing to losing amounts in not attending to customers?—Not so.

43,451. How would you make up 1*l.* a day?—If you were to go round and canvass with me you would soon see. I think I ought to be allowed it, it is very just, and I think I ought to be allowed 50*l.*

43,452. Really for expenses?—Yes; because I not only had to spend it myself, but I would very often give to one of my sub-canvassers a sovereign.

43,453. You know more than I do about it, what money you believe you paid out?—I do not know.

43,454. You do not; oh, I dare say you will tell me it, I only want an estimate?—You will recollect it was from the 29th of November till the end of July.

43,455. The thing is this; of course we shall have to consider by-and-by whether we shall think that right. I want you therefore not to make it as a mere shot, but if you really believe your expenses were about 50*l.*, paid from day to day for small sums, say so?—I am quite sure they were.

43,456. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understand, Mr. Nichols, that includes the whole time?—Yes.

43,457. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Well, your own fee you have not put in; that was paid you by Mr. Hart?—Yes.

43,458. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How much?—100 guineas.

43,459. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) As far as you had opportunity, did you settle with each of the sub-agents what amounts you had paid to them at the time you made out this account?—No.

43,460. For example, Toplis 40*l.*, did you go and confer with Toplis what you paid him?—No; because I had an agreement with him. I did not believe he would keep his word.

43,461. Do not let us say that of anybody in his absence. I see here Francis 30*l.*; is that Henry Rose Francis?—Yes.

43,462. Did you go over with Francis at the time you made this account?—Yes; I asked how much he had.

43,463. And the same with all the other sub-agents?—Yes; I think some had more and some less.

43,464. Had you any means of knowing what they had received from you?—No.

43,465. None at all?—None at all.

43,466. In order to make up this account which is put in, you went to each of the sub-agents in it to ascertain how much they had had?—I saw them.

43,467. You had no means of knowing yourself, is that so?—Yes.

43,468. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you never taken any memorandum?—No.

43,469. Never taken any?—No.

43,470. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Here is a man named Clark, I see him put down for 35*l.*; how did you ascertain you paid him 35*l.*?—Only from his evidence. I had not spoken to him. I recollect about the 10*l.* he had.

43,471. Do you mean you learnt from his evidence here?—Yes. I did not know exactly how much he had had.

43,472. Do you know nearly. If you recollect he said he had had 10*l.* which was owing him the previous election?—Yes; I recollect all that he said.

43,473. I think that he went to ask for it, and could not get it, and he came to you and told you the same story, and you handed over as it were the debt of Mr. Smith?—He said it was my debt when he came to me; he worked with me at the previous election.

43,474. And you gave him money, or a cheque for 10*l.*?—Yes; I said "I will pay you that, and have "done with it."

43,475. How did you pay him?—I do not know; most likely in two 5*l.* notes.

43,476. When have you any recollection of paying Clark any more than the 10*l.*?—I paid him some just before the polling day.

43,477. You do not know how much?—No.

43,478. Have you any recollection of making any payment to the man Mr. Clark?—He was always coming to me for more money.

43,479. If he had given no evidence at all here——?—I should have put him down for 20*l.*

43,480. But you do not recollect any money that you handed over to him except the 10*l.*?—No.

43,481. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think he did not vote, did he?—No.

43,482. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How was it that he did not vote?—I cannot tell you, unless he thought it was coming to a close contest.

43,483. Now I see there is a man named Woodman entered for 35*l.*?—Yes.

43,484. Do you know anything at all about that?—I think I paid him for his house 12*l.*, and then for some refreshments.

43,485. Do you know how you paid him?—No, I do not know; I think I handed him a 10*l.* note and two sovereigns at first.

43,486. That would be 12*l.* Do you recollect in what other way you paid him?—I do not.

43,487. Can you not give me any more information about Woodman. You remember you did pay him 12*l.* for his house?—Yes; and I paid him 5*l.* in my own house.

43,488. How do you mean?—At my own house.

43,489. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He says he gave you a receipt?—No.

43,490. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He said he thought he did?—No, I never took receipts from any of them.

43,491. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you not take receipts from any of them, had you any reason for it?—Yes.

43,492. What was it?—So that I should not have any to produce.

43,493. You are a man of business, you understand conducting your own affairs; you say you never took a receipt from any of them. Did not Francis give you a receipt; you paid Francis a large sum of money?—Yes, I took a receipt.

43,494. What has become of that?—Mr. Hart has got it, I think.

43,495. For what amount was the receipt?—5*l.*

43,496. You paid him 60*l.*?—Between 50*l.* and 60*l.*

43,497. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Francis said he received 50*l.* in his evidence?—Yes; I think he had nearly 60*l.*

43,498. Do you account in any way why you gave a receipt for 5*l.* ?—Why I took a receipt ?

43,499. Yes, you are quite right ?—I had the money from Mr. Hart.

43,500. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had the 5*l.* from Mr. Hart ?—Yes ; it was a long time after the election.

43,501. That is not brought into your account at all ?—No.

43,502. Do you know a man named John Peters ?—Yes.

43,503. Do you know how John Peters voted ?—No.

43,504. Did you canvass him ?—Yes.

43,505. He is a bricklayer, or something of that kind. I think you have canvassed the man. John Peters is the man I mean ?—I am quite sure.

43,506. Do you know anything about John Peters ?—No further than that he lives near here.

43,507. He is a bricklayer ?—A builder ; something of the kind. Yes, a bricklayer.

43,508. Do you know how he voted ?—I do not think he voted at all.

43,509. So he said. Do you recollect speaking to somebody about him just before the election, either on the nomination day, or the day before that ?—No, I do not think I did.

43,510. Do you recollect his being at your house ?—No.

43,511. The man himself, you know who I mean, you have got him in your mind's eye ?—Oh, very well indeed.

43,512. Do you remember his being in the house on the nomination day ?—I think very likely he was there.

43,513. You do not remember him at present. Did you hand him a letter ?—No.

43,514. Did he tell you that he had received a letter, either on the nomination day or the day before ?—No.

43,515. Did he not ?—No.

43,516. Were you aware that on the nomination day or the day before that he had received a letter ?—No.

43,517. About his vote ?—No.

43,518. You are sure of that ?—Quite sure.

43,519. Do you remember his coming to you and asking you about not voting ?—No, I do not remember it at all.

43,520. You knew that he was on Mr. Gower's committee, did you not ?—Yes.

43,521. It was rather an odd thing that he should be at your house, an opposition house ?—No.

43,522. Why ?—That is the house where they used to meet, both sides used to meet there.

43,523. At your house ?—Yes.

43,524. Both sides met there ?—Yes ; we used to have some good-humoured chaff there.

43,525. You knew that the man was on Mr. Gower's committee ?—I did not know that ; I canvassed him, and he told me he should vote for Mr. Gower, and I said no more to him.

43,526. Are you aware of his receiving a letter after that ?—No.

43,527. You are not ?—Not at all.

43,528. Did you hear that he received a letter about his vote ?—No, I do not recollect anything at all about it.

43,529. Do you recollect hearing that he received any notice to go to London ?—I have only heard it from what came out the other day in evidence.

43,530. You did not know it before ?—No.

43,531. Do you mean that he was known to you ?—Well known.

43,532. Were you aware at that time that he was going to London on the following day ?—Not at all.

43,533. Were you aware what time he came back from London ?—Not at all.

43,534. Do you know anything of the transaction about his receiving a letter telling him to go to London on particular business on the polling day ?—Not one word.

43,535. I suppose you sent the 5*l.* receipt to Mr. Hart to induce him to believe it was only 5*l.* you paid ?—Mr. Hart knew that Francis had been working.

43,536. I suppose you sent the receipt for 5*l.* to induce him to believe that was all you paid ?—No, I do not know how it was; I think Mr. Hart paid Francis for some work, I think he sent me a cheque to pay several small sums.

43,537. The receipt to Mr. Hart was to tell Mr. Hart "This is what I paid Francis" ?—Mr. Hart sent the money.

43,538. You say you disbursed the money rather freely, Mr. Nichols ; I want to call your attention to that, it struck me at the time. Do you recollect a man named Spence, who has been examined, a great friend of yours ?—I am a great friend of his.

43,539. I mean that ; I will call your attention to it ; his story was this, that being a very poor man, and coming up from Brighton upon an invitation of a letter of yours, he paid his own expenses and paid the expenses of another man with him besides himself and never asked you for a farthing ?—Yes.

43,540. How was that ?—I believe the man owing me so much was ashamed to ask me, or I should have given him 10*l.*

43,541. How much did he owe you ? It struck me as money was plentiful and the money was flying about and that the man should be so treated I did not believe him ; you know the man well ?—Yes.

43,542. Have you set it off in your account ?—No, I had no opportunity, he is so very poor.

43,543. Did you set it off as against the expense that he incurred ?—No.

43,544. Did you take off any of his account to you ?—No, I will tell you that perhaps it is all taken off; I shall never get a halfpenny of it.

43,545. What is the amount of it ?—What he owes me altogether ?

43,546. I do not want to go into private affairs ?—Well, about 30*l.*

43,547. Did you undertake any obligation for him ?—I did ; the first obligation I undertook for him was, I compounded with his creditors about 25 years ago ; I paid the money myself.

43,548. You undertook obligations for him ?—Yes.

43,549. And were at a loss in those ?—Yes ; then after that I became security for him for a small amount ; I did not benefit myself : besides I thought if he borrowed of somebody else he would endeavour to pay it.

43,550. You were owed 30*l.* ?—Yes.

43,551. Anything else ?—At my shop ——

43,552. Oh, never mind ; why did you not charge this as against Mr. Monson ?—I tell you if the man had come to me I should have given him 5*l.*

43,553. Why did you not charge it ?—I have not charged it, it is an omission of mine.

43,554. That is the explanation you give of the transaction with Spence ?—Yes, and I have to say for the man that I believe he told you every word the truth that he remembered.

43,555. Did he ask you at all for any money ?—No.

43,556. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Harman and Finch are the only two names you have given us ; I want to get new names from you ; what is Finch's Christian name ?—Joe ; you have had him.

43,557. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who is A. Joyes ?—My nephew, Alfred Joyes.

43,558. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then Harman is the only new name you give us ?—He was examined on Saturday.

43,559. Then you have not given us a single new name ?—I have given Mr. De Rutzen two or three names ; I do not know whether they have been called or not.

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43,560. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who is Alfred Joyes ?—My nephew.

43,561. We have not had him ?—No.

43,562. Is he a voter ?—Yes.

43,563. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where does he live ?—In Reigate.

43,564. Who is Charndon and Co. ?—Those are the names mentioned to Mr. De Rutzen; I do not know whether they have been called; it is not my wish to give them.

43,565. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are bound to do it, you know that ?—Yes.

43,566. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) We called a man named Hoyle ?—Howell; no, I do not think you have.

43,567. Who is Howell ?—He lived in Warwicktown.

43,568. What is his Christian name ?—William.

43,569. What Rose is that to whom you paid 21*l.* ?—Ephraim Rose.

43,570. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are quite certain it was 21*l.* ?—I am pretty certain.

43,571. Do you take that from your own recollection, or from information you received from Rose ?—From my own recollection.

43,572. Have you asked Rose what the amount was ?—No, I heard him give his statement here.

43,573. There is 12*l.* 10*s.* ?—That was for himself, the 12*l.* 10*s.*

43,574. I see here on the 4th of September there is an entry, "John Humphreys, 47*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*," the name you have mentioned in connexion with the election as having received money ?—Yes, but that has nothing to do with the election; if you give me the cheque book I will tell you.

43,575. There was a person of the name of William Barnes, 40*l.* in '65; had that reference to the election ?—No.

43,576. John Reeves, another name we have heard of, 30*l.* was paid to him; was that in reference to the election ?—I do not know.

43,577. It would be somewhere in October '65 ?—I do not think so.

43,578. I see there is a cheque drawn in blank, did you draw any cheques in blank ?—I should very likely lend it to a customer; no, I never drew cheques in blank.

43,579. Not on account of the election ?—No.

43,580. That you are certain about ?—Well, I do not know.

43,581. I ask you that question for this reason, because I find on the 4th of March '65 there is a cheque drawn in blank, that is so on the counterfoil in favour of Thomas Page ?—I cannot tell you.

43,582. Have you any recollection with regard to that cheque ?—No; the pass book will show it.

43,583. Given to Thomas Page for his use; there is the counterfoil, see if that draws it to your recollection ?—"Given to Thomas Page for his use" blank.

43,584. Will you explain that ?—Yes.

43,585. Had that reference to the election ?—No, I gave him one of my cheques for him to get one himself; you see he put that on to let me know what had become of it.

43,586. Then there was nothing paid to Thomas Page on the 4th of March on account of the election ?—He wrote that cheque for himself.

43,587. We know as a fact that Mr. Thomas Page did take an active part in the election, and I thought it necessary to ask for an explanation ?—It is his handwriting.

43,588. You say that for pocket money you had expended 50*l.*; at times you would pay a sovereign or so to canvassers ?—Yes.

43,589. Can you name any canvasser to whom you have paid a sovereign in that way ?—Yes, I think I can; William Waters was one, I think.

43,590. Is he a voter ?—Yes.

43,591. I do not think we have had him here ?—No, I have given his name in.

43,592. That is one of the names you have given in ?—Yes.

43,593. Can you recollect any other canvasser to whom you paid a sovereign in that way, or money in that way ?—No, unless it was to some of his workmen in the shop; fellow workmen.

43,594. On what account or occasion would you pay the sovereign to any of the canvassers ?—When we have been out of a night, and I have been stopping with them, to amuse the company I would perhaps give one of them a sovereign.

43,595. To expend in the amusement of the company ?—Yes.

43,596. Is that what you mean by being put to the expense of a sovereign upon an average, when you were out amusing the voters at entertainments ?—I do not mean altogether that; for instance, if I was at Redhill or any other pleasant part of the parish, there might be three or four of us would have lunch.

43,597. Then you would pay ?—Yes.

43,598. If you were out of an evening, probably it would be attending one of the houses which were open for the entertainment of the voters ?—Yes.

43,599. And then you would pay ?—I would sometimes.

43,600. Would it be as towards those expenses the pocket money would go ?—Partly.

43,601. And your lunch and so on for which you would have to pay being out ?—Yes.

43,602. But mainly, I suppose, you would put the 50*l.* for the expenses incurred in treating the voters of an evening ?—Yes.

43,603. Now in reference to the payment of the roughs; I think you told us that you paid them yourself ?—Some of them.

43,604. Excepting upon the occasion when you had given a person of the name of Collins 15*l.* to pay his squad ?—The day after the election.

43,605. In what way were those men paid ?—Well, about 5*s.* a day.

43,606. When would they be paid ?—The most respectable would wait perhaps till after the election; others who were strangers would get their money of a morning.

43,607. Would they come to your house at the "Grapes" to be paid ?—I recollect they did once, about a hundred of them.

43,608. Did you pay them then, or were they paid ?—I paid them in squads to get rid of them; I picked out one as a foreman, I gave him something to take his lot away somewhere else.

43,609. That was done just in the same way that you paid Collins for his squad ?—No, I think Collins's were Dorking men, I do not know.

43,610. I understand you would get the man and divide them in squads, and appoint a captain; you would pay to the captain, and they would pay the under men ?—There was no captain.

43,611. Those were the strangers ?—Yes.

43,612. Then those who were known to you, would they be paid by the week, or by the day, or after the election ?—By the day; for about three days.

43,613. About every three days ?—No, about three days they were paid.

43,614. They were not employed only three days before the election ?—No, I employed them to swell the show of hands and shout.

43,615. Now we will just pass from that point for the moment, we may want to refer to it by-and-by; there are two Shepherds here ?—Yes, the same Shepherd you had here.

43,616. Then there are two names ?—Yes; I recollect from an accident the other day that I paid him 9*l.* for two of the railway men.

43,617. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He says he received 5*l.* for himself, and the other 4*l.* 10*s.* was returned by Tilden Barham, and you said when he brought it back, "Oh, keep it for yourself." That only makes it 9*l.* 10*s.*, I have got that down 9*l.* 10*s.* ?—That was not for Tilden Barham.

43,618. He said so?—Yes.

43,619. He received altogether 19*l.*?—From me.

43,620. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For himself?—No; 9*l.* was for two railway men for three weeks pay.

43,621. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who were they?—Burlton was one.

43,622. We have had him?—Yes, I think you have had all.

43,623. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was the 10*l.* for himself?—Yes.

43,624. He only got 5*l.*; what I understand you to say is that he got 10*l.* for himself?—He went somewhere into Berkshire for a voter, he went down to canvass him, and then he went to fetch him up to vote.

43,625. Did you pay him the 10*l.* independently of anything for Tilden Barham?—I paid him 10*l.* altogether for himself and expenses.

43,626. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Plus his expenses?—Including his expenses.

43,627. Now this man William Clark, do you recollect how you paid him?—10*l.* first, and then 5*l.* at a time.

43,628. You did not give him any cheque?—I do think I did.

43,629. Did he send any men to you?—No, he used to come to me and report who he heard were to be got.

43,630. Did he tell you how they were to be got?—Yes.

43,631. In what way?—By paying them.

43,632. At what period of time did you pay him those 5*l.*?—I should think all within three weeks.

43,633. Was there any agreement as to the rate at which he was to be paid?—He wanted 20*l.*

43,634. He wanted 20*l.*, yes?—And then I think the arrangement was so much per week.

43,635. How much a week?—I forget.

43,636. If he wanted only 20*l.*, how did he come to receive 35*l.*?—Because he had 10*l.*, I explained to you, for what he alleged I owed him for the election before.

43,637. On the part of Mr. Gower?—Yes, and I told Mr. Monson that.

43,638. And you told Mr. Monson?—Yes.

43,639. Did you receive from Mr. Monson any authority to pay him?—No; I told him that there were some engagements which I had not fulfilled at the last election, I should have to fulfil them if he had the men.

43,640. Did you mention to him that Clark was one of them?—No.

43,641. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) At the last election of '63 you had been acting for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

43,642. Those claims which were then being made upon you were in reference to the debts of Mr. Gower's election in '63?—Yes.

43,643. Mr. Monson was aware that you acted in '63 for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

43,644. And that those were such debts?—I did not mention any particular case.

43,645. But it was in reference to the election of '63?—Yes.

43,646. That you distinctly told Mr. Monson?—Yes.

43,647. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told him that there would be certain debts which you would have arising from other elections, and you could not have the men unless you paid them for previous occasions?—Quite so.

43,648. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I just want to follow this question: at the time that you told Mr. Monson that you had those liabilities you have stated, which you must pay to get them over to his side, had you then monies of Mr. Monson in your possession?—Yes.

43,649. For the purposes of the election?—Yes.

43,650. And after that did you receive further monies from Mr. Monson?—Yes.

43,651. For the purposes of the election?—Yes.

43,652. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just tell me this, if you please; you kept no account; after the election was over did you give Mr. Monson himself a detailed account of your expenditure?—No.

43,653. Have you ever done so?—No.

43,654. You have not accounted to him in any way whatever for the 1,730*l.* you have received?—No, he has never asked me.

43,655. Then there is just another matter about which I need not detain you long; in 1863 you were for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

43,656. Are you able to tell me how much was paid through your hands on that occasion, '63?—I am only enabled to tell by Mr. Smith having told me that he paid me so much money.

43,657. You can only tell from what Mr. Smith told you you received so much money from him; how much?—Over 100*l.*, I think 130*l.*

43,658. Do you know what your own remuneration was?—I got 75*l.* out of 100*l.*

43,659. You received 130*l.* How do you mean out of 100*l.*?—That was to pay away; it was expressly given to me by Mr. Smith to pay away.

43,660. Now, in addition to that, what did you receive for your own remuneration?—75*l.*, or guineas.

43,661. Do you know how much you did pay away; in fact, had you any account at all?—No; Mr. Smith has I think.

43,662. Who would he get it from?—From me at the time.

43,663. Do you think you gave him an account?—Yes.

43,664. Are you sure?—Yes.

43,665. You told him what it was for?—I told him by word of mouth or by paper.

43,666. Will you look at that list. (*A document was handed to the witness.*) You will see it headed '63, just look at that, I do not want to detain you long about this at present; do you think you paid more?—Yes.

43,667. There are some few sums to add?—Yes. There are some; particularly that I paid away for special constables, between 30*l.* and 40*l.*

43,668. Tell me shortly this, I want to corroborate these things, are you able to tell me whether in the election of 1859 you paid Palmer, Allen, and Tyrrell; do you remember anything about it?—Yes.

43,669. 1*l.*, 2*l.* 10*s.*, and one guinea?—I cannot tell the sums.

43,670. That is what they state?—Yes.

43,671. I must give you an opportunity of contradicting or confirming it. Palmer 1*l.*, John Allen 2*l.* 10*s.*, and Tyrrell one guinea?—Yes.

43,672. Who were you for in 1859?—Mr. Monson.

43,673. What was your fee?—I do not recollect.

43,674. About?—About 100*l.*, I should think.

43,675. Now I want to know how much you paid away in that election of 1859; how much did you receive to pay away in the first instance?—I do not know at all.

43,676. Was it a good large sum?—No.

43,677. Who did you receive the 100*l.* from, who paid you?—Mr. Hart.

43,678. That was your own fee?—Yes.

43,679. Can you tell me how much money you received to pay away?—Mr. Hart can tell you I think.

43,680. Can you tell me what your own fee was when you were engaged in 1858 at the second election, the election at the end of the year, in October?—That would be the first election of Mr. Monson?

43,681. Yes, quite right?—I cannot tell you.

43,582. Can you tell me anything about it; all I know at present is that you paid a man of the name of John Allen 2*l.*?—Yes, all those men; I would give the account to Mr. Hart.

43,683. You do not know what you paid?—I think it will show in the election accounts.

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43,684. It would be in Mr. Hart's accounts?—Yes.

43,685. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) John Lane was one man in '58?—I cannot remember.

43,686. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now in the first election in 1858 were you for Mr. Doulton; that was in Mr. Doulton's election?—No.

43,687. Who were you for then?—Sir Henry Rawlinson.

43,688. Were you one of the agents?—Yes.

43,689. You were agent or sub-agent then I suppose. Who did you receive money from first?—I think we had an account at the bank, and I signed the cheques. Mr. Smith and Mr. Morrison were the joint agents, I was something under them; I do not know what I was.

43,690. Who paid you if you received anything?—Mr. Smith or Mr. Morrison.

43,691. What did you receive for yourself at that election?—Sixty guineas.

43,692. Did you receive money to pay away?—No doubt of it.

43,693. But you do not know how much?—No.

43,694. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) On behalf of Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Yes.

43,695. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Those large sums of money you received from Mr. Monson, 1,730*l.*?—Yes.

43,696. I want to know when you applied for those large sums of money did you state to Mr. Monson what you wanted the monies for?—No.

43,697. And I want to know how it was that Mr. Monson supplied you with those large sums of money, on what account?—On account of the election.

43,698. And how did you expend them?—In any way I thought proper.

43,699. Did you inform Mr. Monson that those monies were being expended for the purchase of votes?—No.

43,700. Or securing the votes?—No.

43,701. Or putting the men on for employment?—I never told him how I was spending the money at all.

43,702. Will you be good enough to tell me when it was you had that interview with Mr. Monson and informed him that there were claims against you due from the previous election and you must have money to secure those voters. I will draw your attention to Clark's case?—I did not tell him I wanted money from him to secure their votes, because I had got money.

43,703. You did tell Mr. Monson that you would require money, or that money would be required, to secure those men, you would have to pay their debts?—Yes.

43,704. I want to know how long before the election it was when you told Mr. Monson that fact?—I cannot tell you.

43,705. Will this call it to your recollection, the application of William Clark to you for the 10*l.*?—No, that does not. I recollect now, there were four men I think I canvassed.

43,706. Does "William Clark," who had claims upon you for the '63 election, call it to your recollection?—There were four men, and I asked them if they would assist me in the election.

43,707. Who?—William Waters was one.

43,708. Let me have the names?—I cannot give you the names. Waters, I think, will give you the names. Greenfield was I think another.

43,709. And another to make the fourth?—Candin. I will not be certain about Candin. They reminded me by saying that it would be all very well, but they had nothing for the last election; I gave them 1*l.* a piece.

43,710. That would be a very small draw upon the balance that you had in hand?—What balance?

43,711. Of Mr. Monson's monies?—Oh, I am telling you shortly; there were only those four or five names I was reminded of at the last election.

43,712. Then will that, in reference to those names, call your attention to the date when you had that conversation with Mr. Monson that you have been speaking of, with reference to discharging the debts of '63?—No, I cannot tell you. I should think it was one day at the "White Hart."

43,713. When you told Mr. Monson that you had to discharge those debts of '63 to secure the men, what did Mr. Monson say to you?—I do not know that he made any reply.

43,714. Did he dissent from your dealing with those votes and paying those debts of '63?—I do not recollect that he did.

43,715. You do not recollect that he did?—No.

43,716. Do you recollect whether he assented?—Well, if he did not tell me not to do it he assented.

43,717. Now I do not exactly understand yet the relations between you and Mr. Monson; why was it that Mr. Monson supplied to you those large sums of money and did not pay them to Mr. Hart?—I suppose he thought I should do it best.

43,718. You see you had voted for Mr. Gower in the previous election of 1863?—Yes.

43,719. When Mr. Wilkinson was a candidate?—Yes.

43,720. And now you were going against Mr. Gower?—Yes.

43,721. There must have been some conversation between you and Mr. Monson before those large sums of money were advanced to you, as to how they should be applied?—I do not think there was, but I expect he knew.

43,722. But surely it could not have been that you went to Mr. Monson and said, "Well, be good enough "to give me a cheque for 500*l.*" I think Mr. Monson would have said, "What are you going to do with "500*l.*"?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Letters must have passed.

43,723. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Letters or conversation?—Conversation. I told him that I wanted more money, and I had it.

43,724. No, he would say, "That was a very large "sum of money I handed over to you, how have you "got rid of all that money," beforehand?—He never did.

43,725. Did Mr. Monson attend the committees?—Yes.

43,726. Did you attend the committees?—Yes.

43,727. When you were in committee was it not a subject-matter of talk and conversation as to how the election was being carried on, and what was being done?—It depended on what sort of a committee it was.

43,728. Were there two sorts of committees?—Three or four sorts.

43,729. Then may I take it, I may understand that there were some secret committees?—I had my room, and I only had those people in there whom I wanted.

43,730. Was Mr. Monson ever present when, I will use that term for the committee, the secret committee were discussing?—No.

43,731. You rather adopt that term of secret committee, you really understand what I mean by it?

43,732. You understand what is meant by secret committee?—I should not have the chairman of the committee in the room, nor the deputy chairman, nor the candidate.

43,733. Not when you were discussing these particular applications of money matters?—Certainly not.

43,734. Were you aware of any money being spent or offered on the other side before you began to pay any away?—I cannot say.

43,735. We had one witness before, named Henry Francis, who made a very great boast that he was dispensing the money to test the purity of the election; I only wish to ask you this, you supplied Henry Francis with that money?—Yes.

43,736. I only want to ask you, do you adopt that

phrase of Francis's, that the money was expended to try the purity of the borough ?—Not at all.

43,737. Then, when you supplied that money to Henry Francis there was no doubt about it, it was for the purpose of bribing; the thing is patent ?—You would not believe me if I said it was not, would you ?

43,738. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The money was to secure votes ?—Yes, of course; it is most undeniable.

43,739. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had an interview with Mr. Monson in November, when you were made his agent; when you went to Burton Hall ?—That was in September.

43,740. When were you made his agent, that is what I want to know ?—Then.

43,741. Had you not any interview with him before you received the first cheque ? I think you had; you would be more likely to have ?—I do not recollect it.

43,742. You either had an interview with him or you wrote to him, one or the other ?—Yes, I had seen him no doubt.

43,743. Now, I will pass over the cheque for the requisition, and come to the cheque in May; you had seen him before you received that first cheque in May ?—Very often.

43,744. I will ask you, was it not arranged between you and him that you should have money unknown to anybody else; unknown to his agent, Mr. Hart, and unknown to anybody else but you and him ?—It was a tacit arrangement.

43,745. It was an arrangement ?—Yes, Mr. Monson understood it very well; there were no words to that effect.

43,746. At that time Mr. Monson had known that you had been engaged in the previous elections ?—Yes, I was with Lord Monson twice.

43,747. From time to time you received these cheques. How was it that the cheque for 500*l.* was made out in the name of Mr. Humphrey, and not you ?—I cannot tell you why.

43,748. I think I could suggest it, I think you can tell me, Mr. Nichols, I mean applying you reason, and judgment, and experience to it; was it not done as a blind ?—Yes, and a very bad one too.

43,749. It was intended, as it were, to prevent the knowledge of so much money passing from your bank; that was the object of it ?—No doubt.

43,750. You said it was a very bad blind, and I do not dispute it; therefore it was not your contrivance ?—No.

43,751. What I meant was that you are more experienced. Who advanced that; Mr. Monson himself, was it not ?—I do not know.

43,752. It came from Mr. Monson to you ?—When I got the cheque it was made payable to Mr. Humphrey.

43,753. So far as you knew, it was a draft of Mr. Monson's himself ?—Yes.

43,754. As between you and him ?—As between him and me.

43,755. At present it rests on the two actors; we have the two actors on the scene. It came from Mr. Monson, you told us that the cheque was made out on Mr. Monson ?—No.

43,756. He must have written to you ?—I had an intimation it was at Mr. Humphrey's office.

43,757. Then of course the cheque was made payable, I suppose, to Mr. Humphrey or order ?—I think so.

43,758. Then Mr. Humphrey's name would be on the back of it ?—I think so.

43,759. Then of course you presented it ? It would be difficult to trace you; do you recollect from whom you had the intimation to go to Mr. Humphrey's office; one would not like to go to a Coroner's office without some intimation ?—I think I had it from Mr. Monson.

43,760. And he told you that you would receive a cheque there ?—I am not certain.

43,761. A cheque or a communication ?—I was to go there; I perfectly understood what it was for.

43,762. What time was that; was it coming close upon the election ?—Yes, on Thursday or Friday, the week before.

43,763. You had told him then that the prospects were rather blank with money; something like that ?—Yes.

43,764. And I believe, I am only testing your recollection, I think you have a very good recollection indeed; I believe some of the cheques were also drawn by Mr. Monson, not in your favour, but "pay "self or bearer ?—Quite right.

43,765. That would be exactly for the same purpose to prevent the tracing of the cheques into your hands ?—Yes.

43,766. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you understand at the time that cheques were drawn in that way, so that they should not be so easily traced ?—I have told you all about it.

43,767. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then I suppose they would not know where you bank, by your paying them into your banker's, because the proper course would be to go and present them at the bank on which they were drawn, where you were a stranger, and pay it into your own bank; that would be the course you would adopt ?—We did not pay it into the bank.

43,768. You would go to London, change the cheque and receive the money, and the bank down here would know nothing about it; you would pay the money as cash into your banker's, so that there would be no trace ?—Yes.

43,769. It is useless after that to ask you whether you kept Mr. Monson acquainted with that course of business between you ?—I told him how I was getting on.

43,770. You were not one of the petitioners against the bribery, were you ?—No.

The witness was informed that if he was required again he would be sent for.

The witness then withdrew.

JAMES NICHOLS's examination continued.

J. Nichols.

43,771. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Nichols, after consideration it appears to us we have another question or two to ask you about your own account. You recollect that you stated that you had received the sum of 1,730*l.* ?—Yes.

43,772. Well, then, as to the way in which you have disposed of that 1,730*l.* I have got your own account before me; the first item in which is that you paid yourself (you have told us why) for the expenses of the requisition, 210*l.* ?—Yes.

43,773. Well, then, the next item is, Toplis 40*l.* Did you pay Toplis 40*l.* ?—Yes, by cheque.

43,774. By cheque ?—I think so.

43,775. The next is Langridge, put down from 180*l.* to 210*l.* ?—Yes.

43,776. According to Langridge's evidence; he says he talked the matter over with you, and that the sum was 180*l.* ?—Yes. When he first talked it over he said that he must have had 200*l.*, or a little over.

43,777. When he talked it over with you ?—Yes.

43,778. Very well ?—And afterwards he told me that he was quite sure the sum was 180*l.*

43,779. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You adopt

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that ?—I do not recollect it so well, though I do not think it was more.

43,780. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have put it down in your account at from 180*l.* to 210*l.*; therefore we must let it stand at the sum of 180*l.*, which he himself fixes ?—Well, he is a very good fellow. I do not think he would say wrong.

43,781. It is not of much importance, but the effect of that will be to leave 30*l.* more for you to account for. Then Francis you say you have paid 60*l.* ?—Yes.

43,782. Is that correct ?—Yes.

43,783. Did you pay Corderoy 80*l.* ?—Yes.

43,784. Did you pay James Apted 80*l.* ?—A little more or less.

43,785. More or less ?—Yes.

43,786. What do you mean by "more or less" ?—It might have been 5*l.* more or 5*l.* less.

43,787. You limit it in that way ?—Well, he does not know, and I do not know.

43,788. Then there is Ireland. Is Ireland dead ?—Yes.

43,789. Ireland, you say, you paid 45*l.* to ?—Yes.

43,790. You paid to Reed 50*l.* ?—Yes.

43,791. You paid to Holdsworth 60*l.* ?—Yes. I think I paid him rather more; I do not know.

43,792. But you have put him down here as receiving 60*l.* from you ?—Yes. I say I paid him rather more; when I reckon some champagne, and one or two things I paid for in the house.

43,793. Moody you say you paid 30*l.* to ?—Yes.

43,794. Wallis you paid 25*l.* to ?—Yes.

43,795. Jordan you say you paid 130*l.* to ?—Yes.

43,796. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Thomas Jordan ?—Yes. I think he said so here.

43,797. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Rose, you say you paid 21*l.* to ?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Ephraim ?

43,798. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Ephraim Rose, Grutchfield, you say you paid 15*l.* ?—Yes.

43,799. To Turner you say you paid 7*l.* 10*s.* ? To Bolster you paid 2*l.* He was an ordinary voter, wasn't he ?—He was a man that came up from Haslemere, I think.

43,800. To Golding 5*l.* ?—Yes.

43,801. To Westlake 4*l.* 10*s.* ?—Yes. He said in his evidence he had 4*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.*

43,802. But you did pay him 4*l.* ?—Yes.

43,803. Barker you say you paid 10*l.* ?—Yes.

43,804. Then I see you have inserted an item for specials; will you explain, "Specials 110*l.*" ?—Yes.

43,805. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that the exact sum ?—Well, it may have been two or three pounds more, or two or three pounds less.

43,806. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then you say you paid to Gilbert 5*l.* ?—Well, he said so here, or else I did not know it.

43,807. And to Fuller 5*l.* ?—Yes.

43,808. You say you paid to Ridge 50*l.* ?—Yes, 50*l.* or 55*l.* I will put it at 50*l.*

43,809. You say you paid to Clark 35*l.* ?—Yes.

43,810. And to Cotton 12*l.* ?—Yes.

43,811. And did you pay to Howell 15*l.* ?—I believe I did.

43,812. Have we had Howell ?—No, I do not think you have.

43,813. Then did you pay to J. Brown 10*l.* ? That is Joseph Brown, isn't it ?—No, James Brown.

43,814. Did you pay James Brown 10*l.* ?—Yes.

43,815. You say you paid to Woodhouse 3*l.* ?—I believe so.

43,816. And you paid to Kenward 5*l.* ?—That is all Kenward had for himself.

43,817. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He had monies to distribute, didn't he ?—Yes; not from me.

43,818. Did James Brown have money to distribute from you ?—Well, he had 5*l.* for himself.

43,819. He was Carruthers' man ?—Yes. He was considered to have 5*l.* for himself.

43,820. He was not a voter ?—No.

43,821. He was distributing money to some of Carruthers' men ?—Yes, I think so.

43,822. Amongst the plasterers, I think ?—I do not know whether they were Carruthers' men, but he was to some men.

43,823. He was working for Carruthers ?—Yes.

43,824. And did he have more money than that to distribute ?—Not from me.

43,825. Do you know whom he got the money from ?—I do not know. I should think that it is likely he got money from Apted.

43,826. From James Apted ?—Yes.

43,827. James Apted got money from you ?—Yes.

43,828. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say you paid Woodman 35*l.* ?—Yes.

43,829. You say Cook 6*l.* 10*s.* ?—I think rather more.

43,830. He said so here. You say you paid Miller 25*l.* ?—Yes.

43,831. I do not think we have had that Miller who received the large amount ?—No, you have had John Miller, of Redhill.

43,832. What is Miller's Christian name ? Is he dead ?—I do not know. I never heard that he was dead.

43,833. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Perhaps you can tell us what his address was at the time of the election. Then we shall find out ?—At the market hall, Redhill.

43,834. You say you paid Peters 7*l.* ?—I rather think I paid him more; but he says he did not have any more.

43,835. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We have no evidence of any money having passed through Miller's hand at all ?—He was sent by Langridge to me. It is a man I know very little about.

43,836. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then would Langridge know what Miller did with the money ?—Yes, I have do doubt he would. Yes, yes.

43,837. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The money he had you paid to Miller yourself ?—Yes.

43,838. Not any portion of it to Langridge ? Well, who sent Ireland to you ?—Ireland ? I think Langridge sent Ireland to me in the first place. He was engaged soon after Christmas in the year 1865.

43,839. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say you paid 7*l.* 10*s.* to some one ?—Yes.

43,840. And you say you paid Shepherd 19*l.* ?—Yes.

43,841. Ten and nine ?—Ten and nine.

43,842. And you say you paid Atkinson 8*l.* ?—Yes.

43,843. And you say you paid Carter and Co. 18*l* ?—Yes.

43,844. You say you paid Alfred Joyes 20*l.* ?—Yes.

43,845. And you say you paid Upton 1*l.*, and that you paid Steer 50*l.* ?—Yes.

43,846. Now, there is a very large item in the end. You charge in your acccount "for refreshments at the "'Grapes' 119*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*" ?—Yes.

43,847. For how long a time was that ?—I think if you call the barman at the "Grapes" he will produce his book and show you.

43,848. His book will show me ?—At all events he will tell you. I do not know.

43,849. Are you able to tell us in his absence over what time that extends ?—From the 29th November.

43,850. When you began to be agent ?—From the 29th November up to very nearly or after the meeting of Parliament this year.

43,851. It would be from the 29th November ?—I think it is, but I won't be certain; but at all events the barman will be able to tell you. This I know nothing about.

43,852. I have read over each particular item in your account. Have you anything more to say about

it?—I expect there are a good many more payments not put down, but I cannot recollect them.

43,853. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That would leave your own receipts from Mr. Monson about 480*l.* Two hundred guineas and a hundred guineas is three hundred, and 119 is 419*l.*, and 50 is 469*l.*

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How much?

(*Mr.* (*Commissioner O'Brien.*) His own would be 469*l.*

43,854. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you know that man Miller?—No; I only knew him by watering the streets.

43,855. Oh, he was a mere man that watered the streets?—He was hall-keeper at the hall, and he was recommended to me by Mr. Langridge, and also by Mr. Richardson. I do not know that he was a voter.

43,856. What Richardson?—George Gibson Richardson.

43,857. In what way was he recommended to you; what for?—To be employed as a very industrious fellow.

43,858. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who recommended him to you?—Langridge and George Gibson Richardson.

43,859. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. Richardson was taking an active part in the election?—Yes; he was deputy chairman of the Redhill district, or chairman. I forget which.

43,860. But what was he to do?—To canvass, or anything of that sort?

43,861. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Richardson introduced Miller to you?—No, he came to me with Mr. Richardson's name, and I saw Mr. Richardson afterwards, and he said, "Oh, yes." He said he was a very decent fellow.

43,862. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then what was he to do?—Get votes.

43,863. Was he to work under Langridge?—He was to work under the Redhill committee.

43,864. Which committee?—The Redhill committee; that is that which was held at Langridge's house.

43,865, Quite so; but Langridge was taking an active part in the management of that, wasn't he?—Well, yes.

43,866. Because you supplied him with some money?—Yes.

43,867. Now, was this money for Miller himself to use, or to be handed over to Langridge to use?—No, not to be handed over to Langridge.

43,868. Now this man Miller was a mere man going about with a watering cart?—He was hall-keeper at the public hall, and he watered the street in the day time.

43,869. He was a person of very small means?—Yes.

43,870. A man who would be receiving his daily wages, and living almost from hand to mouth?—I do not know much about it beyond that Langridge knew him very well, and he was very well known at Redhill.

43,871. Did you give him the whole of the money in one sum, or in different sums?—No, I should think about 5*l.* at a time.

43,872. Did you give him any directions what he was to do with the money?—No; he would take his directions from the Redhill committee.

43,273. Did he account to you in any way for the expenditure of the money?—Not at all.

43,874. Then when he came and wanted 5*l.* you handed it to him without further inquiry?—He said that he wanted more money, and he had spent so much; and he had the money.

43,875. Without further inquiry you handed the money to him?—Yes, having first ascertained that he was a trustworthy man.

43,876. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who introduced Mr. Ireland to you?—Oh, I had known Ireland in the election previously.

43,877. You gave him 45*l.* What voters did he get for that sum?—Well, I think a person of the name of Nash, and some other brickmakers at the bottom of the common.

43,878. What?—Some brickmakers on Earlswood-common.

43,879. What are their names?—I do not know their names.

43,880. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Nash?—Nash is one I know. There are some five or six.

43,881. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many did he get for that sum?—I do not think he brought up more than two.

43,882. That was rather dear?—Well, you see, the time I engaged with him was very early in the year, and then things all altered you know by the death of a certain gentleman.

43,883. 45*l.* is a great deal. I think you will find that he brought up more?—I do not know that he did.

43,884. Nash was one; who was the other?—I do not know at all.

43,885. Because of course you handed him the money, and you looked closely after how it was spent, the results, the fruit?—Yes, as closely as I could.

43,886. You looked after the results, the fruits?—Well, we found a very bad result.

43,887. So it seems. You can give no other information?—No.

43,888. As to what he did?—No. He lives two miles away from here.

43,889. I think you mentioned you were engaged for Mr. Gower in 1863?—Yes.

43,890. You had the money from Mr. Smith that you had then?—Yes.

43,891. Were you paid anything after the election was over, or did you send in any bill after the election was over?—Yes; I sent in a bill for a hundred guineas.

43,892. Was that your own fee?—Yes.

43,893. Or did it include what you had expended? No. I think Mr. Smith found us with the money that we expended.

43,894. You do not know how much?—No; a very little, though, I know.

43,895. That was a very close contest?—Yes.

43,896. Don't you recollect being supplied with money towards the end of the contest, rather freely, to bring in a dozen or so?—No.

43,897. Don't you recollect?—I never did. It was very close. We always thought the election was quite safe on our part.

43,898. The Wilkinson party were bidding very high?—I do not know. I cannot say what they did. I am answerable for what I did myself.

43,899. No, no; but did you find they were pushing you very closely?—Well, it was a very hot contest. I think it was conducted tolerably fair.

43,900. As things go?—Yes.

43,901. You don't recollect how much you got from Mr. Smith, except your own hundred guineas?—I only got seventy-five, I think.

43,902. How was that?—Well, I got fifty at the time, and twenty-five about a year and a half afterwards.

43,903. After the —— ?—After this contest commenced; this last contest.

43,904. Do you mean you got that twenty-five after the last contest commenced?—Yes; I took 10*s.* in the pound.

43,905. Now you mentioned (I only want to know) that you had some money in 1858, when Sir Henry Rawlinson was up?—Yes.

43,906. Who paid you that?—Mr. Smith, or Mr. Morrison.

43,907. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say, with regard to that man Nash, that he was got very early in the election?—No, Ireland.

43,908. But will you be good enough to tell me, if your recollection takes you back so far, tell me when was the first money expended for votes in 1865? How long before the election?—I gave Ireland 10*l.* to assist us with the requisition.

43,909. With the requisition?—Yes.

43,910. That was a portion of the 200 guineas, I

suppose?—Yes. We commenced, I should think, probably in February or March.

43,911. That was in refererence to the getting up a petition to ask Mr. Monson to stand?—Yes.

43,912. Very well; but after the petition and after that requisition. How soon after that requisition did Mr. Monson put out his address?—I cannot tell you.

43,913. You can tell me within weeks?—No, I cannot.

43,914. Was it six weeks, or two months after? You know that was a long time before the election?—Yes; there was a long discussion as to whether we should hold ourselves in readiness, or whether he should issue his address at once, and I think it was a long time afterwards before he issued his address.

43,915. Well, now, was it before or after the address that the first money was paid, you know, for a vote, for canvassing a vote?—Oh, before the address.

43,916. Oh, before the address? I do not mean in reference to the getting up of the requisition.—Oh, then I do not know.

43,917. Can you give any sort of guess how soon after that address to Mr. Monson it was that money was paid to any voter, or promised?—No, unless I could see the address. That would bear its own date, and then probably I might tell you.

43,918. I am afraid I have not got a paper which would give it you. The address was put out on the 21st April 1865?—Yes; then I should suppose we commenced to employ canvassers at once.

43,919. Then directly you began to employ canvassers would you have begun to employ money?—I should, certainly.

43,920. You would, certainly? Then money was given to the canvassers for the purpose of their use, to get votes, if they could, with the money?—Quite so.

43,921. Were you in the election of 1858?—Yes.

43,922. Well, you were asked about that election; but I do not know whether you were asked very fully about it. Did you take an active part in that election?—Very.

43,923. I will ask you, then, one general question. What was the general character of the conduct at that election in reference to money, and treating, and so on?—I think it was, comparatively speaking, pure on both sides; but at last we found that we lost just a few of our voters.

43,924. Which side were you?—Mr. Monson's.

43,925. You were for Mr. Monson. Sir Henry Rawlinson came in?—No; that was in the year 1857.

43,926. No, no, February 1858. February 1858 was the election with Mr. Doulton and Mr. Monson, and Mr. James and Mr. Walters?—Yes

43,927. There were a lot of candidates, I think, then?—Nine, I think.

43,928. Well, that is the election I mean. I want to put one general question to you. You took an active part, no doubt, in that election?—Very.

43,929. For Mr. Wilkinson or Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Sir Henry Rawlinson, against Mr. Wilkinson.

43,930. Will you be kind enough to give us your opinion of that?—Well, I think that Mr. Wilkinson, who went in for the ballot, lost it entirely by bribery on the part of Doulton and Walters. I was engaged for Sir Henry Rawlinson, and he was called the Conservative candidate. And Mr. Cross, Mr. Walters' agent, called on me, to ask me if I had any choice as to who won for the ballot. I told him that I would consider of it and let him know the next night. Then he said, "If you have a choice, will you give "me a list of the persons that you consider are "liberal voters?" I said I would. He called the next night, and I thought that Doulton would be a very much better man to fight than Mr. Wilkinson.

43,931. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) A less formidable man?—Quite so; and I gave Mr. Cross my opinion that we would rather that Mr. Walters or Mr. Doulton won the ballot. That was my own notion I gave him the names of those who I considered Liberal voters, and then he asked me—Mr. Cross asked me—if I would take charge of a purse, and go round and buy up the ballot tickets. I told him no; as agent for Sir Henry Rawlinson, I would not take any part in it. We cared very little who won the ballot, but we would rather not fight Mr. Wilkinson. He then asked me if I could recommend him two or three men that he might engage; and I told him I would rather not have anything to do with it. But the next night was the night before the night on which the tickets were put into the post-office. There were three tickets bearing each the names, separately rather, "Wilkinson," "Doulton," and "Walters," enclosed in an envelope, with a circular stating that the voter was to take them either to the Redhill schoolroom, or to the town hall, Reigate, and deposit them in the box—the ticket for whom he intended to vote. He brought me a list that night of persons to whom these tickets were sent, and asked me if I would assist in securing the return of Mr. Walters. I told him, as I had told him the night before, I could not; but I told him I should like to keep the list; and I looked over the list, and there being some, perhaps a dozen, of my own personal friends who were entrusted with the Liberal franchise at that time, I took care to ask them to give the box to Doulton, and the end of it was that Doulton won the election.

43,932. On the ballot?—On the ballot.

43,933. Then did you know of any money being spent at that election for votes?—I must not tell you that I know; I will tell you as near as I can. I felt—my own conviction was—that whoever won the ballot, there would be a precious row among themselves; that it did not matter to us which won; but on that night there were bills up all over the town, "Doulton has won the ballot;" "Doulton has won "the ballot." And then they went on hiring again those men with the boards, that you have heard so much about. That, I think, was the first time that money was spent in Reigate in a colourable manner, so far as my own conviction went. There were dozens of men walking about.

43,934. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Dozens of voters?—Voters, or voters' sons. They were carrying about boards every day for about six weeks.

43,935. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) They were, in fact, paid on a Friday night, just as if they were receiving their money from any factory?—Yes; and all the excitement before the election commenced lasted for some seven or eight weeks. But I may tell you that Mr. Murphy, the agent to Mr. Doulton, and Mr. Truman, his coadjutor, told me, the night they first came down (I happened to be in at the "Swan," where I usually then went to smoke my pipe), that they had come down to win the election; that they knew all about electioneering, and we knew nothing about it.

43,936. They came down as agents for Mr. Dulton?—Yes.

43,937. And subsequently did act as agents for Mr. Doulton?—Yes; there was Mr. Barton's the solicitor's head clerk.

43,938. Did they say how they were going to win the election?—Yes, they told me how they were going to win the election. They told me they had been going to petition against Lambeth, because they had hired half the public houses in Lambeth; but they knew very well now that you might hire as many public houses as you liked.

43,939. Yes?—And that is what they meant to do in Reigate.

43,940. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is, hiring public houses?—Yes.

43,941. And did they?

43,942. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you find that they did hire the houses?—Yes, there was, I should think they held, very near six meetings of a night in different parts of the borough.

43,943. Each meeting being held at a public house?—Yes, or beer shop. There was a libellous placard issued at that time. They charged me with having done that. If you have got one (I have not got mine here), that would show you what was thought then of Mr. Doulton.

43,944. I do not think we will go into the placard?—Having said that much, I will say that I had nothing to do with the placard.

43,945. Quite so. That you are at perfect liberty to say, but we will not go into the contents of it. Very well; it was pretty nearly the truth expressed in the placard?—So far as I have seen before and since.

43,946. What was the truth?—The truth was, they would go about making speeches, holding about six different meetings at different public houses, with the same audiences, chiefly men who were carrying boards during the day, and went out to enjoy themselves in the evening.

43,947. Then during the election, I suppose, the occupation of these public houses and beer shops was very rife for the purpose of drinking?—Yes. I cannot say then there was any money paid for votes, because he was in such a large minority it would not have suited him.

43,948. According to your knowledge was there any money paid for votes on the part of Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I should say not any.

43,949. Was his election so safe from the promises he had had, and on which he could rely, that he could safely go to the poll without attempting to bribe?—Well, I might say at that time he was perhaps a little more true; he would not like to do that which he has done since.

43,950. Just one general question, and then I have done. Having given that description of the election of 1858, from that time to this, more or less at each election, there has been a system of bribery and of treating, more or less?—Yes.

43,951. That is all I ask you?—Now I will just state one thing more from my own conviction.

43,951.* In 1859 there was a sham election; but we have evidence that there were three voters at least who were paid at that election. Therefore I use the term "less." I find I ought not to have limited myself to just three in 1859. There were several in 1859, but there being but few in 1859 in comparison with other elections, I use the term "more or less."

43,952. (*The Chief Commissioner, to witness.*) What were you going to say?—In justice to those persons who have never taken any money or bribe for their votes, I may say that the result of no election in Reigate has ever been altered by money.

43,953. That is not a fact, neither one fact, nor many facts rolled up into one fact.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is your inference.

43,954. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think you may say with the money you spent?—Yes, and all the facts I have known.

43,955. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) One little bit more as to detail. Can you give me any information as to a man named William Spence. I cannot find out who paid him?—Nobody paid him.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He was paid 17*s.* 6*d.* for coming up from Brighton.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Oh, yes; I know all about him. I have got his evidence.

43,956. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) One question. What did you return to Mr. Hart as your expenditure when he sent for the return?—None.

43,957. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you asked for it?—No.

43,958. Not asked for it?—No.

43,959. You were aware that all expenditure of expenses made at the election should properly be returned through the expense agent to the auditor in the first instance, and then at this last election to the mayor?—Oh, I am quite aware of that.

43,960. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I was going to ask you next, Mr. Hart not having asked you for it, didn't Mr. Hart know that you were working very much during the election, very hard during the election?—Yes.

43,961. He did?—Yes.

43,962. And knew that you had expended monies; perhaps he did not know the amount, but he knew, did he not?—Well, I had better leave that for you to infer.

43,963. I mean he was brought in contact with you very much?—No, he was not brought in contact with me very much.

43,964. I thought he was?—Not so much as might be supposed.

43,965. I really did not wish to suggest anything. I thought he, being the chief conducting agent, and you being——?—Well, I think I was the chief.

43,966. Well, I beg your pardon?—I mean to say,—I will qualify that by saying that I did nearly all the work.

43,967. That is what I want. And Mr. Hart must have been aware of that. Mr. Hart must have been aware of that, mustn't he; that you did the work?—I should think so.

43,968. Of course he must. Well now, what I want to know is, did not Mr. Hart know that you had been working on behalf of Mr. Gower, and also knew that you had been expending money?—He was rather green if he didn't.

43,969. Well, I see nothing green in Reigate except grass. Very well; and then he didn't request of you to send in your account?

43,970. Did he?—No.

43,971. Did you see him after the election, before the two months, before the return to the mayor?—I did not see him any oftener than I could help.

43,972. How was that? Why did you avoid him?—Well, I felt that we had lost the election clearly and cleanly, and that I had nothing to compliment him on, and I am sure he had not me.

43,973. Very well; you know you sent him in a receipt, one receipt for 5*l.*?—Yes, he had sent me in the money first.

43,974. Oh, that is the only money?—No, no, not the only money. There were some little accounts in one cheque, and he asked me whether I would pay them for him.

43,975. That money was nominally for Mr. Francis?—Yes.

43,976. What were the other sums for?—Little sums for carriages.

43,977. How did he become acquainted that you wanted these amounts?—Because he always knew that I would take any trouble off his hands if I could. Where they were large sums Mr. Hart liked to go and pay them himself. Where they were little sums I often went.

43,978. Did he send you any letter asking you to make these disbursements?—No, I think he called with them in his hand.

43,979. Now how long was that after the polling?—I do not know; I should think perhaps six weeks or two months.

43,980. Of course you saw him on the polling day?—Oh, yes.

43,981. And I dare say expressed to him your disappointment that there were not more coming up?—No, we knew that the night before.

TWENTY-NINTH DAY.

J. Nichols.

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43,982. You expressed that to him the night before?—Told him we should lose.

43,983. You told him the promises you had had had not been fulfilled, didn't you?—Yes.

43,984. And told him those who would not fulfil them were great rascals, or something of that kind, didn't you?—That I do not know.

43,985. Oh, yes, you did, indeed. You know as well as possible that you said there was no reliance to be placed upon these men although they had promised?—I had my opinion.

43,986. Didn't you say something of this kind, "There is not the slightest reliance to be placed upon "these men"?—I do not recollect.

43,987. You knew more than anybody else?—I knew as a matter of fact that we had lost.

43,988. That your money had not had the desired effect?—Certainly.

43,989. And you wanted to express that in the best terms to Mr. Hart. I don't mean to say that you told him you had expended so much money, but you intimated it?—I might have expressed myself in somewhat strongish terms. I do sometimes.

43,990. Well, you have not done so here to-day. You have given your evidence properly; but you did say to Mr. Hart that they could not be relied upon?—No.

43,991. I am not suggesting any one. Did you tell him of any particular man?—I do not know. I may have done, but I do not think I did; but you may call a man to my mind, and I will tell you.

43,992. Oh no, I am not suggesting anything, because I do not wish to suggest anything against anybody, but I am calling upon your recollection. Did you remember any particular payment that you had made which produced no result?—No, I do not think I did. I do not think I should tell Mr. Hart so much as that; my desire was that Mr. Hart should not know.

43,993. No, not in a certain sense?—If he likes to say otherwise I have nothing to do with that.

43,994. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is a question about a person voting of the name of Newman; I dare say you know what I am alluding to, about allowing some back rent to the amount of 11*l.*?—I never allowed the back rent.

43,995. John Newman, was it?—John Newman.

43,996. He says you allowed him 14*l.*?—You are mistaken.

43,997. He says, "I engaged with Nichols that I "was to receive 11*l.* in the election that was to take "place.

43,998. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Newnham or Newman?—Newman.

43,999. He says you paid him 11 guineas?

44,000. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) "I owed him "for rent about 11 guineas. I left Mr. Nichols's "house on the 24th June last"?—I gave him credit for the 10 guineas; he owes me more than that a great deal.

44,001. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you given him credit for the 10 guineas?—Yes.

44,002. In reference to his vote?—Yes.

44,003. That was put down in your account?—I think Mr. Hart paid that; that was for carriage hire.

44,004. I should like to know, because I will correct my account against you if that is so?—I do not know.

44,005. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you give a clear explanation in reference to that transaction with Newman?—He had kept a horse and fly and drove for us, and I gave him credit for 10 guineas.

44,006. I may take that down, that you paid him 10 guineas and that you charged that?—Quite so.

44,007. (*Reading.*) "And when I settle with him "I expect to take off the 10 guineas"?—Then there was a man, of the name of Nye, something was said about.

44,008. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He denied the receipt of money?—He did. I lent him 10*l.* before the election.

44,009. Yes, we got that out of him?—Oh, very well.

44,010. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have not put him down in your account?—No.

44,011. Was that a real or a colourable loan?—A real loan. I will tell you what inducement I had. He was a master baker, and asked me to collect some debts, and I found the debts really were not one of them worth trying for ——

44,012. I understand you lent him 10*l.*?—Yes.

44,013. And that 10*l.* you looked to him to pay?—I looked to him; but I am afraid ——

44,014. It is not down in your account here?—No.

44,015. I have not charged you as having advanced the 10*l.*?—No, I only mentioned it as it came out.

44,016. Quite right, but it does not appear by the evidence that you paid him 10*l.* for his vote for the election?—Not at all; it was nothing to do with the election.

44,017. It was merely your forbearance from pressing him, you know?—I will tell you what has happened to him since. He has been obliged to leave his house. My summoning him for that 10*l.* would involve my losing 3*l.* for expenses.

44,018. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were not you acting for Mr. Hart for the county election?—Yes.

44,019. During that election were not you very often thrown into company with Mr. Hart as manager of the county election?—Yes.

44,020. That would be going on at the same time with the borough election?—Yes.

44,021. You told my friend, the serjeant, that you tried to avoid Mr. Hart as much as you could.

44,022. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He meant on that subject?—As soon as the borough election was over we began to talk upon the county, which just suited Mr. Hart, not the borough.

44,423. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) During the time of the county election you avoided speaking to Mr. Hart upon the subject of the borough election?—Yes, we were all, three or four, Conservative gentlemen, and we avoided the subject.

44,024. Although you were with him you avoided talking about it?—Yes, we were a Conservative committee, and could not talk about the borough election.

44,025. There was a man at the "Wheatsheaf"?—We had his house.

44,026. Did you pay him anything in 1863?—I did not pay him; he was paid.

44,027. Do you know how much?—A good lot, though.

44,028. In 1863?—Yes.

44,029. Can you tell me how much?—I dare say he was paid 150*l.*

The witness withdrew.

Mr. P. Hanbury

Mr. Philip Hanbury sworn and examined.

44,030. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you resided long in this borough?—12 years.

44,031. You are a banker in London, residing here?—Yes.

44,032. Have you taken an active part in the elections?—Well, as I have gone on I have taken a more active part, but I will explain by-and-by that I did not take so active a part in the last as I should have done, owing to certain circumstances. If you like me to tell you what they were, I will.

44,033. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Oh, no?—Only you asked me if I had taken an active part, and I wanted to give you some reason for it.

44,034. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Oh, no. In this last election of 1865 you were a chairman of Mr. Monson's committee and voted for him?—Yes.

44,035. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were the chairman?—I was the chairman of the general committee, the chairman over all.

44,036. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who was the deputy chairman?—Mr. George Gibson Richardson.

44,037. Did you canvass with Mr. Monson?—Not then, because he would not give me the opportunity. I only canvassed one day with him. I introduced him in December 1864. I saw some two or three hundred then; it was merely an introduction. He had been out of the neighbourhood many years, and I introduced him. When the time came on he never gave me the opportunity except once.

44,038. Then that introduction in December 1864 would be before the requisition went to him?—No, it was at that time going on, it began in September.

44,039. And had you signed the requisition?—I had.

44,040. Do you know whether there were many names to that requisition?—Yes, I think about 100.

44,041. You say that was the only time, when you introduced Mr. Monson to the borough, that you went and saw so many people?—I only went once, in Wray-park. I called upon all the London gentlemen; it was no good whatever. That was in 1865.

44,042. Were those visits made more particularly to those gentlemen residing in Wray-park?—I took that district.

44,043. In that district there would be the principal inhabitants of the borough?—The gentlemen who are in business in London.

44,044. Gentlemen of property?—Gentlemen of property, a great many of them.

44,045. Did you introduce Mr. Monson at all on that occasion to persons living in the borough?—I had introduced him previously. Mr. Phillips and I introduced him in 1864, but this in 1865 was a canvass. What I did in 1864 was merely to introduce him.

44,046. I was just then speaking of 1864?—In 1864 we introduced Mr. Monson.

44,047. Was that done by going round with him?—Yes, going round with him.

44,048. To as many voters as you could?—In our districts. Mr. Phillips took this part, and I went to Redhill. I went to nearly 200 people.

44,049. Was that 200 voters of all classes?—Of all classes.

44,050. Well, then, the requisition went, and eventually the address was put forward by Mr. Monson in April. Was the day that you canvassed with Mr. Monson before or after the address?—Long after the address. About May, I should say.

44,051. You say it was only upon one occasion that you went?—Only one day.

44,052. Why did not you go oftener?—Because he would not give me an opportunity. He always sent a telegram to say he could not come, or was engaged; he studiously avoided me.

44,053. I suppose Mr. Monson did canvass the borough himself in some way?—With Mr. Richardson. I heard he was every day with Mr. Richardson.

44,054. Then do I gather from your evidence that the chief part of your duty upon the election was to act as chairman of the committee?—Yes, it was my duty to have done so.

44,055. Did you attend the committee?—I did not attend so often as I would have done. If you will allow me an explanation, I will give it. I had reasons for it.

44,056. You may state why you did not attend the committee?—I will just tell you. We had a general meeting of the inhabitants and I was appointed chairman. In a very few days after there was another meeting, and I never knew of it except by chance. I found I had no power of control. Then we met at Langridge's. I saw Mr. Richardson in the chair and I was perfectly ignored, and, if I had followed my own dictates, I should have resigned; but, if I had done so, everybody would have said it was through me that Mr. Monson lost his election. It was a painful position and it made me go to none of the district meetings and to very few of the general meetings.

44,057. Then I may take it, that after that meeting you were merely nominally the chairman, but doing nothing whatever?—I may say that I did not submit to this tamely. I saw Mr. Monson, and told him I should resign. After that I wrote him one letter, which I have in my pocket and can read if you like; I told him he had gone the wrong way. He kept Mr. Nichols' company, and the sweeps in the town, and I was quite sure he was going wrong. I asked him as a favour to give me half an hour's conversation; that was on the 6th of June, and I never got five minutes with him.

44,058. I will ask you one general question. Were you aware at the time that money was being spent in the way in which it has been described?—I knew nothing of it, but suspected it most strongly. I have no instances, and know nothing of it. Not a shilling passed through my hands, but I did suspect it.

44,059. You did suspect it?—Strongly.

44,060. Was that one of the reasons why you wished to see Mr. Monson?—I did not express it so strongly as I might have done.

44,061. I was only going to ask you whether you intimated to Mr. Monson, in any way at all, the suspicion you had that money was being spent in that way?—No, I did not. I had no opportunity of seeing him. I wrote to him, and begged and prayed him to give me half an hour, and I never got it; I never was with him. Mr. Richardson was with him, and I had no opportunity. I wrote him a letter, because he told me he would not allow a shilling to be spent in that way.

44,062. How long before the election was it that he made that observation to you?—About June, I think. My letter was dated about the 26th June 1865. I could not get at him, and so I wrote to him.

44,063. Had you acted in any of the previous elections?—Well, sir, in 1863 I was deputy chairman; Mr. Phillips was the chairman, and I was deputy chairman, for Mr. Gower.

44,064. During the time of that election did you know of any monies being spent in the way in which it has been described and proved in evidence before us in this Inquiry?—I knew nothing of it.

44,065. Were you a constant attendant upon the committee?—I attended some of the meetings in the district of Redhill rather more than at the last election; I have told you I was not at the last. What gave me a strong idea that bribery had been going on was Mr. Gower compromising the petition. Why did not he proceed with it? That was in 1863.

44,066. Then it was not until after the election of 1863, and the withdrawal of Mr. Gower from the petition, that it was suggested to your mind?—It was natural. Why should not he else have gone on with it?

44,067. What part did Mr. Phillips take?—He was chairman. He took a very proper part, that is all I know. I have nothing to say of him more than that.

44,068. Were you in any previous election?—Yes, ever since Hackblock. I was one of the committee, but never attended. I came in by degrees. I was twice for Monson, I mean a committee man. I never used to attend committees hardly, but I used to ride about and get him a vote if I could.

44,069. Then, personally, had you anything to do with regard to money matters at any of the elections?—Not a shilling; none whatever passed through my hands.

44,070. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1865 you introduced Mr. Monson?—1864.

44,071. In 1864 you, in conjunction with one or two more gentlemen, introduced Mr. Monson?—Yes.

44,072. Did you form a party among yourselves; I am not asking for any names?—Oh, I do not mind.

44,073. I do not want them?—Very well, then, I won't give you the names.

TWENTY-NINTH DAY.

Mr. P. Hanbury

24 Sept. 1866.

44,074. Did you form a party amongst yourselves to introduce Mr. Monson ?—A small party; very few.

44,075. How many of you got together to try and bring down Mr. Monson; I only want the number of persons, not the names ?—I will only say about three.

44,076. Then, at last, down he came ?—He came in November.

44,077. And was introduced ?—Yes.

44,078. Now, previous to his coming down had you, or, to your knowledge, had those gentlemen who were associated with you, the two others, agreed to advance any money to meet the expenses of the election ?—Not a shilling.

44,079. I won't ask you whether you did advance any ?—We did not agree to advance.

44,080. Did you put your names down, or agree to what is vulgarly termed "stand" anything towards the election ?—I did not a shilling, and I do not think the others did.

44,081. Are you aware, from what you saw yourself, that anybody else did ?—No, I have not the least knowledge that anybody else did.

44,082. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There were no subscriptions ?—No subscriptions; not to my knowledge.

44,083. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) As the election went on, after Mr. Monson had come down himself, did you ascertain yourself, and those two other gentlemen who were associated with you, that Mr. Monson was not likely to have very abundant funds for election expenses ?—Not at all. I knew that he had friends.

44,084. I mean, did you yourself know it ?—I never went into the subject at all; not a bit.

44,085. That is what I wanted to know. Did you agree to subscribe anything after he came down towards his expenses ?—Not a shilling.

44,086. And did you at any time agree to subscribe anything towards Mr. Monson's election ?—Not a shilling.

44,087. I need not tell you that I ask you in such a way as ought to meet with a very candid answer ?—I am candid.

44,088. Quite so. I mean that I do not expect you will avail yourself of any word ?—Certainly not.

44,089. I take your answer as being the better for that. Now in the previous election of 1863 you had also joined in introducing Mr. Gower, had you not ?—Well, to a certain extent I had.

44,090. Was Mr. Gower's introduction to be traced back to the same three gentlemen who afterwards introduced Mr. Monson ?—Well, there was one gentleman; I won't mention names. One was a man of very great intelligence, and he certainly was engaged in 1863, but in 1865 he took no ostensible part.

44,091. In 1863, after Mr. Gower was brought down here, did you assist in introducing him to the electors ?—I did.

44,092. Much in the same way, I suppose ?—No, I did more for Mr. Monson than I did for Mr. Gower.

44,093. Before he decided on standing, did you agree to contribute something towards his election in 1863 ?—Not a shilling.

44,094. Did you after he commenced ?—Never; not a shilling.

44,095. Before or after ?—Neither before nor after.

44,096. I mean that in the fullest sense ?—Oh yes, in the fullest sense; never at any time in my life.

44,097. I am merely asking at present with reference to 1863 ?—I quite understand what you say; I never did.

44,098. And nothing which could be construed into that ?—Nothing which could be construed into that, to my knowledge.

44,099. Then I do not think I have anything more to ask you ?—I want to make one observation, if you will allow me; I think I ought to do it for my own sake as being chairman. I beg to assure you I had no knowledge of the scheme of nominating Mr. Richardson as a candidate. I never heard of it till I heard Mr. Francis propose him at the nomination.

44,100. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Of course you knew nothing of the reasons ?—Nothing whatever, and I never approved of it. I want to say one thing more, if you are not tired, for my own sake and the public good. I was asked to sign the petition to parliament to turn out Mr. Gower.

44,101. I was just going to ask you upon that subject ?—I had heard a great deal subsequent to our election that our hands were not clean. I said, "Gen-" tlemen, it is too long after, and our hands are very " dirty, I will never do it; I don't think it should be " done, on public grounds." I have just one thing more.

44,102. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Don't be in a hurry ?—I sent to Mr. Hart a list of the voters, and I cast them up and found—it was only the day or two before the election—I found a majority of 58 for Mr. Monson. That 58 majority turned to 197 minority. Says I to myself, "There must be something wrong." They had either deceived me or deceived themselves. How could 58 majority all amongst us turn into 197 minority, if there were not some trickery ?

44,103. That was the night before the election ?—I think it might be two days. I won't pledge myself to whether it was one or two. I think Mr. Richardson has more knowledge about the working of the election than I had, and I think Mr. Phillips had more knowledge than I had of it in 1863; Mr. Richardson in 1865, and Mr. Phillips, my chairman (I have not a word to say against him) in 1863. Then I was talking about corruption; my head was cut open at Doulton's election, and Truman was there leading them on.

44,104. You saw Truman ?—I did not see him throw the stone, but I saw him leading them on. He was saying, "Come on, my lads!"

44,105. You never attended the district meetings in 1865 ?—I never attended the district meetings, I only went to the one at Langridge's; I have told you that I was ignored as chairman.

The witness withdrew.

W. Nash.

William Nash sworn and examined.

44,106. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—A labourer.

44,107. What rent do you pay for the house under which you vote ?—12*l.*

44,108. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—For Mr. Monson.

44,109. What did you get upon the election ?—5*l.*

44,110. From whom ?—From Emery.

44,111. When did he pay you ?—After the election.

44,112. How soon after you voted ?—On the night after; I voted in the day.

44,113. Who told you that you would be paid ? Who told you to go to Emery ?—Langridge; he canvassed me. He told me if I did all I could for Mr. Monson, and attended the nomination and election, I should be paid 5*l.* for my services.

44,114. Did he tell you you should be paid 5*l.* ?—If I did all I could; if I solicited all I could, and attended the nomination and election day, which I did.

44,115. And you were paid 5*l.* ?—Yes.

44,116. How soon before the polling day did he tell you that ?—Several weeks, I should think.

44,117. Did you ever vote before ?—No.

44,118. Was this your first time ?—Yes.

44,119. Did you see many at Langridge's that night ?—No, I did not see very many; Langridge came to me, in fact.

44,120. Do you know anybody else who received the same amount, or a similar amount, as you did at Langridge's ?—No, I did not know anything about it.

44,121. I mean who were working as you were.

You knew other men were working as you were?—I dare say there were some who worked with me.

44,122. Who were they?—Cornish; he was a man who was working the same way as me.

44,123. Any one else?—No, I don't know particularly of any one else.

44,124. But you know you were to work for five or six weeks?—I asked all I knew round about.

44,125. Will you favour me now with the name of one man you asked who voted?—William Brown.

44,126. Anybody else?—Benjamin Brown.

44,127. These two Browns! Everybody claims the Browns?—Everybody that I knew round about.

44,128. Give me anybody but a Brown. Give us another name?—I do not recollect who they all were that I spoke to on the subject now.

44,129. You cannot give me another name? I wish you would?—No, I do not recollect at present.

44,130. Now just think?—I do not recollect any more; not at present.

44,131. But we are not at all indebted to you for Brown; now let us be indebted to you for somebody?—Well, Cornish; everybody round about.

The witness withdrew.

ROBERT RIDGE sworn and examined.

R. Ridge.

44,132. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Ridge?—A carpenter.

44,133. What rent do you pay for your house?—15*l.*

44,134. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Monson.

44,135. Had you voted in 1863?—Yes.

44,136. For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

44,137. We understand you received some money from Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

44,138. When did you receive the money?—Well, I cannot say when; I never kept any dates.

44,139. Perhaps you kept an account of the sums?—No, but I got the total.

44,140. You got the total in your head?—Yes.

44,141. You cannot give me the dates nor the different sums; what was the total?—50*l.*

44,142. How do you know you got that?—From memory; the different sums received from time to time.

44,143. In what sums did you receive it?—10*l.* sometimes, and sometimes 5*l.*, as the case may be.

44,144. Did you receive 10*l.* first?—I cannot say whether 10*l.* or 5*l.* first.

44,145. This is the difficulty I have to understand you. If you have no memory as to the amounts or the manner in which you received the money, how do you hit upon the total of 50*l.*?—By enumerating the amounts as they were received from time to time.

44,146. Tell me how you received them, and then I can understand the enumeration.

44,147. What was the first sum you receved?—I cannot say.

44,148. What was the last sum you received?—That I cannot tell.

44,149. You cannot tell either the first or the last, and yet you say the whole was 50*l.* You might as well say 70*l.*?—No, I cannot, because I did not receive it.

44,150. You might as well say 40*l.* or 30*l.*?—No.

44,151. Why should not you say 30*l.* if you don't know the sums or the way in which you raised them? Why not say 30*l.*? We will take it at that sum. 50*l.* is the half of 100*l.* I suppose that is the reason you take it at 50*l.*?—You may take it at what you like; I think I received 50*l.*

44,152. How did you expend it?—Well, sir, I kept it. I kept the whole of it.

44,153. How was it that you received it from time to time and not all at once?—I had it as it could be spared, I suppose; as I applied for it, I had it from Mr. Nichols.

44,154. What do you mean? I thought this money was given out to be expended?—No; my engagement with Mr. Nichols, when I engaged with him for the 1865 election was, I had worked for him for a good many elections, four or five elections, and never got anything like compensation for loss of time, and when I was applied to by Mr. Nichols for my assistance in 1865, I said I should have nothing further to do with him unless I was paid the amount I thought right.

44,155. All the back sums?—All the back sums.

44,156. Now we will understand it, because this is good. Let us go back a little. How much was owing to you on the 1863 election?—I should think my services were worth 10*l.*

44,157. And how much was owing to you on the 1859 election?—Well, there I worked very hard for about two months, I think; I should say 10*l.* to 15*l.*

44,158. We will say 10*l.* for that; that is 20*l.* How much was owing to you on the 1858 election?—The 1858 election I have just given you.

44,159. You charge nothing for 1859 then?—No.

44,160. You worked for Mr. Gower?—Yes, I did.

44,161. For whom did you work in 1858?—For Mr. Monson; no, I beg your pardon; for Rawlinson. I think it was 1858; I won't be positive as to dates.

44,162. In the early part of 1858 for whom did you vote? There were two elections that year?—I voted for Rawlinson; worked and voted for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

44,163. At both elections?—When he came forward.

44,164. How much did you put them at together?—I charged 10*l.* each.

44,165. Now we will have it. Sir Henry Rawlinson was only up at one of these elections; for whom did you work at the second? It was Wilkinson and Monson. For whom did you vote?—Monson.

44,166. Then when Mr. Nichols came to you you said, "You must pay me for what Mr. Gower owes me, "and what Lord Monson owes me, and what Sir "Henry Rawlinson owes me"?—I had a right to be paid.

44,167. Why did not he pay you the 30*l.* at once?—He did not.

44,168. What did you say to him?—I was glad to get it as I could.

44,169. You told him there was 30*l.* due to you?—I told him I wished to be paid.

44,170. You said there was 30*l.* due to you?—I did not say the exact amount.

44,171. But the next thing would be, after you said you wished to be paid for your former services, he would say "How much?"—I do not know that he did.

44,172. Do you mean to say that he came to you, and you told him you wanted to be paid for former elections, and he did not say "How much?" You are not speaking to lunatics, you know; we are speaking in a reasonable way. Did not he ask you how much?—Well, he might have done so.

44,173. But did not he, Mr. Ridge? Did not he say, "I want your services; you are a man I want; I "cannot do without you; what do you charge?"—He may have said ——

44,174. He did, in fact, did he not?—I dare say.

44,175. And you told him 30*l.*?—Very likely.

44,176. Tell us what occurred?—I will, as near as my memory will serve.

44,177. Did not you say that?—I say I may have said so. I don't recollect that I did.

44,178. How could he have known what you wanted unless you did?—He may have known that I ought to have been paid 10*l.* for each.

44,179. You think he would have known that of his own mind?—Yes, from what we had been talking previously.

44,180. Did you work under him all the time?—Yes.

44,181. Though you worked under him all the time

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he never paid you anything till he got hold of Mr. Monson; that is it?—Yes.

44,182. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were always under Mr. Nichols?—Oh, yes.

44,183. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you and Mr. Nichols settle this sum of 50*l.* together?—Some time in 1865. It was never settled at one time, and we never agreed at all.

44,184. When did you compare notes, if I may say so, having no notes to compare?—I have no notes.

44,185. I know you have not, but when did you talk to him? He said he had all the men up to him. Did not he talk to you?—No.

44,186. Do you mean to say that you and Mr. Nichols did not talk about the amount you received; I mean since the Inquiry began?—I do not know that we have..

44,187. I know that you have, according to Mr. Nichols' own account. Did not he call to your mind, or you call to his mind, the sum you received?—Something about 50*l.*

44,188. When did he do that?—I do not know.

44,189. Yes, you do, indeed. About a fortnight ago, was not it?—I cannot recollect. There was something said.

44,190. I know there was something said, but where was it said; let us get time and place. Where was it said? At the "Grapes"?—Yes.

44,191. In the back room, the little back room?—I don't know anything about the back room or front room, it was spoken of.

44,192. When?—I cannot tell when; about a fortnight or so, as you say.

44,193. Do not adopt my phrase, but it was about a fortnight ago?—Perhaps it was.

44,194. And then he made you put down on paper, did not he?—I never saw paper, nor pen and ink.

44,195. You told him, "Ah, you recollect you gave "me 50*l.*" It is a large figure?—I don't know about a large figure; no larger than others was paid in proportion.

44,196. Had you anything to drink on that occasion?—Not that I know of.

44,197. Now who else could know it?—Well, I can say positively that at that particular time we did not have anything to drink.

44,198. Very well, if you positively say it. I understood you to say you never received anything at a former election?—Not for myself.

44,199. That is what I mean. You never received anythng at a former election; not a farthing?—I think not.

44,200. In 1858 nor 1863 you never received anything?—I received money for the electors.

44,201. I am not speaking of that now, for yourself?—For myself.

44,202. You did not receive anything for yourself either in the election of October 1858, or in that of February 1858?—Not that I know of.

44,203. Now I will take you again to the interview at the "Grapes." Did Mr. Nichols ask you if you knew how much you had received—"Do you recollect how much I paid you?"—No, I do not think he put the question. That is what I thought I had received, from memory.

44,204. Oh, you told him?—Yes.

44,205. You came in to Mr. Nichols and said, "As "you are going to make up your accounts, I think "you paid me 50*l.* altogether." Is that what you said?—Yes.

44,206. How did you know he was going to make up his accounts?—I did not know that he was going to make up his accounts.

44,207. Do not adopt my words. Why did you know?—He had told me that I was going to receive a summons.

44,208. That is what I asked you. It is not a bit of use trying to evade the questions?—I do not want to evade them.

44,209. You told me that he did not ask you any such question?—Well, he told me about that.

44,210. You said, "Let it be 50*l.*," did not you?—I said what I thought I had had.

44,211. Oh, it was he that mentioned 50*l.* first?—No, I said 50*l.*; I thought I had had about 50*l.*

44,212. He did not say, "Not so much"?—He did not say, "Not so much."

44,213. He did not say, "That was about it"?—No, he made no remark. He asked me how much I should think I had had, and I said, "I think I had "50*l.* from my memory."

44,214. Did he say, "That tallies with mine"?—No, he did not say anything.

44,215. Did not he say "How much of that was for the back money," 30*l.* for the back money and 20*l.* for the present?—No, that was understood before I gave him my word that I would join in the 1865 election.

44,216. What do you mean by "joining"?—I mean assisting.

44,217. What did you mean? Did you vote?—Yes.

44,218. Tell me any other vote that you got?—The 50*l.* was not for my single vote; I had been in the habit of working about a great deal in Reigate.

44,219. Tell me one voter you got?—I cannot say I got any one, but I assisted in getting voters.

44,220. Tell me any one that you got?—In Nutley-lane I had been in the habit of working about with carpenters.

44,221. Name me a carpenter whose vote you got?—I cannot tell you any name.

44,222. Of course that is all you received for the election, for aiding Mr. Monson?—Yes.

44,223. Now just recollect. Did you receive any other monies at all?—From Mr. Monson?

44,224. Yes.—I had a cheque from Mr. Hart after the election.

44,225. That is what I asked you?—I am answering you.

44,226. When had you the cheque?—Some time after the election. I do not know the date.

44,227. After the election of 1865?—Yes.

44,228. But I thought you were paid by Mr. Nichols?—So I was, 50*l.*

44,229. But what was the cheque from Mr. Hart for?—I had some private business with Mr. Hart, and he told me he had a cheque for 10*l.* for me for the 1865 election.

44,230. Don't talk about private business. You had been paid 50*l.* by Mr. Nichols; three tens for gentlemen that you had previously had to do with, and 20*l.* on behalf of Mr. Monson. Now you tell me that Mr. Hart told you that he had a cheque for you for 10*l.*?—He paid me.

44,231. What for?—For my services.

44,232. Of course you told him you had received 50*l.*?—Oh, no, I did not say anything to him; not likely.

44,233. Not likely; I agree with you in that; but why did not you as an honest man? Why did you let poor Mr. Hart give you 10*l.* more?—I thought it was no more then I was entitled to, seeing how others were paid.

44,234. Now who were the others that were paid, because I like to know what is passing in your mind?—I suppose you have had it in evidence.

44,235. Tell me what occurred to your mind?—Only such men as Francis and those sort of men; I thought I was worth as much as them.

44,236. Why, Francis did not get 50*l.*, you know, or anything like it. This is 60*l.*; 30*l.* and 20*l.* is 50*l.*, and then 10*l.* more is 60*l.*, for your own vote, and, you say, for services. Just imagine?—Part of it was for previous elections.

44,237. You gave Mr. Hart a receipt, did not you?—I think I did.

44,238. I will read it for you. "Received, the 3rd "of October 1865, of Mr. Thomas Hart, agent for "the election expenses of the Honourable E. Monson "at the late Reigate election, for services rendered "in canvassing at the late Reigate election;" that includes all the services you have done, you know?—Yes.

44,239. Then in addition to that you keep back from him that you had received 50*l.* from Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

44,240. I must go a little farther I am afraid. You cannot tell me the last payment Mr. Nichols made you?—No, I cannot tell you that.

44,241. Neither the first nor the last, nor in what sums he paid you?—They varied. I never had more than 10*l.* at one time from him.

44,242. I do not say you had. Of course it was not paid in cheques; or was it paid, any of it, by cheques?—It may have been.

44,243. But was it?—I do not recollect whether any was paid in cheques, but I think it was all paid in notes and gold.

44,244. Had you to go to a bank to get a cheque changed?—I think not.

44,245. What business are you?—A carpenter.

44,246. Are you a master carpenter?—Yes.

44,247. Where do you carry on your business?—At Godstone.

44,248. Is that some distance?—Seven miles, I dare say.

44,249. And you have a house here?—No, I have not now.

44,250. You had at that time?—Yes.

44,251. Where did you carry on your business then?—I was foreman for Mr. Carruthers.

44,252. Did you pay any of the money you received to any of the men?—In 1863 I did.

44,253. I mean in 1865?—No.

44,254. You cannot tell me what monies Mr. Nichols paid you; or when, or how?—No.

44,255. Was anybody present at any time when he paid you any of the money?—Not that I know of. I think not, but I won't be certain about that.

44,256. Was any human being present at any time when you had portions of this money?—I think not.

44,257. Where did he pay you?—Sometimes at the "Grapes."

44,258. Used you to go to the "Grapes"?—Yes.

44,259. Where did he pay you the first money?—I believe at the "Grapes."

44,260. Don't you know?—No, I cannot tell.

44,261. Where did he pay you the last?—That I could not tell.

44,262. It has passed away entirely from your mind?—Yes.

44,263. You could not say?—I could not say; I never kept any account.

44,264. Did you tell any human being that you had been paid that?—Not at all, till I told you.

44,265. Except Mr. Nichols?—That is all.

44,266. Are you a married man?—Yes.

44,267. That includes your wife, does it, the expression, "any human being"? You never told her?—Perhaps not; I think not.

44,268. Will you give an answer whether you told your wife or not?—No.

44,269. Did you never tell her that you had 50*l.*?—No.

44,270. What did you do with the money?—I employed it in my business.

44,271. Do you mean to say you applied 50*l.* without anybody knowing it?—Yes.

44,272. Now in 1863 you were working with Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

44,273. For whom; for Mr. Gower?—For Mr. Gower.

44,274. How much did you receive from Mr. Nichols on that occasion to pay away?—5*l.*, I think.

44,275. Only 5*l.*?—No.

44,276. To pay away?—To pay away.

44,277. Who did you pay?—Who did I pay? I paid a man of the name of Maynard and another named Fuller.

44,278. You did pay them?—Yes.

44,279. Anything else?—No.

44,280. What else did you do on that election?—Nothing more.

44,281. And for that you charged 10*l.*?—But then I was working in the country at that time. I was working away from home, and I used to come sometimes of an evening and return back again in the night.

44,282. That made no difference, you know. You paid one man named Maynard, and another man named Fuller, and for that you charged 10*l.*?—Yes.

44,283. What Fuller was that?—Richard Fuller, I believe.

44,284. Who gave you the money?—Mr. Nichols.

44,285. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is he still on the register?—I do not know.

44,286. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What is the other man, Maynard?—A bricklayer.

44,287. Did you receive anything for your services on that occasion?—I think not.

44,288. You can recollect?—I do not recollect.

44,289. But you voted for Mr. Gower then?—Yes.

44,290. You voted and worked; you must have received something?—I do not believe I received anything at that election.

44,291. You received something, you know?—I think not.

44,292. You said there was something left due to you; you must have received something?—No; I only had the 5*l.* that I paid away from Mr. Nichols.

44,293. Why did not you ask Mr. Nichols for something?—I did ask him.

44,294. For yourself?—Yes.

44,295. He gave you nothing?—No, he gave me nothing.

44,296. Now in 1858, when you worked for Lord Monson, what money had you had?—I do not recollect at all.

44,297. You told me you wanted 10*l.* for working for him; what did you pay away?—I do not know that I paid any away.

44,298. What did you do?—I worked about with the voters to see how many we could get. I was working with a good many at that time; my daily occupation was such that I was always mixed up with a good many voters.

44,299. You could not help it?—No.

44,300. And you wanted to be paid for what you could not help?—No.

44,301. Upon your own account you could not help working. You were a carpenter and a voter, and you were to be paid for that?—I used all the influence I could.

44,302. What did you get?—I did not get anything. I do not recollect that I got anything for either of those elections.

44,303. You do recollect?—No, I do not.

44,304. What were you to get?—There was no agreement made as to what I was to have.

44,305. But in 1865 you put that down at 10*l.*?—Well, that is what I thought it was worth.

44,306. Exactly. Now in the early part of 1858, when you worked for Sir Henry Rawlinson, did you get anything?—I think not. I do not believe I got anything for any election till 1865.

44,307. What did you do for Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I did as men generally do, go and see if they can secure any votes for the cause they take up.

44,308. You voted for him and canvassed those men you worked with?—Yes.

44,309. And you put that down at 10*l.*?—Yes.

44,310. Did you write to Sir Henry Rawlinson or any of his agents?—No.

44,311. You never made a claim?—No, only to Mr. Nichols.

44,312. Did you ever make a claim to Lord Monson's agent?—No, not to my recollection.

44,313. With regard to Mr. Hart, you say you had some private business with him, and then he told you that he had 10*l.* for you. How did he know that you were engaged? Was your name returned?—I suppose so.

44,314. You knew from Mr. Nichols that he re-

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turned your name to Mr. Hart as a man who had been working for him?—I might have known it.

44,315. Of course you did?—Yes.

44,316. Did Mr. Hart ask you how long you had been working?—No, Mr. Hart did not.

44,317. Mr. Hart took your own statement? How did he know that it was to be 10*l.*?—That is what was returned to him for me, I suppose.

44,318. And I suppose Mr. Nichols told you that he had returned you to Mr. Hart for 10*l.*?—Yes, he did.

44,319. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Just tell me, what were you in 1865, at the time of the election? Were you then foreman for Mr. Carruthers?—No, I had just left.

44,320. How long had you left Mr. Carruthers?—I think I left him in April, April or May.

44,321. Where were you then at the time of the election?—At Godstone.

44,322. Had you bought any business there, or gone into a business?—No, I had not bought any business; I had to make it myself.

44,323. Did you realize any capital before you went into that business?—I had a few pounds, not a great deal.

44,324. May I ask you to what extent you had raised your capital to go into business?—Well, I had a friend that assisted me.

44,325. That lent you money?—Yes.

44,326. Then had you opened an account at the banker's?—No.

44,347. Do you keep books of account for business purposes?—Yes.

44,328. I suppose in making a business at Godstone it was not very large at first?—No, nothing more than what I could do myself.

44,329. Was it anything more than what you would have earned as foreman at Mr. Carruthers?—No, I should think not much at the first beginning.

44,330. And up to the time of the election, I suppose, it had not very much increased?—No.

44,331. What were you receiving as wages at Mr. Carruthers'?—I should think upon an average about 45*s.* to 50*s.* a week.

44,332. You were at Godstone then at the time of the election?—Yes.

44,333. Did you come over to Reigate on purpose to receive this money from Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

44,334. You say that you received the money in sums up to 10*l.*, not beyond?—Not beyond, I do not think.

44,335. Now if you came over purposely to receive those monies from Mr. Nichols, you can surely recollect in what sums you received them?—No, I cannot.

44,336. Over what period of time was it these monies were being paid to you?—Well, I should think from before the election to some time after the election.

44,337. That is a very general answer, but it is not a definite answer?—Well, I should think about six months.

44,338. Over six months that you were receiving these monies?—I should think so; I cannot say as to the time. It might be three or four months.

44,339. Then you must have received some of these monies whilst you were foreman at Mr. Carruthers'?—Yes, I think I did one or two amounts. I think I may have; I won't be positive.

44,340. Now you can tell me, getting it into that very narrow compass, how much you received whilst you were at Mr. Carruthers' before you left. Did you receive any money before you left?—I think I must have done.

44,341. Would you be upon your oath that you did?—No, I could not say that I did; it was either just at the time I was leaving or after I left.

44,342. You were doing no other work when you were here except as under Mr. Carruthers, I suppose, and you were receiving then about 45*s.* a week?—It would average 45*s.* or 50*s.*

44,343. Then if you received more than that during the time you were at Mr. Carruthers, just before you left, you would surely recollect it if it did take place?—Well, perhaps I did not, I cannot say; it was just about the time I was leaving, or before.

44,344. You are coming here to account for a large sum of money; you must do it more distinctly. You must do it without the perhapses; you must do it with certainty?—I could not say whether it was before I left Mr. Carruthers or afterwards.

44,345. If a man is receiving 45*s.* a week, and, making no more than that, is just going to establish a business for himself, and receives 50*l.*, it is a large sum for him. If you want us to believe that you ever received it you must account for it more definitely. When was the first sum paid to you?—I could not say whether it was before I left or after the time, but it was about the time.

44,346. You had your own work to attend to at Godstone?—Yes.

44,347. Did you attend to your own work there, so as to make your connexion in business?—Yes.

44,348. As a carpenter?—Yes.

44,349. And you worked yourself?—Yes.

44,350. Did you get work?—Yes.

44,351. Constant work?—As much as I could do.

44,352. That would employ pretty well all your day; a good long day for work?—Yes, my days, some days. I did not work all the time, because I was going to and fro here.

44,353. To see what you could get from Mr. Nichols?—And to help on the election.

44,354. How far is Godstone from here? Seven miles you say?—About seven miles.

44,355. On the South-eastern railway?—Yes.

44,356. Having drawn that to your attention, that you came over here and left your work, you can tell me when you first began to leave your work at Godstone for the purpose?—About the time that the election first started here I first left my work to come to see after it.

44,357. Did you begin to make work as soon as you got to Godstone?—Yes.

44,358. Were you paid by the day or did you run up your bills by credit?—I run up my bills by credit for so long a time.

44,359. Then you wanted to have some money to start with?—Yes.

44,360. Would that throw out to your recollection when you first received monies?—As I say, it was about April or May, about the time that I left.

44,361. Now, can you recollect the first time that you received money?—No, I cannot; it was either about April or May.

44,362. Did Mr. Nichols ever pay you so large a sum as 10*l.* at one time?—Yes.

44,363. Was it paid in notes or a note?—Sometimes a note or gold.

44,364. Did he ever pay you in a note? Did he ever give you a 10*l.* or 5*l.* note?—He may have.

44,365. Did he?—I beg your pardon, I cannot say.

44,366. If you want me to believe you you must?—I cannot say whether he did or not. Sometimes I had it in gold, sometimes he would give me a note. I believe he gave me a note.

44,367. How often do you believe he gave you a note?—I could not say.

44,368. More than once?—He may have done.

44,369. He may, and he may not, have given you one single penny of that 50*l.*?—Oh, yes.

44,370. You can tell me if he did whether he paid you all in gold or some portion of it in notes?—I think he paid me some portion in notes.

44,371. You think he did?—Yes.

44,372. You believe he did?—I believe he did.

43,373. What did you do with the notes?—Change them for gold, I suppose.

44,374. Where?—That I do not know.

44,375. Tell me where you changed a single note for gold?—That I could not tell you.

44,376. I will take it as a fact that you received

one pay note. Now you must tell me where you changed it?—That is more than I can do.

44,377. Did you receive a note?—I cannot tell whether I did or not, positively.

44,378. When you received a note did you never tell your wife?—No, I never made it my business to tell her. She never asked, and I never told her.

44,379. Does not your wife assist you in making up your books, writing out your bills?—No.

44,380. Did you enter the receipt of the 50*l.* into your business accounts?—No.

44,381. Did you take no account whatever of the entry into your books of the 50*l.*?—No.

44,382. Why not?—I don't know why not. I did not.

44,383. You know you keep up your books. Why did you not make the entry of 50*l.*?—Well, sir, I did not.

44,384. You made no entries in your books?—No.

The witness withdrew.

RIVERS CORNISH sworn and examined.

R. Cornish.

44,385. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A brickmaker.

44,386. What do you pay for your house?—4*s.* 6*d.* a week.

44,387. Who did you vote for at the last election? Mr. Monson.

44,388. Were you on his committee?—No.

44,389. Did you receive anything before you voted?—No.

44,390. Nothing at all?—No.

44,391. Did you receive something after you voted?—Yes, I received 5*l.*

44,392. Who paid you?—Mr. Emery, at the "Prince Albert."

44,393. Do you mean that he paid you at the "Prince Albert"?—Yes, at it.

44,394. Was that your first election?—Yes.

44,395. Who else was at Emery's, do you recollect, at the "Prince Albert," when you were paid the 5*l.*?—I cannot tell. There were several at the same time, but I cannot say whether they were all upon the election suit or not.

44,396. No; but who was paid money when you were there?—Well, I was paid myself; I did not see any other money pass.

44,397. You recollect there was a man named Brown, was there not?—There was a man named Brown, a neighbour of mine, who voted for Mr. Monson; what he received I can't say.

44,398. Was he paid at the same time that you were?—I cannot say. I was there and I saw Mr. Brown there, but he was not there all the time I was.

44,399. Did you see him paid something?—No.

44,400. Who else was there?—A neighbour of mine, named Nash.

44,401. Did you see him?—I saw him, but nothing——

44,402. He has been here, you know, to-day?—Yes, I believe he has.

44,403. Did you see what he got?—I most forget whether Nash and me went in together; I believe we did, both went in at one time.

44,404. He received 5*l.* too; but did you see him paid the 5*l.*?—I cannot say. I do not recollect seeing him paid anything.

44,405. You do not recollect seeing him paid anything?—Not at the time that I was paid.

44,406. Who else was there; tell me if you please. There were Brown and Nash; which Brown was it who was in there?—William Brown.

44,407. What is he?—He terms himself a labouring man.

44,408. Has he been here?—I believe he has.

44,409. And who else was there?—I do not know of any one else, not just at that time. We were all neighbours.

44,410. Who came in afterwards?—I cannot mention any one else at present.

The witness withdrew.

Henry Francis intimated that he wished to make a statement.

HENRY FRANCIS.

H. Francis.

44,411. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have been sworn before. What statement do you want to make?—One thing as regards Mr. Nichols, as to what he stated this morning in his evidence; that was, that in my evidence I said I went to Mr. Nichols about four or five weeks before the election, I told him that there was money offered on the other side; Mr. Nichols this morning contradicted it, and said that I had not.

The Chief Commissioner informed the witness that the matter he had called their attention to was not at all material.

44,412. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Nichols confirms you as to what you had; you said 50*l.*, he thought it was 60*l.*?—There was that thing which I wanted to clear myself of. I told you in my evidence that I went to Mr. Nichols and told him there had been money offered on the other side, and Mr. Nichols told me if that was the case he would petition. I promised Mr. Monson my vote in favour of him, and I understood when Mr. Gower was coming out that Mr. Gower was going to conduct this contest in a pure and honourable manner. There is some mistake in my evidence as to purity, I went round to test the purity; there is some mistake, I may have made the mistake. The explanation is, that was to test the purity of the election; that was my meaning.

44,413. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is what you wanted to say to us?—Yes; because I did tell Mr. Nichols there had been money offered on the other side five weeks before, and I can prove it, I can bring witnesses.

44,414. There is no difficulty at all about that; not the least in the world, there is no difference there. Tell me, if you please, what money you received from Mr. Nichols?—50*l.*, I believe, is all I received from him.

44,415. I see in your evidence, in the first instance you say, "I had a good deal of money, I got it from "Mr. Nichols and spent it; I got 50*l.* from him"?—I said it might be a little more than 50*l.*

44,416. You did not say so in your evidence I am quite sure?—I believe Mr. Serjeant O'Brien read it over to me as such; I said I received 50*l.*, I believe.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He said he received 50*l.*, but my recollection of it is, that he would not be sure.

(*The Witness.*) That is quite right; I said I was not sure it was 50*l.*, it might be a little more or less. In my own opinion I do not believe I had 50*l.* I cannot say that now, it was somewhere thereabouts, it might be a little more or less.

44,417. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In your own opinion you think it was not 50*l.*?—I say I cannot say, not to a certainty.

44,418. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What you said, Mr. Francis, was this, "I may have expended 100*l.* "altogether, but all I got from Mr. Nichols was 50*l.*?"—I dare say it cost me 150*l.* in this election, you do not understand me. All the money I received from Mr. Nichols I believe was 50*l.* or a little over, but I tell you this election has cost me 200*l.* and more than that; not for paying any one in the election.

44,419. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Nichols put you down at 60*l.*?—It may be, perhaps.

44,420. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Nichols has returned you at 60*l.* in his account?—Oh, I am satisfied, then he owes me 10*l.*

Adjourned till 11 o'clock the next morning.

THIRTIETH DAY.

W. Phillips.

25 Sept. 1866.

THIRTIETH DAY.

Tuesday, 25th September 1866.

WILLIAM PHILLIPS sworn and examined.

44,421. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A shipowner.

44,422. Do you reside in your own house?—I do.

44,423. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

44,424. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee at the last election?—I was; my name was on it, but I did not act.

44,425. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) As deputy chairman?—No, I was not deputy chairman.

44,426. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you not act at all?—I acted so far as introducing Mr. Monson to the voters in the first instance, July previously.

44,427. After the candidates had started did you take any part in the election?—No.

44,428. At the end of the year 1864 was it that you assisted in introducing Mr. Monson to the electors?—Yes, I did.

44,429. Can you tell me what time it was in 1864?—I think in November.

44,430. I believe there was a small party consisting of you and some other gentlemen, who first of all joined in bringing forward Mr. Monson?—Yes.

44,431. How many did the party consist of, so far as you can recollect?—There were several; the principal were Mr. Hanbury and Mr. Walters.

44,432. And yourself?—Yes.

44,433. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was he the gentleman who had stood before?—Stephen Walters.

44,434. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Just to clear up any difficulty in the name of Mr. Walters that Mr. Walters who stood in 1858 is now dead?—Yes.

44,435. I knew him very well; I believe it was Ralph Walters?—I do not know.

44,436. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I believe it was you three gentlemen who invited Mr. Monson to come down?—I wrote Mr. Monson only, but in conjunction with them.

44,437. Then I may take it you three?—Yes. Mr. Monson was then in Italy; that was in July previous.

44,438. Was the first overture from you to him or him to you?—From me to him.

44,439. Did you know he was a man who was inclined to come forward at that time by any means at all?—I believe he was.

44,440. You believed then he was?—Yes.

44,441. Are you aware, from your own knowledge, whether this Mr. Monson had taken any part in previous elections for his brother?—I believe he had not, he was quite unknown to the world.

44,442. At last he came down?—I think it was later in the year when he came down.

44,443. Was there a meeting called after he came down here at which he was presented for the purpose of introducing him to Reigate?—Not at that time; I introduced him privately to some of the constituency.

44,444. Your own friends?—Yes, but I was very much out of health at that time; therefore I could not take any active steps.

44,445. Were you present at a meeting subsequently called of the electors, a large meeting I believe?—I believe not.

44,446. Do you know whether there was such a meeting?—I have heard of several meetings being held.

44,447. I mean before the election began?—Yes.

44,448. You were not present?—I think not; I will not say positively, but at that time I did not stir out of doors.

44,449. In introducing him to the notice of your own friends where did you introduce him, at your own house or where?—I drove round to many, and I introduced him to several at my own table.

44,450. Was that before or after he had decided that he would come forward; he had given out that he would come forward?—Before he had publicly given out that he would come forward; but I understood that he would come forward.

44,451. It was the end of November he publicly announced that he would come forward?—I believe it was.

44,452. The 29th, I think. Do you recollect his expressing any difficulty at any of his meetings on the scarcity of money?—I do not know what he said I never recollect his alluding to money, in any shape.

44,453. I mean in your house or out of the house?—I think not; I may say, certainly not.

44,454. Do you remember being present at a meeting (first I will confine the question to your own house), that a committee or a small number of gentlemen would aid him with funds?—Certainly not.

44,455. You do not remember that?—I do not; I am almost sure it did not take place; certainly not in my house or my presence.

44,456. I say in your own house. First of all, do you know of any meeting taking place anywhere at which a small number of gentlemen agreed to give him some assistance with funds?—Certainly not.

44,457. You do not know of that at all?—No, I never heard of it.

44,458. Are you aware of any subscription being made to assist him with funds at an early period of the election?—Certainly not.

44,459. Well, at any period during the late election. I will first confine myself to the time in the winter season, after he engaged himself to be a candidate, and before anything else?—Certainly not.

44,460. But later in the election, or at any time during the election, are you aware of any subscriptions or contribution made to him, or that was to be made, to assist him with funds?—No; assuredly not.

44,461. You understand the question?—From the beginning to the end I am not aware of anything of the kind.

44,462. You understand my questions, Mr. Phillips. I hope it is not necessary to confine them?—No; I should be most happy to say.

44,463. Did you yourself subscribe any funds towards assisting in the election?—Not a single penny.

44,464. You are sure of that?—Yes.

44,465. Did you put your name down to do so?—Certainly not.

44,466. So as to give him as much of your assistance as you could?—I did nothing that would give a colour to anything of the kind.

44,467. I am confining myself to money?—Just so.

44,468. Are you aware of any subscription or contribution being agreed upon at any time when you were prepared to assist him with money?—Certainly not.

44,469. These questions I ask you, Mr. Phillips, in the widest sense?—Yes, I perfectly understand, and I answer you most unreservedly. I am not aware of anything of the kind, or of it ever being mooted.

44,470. It is on that account I will not exhaust you by further questions?—In my presence it was never mooted; I am sure it was not.

44,471. Nor by your consent at all? Now, tell me, did you take any part during the last election in the expenditure of monies on Mr. Monson's account?—Certainly not.

44,472. Not in any way whatever?—Neither directly or indirectly.

44,473. Do you know anything about the expenditure of money on Mr. Monson's side beyond mere rumours?—No, I do not.

44,474. Do you know anything at all of your knowledge?—No.

44,475. Did you canvass in 1865 for him much?—I might have asked my friends, but I never canvassed; in fact, after the committee was formed I took no further interest in the matter.

44,476. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not go out canvassing?—No; I might have asked a friend or so to vote for Mr. Monson, but I took no further interest.

44,477. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You voted for him?—Yes.

44,478. Had you anything to do with the election in any way in bringing forward Mr. Richardson, who was, at the last moment, the third candidate?—I never was more surprised than when that was done.

44,479. You had nothing to do with it?—Certainly not.

44,480. Whether in the conception or carrying out of the scheme?—I was utterly astonished when I saw his name.

44,481. Now, go back, if you please, to 1863; in 1863, I believe, you voted for Mr. Gower?—I did.

44,482. Were you on his committee?—I was the chairman of the committee.

44,483. I believe you had agreed to introduce him to Mr. Richardson much as you afterwards introduced Mr. Monson, somewhat in the same sort of way?—His name was mentioned to me by an old friend with whom he was staying; I had a dinner the following day and invited him to attend, which he did; that was his first introduction.

44,484. That would be much in the same way then?—Yes.

44,485. And as the election advanced in 1863 did you take an active part for Mr. Gower?—A very active part.

44,486. Did you canvass for him?—I did.

44,487. And attended his committees?—Certainly.

44,488. All the way through?—All the way through; not such as were held at a distance, but such as were at the "White Hart." We had several meetings; Mr. Hanbury was deputy chairman, and took Warwick-town and the Redhill part, and I took this portion.

44,489. On the occasion of the election in 1863 what do you know about the expenditure of money on Mr. Gower's behalf?—I saw nothing of it; I thought it was conducted on perfectly pure principles.

44,490. We do not know, so far as you are concerned, that it was not; you knew nothing about it?—No.

44,491. Were you aware at the time of the election that in the course of it money was being expended and going to voters?—I was not; had I been I should never have stopped in it.

44,492. On that occasion were you aware whether there was any contribution made among Mr. Gower's friends towards the expense of his election?—I am not.

44,493. Nor before it?—Not before or after.

44,494. Nor after?—Nor after.

44,495. I put my questions in very general terms, whether you were aware of any contribution or subscription?—I never heard of any.

44,496. Did you yourself before the election advance any money towards it?—I am sure I did not.

44,497. Certainly not?—Certainly not.

44,498. Nor before?—Certainly not.

44,499. Nor did you after the election?—No.

44,500. Did you advance any money to aid him in any way during the election?—Nothing directly or indirectly, in one shape or another.

44,501. Did you put down your name for any subscription, though it may not have been paid for some reason?—Certainly not.

44,502. Are you aware of your own knowledge of any money having been advanced towards the expenses of the election by any of your friends?—I am not.

44,503. Was any application made to you either directly or indirectly for money towards the election?—Not any.

44,504. By any person?—No, except common people coming to ask me for a glass of ale or 6*d.*; but not any on behalf of Mr. Gower.

44,505. I mean, directly or indirectly, in aid of Mr. Gower?—Certainly not.

44,506. In aid of Mr. Gower's pocket I mean?—No, I should have thought very badly of Mr. Gower.

44,507. Is there anything, Mr. Phillips, any evidence of importance (we only want different facts)—is there anything of importance which you wish to communicate with regard to the election of 1863?—No, I think not.

44,508. Is there any fact of importance which you would like to tell us with regard to the last election of 1865. I mean merely facts?—No, I think not.

44,509. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In the course of your canvass was any application made to you at all on the part of any voter?—Not any.

44,510. On the part of any sub-agent?—Not any.

44,511. Then I may take it you were not aware at that time that money was being expended in the way it has been?—I was not aware of it, nor did I believe it till this Commission came forward.

44,512. Which of the sub-agents were you in the habit of seeing most of during the election of 1863?—Mr. Smith was the chief agent.

44,513. No, in 1865?—I did not see any. I had nothing to do with it. I withdrew entirely after the first meeting.

44,514. You knew it was in other hands?—I had nothing to do with it.

44,515. You saw the current was going in other directions?—No, I did not like the company.

44,516. You saw the current was in another direction?—I did.

44,517. From you and Mr. Hanbury?—Yes.

44,518. There was something mentioned about a voter at the back of the park?—What was mentioned? Perhaps that may bring it to my mind.

44,519. It was mentioned in the course of the inquiry here, though it made very little impression on our minds; but do you not recollect it, about giving something to a voter?—I am quite sure I never gave anything to have any influence upon him.

44,520. Are you prepared to say whether you brought to bear any corrupt or undue influence?—I am quite prepared to say so.

44,521. You did not?—Certainly not.

44,522. There was a poor voter at the back of the park; he says his wife had told him that Mr. Phillips had been very kind to him, and that he voted for Mr. Gower?—My wife is generally very kind to all the poor people.

44,523. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. Norman Wilkinson was also kind to them?—I have heard of Mr. Wilkinson being very kind to the people; he was so, very kind.

44,524. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now, which of the sub-agents were you most with in 1863?—After Mr. Smith, the chief agent, with Mr. Nichols.

44,525. He was very active?—Very active.

44,526. He was then acting under Mr. Smith?—Yes, he was so, I believe.

44,527. In 1863 he was assisting Mr. Smith?—Yes, Mr. Smith was then a head agent.

44,528. He was the man you were brought most in communication with?—He was.

44,529. Do you know anything of the petition being brought that year?—Not until after it was presented.

44,530. You knew then that it was presented?—I knew then that it was presented, of course.

THIRTIETH DAY.

W. Phillips.

25 Sept. 1866.

44,531. Are you aware at all of your own knowledge of the terms attending its being brought?—Nothing more than I learnt from Mr. Gower's letter to Mr. Smith.

44,532. You are chairman of the committee, and therefore would be likely to know?—I wrote to him to express my surprise he should inform me of such an arrangement. I wrote that to him as chairman or deputy chairman, and I believe Mr. Hanbury afterwards wrote to the public papers and disavowed anything of the kind.

44,533. You wrote to him expressing your surprise that he should compromise without consulting you?—I think I wrote to him.

44,534. What explanation did you receive from Mr. Gower or Mr. Wilkinson?—I received none from Mr. Wilkinson, and I do not think I received any from Mr. Gower. I think it passed unnoticed. Then Mr. Hanbury and myself took our own steps to set ourselves right with the constituency.

44,535. You cannot give us any information as to the terms leading to the withdrawal of the petition?—I cannot.

44,536. Of course you, not being aware of anything improper, naturally would be surprised?—I was perfectly astonished.

44,537. Had you received any explanation from Mr. Gower?—No.

44,538. Did you receive any explanation from Mr. Smith, the authorized agent?—Not any; I do not think I ever discussed the matter with Mr. Smith.

44,539. I thought from your writing to Mr. Gower that he might call upon you?—I was disgusted with it, and I found I could not keep my temper to speak about it.

44,540. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) My friend has asked you about the elections of 1865 and 1863; had you taken no part in any previous elections?—I had.

44,541. When did you first begin taking part in the elections?—On the last return of Mr. Somers Cox.

44,542. We do not intend going so far back as that, that was a pure election; the next election was Mr. Hackblock's?—That I took a part in; I undertook to propose Sir Henry Rawlinson at the eleventh hour.

44,543. So far as you are aware of, that election was a pure election?—I believe so; most undoubtedly I should say so.

44,544. That to a very considerable extent appears to have been the view of those we have had before us?—Yes, in fact there was no time for corruption; Sir Henry Rawlinson was proposed to the electors some few days only previous to the nomination.

44,545. Then the next election would be the 1858 election, would it not?—Yes.

44,546. The election when Sir Henry Rawlinson was opposed by Mr. Doulton and Mr. Monson?—Yes.

44,547. Did you take part on that occasion?—I did.

44,548. In whose interest?—Sir Henry Rawlinson's.

44,549. And were you a member of his committee?—I was.

44,550. Were you chairman or deputy chairman?—I was not chairman or deputy chairman; but I took a very active part on the committee.

44,551. So far as you know in reference to the election, was any money paid for any votes for Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I believe not.

44,552. Some of those witnesses who have been here and were present at the election have described it as the character of the election?—It was a noisy one.

44,553. Were you sufficiently about the borough to form an opinion of the character of the election?—I was a great deal about the borough.

44,554. They have stated the way in which it was conducted?—Yes. I think on the part of Sir Henry Rawlinson it was conducted most properly and purely. I do not think there is anything wrong.

44,555. I do not wish you to go into a long story about the election, it is a long time ago; but have you seen from time to time the evidence that has been given before us descriptive of the eleetion?—I have.

44,556. As given by the previous witnesses?—Yes.

44,557. I will simply ask you one general question; do you agree with them in the general nature of the description as to the bribing?—Assuming the general tone of the description I should say it was substantially correct; but it was a very riotous election. Our friend Mr. Hanbury had his head broken in going across the market place.

44,558. As he told us yesterday. Now the next election, October 1858, between Mr. Wilkinson and Monson; did you take part in that election?—I did.

44,559. For whom?—For Mr. Monson.

44,560. And were you a member on his committee?—I was.

44,561. Did you take an active part on the committee as occupying the chair or being deputy chairman?—No, I did not; I believe Mr. Searle, the present mayor, did.

44,562. Then the next election in 1859, did you take part in that?—Who were the candidates?

44,563. They would be Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson?—I think the 1858 election must have been Sir Henry Rawlinson's election.

44,564. There were two elections in 1858, one when Sir Henry Rawlinson was returned, and the next when Sir Henry Rawlinson accepted office; then the following election was April 1859, upon Mr. Monson becoming Lord Monson, when Mr. Wilkinson was put up against him. If you recollect Mr. Wilkinson was put up, according to the evidence, without his knowledge and at the eleventh hour to oppose Mr. Monson?—If Mr. Monson became Lord Monson he could not have come.

44,565. But it was his brother?—No, his brother did not come.

44,566. There was an election in 1859?—Then that was Mr. Monson's first election.

44,567. He was returned in October 1858, and the numbers were 225 for Mr. Monson and 210 for Mr. Wilkinson.—Mr. Gower and him again.

44,568. Mr. Monson?—Yes.

44,569. Then followed the election of 1863. Now I will ask you the general question: do you know anything at all of the expenditure of monies from the election of 1858 up to the election of 1863? You have told us all about 1863?—I know nothing about the expenditure of money in any election whatever.

44,570. Or of the contribution of money or of money passing through your hands?—Certainly not.

The witness withdrew.

G. G. Richardson.

GEORGE GIBSON RICHARDSON sworn and examined.

44,571. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you live at Reigate?—I do.

44,572. Did you take an active part at the last election?—Yes.

44,573. On behalf of whom?—On behalf of Mr. Monson.

44,574. Were you the chairman of the committee or deputy chairman?—I was chairman of the committee that was formed for the eastern division of the borough for Redhill, and I believe I was considered deputy chairman of the general committee.

44,575. First as chairman of the Redhill district; where were their meetings held?—The meetings were held at several public houses for the whole of the district.

44,576. Langridge's was one?—Yes, and Topliss.

44,577. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think I can save you trouble by giving the names of the houses. Was there the "Warwick Arms"?—No; there were four or five, but Langridge's and Topliss's were the principal. I think we only went once to Topliss's; Langridge's was the principal.

44,578. What is the sign of Topliss's house?—"The Tower." I think we were only there once.

44,579. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did any money at all pass through your hands on behalf of Mr. Monson?—None whatever, in any shape.

44,580. Were you aware of any contribution or subscription being made on his behalf?—I never even heard a rumour of it.

44,581. Though no money may have passed through your hands, were you aware that any money had been paid at Langridge's or anywhere, or by Langridge?—I never heard of any money being paid to any voters but once during the election; that I did not know, but I felt pretty sure that many who were actively canvassing for us were not giving up their time for nothing.

44,582. Who were those persons, do you recollect?—Mr. Nichols was our principal agent, and I presumed he was paid, of course; and a man named Kenward was very active for us, and a man named Peat, and a man named Thomas Jordan and Corderoy. I do not know, of course, about their being paid, but I knew they were active. There was also James Apted.

44,583. Did you know it from Mr. Monson himself?—No, I did not.

44,584. Then, as far as you are concerned, it is mere matter of inference?—Yes.

44,585. But you say on one occasion?—Yes, in one instance.

44,586. I want that instance?—That was the night before the day of polling, when Mr. Nichols told me he did not think the railway men would poll. I asked him why. I am speaking from memory, and of what took place in a moment of excitement; he said they would not vote unless they had 2*l.* a head.

44,587. Do you recollect whether it was 2*l.* more a head or 2*l.*?—No, 2*l.* a head.

44,588. Where was that communication made?—In the passage of the "White Hart" here in Reigate.

44,589. Was there any one in the committee room?—Nobody was there but Mr. Monson.

44,590. Mr. Monson was there?—Mr. Monson was in the house.

44,591. Did you communicate that to Mr. Monson?—No, I never said a word to him about it.

44,592. Did you tell Mr. Nichols at once not to do it?—No; Mr. Nichols said, "I will not give it them," and I said, "Of course not."

44,593. You did not approve of it, and Mr. Nichols said, "I will not give it them"?—I did not approve of it, and when he said that I replied, "Of course "not."

44,594. Did he come to ask your approbation or permission?—I will not say that; he was very much put out and annoyed.

44,595. You were not aware that at that time they had received 4*l.* 10*s.* a head?—No; he told me they had received 4*l.* 10*s.* a day after. I said, "Good God, "Nichols, you do not say that respectable men like "these first-rate artizans and mechanics will not go "to the poll without receiving money?" He said, "They won't, and what's more, they have had it."

44,596. What took place, anything further?—No. I said, "It is disgraceful to take money, but it is ten "times worse for a man who has got the money not "to keep to his bargain."

44,597. And then you understood, of course, they wanted 2*l.* a head more?—Yes; and I understood they were not going to have it. If I had known the other had been going to be paid I would have set my face against it.

44,598. Had you known at all that Mr. Nichols had received monies apart from Mr. Hart's hands?—No.

44,599. At this time?—No.

44,600. I am only speaking of your knowledge at the time?—No, I did not.

44,601. Had you any reason to know, from your own knowledge, not from inference, where Nichols had obtained this money which he had paid away?—I did not know he had paid any away till that moment.

44,602. Had you any means of knowledge of your own?—No, I never thought of it for a moment, and did not know anything about it. He said the men had had some money, and would not poll unless they had 2*l.* more.

44,603. And then you made use of your expression of surprise that respectable men, first-rate artizans, should want money to poll?—Yes.

44,604. And he said they had already had money?—Yes.

44,605. And you had no knowledge of the source from whence he got it?—No.

44,606. You had been a good deal round canvassing the ground where the railway men were?—Yes.

44,607. Whom you very properly call first-class artizans?—Yes.

44,608. Did you canvass them all yourself?—No, in company with Mr. Monson; canvassed as many as we could see. I could not get to them, they were always away with their engines, or not at home.

44,609. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) They said so; they found Mr. Monson had been there while they were away from home?—Yes; our only chance was to manage to meet them at public houses, we could not get to talk to them at home.

44,610. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you give any of them to understand, either directly or indirectly, that they would be paid for what they did, for loss of time?—The thing was not mentioned in my presence.

44,611. It was not mentioned by you?—Nor by anybody else.

44,612. Was it done by you or with your sanction?—No; we were never a party; it was only Mr. Monson and myself, only us two.

44,613. Are you prepared to give the same answer so as to extend to all you canvassed?—Yes, to every one.

44,614. For loss of time or service?—No, it was never mentioned, in any shape or way,

44,615. We understand it was determined among some persons on the morning of the nomination day you should be proposed as a candidate?—It was determined the evening before.

44,616. Amongst whom, and by whom?—Only by Mr. Monson and myself.

44,617. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The evening before the election?—No, the evening before the nomination.

44,618. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was Mr. Monson the first to suggest it to you, or to ask your permission?—No, I think he had sent up to London to ask advice there, and that was the advice, "that "under the circumstances you had better put up a "third party you can trust, and then we can work "the petition after."

44,619. Some communication had come down from a third party to Mr. Monson; did he communicate that to a third party or to you only?—No, to me only.

44,620. Did you see from whom the communication came?—No.

44,621. You did not know from Mr. Monson himself?—No, but I knew on whose advice he very frequently acted.

44,622. I have a right to ask you this, for it is in evidence that a certain party was cognizant of a certain arrangement; was it from Mr. Humphreys?—Well, I guess it was Mr. Humphrey. I do not say it was him; I know he was consulted very frequently.

44,623. We have it in evidence a 500*l.* cheque was drawn in favour of Mr. Humphrey and paid to Mr. Nichols?—I knew he was advising Mr. Monson.

44,624. And then it was arranged Mr. Richardson

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should be proposed, and in case of an adverse decision you would stand clear; of course you acceded to it?—Yes, in the presence of Mr. Nichols; no one else was there; we had no time to act in committee.

44,625. Had you mentioned it on the morning of the nomination day?—No, I never told anybody; I never opened my mouth about it.

44,626. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is only one question as to 1865 I wish to ask. Had Nichols sent a person named Miller to you by Langridge; he was a man with a water cart?—I think he has been examined.

44,627. Do you recollect the circumstance about Miller being recommended to you by Nichols to be employed?—I remember the man himself speaking to me, and saying he had got no money, and I said, "If "it is employment you want (or) any employment you "want, you had better go to Mr. Nichols."

44,628. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you heard from Mr. Monson himself he had been in communication with Mr. Humphrey in reference to the election?—In reference to the election certainly, but not to that particular point, but generally.

44,629. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In reference to Miller, were you aware at all Mr. Nichols paid him so large a sum as 25*l.*?—No, I did not know it. I did not know he was a voter; I thought he was not.

44,630. You went merely to have yourself put in nomination?—Yes.

44,631. Did you canvass anybody?—For myself, did you mean?

44,632. Yes?—No.

44,633. Is there anything else in regard to the election of 1865, do you think, we ought to know?—Do you mean as to the point you have been asking me upon?

44,634. I have done with you in '65, but is there any particular fact?—You do not want opinions from me.

44,635. No, facts?—Well, as regards my own position, I should not have assented to it unless I had felt it was absolutely impossible Mr. Monson should be returned; but apart from that, I think it was a mistake, and that neither myself or Mr. Monson had any right to take such a step without the sanction of the committee, but we had no time to communicate.

44,636. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You heard from Mr. Monson himself he had been in communication with him on the subject of the election?—Yes.

44,637. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you take an active part in the election of 1863?—No, I did not even vote. I was chairman of Mr. Monson's committee in '58 and '59, and vice-chairman of Mr. Mr. Hackblock's previously.

44,638. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In the general election of 1858, Doulton's, and the subsequent one?—Yes.

44,639. Is there anything you have to name not already mentioned?—Nothing I think that you ought to know. I know it was a very hard fight. On the first election, when Mr. Monson came, it was merely an introducing one; we just picked up a few votes.

44,640. If you should think of or find anything important you will tell us?—Yes.

44,641. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say you were not aware Miller was a voter?—I did not know his name; he was a man with red hair and a water cart

44,642. When you send him to Langridge's did you think he was a voter?—No.

44,643. Was he of that class you would not think would occupy a 10*l.* house?—Yes; I think he would occupy about that. You must know there is a want of a certain description of house; many cannot afford to live in 10*l.* houses, persons who have sometimes 14*s.* or 15*s.* a week, but they cannot get smaller ones, and they let them out in lodgings.

The witness withdrew.

ALFRED BARTLETT recalled and examined.

A. Bartlett.

44,644. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You stated when you were called here before us that you voted in the election of 1865 for Mr. Gower, and you told us that you had received before the election 2*l.* from Mr. Henry Green?—That was wrong.

44,645. I am told you wish to correct that statement?—It was at the latter end of November or the beginning of December.

44,646. Then you received the 2*l.* some time after the election?—It was a long period before.

44,647. It would be after the election. The election was in July 1865?—Yes.

44,648. When did you receive the 2*l.* from Mr. Henry Green?—In the November or the December.

44,649. Afterwards?—Before the election.

44,650. Then, instead of receiving the 2*l.* before, you received it afterwards. Was it before the election?—Yes.

44,651. That was your original statement. You told us when you were here before that you received it before the election?—It was in November or December.

44,652. But just tell me in what way your evidence in the first instance was wrong. What you told me was that before the election came on you received 2*l.* from Mr. Green?—Yes.

44,653. Is that right?—Yes.

44,654. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then tell us what you want to alter. I do not quite understand. Did you receive the 2*l.* with reference to the election of 1863 or the one in 1865?

44,655. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You received it long before the election; that is what you stated before?—I received it from Mr. Green through illness.

44,656. Listen to me. Did you receive the 2*l.* from Mr. Green before the election?—I believe so, sir.

44,657. In November or December; the winter before the election?—I believe so.

44,658. Then it was more than six months before the election?—Yes.

44,659. Why did he pay you the 2*l.*? Answer this question?—I had a very heavy illness in the house at the time, and I believe he gave it to me in charity.

44,660. How did he come to give it to you; I do not understand?—He has been a great friend to me ever since I have been here, and it is not the first that he has given to.

44,661. I understand that; but did he come to call upon you, or did he come to give it to you?—It was given to my wife.

44,662. Was Mr. Wilkinson dead at that time?—I am sure I cannot say.

44,663. Did you see Mr. Green himself about the 2*l.*?—No, I did not.

44,664. Did you never see him about the 2*l.*?—No, I thanked him.

44,665. Then you did see him about it?—When I met him. I am living under him.

44,666. When was it you met him and thanked him?—It was some little time after.

44,667. About?—Well, I should say about three weeks or a month.

44,668. What did you say when you met him?—I told him I was extremely obliged to him for his kind-

ness that he had done, and always has done, and it was a great benefit to me.

44,669. What did he say?—He says, "You are "quite welcome, Bartlett, and anything I can do to "assist you at any time, I will."

44,670. You are a plasterer; had you been working for him?—I have been working for him now, off and on, for this last 14 years.

44,671. Tell me candidly, was anything at all said about the election?—Not one word.

44,672. Then why did you come here?—All he asked me was, at the time he said, "Bartlett, do you "think of voting?"

44,673. When did he say that?—That was just before this last election. I said, "I intend to go for "Mr. Gower," and that is every word that passed between us.

44,674. Why did you in the first instance, when we called you some days ago, tell me that you received 2*l.* from Mr. Green after the election?—I say, sir, now, that I stated that wrong. I did'nt hardly know what I was saying; I was agitated at the time.

44,675. But it came out, you know; you brought it out as having reference to the election?—Yes.

44,676. Now, may it not have been that you received another sum of 2*l.* from Mr. Green?—No, sir. I have never received that sum from him before or since.

44,677. What sum?—2*l.*

44,678. But you told us that the 2*l.* was not the only kindness he conferred upon you?—It has been a few shillings before.

44,679. How was it he gave you the 2*l.* on this occasion, and not a few shillings only?—Because my son has had two paralytic strokes, and I have had to send him to the hospital every fortnight, and it has been a great expense to me.

44,680. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I want to draw your attention to this fact, Bartlett?—I am very sorry that I should have given it wrong, sir.

44,681. When you were examined do you recollect this, that you were asked, "What did you think it "was for?" in reference to the 2*l.*, and you said, "I "received 2*l.* from Mr. Green a month before the "election, and nothing after. He did not say what "it was for, and I was not aware it was for the vote "at the time." Then you were asked, "What did "you think it was for?" and you said, "I did not "know, sir; it was given to me, and I took it." Now, there, you see, you have given great particularity with regard to the receipt of that 2*l.* How came you to make that statement before us on the 15th September?—I cannot think why I should make it.

44,682. You not only state that you received 2*l.* before the election, but you give a most particular description about it?—I cannot tell you how I did so. I did not intend to.

44,683. Let me ask you, was that all pure invention?—It must have been invention; it come out. I am sure I can't think how I said it; it come out.

44,684. You cannot tell why, except that you did say it?—No.

44,685. I want you to explain the discrepancy between your two statements?—I cannot explain why I should say such a thing.

44,686. Then you went on to say, "This was my "first election; I was not canvassed by any one else?" —No, I was not, and there was no one said anything to me about it but Mr. Green, and that was all he asked me. He asked me which way I was going, and I said, "For Mr. Gower."

46,687. Then how came you now to recollect that that 2*l.* was given in November?—After I got home on Monday I sat down and considered with myself, and I have come now on my own account this morning.

44,688. Did you talk it over with your wife?—Yes, and my wife told me. She said, "You says wrong; "it was in November," and I have come now entirely of myself this morning to explain as well as I can. I thought it was no more than right that I should come.

44,689. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you receive the money as a loan in November?—No, I did not, for I never asked Mr. Green for it.

44,690. Did you expect to pay Mr. Green back again?—No, I did not expect to pay it back. He always has been very kind.

44,691. Did you work for him?—Well, I very often do little odd jobs, and don't charge him for them.

44,692. You charge him for your work?—No, not if it is a small one.

44,693. I mean, did you work the 2*l.* out?—I dare say it has been worked out.

44,694. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) But since that time you have always been paid by Mr. Green for the work you have done?—Yes, for any little work that I have done.

44,695. That is not working the 2*l.* out?—No, sir, that is not.

44,696. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now, Bartlett, be cautious, and don't answer in a hurry. Are you quite sure you are right about the time?—Yes.

44,697. Now, we have very good reason for doubting it. You should be told that Mr. Green has returned this 40*s.* as 40*s.* which he has paid away as electioneering money?—He has, sir!

44,698. There, then (*handing a statement of account*), you shall read it.

44,699. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is your name (*pointing*), "Bartlett, 40*s.*," almost the very last name on the list?—I was not aware of it; he never said anything about it.

44,700. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say it was before the election, was it?—Yes.

44,701. Then it was quite right as it stood before?—I cannot understand it.

44,702. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If Mr. Green kept a regular account, and entered the names in the list according to their dates, it would come pretty nearly as you gave it to us at first?—It was received in November.

44,703. Mr. Green has charged Mr. Gower with the 2*l.* which he gave to you, and that he has been paid?—Has he, sir?

The witness withdrew.

RICHARD JORDAN sworn and examined.

R. Jordan.

44,704. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is your business?—I am a butcher.

44,705. A journeyman or master butcher?—Master.

44,706. What rent do you pay for your house?—8*l.*

44,707. Do you have it on lease?—Well, the lease is just out now. That is what I paid this last year. The lease was made 14 years ago.

44,708. It was a lease with the usual covenants for repair, I suppose?—Yes.

44,709. That will probably make it worth more than 10*l.* a year. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Mr. Gower.

44,710. Were you on his committee?—No.

44,711. Did you take any part in working for Mr. Gower?—Not at all.

44,712. Did you receive anything after the election or before?—Nothing whatever.

44,713. At any time?—Not at any time.

44,714. Not from anybody?—Not from any one.

44,715. You voted for Mr. Gower at the last election?—Yes.

44,716. Who did you vote for in 1863?—I had not any vote; this was my first election.

44,717. Have you at any time received any money for or on account of the election?—Not at any time.

44,718. From anybody?—Not from any one.

44,719. Is there any other Richard Jordan on the

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list besides yourself?—I cannot say; I do not know of any one.

44,720. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you of High-street, Reigate?—Yes.

44,721. Did you, as a fact, ever receive the sum of 7*l.* 7*s.*?—No.

44,722. From Mr. Nichols,—Mr. James Nichols?—No.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I have it here (*referring to the list of payments*), "Richard Jordan, "7*l.* 7*s.*"

44,723. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Mr. Nichols said so yesterday. That is the reason why you are called to-day, to give you an opportunity of explaining it. Mr. Nichols said he had paid to Richard Jordan, of High-street, Reigate, the sum of 7*l.* 7*s.*?—It is a mistake.

44,724. Had you ever received 7*l.* 7*s.* from Mr. Nichols?—I never received anything at all from any one.

44,725. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Very likely you did not from any one. That is not the question. It is whether you received it from Mr. Nichols?—No, I did not.

44,726. You say that is not true?—That is not true.

44,727. That you never received 7*l.* 7*s.* on account of any election?—No.

44,728. From Mr. Nichols?—I never have.

44,729. Or from anybody else?—No.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There is a "Jordan, "Richard," I find, in Mead-vale; "house and "garden."

44,730. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) This is Richard Jordan, of High-street, Reigate. Do you know of any other Richard Jordan, of High-street, Reigate, besides yourself?—Not that I know of.

44,731. How long have you lived there?—Two years; just about two years.

44,732. If there were a Richard Jordan, of High-street, Reigate, besides yourself, you would probably know the fact?—Yes, I should think so.

44,733. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you vote at the last election?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Gower. I promised Mr. Gower, and as I intended to vote for him I would not promise anybody else.

44,734. Are you sure you voted in 1865?—Yes, I voted at the last election.

44,735. Did you vote in the Old borough?—I cannot say.

44,736. Where did you vote?—At Reigate; in the town.

44,737. Then you would be of the Old borough?

44,738. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are not on the poll book. It is only Richard Jordan, of Mead-vale; that is all it is on the register?—I lived in Mead-vale.

44,739. Then you are the Richard Jordan of Mead-vale; "house and garden." Did you occupy a house and garden?—Yes, I lived there.

44,740. How long have you left that?—Two years.

44,741. Then the register had not been altered?—No.

44,742. Then you are the Richard Jordan of Mead-vale on the list, but in fact you lived in High-street, Reigate?—Yes.

44,743. The material fact is that you are the person who was in Mead-vale, but now of High-street, and you are the person to whom Mr. Nichols referred?—Yes; he made a mistake.

44,744. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now tell me, Jordan, will you, if you please, did you hear Mr. Nichols state to us that he had paid you seven guineas?—I did not hear him say so. I was in Court the last part of the time, but I did not hear that.

44,745. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I saw you in Court?—Yes, I was here only the last part of the time; about half an hour.

44,746. When were you aware that he did state it?—I was not told so till this morning. It was shown me in the paper, and I said it was quite wrong.

44,747. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just tell me what you were shown this morning?—A man showed me the name of Jordan in the paper, and said my name was mentioned.

44,748. As what?—As having had 7*l.* or seven guineas.

44,749. Seven guineas it was; very well?—I said it was quite wrong; it was quite a mistake, for I never received any money at all.

44,750. You said you had not received any money at all?—Yes.

44,751. Do you recollect before the election of 1865, the last election, having a conversation with Mr. Nichols about the election?—I had not any conversation at all, more than Mr. Nichols might have asked me if I would come his side.

44,752. That is a conversation with Mr. Nichols about the election. Let us go by steps. You did have a conversation with him about the election? What did he say to you?—He asked me if I would go their side and vote for Mr. Monson. I said no, I had promised Mr. Gower, and intended to vote for him, and he said, "Very well."

44,753. Did he ask you to go on Mr. Monson's committee?—No.

44,754. Not at all?—No.

44,755. Was that the only conversation you had with him about the election?—That is all.

44,756. Did he tell you that it would be worth your while to be on Mr. Monson's side?—No.

44,757. Nothing about it?—Nothing about it, because I let it be understood when I told him I was going to do that that I should do so, and he did not ask me any more.

44,758. Do you mean that you did not see him any more about the election?—Not to say anything about the election.

44,759. I mean about the election?—No.

44,760. Did anybody else on Mr. Monson's side have any talk with you about the election before it came on?—Not that I am aware of. Somebody might have said, "Who are you going to vote for?" or something of that sort, nothing more.

44,761. Don't you recollect before the election the sum of 7*l.* or seven guineas being mentioned by somebody?—No.

44,762. Did you never hear of it till you saw it in the paper this morning?—No.

44,753. Did you never hear of any sum being mentioned about you in reference to the election?—No.

44,764. Never in your life?—No.

44,765. Were you surprised at it?—Well, I was; because I knew nothing about it before.

44,766. As soon as you saw it did you go and tell Mr. Nichols that it was all a mistake, and that you never received a farthing?—No, I have not seen Mr. Nichols since, to speak to him.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien requested the witness to remain in Court till Mr. Nichols should arrive, as the imputation was a very serious one.

WILLIAM HOWELL sworn and examined.

44,767. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—A wheelwright.

44,768. What do you occupy here in this town?—A house and garden.

44,769. At what rent?—It is my own.

44,770. One of the freeholds?—No, it is a leasehold.

44,771. What is it rated at?—8*l.* a year.

44,772. That would be very nearly about 11*l.*, you know. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

44,773. Did you receive any money for or on account of your voting at the last election?—No, I received money for my services.

44,774. What were your services?—I had several journeys; to Guildford once, and to Forest Hill twice; and from Reigate to Redhill.

44,775. What were the journeys from Reigate to Redhill for?—To see Mr. Nichols about voters.

44,776. Did you receive anything?—Yes.

44,777. How much?—I dare say I might have received 15*l.* for the whole together. I think somewhere thereabouts.

44,778. Why did you fix upon 15*l.*?—Because that is about the monies I had from Mr. Nichols.

44,779. Did you keep an account of the monies you had from Mr. Nichols?—I kept an account just at that time.

44,780. Where is it?—At home.

44,781. Eh?—I kept an account within myself; I did not put it down.

44,782. This moment you just said that account was at home?—I did not know that I put it down anywhere.

44,783. Then why did you say that you put it down and that the account was at home?—It was a mistake.

44,784. Who paid you?—Mr. Nichols.

44,785. On each occasion?—No.

44,786. Did you receive it all upon one occasion?—No, several times.

44,787. That is the reason why I asked you; did you on each occasion receive the money from Mr. Nichols?—I received three or four; I don't know how much during the election, and a small cheque after the election.

44,788. What was the amount of the cheque?—I cannot say exactly what it was; it was somewhere about 7*l.*; I believe it was, I won't be sure. I won't swear what it was exactly.

44,789. Upon what bank was it drawn?—I do not know.

44,790. What did you do with the cheque?—I changed it at James Barker's here in the town.

44,791. Was it a cheque upon one of the banks in this town?—I believe it was; I won't say.

44,792. How long after the election was that cheque given to you?—A fortnight, I dare say.

44,793. When did you part with it?—The same day as I had it.

44,794. Did you receive any of the other portion of the 15*l.* by cheque?—No.

44,795. Did you receive any of it in bank notes?—No.

44,796. All in cash?—In gold.

44,797. Then how much did you receive before the election?—I cannot say exactly what it was; about 8*l.* I suppose. I cannot say exactly what it was.

44,798. You say you received that cheque shortly after the election?—Yes, I think it was somewhere about 7*l.*, but I won't be sure; I could not swear just what it was.

44,799. Did you send in any account to Mr. Nichols?—No.

44,800. Did you give any receipt for the money?—No.

44,801. Where were you paid the money, at Mr. Nichols's?—In his house.

44,802. At the bar or in one of the rooms?—In one of the rooms.

44,803. Were you alone when you were paid?—Yes, Mr. Nichols and me.

44,804. Quite alone?—Yes.

44,805. Did you secure any voters for your canvass?—Well, I went and tried three or four.

44,806. Did any monies pass through your hands for the voters?—Not any.

44,807. Did you make any promises to the voters?—No.

44,808. What did you do with the voters? Did you refer them to Mr. Nichols, or anybody?—I went to see them, and asked them which way they were going.

44,809. You saw them and, what?—I saw them and treated them, and asked them which way they were going, and some said "Gower," and one or two said "Mr. Monson."

44,810. Was that your usual mode of canvassing? You asked a man for his vote, and you treated him?—When I went to Guildford I had a little refreshment myself, and the man who was with me would have something.

44,811. Who was that you canvassed at Guildford?—John Eldridge.

44,812. He was living out of the borough?—He was at work at Guildford.

44,813. Did his family still occupy a house in the borough?—Yes.

44,814. Did he come back to Reigate to vote?—No.

44,815. He did not vote at all?—No.

44,816. Was anything offered to him to induce him to come to Reigate to vote?—Not a halfpenny.

44,817. That is one place you went to; where else did you go?—I went to Forest Hill to see Thomas Barefoot.

44,818. Did he vote?—He voted for Gower.

44,819. Did you see him?—No, he was at Bristol.

44,820. You did not see him?—No.

44,821. Where else did you go?—I went to Barefoot's a second time.

44,822. Did you see him then?—No.

44,823. Did you ever see him?—No.

44,824. That was three journeys. Did you make any other journeys?—No; I went about to see if I could get a voter or two at Redhill.

44,825. You lived at Redhill?—I lived at Redhill.

44,826. That did not take much time?—I spent my whole time when I was at it.

44,827. Your time of an evening?—No, the whole of the day.

44,828. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

44,829. For whom?—Mr. Wilkinson.

44,830. Did you receive anything at that election?—No.

44,831. Nothing?—No

44,832. Had you received any monies at any of the elections before?—Never in my life.

44,833. This was the first?—The first.

44,834. Were you paid anything by anybody else?—No.

44,835. Did you send in an account at all?—No.

44,836. Not to anybody?—Never in my life, not for any electioneering.

44,837. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you do any more work this time than you had done the election before?—Yes; I never lost any time at the election before this.

44,838. And you did this time?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM WALTERS sworn and examined.

W. Walters

44,839. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A joiner.

44,840. What rent do you pay for your house?—14*l.* 6*s.*

THIRTIETH DAY.

W. Walters.

25 Sept. 1866.

44,841. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

44,842. Did you receive any monies?—Yes.

44,843. How much?—Well, I received 1*l.* at the beginning of the election. That was an old claim for my services rendered at the 1863 election.

44,844. For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

44,845. You voted for Mr. Monson the last election?—Yes.

44,846. And you received money from Mr. Monson for the services you had rendered Mr. Gower in 1863?—I don't know whether it was Mr. Monson's money or not.

44,847. From whom did you receive it?—From Mr. Nichols.

44,848. How much?—1*l.*

44,849. You had engaged to work for Mr. Monson then?—Not then; that was the first commencement of it.

44,850. Did not you know that Mr. Nichols was working for Mr. Monson then?—Well, I might have known Mr. Nichols was.

44,851. Did not you know that Mr. Nichols was working for Mr. Monson then?—I knew he was an agent for Mr. Monson.

44,852. You knew that he was when he paid you the 1*l.*, did not you? What is the use of trying to deny it?—I do not deny it.

44,853. Did not you know that he was?—That was nothing at all to do with it.

44,854. Did not you know he was working for Mr. Monson when he engaged you?—Well, I believe he was. This was a very early part of the business.

44,855. I know it was. What did you receive afterwards?—Well, I received 30*s.* before the election, and 2*l.* afterwards.

44,856. That was 4*l.* 10*s.* altogether?—Yes.

44,857. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) From whom?—From Mr. Nichols.

44,858. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you do for that?—Well, I did the best that lay in my power on behalf of Mr. Monson.

44,859. What did you do?—Well, I canvassed a good many.

44,860. Who did you get to vote?—No one; they wanted money, and I had no power.

44,861. Now, who wanted money; come?—I cannot say who they was.

44,862. You say, "They wanted money;" I ask you who wanted money?—I don't know any individual.

44,863. Who wanted money? You said they wanted money?—I cannot tell. Pretty nigh everybody that you spoke to about it wanted to know what you could do, and I told them I had no power whatever.

44,864. Everybody is nobody; cannot you give me a name?—I cannot; I cannot give you one.

44,865. I ask for a name?—I cannot give you one.

44,866. Then what is the use of talking about "everybody"?—That is the fact.

44,867. Cannot you give me a name, because I do not know any individual in particular?—I cannot; not to speak conscientiously.

44,868. You had voted in 1863?—No; I had no vote in 1863.

44,869. Then you got the 1*l.* for nothing?—I was engaged for Mr. Gower when he came on, canvassing.

44,870. What did you get in 1863?—Well, I got nothing but the 1*l.*, which I received afterwards.

The witness withdrew.

J. Nichols.

JAMES NICHOLS recalled and examined.

44,871. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith*). Yesterday in your evidence, Mr. Nichols, you gave the name of Richard Jordan, to whom you said you had paid 7*l.* 7*s.*?—No, I said nothing of the kind; I denied it. The Chief Commissioner gave me the name as one of the cheques I had drawn, and I said it had nothing at all to do with the election.

44,872. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are right.—I canvassed Richard Jordan, and he told me he had promised Mr. Gower; and after that I never spoke to him again.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think you are right.

44,873. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said, "I "gave Richard Jordan 7*l.* 7*s.*"?—No, I never said it. There was a cheque I was asked about that I had drawn about that time, and my answer was, that it had nothing to do with the election. It was an account for meat. I heard of this, and I was coming to the Court without being sent for, because I heard it was so stated in the newspaper.

44,874. Mr. Ridge was examined yesterday. Now, be cautious how you proceed. Mr. Ridge was examined yesterday, and he told us he received 50*l.* from you; have you any note, any memorandum of any kind, to show how you paid him that 50*l.*?—I think the cover of my cheque book will show; I do not know.

44,875. Is there anything you can refer to, to show that you paid him that 50*l.*, because I tell you at once, if it be true, it is a most disgraceful transaction?—Well, I can only say——

44,876. Now, I tell you that, and I ask you to be cautious how you answer. He also told us, that in the 50*l.* you, having received Mr. Monson's money, 10*l.* was paid for Sir Henry Rawlinson's election, 10*l.* for Lord Monson's election, and 10*l.* for Mr. Gower's election Is that true?—No. I certainly paid him——

44,877. Is that true?—No. It is quite true that he told me he had not been paid at previous elections.

44,878. Is it true that you paid him out of the 50*l.* 10*l.* for Sir Henry Rawlinson's election, 10*l.* for Lord Monson's election, and 10*l.* for Mr. Gower's election?—No.

44,879. Did you purport to pay him out of Mr. Monson's money in your hands any portion for that back debt?—I said that he had never been paid.

44,880. Did you purport out of the 50*l.* to pay him any portion of his back debt?—No, sir.

44,881. You heard a man here just now tell us the same disgraceful tale, that you paid him 1*l.* for what he did for Mr. Gower at the last election. Is that true?—That is true.

44,882. It is true? Let me understand it now. It is true that you, having Mr. Monson's money in your hands, paid out of it what you owed on behalf of Mr. Gower? Is that true?—Yes, sir. I think there were four of them.

44,883. I call it a thoroughly disgraceful thing. There was another man who gave his evidence, and who said that you paid him 35*l.*?—Clark.

44,884. Is it true that you paid him 10*l.* in that way?—Yes.

44,885. For a back debt of Mr. Gower's?—Yes.

44,886. You have no memorandum of any sum of money at all to Ridge?—No. I retained him because he was a most useful man.

44,887. And you gave him 50*l.*?—I think I gave three or four sums.

44,888. Then, all that about the payment of back debts is a fiction on the part of Ridge?—He must have misunderstood me; I have no doubt he said that he had never been paid for the other elections.

44,889. What had Mr. Monson to do with that?—I wanted to secure him.

44,890. You have no memorandum of any kind to show that you paid that sum of money?—If you have, it is most important for you to show any memorandum that you paid Ridge any portion of that 50*l.*?—I think it is very likely I paid him by cheque.

44,891. Can you show me any cheque?—I do not know at all, but this I know, I did do so.

44,892. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you know at the time that Ridge lived at Godstone, seven miles away?—Yes.

44,893. Perhaps you will explain to me what you mean by his being useful to you as a canvasser?—He was foreman for Mr. Carruthers for many years, and generally had the greatest control of the men. He had more influence with the men, and Mr. Carruthers had always very many jobs away from Reigate, building churches at Norwood and other places, and he was generally foreman at one of these jobs away from Reigate.

44,894. But you were using James Brown amongst the men?—No; I was not using him.

44,895. Did you pay James Brown anything?—Yes, I paid him something.

44,896. How much did you pay James Brown?—I think he had 10*l.* James Brown was not employed by me, but paid by me.

44,897. There is another question which I feel bound to ask you.

44,898. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think it right to call your attention for your own sake to a bit of evidence you gave yesterday, in reference to paying back debts, debts of the previous elections. You told us yesterday that you told Mr. Monson himself, that before you set to work you must have money to pay some outstanding debts of 1863?—I did not say quite that. I said——

44,899. You stated those words?—I qualified it by saying that I told Mr. Monson that sometimes I should have to do so.

44,900. That is exactly what I read; therefore I mention that, because it seems to me that if you had already told Mr. Monson it ought to be known, in fairness to you, that Mr. Monson knew it would be necessary in order to secure some men that you should pay back debts of 1863? That is all I have got to say.

44,901. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And that you had Mr. Monson's authority to do so?—I told him that I was going to do so.

44,902. He did not tell you not to?—Quite so.

44,903. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I showed you a cheque yesterday of Jordan's; there it is now, of 7*l.* 7*s.* at this moment I do not quite recollect what you told me?—I told you that that 7*l.* 7*s.* had nothing to do with the election.

44,904. Quite right, you did. I will tell you what is the proof of it, that I not only struck it out in pencil, but purposely avoided putting it down in my note here. Therefore, I think you have explained that.

44,905. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We have the evidence here of Ridge, who states that he received three 10*l.* notes, and I repeat again that it was a most disgraceful transaction that any money should be paid for back debts?—Well, sir, I say again——

44,906. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you, for example, tell Mr. Monson that you paid,—because I will have it out,—that you had ever paid that man the 10*l.*? I mean Clark. Did you ever tell Mr. Monson, or up to this hour does Mr. Monson know, except by reading of it, that you gave Clark 10*l.* on behalf of Mr. Smith?—No, I never gave him any names at all.

44,907. Did you ever tell him that you paid that last man 1*l.*; the man who was not a voter?—No, I say I never gave him the names.

44,908. Did you tell Ridge to send in a bill to Mr. Hart for 10*l.*?—I know that he did so.

44,909. Did not you tell him to send in a bill after you had given him 50*l.*, to send in a bill to Mr. Hart?—I do not know that I told him; he did do so.

44,910. You knew he did so?—Yes.

44,911. You knew that Mr. Hart paid him 10*l.* in addition for services tendered at the election?—Yes.

44,912. Did you tell Mr. Hart that you paid him 50*l.*?—No.

44,913. Did not you mean Mr. Hart to understand that that was the payment for his services at the election?—Yes.

44,914. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then did he do more work than was worth the 10*l.*?—Yes, I thought so.

44,915. Then why not return to Mr. Hart the full amount of his earnings?—Because I had authorized him to get a vote at a place near Godstone station, and the man wanted 20*l.* for his vote.

44,916. Who was that?—Wallis; John Belton Wallis.

44,917. And is he there now?—Yes.

44,918. Was that the reason why you paid so much more money to Mr. Ridge?—I should have paid him that extra.

44,919. Did you know before Mr. Ridge sent in the claim to Mr. Hart for 10*l.* that he was going to send it in?—Yes, I think I did. I am not quite certain; I think so.

44,920. Was it at your suggestion or under your authority that the account was sent in for 10*l.* to Mr. Hart?—No, I think not.

44,921. You knew of it?—I know of it.

44,922. Why did you want him to receive 10*l.* from Mr. Hart in addition to what he had received of yourself?—Because Mr. Hart knew that he had been at work. He had constantly driven from Godstone to Reigate, and attended meetings, and reported about the men, especially about this man named Wallis.

44,923. Then why could not you tell Mr. Hart that you had remunerated him for his services without charging Mr. Monson another 10*l.*?—I never told Mr. Hart that I paid any one.

44,924. I was just going to ask you about that account for refreshments. Mr. Hart advertised, did he not, for all claims to be sent in to him?—Yes.

44,925. And you saw that advertisement?—I knew that there was one. I do not know whether I saw it.

44,926. That those accounts were to be sent in during the course of the month?—Yes.

44,927. Or they would not be paid?—Yes.

44,928. Then why did not you send in the account for refreshments?—Because Mr. Hart would not have paid it. He would not pay a single account where there was any refreshment in it. I always knew that.

44,929. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you know that this man Clark, to whom you paid the back money, had received 10*l.* and kept it?—No.

44,930. From the Gowers?—No.

44,931. That he had received 10*l.* to give to the two Dales, and then put it in his pocket?—I only knew it from his evidence. He never had the money from me.

44,932. I did not ask whether he had the money from you. I asked you whether you did not know it?—I only knew it from his evidence.

44,933. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to ask you one question. Besides all the money you received for expenses of all kinds during the election from Mr. Monson, which you tell us amounted in the whole to 1,730*l.*, you received also some monies from Mr. Hart?—Yes.

44,934. You did not tell us about that. I see you received a sum of 35*l.* from Mr. Hart "For payments made at the Reigate election for messengers and petty disbursements and damage and carriages;" a sum of 35*l.* for that?—Yes.

44,935. Then I suppose I may deduct that sum of 35*l.* from what you call, or at any rate from some portion of, your account; probably from the personal expenses during the election? You told us you thought you ought to be paid 1*l.* a day for expenses you had been at?—Yes.

44,936. I suppose that 35*l.* may go in part to cover that claim, may it not?—That is in Mr. Gower's election, 1863.

THIRTIETH DAY.

J. Nichols.

25 Sept. 1866.

44,937. I beg your pardon?—It was from Mr. Smith I received that.

44,938. I beg your pardon; it was my mistake?—That formed part of the money received from Mr. Smith.

44,939. Now, did you receive at the 1865 election any money in cheques from Mr. Hart in your own name?—Yes.

44,940. How much?—I do not know.

44,941. About?—He once or twice gave me some small sums to pay; some small bills to pay, and he would then very likely write a cheque in one sum to me. I do not know that it is so.

44,942. Can you tell me how much you received altogether from him? Did you receive 50*l.*?—Yes, I should think so; more. I was always paid by Mr. Hart's cheque.

44,943. In different payments or in one?—I think in different payments.

44,944. I mean quite irrespective of your fee, which I know all about?—Yes, quite.

44,945. The payments were by cheques; can you tell me how much more; have you any notion?—No. I have given him receipts for all the money I did receive.

44,946. You would have to give credit for those, of course, in this account?—I do not know that I should.

44,947. Well, I should have thought so. Explain to me how not, because it comes from one source; from one pocket?—I do not think I should give credit for it there.

44,948. In any account between you and Mr. Monson you would be obliged to debit in one sense; he would debit you with the receipt of 50*l.* as against his account?—No, he would have it in his own account that he published.

44,949. You performed certain services for Mr. Monson, and made certain payments for him, for which he paid you, and we know how much he paid you; there is the sum mentioned there?—Yes.

44,950. Besides that 1,730*l.* you received 50*l.* more. Then of course you should add them together, and it will make 1,780*l.*?—No, not so. That would be for other payments. I do not know that there is any payment included there that is in Mr. Hart's account.

44,951. Can you tell me that it is not so?—I cannot say that it is really not so.

44,252. You see it is most important, taking the sum you received from Mr. Hart at 50*l.*; we will take it that; it is very important to show that that sum had reference to matters not mentioned in this account?—Yes.

44,953. How can you show it?—By the accounts which I paid for Mr. Hart.

44,954. By looking at the accounts which you paid for Mr. Hart and which he has vouched for?—Yes.

44,955. Can you mention any single payment you made for which Mr. Hart paid you a portion of that 50*l.*, and which is not contained in this account?—There is John Newman, fly driver.

44,956. He, is here I think (*referring to witness's account*)?—No he is not.

44,957. Did you pay John Newman anything?—10 guineas, I think it was.

44,958. Can you tell me any others?—I do not know whether I paid Robins, a fly driver of Redhill, or not. I may have done so.

44,959. Can you mention anybody else? The reason for asking you is this, that on reference to Mr. Hart's account it may be that I shall not find that those payments were made to persons who were not already charged here, and you won't be here to assist me. I want to give you an opportunity now?—I paid Page; but then I think I only handed a cheque to him.

44,960. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Thomas Page?—Yes.

44,961. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Never mind that?—I do not know there is anything else I can tell you.

43,962. Do you know how much Page's cheque was?—50 guineas.

44,963. That is nothing to do with your account?—I think I paid him that.

44,964. That would be another thing altogether. You see what I mean; the necessity of asking the question now. It is only fair to yourself?—John Nye was one. I recollect that.

44,965. Just one moment, I am anxious to get this correct if I can. The man you spoke of, is his name Newnham, the driver?—No, Newman.

44,966. John Newman says you paid him 10 guineas? Yes.

44,967. Where would that come from?—From Mr. Hart.

44,968. I want to know if you can exhaust the 50*l.*?—I can only give 5*l.*; John Nye.

44,969. John Nye I have taken. I don't think John Nye told us that you had paid him anything?—I think he said he borrowed 10*l.* of me.

44,970. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He was a professional, I think?—Yes.

44,971. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He was charged to the election account?—Yes, 5*l.*

44,972. And what account was the other 5*l.* charged to?—I told you I shall expect to lose that now.

44,973. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you ever told him that you had charged it in the election accounts?—He gave me a receipt for 5*l.*

44,974. When?—After the election.

44,975. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He gave you a receipt as having received 5*l.*?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He denied point blank that he ever received a farthing.

44,976. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 10*l.* had been lent him before. A receipt was given for 5*l.*, which was to strike off 5*l.*, and you were to charge Mr. Monson with the other 5*l.*?—Quite so.

44,977. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You see there are several small sums. You ought to have an opportunity of looking at this; and I gave it to you yesterday. I have an objection to doing so again. Do you know Richard Ellis?—I think I do.

44,978. Richard Ellis said that you paid him 2*l.*?—Yes, that is right.

44,979. Now Richard Ellis is not in that account?—No.

44,980. Where did you get the money to pay Richard Ellis?—From that sum there.

44,981. From where?—From that sum there. From my own pocket, rather, I should say. He called some time after the election, I recollect that now, and he told me he had been working.

44,982. But what I want to understand is, it does not figure in this account?—It ought to.

44,983. And if a great deal more ought to, you would get above 1,800*l.* odd?—I took that into consideration in the 50*l.*

44,984. What 50*l.*?—Pocket money that I had; that is a sum I have not put down anywhere. I did not know till now that I had paid it.

44,985. I do not know that I understand you. What do you mean by the 50*l.*? Do you mean the 50*l.* you took off yesterday as 1*l.* day?—Yes.

44,986. Just look down that account of the small sums; don't be in a hurry about it; you will see two or three small sums there, some of which do not occur in this account, except in the 50*l.* item which you suggested yesterday (*passing the account to witness*). Those are people who say, by their evidence, that they received those monies from you?—Yes. Stephens and Potter, I paid out of my pocket.

44,987. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) They are not in the book?—No.

A note was here handed up to the witness by a person in Court, which the learned Commissioner requested him to pass to them.

44,988. (*The Chief Commissioner, referring to the paper.*) Who is R. T. ? Did you pay him ?—I do not know who it is.

The person in the Court said he was Robert Tugwell, and he assisted Mr. Nichols.

44,989. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have put down the name of Tugwell on the left-hand side in the account ?—Yes.

44,990. For how much ?—3*l.* 10*s.*

44,991. You say here it is 4*l.* 2*s.* Do you recollect whether you paid him ?

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) All these are facts that have been proved.

44,992. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did that 3*l.* 10*s.* come out of ?—I do not know.

44,993. Very well ; then you set those off as far as they go against the 1*l.* a day expenses, and so on ?—Yes.

44,994. Very well. By-and-by I will add them up and see how much they come to ; it may be that they will knock off the 50*l.* ?—Here is Thomas Elliott, 1*l.*

44,995. I can see equally well for myself, because I have only to look at your account and to look at that. I put it into your hand in order that you may have an opportunity of seeing where those small sums came from. I have nothing more to ask you.

The witness withdrew.

RICHARD STEER sworn and examined.

R. Steer.

44,996. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you a voter of the borough ?—Yes.

44,997. What are you, Mr. Steer ?—No trade or profession.

44,998. Do you live in your own house ?—I do.

44,999. What is your house rated at ?—Well, I think the whole of the rate is 37*l.*

45,000. Did you vote at the last election ?—I did.

45,001. For whom ?—For Mr. Monson.

45,002. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

45,003. Did you take an active part in the election ?—Yes, pretty fair.

45,004. You were independent and had plenty of time upon your hands ?—Yes, quite so.

45,005. Did you devote your time to it ?—A great deal of it.

45,006. In what department of the election ?—Well, canvassing, and I assisted in getting up the requisition with Mr. Nichols.

45,007. Did you receive any monies ?—Yes.

45,008. How much ?—20*l.* and 15*l.* My fee was to have been 50*l.* I have not received that amount.

45,009. When did you receive the first monies ?—I can hardly tell you. I received both those sums before the 24th of June, I know.

45,010. From whom ?—From Nichols.

45,011. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You took part with Mr. Nichols in getting up the requisition ?—Yes, I did, and we went through nearly the whole of the canvass together.

45,012. I am dealing first with the requisition. Did you receive any monies from Mr. Nichols before the requisition went up ?—Oh dear no.

45,013. When did you first receive money from him ?—I should think it was either the latter end of May or very early in June.

45,014. After Mr. Monson's address came out ?—Yes, I should imagine so. I do not remember the date of the address at all.

45,015. Was any arrangement made between you and Mr. Nichols as to the precise sum you were to receive ?—Yes.

45,016. You say that was 50*l.* ?—Yes, for my services in canvassing, and so on.

45,017. Was 30*l.* the first sum you received ?—No, 20*l.*

45,018. Then, did you receive other payments, in instalments ?—No, 15*l.* afterwards.

45,019. Were those monies paid by cheque ?—One ; the 20*l.* was, I am certain ; but whether the 15*l.* was I am not quite certain. I should almost fancy both sums were paid in cheques.

45,020. Are you the only Richard Steer who was on the register, or the only person of that name ?—The only one.

45,021. You had no brother ?—No ; there are two other Steers, but not Richard Steers.

45,022. Then, before the 24th of June you had received that 35*l.* ?—Yes.

45,023. And you have received nothing since ?—Nothing since.

45,024. Have you applied to Mr. Nichols for the remainder ?—No, I have not applied.

45,025. If you were to receive 50*l.*, why have you not applied ?—Simply, because I know Mr. Nichols so well, and he will hand it to me as soon as he has it. I have no other reason for not applying for it.

45,026. Did any money pass through your hands to pay away to the voters ?—No, not a farthing.

45,027. Did you know of money being paid away to the voters ?—No ; of my own knowledge, not.

45,028. Did you ever at any time in your canvassing make overtures for payment of money ?—Decidedly not.

45,029. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I thought, Mr. Steer, you were a voter yourself ? — I am a voter.

45,030. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Payment of money in any possible shape or way ?—In no shape, or form, or manner in which possibly you could devise money. I have had nothing to do with it, nothing whatever ; it is a thing I would not meddle with.

45,031. Now, can you tell me how much time you devoted to canvassing ?—Well, I should think the greater part of almost every day.

45,032. Over what period of time ?—I should think from the first address of Mr. Monson.

45,033. That would be in April, I think ?—In April I think it was ; it was either March or April.

45,034. April 21st ?—That probably is the date.

45,035. Did you vote in 1863 ?—I did.

45,036. For whom ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

45,037. Were you on his committee ?—Yes.

45,038. Did you take an active part for him ?—Yes, pretty fair ; not so active as I did in this by a great deal.

45,039. Were you at that time retired and living quite independent ? — Oh, yes, I never was in business.

45,040. Were you living perfectly independent, as you were in 1865 ?—Yes.

45,041. Did any monies come into your hands upon that election ?—None whatever.

45,042. Either for canvassing, or —— ?—Oh ! I beg your pardon. Yes, my fee was 15 guineas for canvassing.

45,043. Who paid that ? — Mr. James ; the day after the election he sent for me.

45,044. Did you deliver a bill for it ?—Oh, no.

45,045. Or give a receipt ? — Oh, no ; nothing whatever.

45,046. Do you know, as a fact, whether Mr. James returned your name as one of the canvassers ?—I did not look after it ; I do not know at all.

45,047. Do you know whether your name is returned in Mr. Hart's list ?—I do not know ; I should almost fancy not. I was with Mr. Nichols ; I had nothing whatever to do with Mr. Hart.

45,048. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) May I take it that it was not in his list ; I do not know ; I have not even seen Mr. Hart's list. I do not know whether it is there or not.

45,049. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You cannot say one way or the other ?—No. I should almost fancy it was not there.

45,050. Did you give Mr. Nichols a receipt for that 35*l.* ?—No.

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45,051. I am alluding to the payment in 1865?—Yes, in 1865.

45,052. No receipt?—No receipt at all.

45,053. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I see you are not returned as a canvasser?—I should fancy not. My arrangement was with Mr. Nichols, when the requisition was being got up, or almost before it.

45,054. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was 15*l.* the only sum that came into your hands in 1863?—The only sum. At least, there was 1*l.* I do not know whether it was from Mr. Langridge or whether it was from Joyes. At Earlswood-common there was a meeting, and one of those two asked me to pay 1*l.* at some beer shop, which 1*l.* he gave to me, and I handed it over to the landlord.

45,455. That was in 1863?—Yes, that is all.

45,056. Had you acted in previous elections?—No.

45,057. Was 1863 your first?—My first.

45,058. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understood you to say that you did not know of any money paid to a voter. You do not mean to exclude yourself?—No money paid to a voter?

45,059. That is what you said; you did not know of any money paid to a voter?—I do not understand you.

45,060. Very well. Then can you tell me, when was the arrangement with Nichols to pay you 50*l.*?—Very early, indeed. It was just after the meeting that Mr. Gower held in the town hall, when he stated that he would not come forward as a canddiate.

45,061. And when was that?—In 1864; I should think somewhere about November.

45,062. About November you were engaged?—Yes.

45,063. And you commenced work in April?—Well, I commenced, then, because I assisted Mr. Nichols with the requisition.

45,064. But that is nothing?—Well, it was not much.

45,065. How did you assist in the requisition?—I got signatures.

45,066. That is, signatures to a gentleman to come forward?—Yes, that is all; it amounted to very little.

45,067. You do not mean to say that that formed any part of the consideration for the 50*l.*?—It did a little; it took time, and "time is money."

45,068. You were inviting a candidate down here; you, an independent gentleman, by getting up a requisition. Do you mean to say you charged for that requisition?—The arrangement was with Mr. Nichols.

45,069. But do you mean to say that you charged for that requisition?—Charged for signing it?

45,070. Yes?—I should almost think not.

45,071. Whom did you invite to sign it?—Well, several; I can't remember the names.

45,072. You would invite them to sign it; you would say, "Mr. Monson is a very good man; he's "the man we ought to have"?—Yes.

45,073. You don't mean to say you charged for that, do you?—I didn't say that I charged for anything. The fee offered me by Mr. Nichols was 50*l.*

45,074. Don't talk of fees to me at all. What I want to know is, did that form any part of the consideration for the 50*l.*?—The whole transaction did from beginning to end.

45,075. Did your aiding Mr. Nichols in getting up this requisition form any part of the consideration for the 50*l.*; I don't care which way you answer it?—I really cannot exactly explain that to you. Mr. Nichols asked me to assist him; I did so.

45,076. Did that form any part of the consideration for the 50*l.*?—Well, I should say not, certainly not. But the whole matter was carried through by me.

45,077. Then that did not form any part of the consideration. We will go to the work you did, if any, when you commenced in April. What votes did you get for Mr. Monson besides your own?—I got three.

45,078. Which are they?—One, Gideon Smith.

45,079. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He has not been here?—No, I believe not.

45,080. Where does he live?—He did live in Station-road; I don't know where he lives now.

45,081. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Go on, you were at work from April to July?—I was.

45,082. And you were to receive 50*l.* You tell me you got Gideon Smith; who else?—Would you oblige me with the Register. I have forgotten. (*The Register was passed to the witness.*)

45,083. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you any of the names of the three persons in your mind, Mr. Steer, before you begin to look?—I can give you the names, but probably not now.

45,084. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If you refer to the list presently, probably you will give us a written list?—There was very little chance of getting votes, except by bribing, with which I did not have anything to do.

45,085. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We will take it that you got three men, and your own vote. Was there anything else you did?—I told you I gave nearly the whole of every day from April to July.

45,086. Doing what?—Canvassing and attending different meetings.

45,087. Did you do anything besides attend different meetings? Did you write out any reports?—Oh dear no.

45,088. Did you do anything else?—No.

45,089. You did nothing but attend meetings?—No.

45,090. We have been very severe, I hope justly severe, upon poor men who have been receiving their 30*s.* and 2*l.* 10*s.* for running up and down, when they were not able to give a satisfactory account of what they did. We will give you an opportunity of telling us what you did for the 50*l.*?—What I have told you.

45,091. Anything else?—No.

45,092. I don't wish to take you by surprise. We shall have to examine all this evidence by-and-by. Was there anything else, besides that you got three names, which you do not recollect?—I am not quite certain.

45,093. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Your last answer is, "I cannot tell you anything else I did"?—Yes.

45,094. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Hart was not aware that you were a canvasser?—He must have been.

45,095. He did not return you as a canvasser?—I met him hundreds of times.

45,096. You never told Mr. Hart that you were engaged as canvasser?—I had nothing to do with Mr. Hart.

45,097. Mr. Hart was the conducting agent for Mr. Monson?—With whom I had nothing to do.

45,098. That you knew?—That I knew.

45,099. You never told him you were working for Mr. Monson?—I did not.

45,100. And never made any claim to Mr. Hart?—Oh dear no! The understanding was with Mr. Nichols entirely.

45,101. I know it was. And you never made any claim to Mr. Monson?—Certainly not.

45,102. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me this, Mr. Steer, how long did the business about the requisition go on?—Well, I should think some two or three weeks; the getting up, the drawing out, of the requisition, if it may so be termed. The signatures occupied a length of time.

45,103. That was by the persons who signed it?—Yes.

45,104. That would be the work of others?—Yes.

45,105. Now, I have a reason for asking this: how did the work of the requisition commence? Did you meet all of you together at some public

house, at the "Grapes," or any other place you please, and say, "Let's get a candidate, let's get up "a requisition"?—No.

45,106. Do tell us then, very shortly?—I do not know the commencement of the requisition. I was asked by Mr. Page and Mr. Nichols, "Will you assist "us."

45,107. In getting up the requisition?—Yes, and I said, "I will."

45,108. I want to know very shortly what work you did in getting up the requisition?—The same work that Mr. Page and Mr. Nichols did.

45,109. That answer gives no information. You are an intelligent man, and you know that that answer is perfectly idle, because we have not examined Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page on that matter. Tell me what you did in getting up the petition?—I was present when the requisition was worded.

45,110. It was at a meeting, and it was agreed to draw up a form of requisition?—Yes; that I knew nothing of.

45,111. Was that done in one evening?—No, it passed over several evenings, or rather rather several days.

45,112. The form of the requisition was drawn up; well, what else?—Then, it was taken round for signatures, to various parties for signature.

45,113. It was not put at some house here then, and people told to come and sign it?—Oh dear no.

45,114. How long did it take to go round?—I cannot tell you now.

45,115. Did you go round with it?—No. I went with Mr. Page, but not taking the requisition myself.

45,116. What?—I went round with Mr. Page two or three times.

45,117. About what?—Signing the requisition.

45,118. Then you did take it round?—I did not take it round, because it was in Mr. Page's possession the whole time.

45,119. You mean that yours was not the hand that carried it?—No.

45,120. But while Page went round with it you went to attend upon him?—I was with Page, not to attend upon him exactly.

45,121. Understand me, to assist him; that is what I meant. Now, tell me if you please, how long did it take you to go round with the requisition,—how many days?—I cannot tell you at all.

45,122. About?—I can't tell you at all. I took no account of it.

45,123. Was the requisition taken round Redhill as well as Reigate?—Not so much to Redhill. It was taken once or twice to Redhill.

45,124. Who took it to Redhill?—I don't know.

45,125. I suppose you saw them start off?—I did not; nor did I see them return.

45,126. You didn't see them return?—No, I neither saw them start off nor return.

45,127. Do you not really know who took it?—I do not know.

45,128. Was it Page?—I don't know.

45,129. Was it Nichols?—I cannot tell you.

45,130. Do you believe it was not?—I do not believe or disbelieve, either one way or the other.

45,131. How many times did you and Page go round with it?—I think I went round two or three times with Page.

45,132. Over how long a time did the exertions extend about the requisition?—I don't know. I can't tell you.

45,133. About?—I can't tell you.

45,134. Did it last a fortnight?—Much longer than that.

45,135. Did it a month?—I should think much longer than that.

45,136. Did it two months?—I should say quite that.

45,137. You say the exertions about *it* lasted two months?—I should; about that I fancy.

45,138. It is rather an important matter, and I wish you would be so good as to tell me what your exertions consisted of, besides going round two or three times?—Yes.

45,139. I suppose the requisition was kept at Mr. Nichols' house?—Mr. Nichols' mostly.

45,140. Then the people you would meet in the town would be asked to come and sign the requisition?—I suppose that would be so.

45,141. Then they would come to the requisition, and not the requisition to them. Was that not so?—I should think not; I should think the signatures were not all obtained at Mr. Nichols'.

45,142. Not all; but after the two or three times that you had gone round with it most of the signatures to it, I suppose, were appended at Mr. Nichols' house, or the house where the petition was?—It is probable they might have been.

45,143. The importance of that is, that it would diminish your labours very much?—No doubt it would.

45,144. How many signatures were there put to the requisition?—I cannot tell you. I should think over 100. I cannot tell you how many. From the appearance of them I should say over 100.

45,145. Did you say the trouble of getting it up lasted a month or two months?—I should say over two months; fully two months, if not more.

45,146. Supposing it did, can you tell me anything else that you did about it?—Oh, no.

45,147. Then, I suppose, after the first week the requisition was quietly "householded" at the "Grapes" or some other house?—Very probably it was.

45,148. Then, I take it, you imagine it was. What other trouble would there be after that?—I do not know that there would be any trouble.

45,149. That is exactly what we are coming to. I suppose it was done in this way,—that you would meet a man in the street, and you would recognise him as a man that you thought would be on your side, and you would say, "Come here and sign the requisi-"tion, if you will be so kind?" Was it not done in some way of that kind?—Well, I should think it was very seldom done in that way.

45,150. But in that kind of way?—Well, something after that style, probably.

45,151. It is the way I should do it myself; that makes me think that is the way others would do it, perhaps even more skilfully. I mean that would be the only trouble that would be caused. They would come in and have a glass of beer at the bar, and if they were not very keen upon it the requisition would be suggested?—I would not do such a thing.

45,152. Tell me how you would do it?—I would not give any man drink to cause him to sign anything.

45,153. I did not mean that; I merely meant drink as an introduction to conversation?—Oh, it is a great introduction.

45,154. I did not mean anything of that kind; I meant what anybody might do with the greatest propriety. Was that the sort of thing that the work consisted in?—There were various modes of work.

45,155. You have told me no other, because I am at a perfect loss at this moment to know what they are?—To challenge what the work was; I at this moment could not tell what it was.

45,156. Was it anything like work?—Well, if you can term it work.

45,157. Was it anything like what you would call employment of time?—Certainly it was.

45,158. If it was employment of time you should be paid for it, if a man wanted to be paid?—So I expected when the fee was offered to me; I expected that I should have to do something for it.

45,159. Why, were you not paid for it?—I was paid.

45,160. Were you?—Certainly I was, 35*l.*

45,161. That is just it; you received 35*l.*, and you charged 5*l.* for over two months' work?—I didn't say 5*l.*

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45,162. You have indeed said so?—I have never spoken of 5*l.*

45,163. I thought you told me that you had 35*l.*, and you appropriated out of that 5*l.* towards the trouble of getting up the requisition?—Excuse me, it is the first I have heard of it; I never suggested it.

45,164. I beg your pardon, you told my learned friend that you appropriated no part of the 35*l.* to the requisition?—The arrangement with Mr. Nichols was, that if I would assist him in carrying out the election, and this requisition, he would pay me 50*l.*

45,165. But you told the learned Commissioner here that you did not consider any portion of that 35*l.* paid in respect of the work you did for the requisition?

(*Witness.*) I understood Mr. Commissioner O'Brien that he did not consider the work done in the requisition of any account whatever.

(*Mr. Serjeant O'Brien.*) Oh, no.

(*Witness.*) That was my understanding of your remark. The whole affair was getting up the requisition, and carrying the election through.

45,166. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then why did you not charge a part of the 35*l.* with it?—Because I could not discriminate it.

45,167. Why did you not charge part of the 35*l.* towards the requisition?—Because the whole transaction goes together.

45,168. You told me in effect that it did not, because you said you did not charge any of the 35*l.* towards getting up the requisition?—Nor did I charge any part of the 35*l.*; it was one bulk, that was all.

45,169. Then, how much was the requisition worth?—I really can't tell you. I should think worth nothing as it has turned out.

45,170. I mean how much was the portion of labour about the requisition worth?—I did not divide the labour at all.

45,171. Can you do so now?—I cannot do so.

45,172. I will only ask you this: what were you paid the 35*l.* for?—For the general work of the election; assisting Mr. Nichols throughout.

45,173. Recently did you tell Nichols, or did Nichols tell you, how much money you had received from him?—Certainly not.

45,174. That is no answer. Did Nichols tell you recently, or did you tell Nichols, how much money you had received from him for the election?—No.

45,175. Perhaps I do not put the question clearly enough. Recently did you tell Nichols, how much money you had received from him for the election?—Certainly not.

45,176. Did Nichols tell you?—No.

45,177. Have you and Nichols not had any conversation within the last month as to how much money you received from him?—Certainly not.

45,178. Not at all?—Not at all.

45,179. You say you made an arrangement with Nichols?—I did.

45,180. Was it in writing?—No.

45,181. Verbally?—Verbally.

45,182. Was the sum at that time mentioned?—It was.

45,183. Do you know what you are put down in Nichols' account as having received from him?—I heard it yesterday.

45,184. For the first time?—Yes, for the first time. That list of Nichols' I never saw until it was produced yesterday.

45,185. I never asked you if you had seen the list. I ask you, did you know before yesterday for how much you had been put down in Nichols' account?—I should know I was put down for 50*l.*; that was the arrangement.

45,186. How should you know?—That was the arrangement.

45,187. But did you know before yesterday how much he did put you down for?—No, I should say, certainly not.

45,188. That is no answer. You can certainly recollect as far back as yesterday. Yesterday morning when you got up either you did, or you did not, know how much Nichols had put you down as having received?—I did not know what he had put me down for; it might have been 500*l.*, or it might have been twopence, for anything I knew.

45,189. You know he has put you down for 50*l.*?—I know he has put me down for 50*l.*

45,190. As having received 50*l.*?—I do not know how he has put that down.

45,191. You shall see it if you like. This is the account of monies paid, and here you are put down, "Steer, 50*l.*"?—I did not know how he had entered it. My arrangement with him was for 50*l.*

45,192. You see there is nothing else than that—"Steer 50*l.*" (*showing the account to witness*)?—I can see that.

45,193. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He says, "I "paid 50*l.* or 60*l.* out of my own money." That is what he said?—Yes, he did say so.

45,194. Then it is not true that you received 50*l.*?—It is not true that I received 50*l.*; I have not received 50*l.*; 35*l.* I have received, the other I expect, of course.

45,195. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But I am sorry upon another point I could not get more information from you. I mean about the requisition; answer me very candidly—would you take the trouble about the requisition alone, for a 10*l.* note?—I should not; unless it had been for going through the whole election I should have had nothing to do with the requisition.

45,196. Pray attend to my question, I purposely confined it. Would you take all the trouble over again which you did about the requisition, and the requisition only, for a 10*l.* note?—I would not undertake it again for 20*l.* nor for 50*l.*

45,197. That is because you are sick of it. I must put it in another way. Do you think that a man who wanted remuneration for time and trouble, which perhaps you do not, would be fairly paid by a 10*l.* note for what you did with reference to the requisition, and the requisition only?—I should say no, decidedly.

45,198. How much, then? Be so good as to tell me?—I should say 20*l.* would not be too much for the time.

45,199. Would you value it at 20*l.*?—I should do so, at something like that.

45,200. You value the services?—I do not value my services; that is not the question that was put to me.

45,201. No, no; I mean the services of a person who wanted to be remunerated would be worth 20*l.*?—I should think it would be.

45,202. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Just before we adjourn I have to ask you a couple of questions. You say you succeeded in getting only three votes?—Yes, that is all.

45,203. How soon after you began to canvass did you find the difficulty of getting promises without money?—Oh, within a day.

45,204. Within a day?—I should say the first. I found many said to us, "Well, how's things going on; "what's the figure?"

45,205. Can you recollect the name of the person?—It was so general I think I cannot.

45,206. Finding that in your way, did you report that to Mr. Nichols?—Every one knew it.

45,207. That may be; I want to know what you did?—I should almost fancy I did; I can't say now whether I did or didn't.

45,208. Would it not be a very natural thing for you to report to Mr. Nichols?—I have no doubt I did so, but I cannot charge my memory with having done so.

42,209. When you did so, did you receive any instructions from Mr. Nichols as to how you were to act?—I did not say that I did so.

45,210. Surely you reported to Mr. Nichols?—In

all probability I did. If I did I have no recollection of anything that occurred.

45,211. No recollection whatever of reporting that to Mr. Nichols?—At the moment I have no recollection whatever of it. It is more than likely I should do such a thing; but to say what occurred at the time I cannot. There is no doubt I did tell him so.

45,212. Did you hear from these voters that money was passing or being promised?—I had heard that money had been promised.

45,213. By which side?—By the other side.

45,214. Did you never hear that money was being promised by the Monson side?—I never heard that it was promised; I knew that some parties were being paid, but how I do not know. It was a thing I never would have anything to do with.

45,215. Then you have no recollection of what took place between you and Nichols when you reported to him your want of success?—No recollection whatever.

45,216. Or the cause of your want of success?—He knew that as well as I did.

45,217. I want to know whether that was not a substantive matter of conversation between you and Nichols, the cause of your want of success?—I do not know that it was.

45,218. Were you not disappointed at getting so few promises?—Quite so.

45,219. Would not that be a reason why you should appeal to Mr. Nichols?—I say, in all probability I did so, but I cannot remember what I said at the time.

The witness withdrew.

CHARLES GREENFIELD sworn and examined.

C. Greenfield.

45,220. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you?—Carpenter and joiner.

45,221. What rent do you pay for your house?—14*l.* a year.

45,222. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

45,223. To whom did you promise to vote for Mr. Monson?—Nichols, I believe.

45,224. At the time you promised your vote was there any promise of payment of money?—No, I did not expect any.

45,225. Were you at work for Mr. Nichols?—Yes, he engaged me to do so.

45,226. To canvass?—Yes.

45,227. Did you canvass?—I did the best I could to do so. I did canvass.

45,228. Did you succeed in getting any promises?—I do not think I can say one. I did the best I could, but however I do not think I can say one.

45,229. I need hardly ask you one other question; did you have any control as to offering money?—No, not the least whatever.

45,230. Did you find in your canvass that not having the control of money was a hindrance to getting promises?—Well, I think if I had got a little money I might have got a few votes.

45,231. Did you find in effect that it was so?—I did.

45,232. From your conversation with various voters that it was so?—Yes, that it was so.

45,233. Did you receive anything for your service?—I received 4*l.* 10*s.* for my services during the time.

45,234. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who paid you the 4*l.* 10*s.*?—Nichols.

45,235. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you report to Mr. Nichols your ill success in getting votes?—Yes, I went to him nearly every night, and told him how I got on.

45,236. Or, rather, how you didn't get on?—Well, how I didn't get on. I didn't succeed much.

45,237. But did you tell him the reason why you didn't get on?—Well, I don't think I did; I don't think I said anything to him about it.

45,238. You did not suggest to him that money was wanting?—No, because I did not think he would have advanced me any if I had.

45,239. May I ask you a general question; did any money pass through your hands for distributing to the voters?—No more than the money I had for myself.

45,240. That was your fee for your services?—That was mine.

45,241. Were you canvassed at all by the Gower party?—Not the least whatever. I saw Mr. Gower several times, but he didn't canvass me at all.

45,242. Were you on the register in 1863?—No; at least, I didn't vote.

45,243. Did you take any part in the election of 1863?—I certainly felt interested in it, but I didn't do much in it.

45,244. Did you act in 1863?—Well, just for my own feelings, that's all.

45,245. But did any money pass through your hands in 1863 for distribution among voters?—Not the least whatever.

45,246. Or for obtaining votes?—Not the least whatever.

45,247. I suppose that was your first election?—This in 1865 was the first as a voter.

45,248. And previous to 1863 had you taken any part in the elections?—No.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES APTED recalled and examined.

J. Apted.

45,249. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You told us you had something to tell which it will be important for us to hear?—I said I had been engaged in every election from the first contest of Mr. Parrott and Mr. Cocks.

45,250. We will not go so far back as that?—And I was in Mr. Hackblock's election.

45,251. We will commence after Hackblock's, if you please?—In justice to Mr. Hackblock (it is imputed that he commenced bribery). Then I went to Mr. Doulton; in justice to Mr. Doulton (I lived with Mr. Doulton 10 days at the "White Hart"). I was with him every day and every day when his agents came to him, and I never heard him give any intimation of bribery.

45,252. Nobody imputes it. What we want to call your attention to is. You have been put down in Mr. Nichols' list as having received 80*l.*
No, I did not.

45,253. How much did you state you expended when you were examined before us?—I said 50*l.* or 60*l.* I could not say.

45,254. Quite so; you accounted for how you spent it, and that included your own fee, you recollect?—I think I told you I had no fee.

45,255. You did. Were you paid nothing for your services?—No. I think I said I was 100*l.* out of pocket; I believe I was.

45,256. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) First of all, you say, "I did not receive 80*l.* from Nichols"?—I beg your pardon; I didn't say I didn't receive 80*l.* from Nichols. I said I had 50*l.* or 60*l.*; I might have received more, I can't tell. I was at work three months.

45,257. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then I misunderstood you. I understood you to say that only between 50*l.* and 60*l.* passed through your hands?—It might have been more. I see in Mr. Nichols' evidence

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yesterday it was 80*l.* Mr. Nichols asked me if I knew, and I told him I did not know. I could not tell within 20*l.*

45,258. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He asked you the other day?—A few days ago.

45,259. *Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You told me, I examined you, that you received nothing whatever from him?—Nothing whatever for my services.

45,260. You said you asked 50*l.* from the other side?—I did.

45,261. And that you did that because you knew they would not give it you, you did not want to be on their side. Now what monies did you receive?—I didn't receive anything for my services.

45,262. What did you receive at all? — All I received I paid away.

45,263. You have given no accounts of any monies you paid?—A great many accounts I have given you, and you have had them brought before you by different witnesses.

45,264. Yes; but I am speaking of your evidence, not of other witnesses? — James Brown, for one instance, 17*l.* 10*s.*

45,265. Will you tell me first how much you received from Mr. Nichols, because it is a myth to me?—I told you before that I could not; it was during three or four months.

45,266. Will you tell me what you received from him?—I really could not tell you. If he said I had 100*l.* I must have left it, because I did not know; I assure you I did not know; I might have had 100*l.*, because I was continually canvassing all the day.

45,267. It is no use offering yourself to be re-examined if you cannot tell us how much you received from Mr. Nichols, or in what way you received it?—I told you how I received it. When I wanted 5*l.* or 10*l.* I went to him and asked for it, and I received it as I wanted to pay out. I attended three or four meetings in the evening. I was canvassing the whole day. I should think I spent 1*l.* a day.

45,268. If you can't tell us how much you received, can you tell us how much you paid away?—I paid away all I received.

45,269. That is no answer, Mr. Apted, when you don't tell us how much you received. How much did you pay away?—If I were to tell you any sum perhaps I should tell you a lie.

45,270. No, I know you would not tell me a lie?—I should, because I cannot tell you.

45,271. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Elliott, Fullbrook, Gilbert, Truelove, that is all we have proved against you?—17*l.* 10*s.* to James Brown, 2*l.* 10*s.* to William Banks.

45,272. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who was James Brown?—He was a plasterer.

45,273. I know everything about him; he was not a voter at all?—No; I employed him.

45,274. Did you give him the 17*l.* 10*s.* for himself?—I think I gave him from 20*l.* to 30*l.* altogether, for refreshments and one thing and another.

45,275. Then you did not give him 17*l.* 10*s.*?—That was in cash to pay different men; that I can recollect.

45,276. How much did you give James Brown, now?—I should think he received from me 25*l.* at least.

45,277. Will you tell me where Mr. Brown lives, because we will have him?—I don't know where he lives. I told you so before. You asked me that before.

45,278. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You might have heard since?—I have not.

45,279. You say he had 25*l.* now?—I should think he had that at least. He had to pay four men, and he had to pay for refreshments besides.

45,280. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I mean altogether, from your hands into his?—25*l.* at least, I should think.

45,281. Anything else, because that will not make up 80*l.*?—I should say I was canvassing for three months.

45,282. How much did you put down for yourself for your expenses?—I told you I did not put down anything for my expenses.

45,283. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) William Banks you mentioned?—Yes; 2*l.* 10*s.* Banks stated that to you when he was examined. He said he received 2*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. William Holdsworth, in the "Grapes," and 2*l.* 10*s.* from me, at Mr. Barker's, opposite the new town hall, when he went to poll.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We do not give you credit for that, Mr. Apted.

45,284. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Those monies were paid by Brown, not by you?—He said that I gave the money to Brown.

45,285. That is out of the 17*l.* 10*s.*?—No, it is not.

45,286. You have told us before that the monies you gave to Brown to pay away were 17*l.* 10*s.*, now you say it is 25*l.*?—Not that 2*l.* 10*s.*

45,287. Not having kept an account of any monies you expended, how are you able to specify that particular sum of 2*l.* 10*s.* as not having been entered?—Because Mr. Brown brought it to my memory; he said I gave him the money; he stated so in this box. Banks said I gave Brown the 2*l.* 10*s.* to give to him, and he received 2*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Holdsworth, in the "Grapes;" mine was in the beer shop opposite.

45,288. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) All he said was that Brown handed it to him?—Yes; and that I gave it to Brown.

45,289. That is included in the 25*l.*?—No, it is not.

45,290. You cannot have credit for it in both ways; you cannot have credit for it in giving it to Brown and have credit for it afterwards in giving it to Banks. How much money passed from your hands to Brown?—Altogether I should say 25*l.*

45,291. Nothing else passed from your hands to Brown?—I cannot say exactly. I will give you as near as I can state.

45,292. Take the money that passed to Banks through Brown's hands, that is included?—It is not included in the 17*l.* 10*s.*

45,293. But it is included in the 25*l.*?—No.

45,294. Then you have not told me; I am afraid I must come to that conclusion. I asked you how much money passed from your hands into Brown's hands. Surely that is a very simple question?—You mean to put the 2*l.* 10*s.* in? Then that will make 27*l.* 10*s.*

45,295. I mean only to put in what money passed from your hands into his?—I don't consider that that passed into his hands at all, that 2*l.* 10*s.* that Banks received; it came from my hands.

45,296. Did you hand it to Brown?—Yes.

45,297. Then it passed into Brown's hands, didn't it?—If you put it so.

45,298. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was Banks present when that 2*l.* 10*s.* was handed to Brown?—Yes; he told you so.

45,299. No, he did not say so?—He did say so.

45,300. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you not hand it to Banks himself, if Banks was present?—Because Brown had engaged him; I did not know what he had engaged him for.

45,301. How did you know how to pay Banks the 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Brown said he had got 2*l.* 10*s.* more to pay to Banks.

45,302. Why didn't you hand it over to Banks?—I didn't hand it over to Banks because I gave it to Brown.

45,303. How much did you give Brown altogether?—I told you, if you admit that 2*l.* 10*s.* that will make 27*l.* 10*s.*

45,304. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I will tell you what Banks said, "Brown got the money from "Holdsworth to pay me the first 2*l.* 10*s.*; from "Apted to pay me the second 2*l.* 10*s.* He gave me "5*l.* altogether"?—That is correct.

45,305. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You make it now 27*l.* 10*s.*; you include that 2*l.* 10*s.* in it?—I do not include it, but you can include it.

45,306. Did you have anything else?—No, I could not say, it might be 30*l.* I paid him.

45,307. Anything else? Take what you like?—No. I say it is impossible for a person who is canvassing and attending meetings for three or four months to account for every shilling he has spent.

45,308. No; it is possible for a man who is anxious to act like a correct man, and who puts everything down?—I don't think you would do it if you were a canvasser.

45,309. Don't tell me what I would do; but that is what a correct man would do, put down everything, especially if he is dealing with another man's money?—Well, sir, if you are in Rome you must do as Rome does.

45,310. Then you did not put it down?—No, I did not.

45,311. Take it at 30*l.*; that leaves 50*l.* more to be accounted for?—(*The witness was referring to some papers.*)

45,312. Put those papers down?—Those papers are mine; I wish to look at them. There is my evidence here that I have given, and I wish to refer to it.

45,313. Have you not perused it?—Yes, a great many times, also Mr. Nichols's evidence, and a great many other persons.

45,314. Until you have perused it I will not go on with my examination, because I would rather you should not be distracted by looking at them; but if you have perused them sufficiently put them down, or I will not go on with my examination, and you will leave the Court.

45,315. 30*l.*, you think, you paid Mr. Brown. Tell me anything else you paid?—Why, you have got it there.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) We have not any list, indeed.

45,316. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Tell me how much you paid now?—You read over the names of several persons.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) The only persons who have said you paid them anything I have taken the trouble of giving you.

(*Witness.*) Have you got Goddard's, and Warren's, and Balchin's?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Certainly not. They were not paid by you, according to their story.

45,317. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Tell us how many you did pay?—There is Fullbrook, I had him at work for three or four weeks.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have got him down.

45,318. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Any one else?—I do not, any other. I expended the other in meetings.

45,319. Very well, that is an answer?—I believe I spent during the canvass 1*l.* a day, attending different meetings, and for refreshments to different parties as they came along, canvassers, &c.

45,320. I want to know how you expended the 80*l.*; you account for about 40*l.*, taking 30*l.* to Brown, and you account for 10*l.* more, so that 40*l.* somehow or other went you don't know where. You think you spent the remainder in attending meetings?—And expenses.

45,321. I mean attending meetings?—Yes, I believe I did, and more.

45,322. What kind of expenses would they be?—Why, in travelling about canvassing.

45,323. That would not give me a notion of what the expenses would be at all?—Won't it, sir.

45,324. No?—If you were to go about canvassing I think you would find out.

45,325. Do not appeal to me. Would it be cab hire?—Some of it was.

45,326. That I can understand, cab hire?—Yes, several pounds I paid for cab hire.

45,327. To whom?—I paid Mr. Langridge some.

45,328. How much in cab hire?—I could not tell you, I did not keep any account.

45,329. Any one else?—I had his cab several times, Sellers.

45,330. Can you tell me how many voters, that is the important item, you got for Mr. Monson, with the expenditure of this 80*l.*?—No, I don't know; 30 or 40.

45,331. You are the best man, then; I dare say the money was spent if you got 30 or 40 voters?—I believe I did.

45,332. Who were they? Give me half a dozen?—Give me the register list. (*The register was handed to witness.*)

45,333. Give me the names of the 30 or 40?—I could not say distinctly.

45,334. I think you will be a little puzzled to give them. Now I will bargain with you, if you will give me the names of 10 voters I will let you off, the names of 10 voters that you got for Mr. Monson?—I will give you the names of 10 voters that had not a farthing for their vote.

45,335. That is very likely?—Well, that I canvassed.

45,336. No, that you got for him?—I say I canvassed for votes. I will give you the list to-morrow.

45,337. Of the men that you got, not that anybody else got?—Yes, not that anybody else got.

45,338. You never gave any account to Mr. Nichols of how you expended the money?—No, I didn't.

45,339. I mean when you and Nichols had a talk a few weeks ago?—I said a few days ago.

45,340. You had a talk, and he said he thought he had given you 80*l.*?—He said so; I could not say, it is such a long time ago. I know I spent a great deal of money. I never scored up any money at a public house; I always paid. If I had five or six in I always paid for it. I never had any public house scores.

45,341. How was it you did not put the figure so high when you were first examined?—I left it open.

45,342. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) No, you did not leave it open; you said a specific sum?—I said 50*l.* or 60*l.*, or more.

45,343. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What I understood by that was, "It may be over 50*l.*, but it "may be under 60*l.*"?—I said 50*l.* or 60*l.*, or more.

45,344. That would give us no notion?—If I had had any notion of this I would have kept an account.

45,345. Now, you said you had some information on some other subject to give us; I think you said you would "tip" us a bit, or something of that kind?—No, I commenced to say that I thought I could give you a straight "tip" where the bribery did commence. There are several versions about it.

45,346. What do you know about it?—I believe it was in 1858.

45,347. I do not want your belief, except you give us facts?—I can give you one or two facts.

45,348. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you take any part in the election of 1858?—In every one when there has been a contest.

45,349. Did you take any part in the election before 1858?—Yes; I say every one since Mr. Parrott came here.

45,350. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) January or February?—In 1858 there were two elections; the first was the contest with Mr. Doulton.

45,351. For whom did you appear?—For Mr. Wilkinson first.

45,352. Then, when he was balloted out, for whom did you act?—Mr. Doulton.

45,353. What did you receive for yourself at that election, for your own services?—I received 10*l.* from Mr. Cape.

45,354. Did you receive any money to pay away?—No.

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45,355. I suppose you commenced supporting Mr. Doulton two or three days before the polling day?—Ten days. I think it was directly Mr. Wilkinson was balloted out. It was an agreement between all the Liberals that whatever person should win the ballot should be the only person we should support; I was the only person who stuck to the Liberals, because there was a good deal of spite and malice.

45,356. Leave out those ugly words. Now, in the latter part of the year?—I was with Doulton then.

45,357. But in the latter part of the year, there was another election in '58?—I went for Mr. Wilkinson.

45,358. Do you know any fact, do not tell me your belief; but do you know any fact connected with Mr. Doulton's election?—No, I was working for Mr. Doulton for 10 days, and I was with him when his agent had private interviews with him, and I never saw him give any direct evidence.

45,359. In the October of that year how much did you receive?—10*l.* from Mr. James. No, I think not from Mr. James that time. I do not recollect receiving any money, not in October '58. It was between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson and Edwin James, the celebrated solicitor, that put up that time.

45,360. You did not receive any money at that time?—I do not remember receiving any.

45,361. Do you know anything of the election?—Yes.

45,362. Do you know any fact?—Yes. Joyes stated here the other day that he gave me 5*l.* to give Bentley in the '63 election.

45,363. I have not come to that?—This is the fact, this is '63 I am going to allude to.

45,364. I am coming to that; I am in the October of '58 now, when Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Monson were the candidates; have you any fact with reference to that election?—I believe that was the first election when there was any bribery and intimidation carried on.

45,365. I do not want your belief, that may be founded on facts or not?—I meant to give you a few facts.

45,366. Do give me them?—Yes, but when I commenced to give you them you stopped me.

45,367. I mean with reference to 1858?—Yes.

45,368. Give me a few facts?—I was going to tell you of one man of the name of Bentley who received money, only you won't allow me.

45,369. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which election in '58?—Between Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson.

45,370. It was in October?—Yes. Mr. Joyes says that he gave me 5*l.* to give a person of the name of Bentley in '63; he has not been in Reigate for six or eight years. In '58 he went into the "White Hart" and received money from the Gower side. I was coming across the square and I was dragged into the "Crown" by Joyes, and he paid him to vote for Mr. Wilkinson; he said he gave me the money.

45,371. Is it true he gave you the money?—He paid him himself.

45,372. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you see the money paid?—I think I did.

45,373. Do not think about it; it is a serious thing to speak of a person receiving or paying money without being certain about it?—I am certain.

45,374. How much?—Three or four pounds; I am certain the money was paid; I saw the money, but I am not certain whether it was three or four pounds.

45,375. Who did he vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

45,376. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Joyes paid him, you think?—For Mr. Wilkinson; he received money at the "White Hart" for Mr. Monson, and then came over and voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

45,377. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What money did he receive for voting for Mr. Monson?—I do not know.

45,378. Where is Bentley now?—I do not know; he has not been in Reigate for eight years. I think Joyes said it was '63.

45,379. Is there any other fact?—The only other fact that I can tell you of was the great intimidation in that election; they went and fetched sick men out of their beds; they fetched those men out of their beds who were ill, and went along the streets flourishing their hats, the gentlemen did, the great guns I call them.

45,380. Give me a fact of bribery?—I do not know any case of bribery, but I heard Mr. Wilkinson talking about the bribery at the election, that he thought he could come to Reigate without carrying on any bribery at all, and he did not intend to do it, but when he found that the opposite side were carrying on the gross transactions they were they must do it.

45,381. That was said in the presence of Mr. Norman Wilkinson, was it?—No, to myself, in the "Swan," and I think Mr. Cape was there and Mr. Humphreys, the coroner for Middlesex.

45,382. Do you mean to say that Mr. Wilkinson in the presence of Mr. Cape said that? Was that the Mr. Wilkinson who is dead?—Yes.

45,383. He is dead; we do not want to hear that. Anything else?—I wish to state to you this; Benjamin Brown said I pulled out a roll of notes on Earlswood common on the morning of the election, and he says I offered them to a man; that is a lie, and I think I can prove it.

45,384. I think it is not very probable on the face of it?—On the day of the election, when the election was begun, I had not got any notes; that I can prove by two men who were in the shop. I went to fetch a man of the name of J. S., whom Brown had got in tow to take away from us.

45,385. Well, you deny that?—I do.

45,386. Anything else?—Joyes said he gave me 5*l.* to give to a man of the name of Jackson; I say that he did not, he gave me 4*l.*

45,387. That is the same thing. Anything more?—I never had any money in my hand to pay any voters to induce them to vote before this last election.

45,388. How much did you get in '63 for your exertions?—10*l.*

45,389. Then you were paid upon no other occasion except the last. Who paid you in '63?—Mr. James.

45,390. For Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes, and I likewise received 5*l.* from Mr. James for aiding the petition at that time.

45,391. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was in '63?—Yes.

45,392. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you get that time for aiding the petition?—I have not got anything at present.

45,393. What are you to get?—I believe I am to have 50*l.*

45,394. From whom?—I do not know from whom. Mr. Gilbert told me I ought to have it.

45,395. That you ought to have 50*l.*?—Yes.

45,396. I wish you may get it, that is all?—I wish I may.

45,397. You were one of the petitioners, I suppose?—Yes. I can tell you why I petitioned; you may say, perhaps, I had not room for it.

45,398. No, I do not?—I wish to say why I did.

45,399. You were applied to, I suppose; had you any arrangement with anybody to give you the 50*l.*?—No, not a word about it; not till latterly.

45,400. Then you say you had an arrangement with Mr. Gilbert?—No.

45,401. No?—No arrangement at all whatever.

45,402. What about the 50*l.* then?—He told me since that I was to have it, that my services were worth it.

45,403. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you sure that he added, "You are to have it"?—Yes.

45,404. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He is the best judge of that; I do not wish to say one word about that. He said after the petition was successful that your services were worth 50*l.*, and you were to have it?—Yes; that was after the petition was over.

45,405. The petition was subscriptionary?—I believe it was.

45,406. Do not understand me to say that you deserved that or not, for aught we know you did; there was a subscription then?—Yes, I believe there was; I only want to state a word or two about it.

45,407. Very well?—The reason I signed the petition was because men go to work for three or four weeks, receiving pay weekly, and then we are told they took 5*l.* from the other side; they received money after we paid that money, and I thought then it was time to put a stop to it, because I considered that we were robbed.

45,408. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me, after this last election was over in '65 did you receive any money from Mr. Hart?—No.

45,409. None at all?—No.

45,410. Did you send in any claim or bill, whichever you call it?—No.

45,411. Nothing at all?—No.

45,412. There was nothing passed between you and Mr. Hart after the election?—Not a word; Mr. Monson knows it.

45,413. He could not know that there was not?—He knew that there was not any debt; he knew very well that I had not anything for my services.

45,414. I am not speaking about you having anything for your services. I do not think you quite see the point of my question?—Yes, I do.

45,415. Very well; did you receive anything from Mr. Hart at all?—Not a farthing.

45,416. Either to pay any person, or to pay yourself?—Not a farthing.

45,417. I take your answer exactly as you give it, "Not a farthing from him in any shape or way"?—Not anything.

45,418. Can you tell me whether you were paid anything during the election at all by cheque?—No.

45,419. No money by cheque?—No.

45,420. Did you receive any money except from Mr. Nichols?—No.

45,421. Are you able to tell me what was the largest sum he paid you at any time?—I think it was 20*l.*

45,422. Did he pay you anything after the election was over?—Nothing after the election was over.

45,423. None after?—All before.

45,424. Can you tell me where it was that you received the 20*l.*?—In his house.

45,425. Did you assist in getting up the requisition?—No, Mr. Nichols asked me to.

45,426. And you did not do it?—I objected to it, because I told him Mr. Monson could not come forward.

45,427. You did not help him in doing so?—No, because Mr. Gower was pledged to Mr. Wilkinson, and the Reform Club was pledged to Mr. Wilkinson, I knew that.

45,428. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is one part of the evidence which perhaps escaped your notice: it is with reference to what took place at the "Castle" inn with Jordan?—With Jordan?

45,429. Yes?—I do not recollect having any conversation with him in the "Castle" inn.

45,430. Jordan; he voted for Mr. Gower, but before he voted for Mr. Gower, on the day of the nomination, were you at the "Castle" inn, when James Brown was there?—Yes, so he stated.

45,431. You recollect that circumstance?—Yes.

45,432. You have not been asked about it. I want to have your account of it, to see how far the story was true; do you recollect the circumstance of noticing that their clothes were torn; Jordan's and two or three other men?—I do not recollect that circumstance.

45,433. It was not the fact that their clothes were torn?—I do not recollect making that remark to them.

45,434. Did you pay them any money?—Yes, I did.

45,435. Was that in the stable?—No.

45,436. Where was it that you paid them money?—They received 30*s.* each.

45,437. How many did you pay 30*s.* each?—Three.

45,438. Who were they?—I paid it to Brown.

45,439. Who were they?—Jordan, Balchin, and Warren.

45,440. They received 30*s.* apiece?—Yes.

45,441. Is that money in the 25*l.* or 30*l.* which you account for?—No, Brown's money; that is nothing but Banks; those are included in the 17*l.* 10*s.*

45,442. Why do you then go back to the 17*l.* 10*s.* as the sum you gave to Brown?—It was for those three men and a person of the name of Trussler I handed him 17*l.* 10*s.*, and I paid Brown other monies besides, which I cannot recollect.

45,443. I only wanted to know whether you considered these men had 30*s.* apiece?—They did I believe, Brown had that money for them; the other they had in the stable.

45,444. You said the money was paid?—Yes, and I was to meet them the next morning at the "Barley Mow."

45,445. The "Barley Mow"?—Yes; and when I got to the "Barley Mow" they were then in a room locked up. I wanted to go inside to see them, and I was pushed back and told that I could not go in there. William Groom was at the door; he said, "You "must not go in there." I said that I wanted to go in and speak to the men, and he said, "You must "not." A signal was given, and one of them sung out, "If you go in there you will get your head broke," and I thought it was time to be off.

45,446. You do not mean to say that those men were to go to the "Barley Mow"?—No, they did not appoint to meet me at the "Barley Mow;" I went to their houses, and I found they were there at the "Barley Mow." It was appointed that I was to bring a trap down and fetch them from their houses. When I went down with the trap I found they had gone to the "Barley Mow."

45,447. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it you who paid them in Mr. Holdsworth's stables, or was it Brown?—I was with him at the time.

45,448. It was not Brown who handed them the money?—I believe so; I could not swear.

45,449. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you remember a man named Goddard; he says that you paid him more money?—I think I was with Brown; it was two 5*l.* notes; it was to get change, and he went and got change, and brought the money to the stables.

The witness then withdrew.

THOMAS CORDEROY sworn and examined. *T. Corderoy.*

45,450. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A painter.

45,451. What rent do you pay?—15*l.* a year.

45,452. And you voted last time for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

45,453. You took an active part in his election?—Yes.

45,454. You were on his committee?—No, I do not think I was; I do not think my name was on.

45,455. You canvassed a good deal I suppose?—Yes.

45,456. Was any money given to you to pay away?—Yes.

45,457. Who gave you money to pay away?—Mr. Nichols.

45,458. When did he begin to give you money to pay away; at what period of the election?—I should think about a few weeks, a little after Mr. Gower made his speech in the hall, when he said he would not contest the borough again.

45,459. When was that?—I could not tell you the time; if you could refer me to the time, I think I could tell you.

45,460. About how long before the election was it; was it in the spring?—No, in November.

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45,461. During the previous year?—Yes.

45,462. Did he give you money as soon as that?—Yes, I should say it was; I will not say to a week or two.

45,463. Oh no, you shall have a month; what was the money he gave to you?—2*l.*

45,464. Two sovereigns?—Yes.

45,465. When did he pay you next?—I cannot tell you.

45,466. But we have got an answer all right; I was in hopes we should go on?—If I could I would tell you, but I do not know.

45,467. If you could I am sure you would, I have no reason to think you would not; when did he give you the next?—I cannot tell.

45,468. About; I have not tied you to any particular time?—It was something like the Derby week.

45,469. It was a long skip over?—It was a long skip; I did not have any between, if it was two years.

45,470. You received something in Derby week?—Yes.

45,471. Were there any voters living at Epsom?—I do not know, I did not go there, I only mentioned that as the time I received money; that was why I mentioned the Derby week.

45,472. How much did you get in the Derby week; 5*l.*, 10*l.*, or 15*l.*; just tell us, we are going on very nicely so far; do not spoil it?—I will not spoil it.

45,473. Just tell us; we shall get it very nicely; what did he give you in the Derby week?—Perhaps 3*l.*

45,474. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I thought you said 15*l.*?—But he gave me some more the same week.

45,475. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The next; how much in that week?—I might have had about 10*l.* altogether.

45,476. You did say 15*l.*, but you think 10*l.* is within the mark?—Yes, I will say 10*l.*

45,477. Derby week; I forget when that was exactly?—That was the time when we began to canvass; that was the time when we had the money.

45,478. Tell me, when was the next; we have now got two payments?—I think it went on then to about a month before the election.

45,479. What did he give you then?—Perhaps I had 30*l.* then.

45,480. I do not quite like the "perhaps," I would rather you would leave that out; but never mind?—Then I will say 30*l.*

45,481. I mean if you are sure of it?—Then I am not sure or else I should not have said perhaps.

45,482. I trust you?—It will be no good to say anything wrong.

45,483. I do not want you to say anything wrong, or that you are not sure about?—Then I will say 30*l.*

45,484. Now we have got that, when was the next?—It was all before the election; I never had any since.

45,485. We have got a good way to go yet?—No, you have not.

45,486. Go on?—Well, I should have 20*l.* more.

45,487. Soon after?—Yes.

45,488. Was there any more, do you think?—No, I do not think there was; there might have been; I might have asked him for 1*l.* or 2*l.* more.

45,489. Then you received nothing after the election?—Not a halfpenny.

46,490. So far as you can remember and believe, have you told me the money which you have received before the election?—Yes, it might be 1*l.* or 2*l.* more.

45,491. Oh, no doubt I have taken that down; I have not omitted it a bit. Well, now, you believe that to be about the mark?—Yes, I think so.

45,492. I do not want to fix you with 1*l.* or 2*l.*; you may have 5*l.* if you like?—Yes.

45,493. I mean there is no catch about it?—There is no catch about me.

45,494. You understand me; I do not want to tie you to a pound or two?—If you did it would not be fair.

45,495. No, I only mean you must be candid with me?—Yes.

45,496. Now, of the whole of these sums together, was any of it for yourself?—I had it.

45,497. Was it all for yourself, or monies to pay away?—For me to pay away.

45,498. It was not for yourself; it was not given you for the purpose of keeping yourself; it was given to pay for the voters?—Yes.

45,499. Then it was given to pay away?—Yes, that was it.

45,500. Did you receive nothing for yourself?—I did not use all the money, and that is the reason I received it.

45,501. I see, and about how much would that be for yourself?—I should think about 25*l.*

45,502. Can you tell me the names of those you paid money to?—I think I can pretty near.

45,503. Do you recollect paying Anscombe or Hanscombe?—Yes.

45,504. Only 10*s.*?—Yes, that is all.

45,505. Do you recollect paying Brodie 10 guineas, for two other persons as well as himself?—Yes.

45,506. Do you recollect paying a small sum to a man named Kemp, 10*s* ?—Yes.

45,507. And Henry Harvey, 5*l.*; and George Parsons, 1*l.*?—Yes.

45,508. I am telling you what they say; you did pay them? Did you pay George Brown 3*l.*?—Yes.

45,509. Can you tell me any other name?—Palmer, he said 4*l.* 5*s.* I am not certain whether it was 4*l.* 5*s.* or 4*l.* 3*s.* He said he was not canvassed by any of the Monson party, and he had promised me about a month before the election, if I would give him 5*l.*, he would vote for Mr. Monson. I said, "I have not "5*l.* now with me, Palmer." He said, "5*l.* to me will "be better than 10*l.* on the other side." He said, "I "am in difficulties." I said, "If you are in difficulties, it is another thing," and I put my hand in my pocket and gave him 4*l.* When I heard he was not going to vote for Mr. Monson I went to him, and asked him whether it was true he was going to vote for Mr. Gower. He said it was not so. I said, "If "it is true, return me the money;" he said it was not. I went to him again, and he said I should see him at the poll. I said, "Are you going to work for "Mr. Monson;" he said, "Yes," but I knew what it was; he had 4*l.*, whatever it was.

45,510. I will take it as 4*l.*?—I think it was a shilling or so more.

45,511. 4*l.* 10*s.* if you like?—No.

45,512. Well, 4*l.* odd; can you tell me of anybody else?—A man at Bickley.

45,513. Tell us his name?—Knight.

45,514. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who is the other man at Bickley; there are two men there?—Turner and Knight.

45,515. Is one of them a butcher; is that Turner?—Yes, Knight is a cowman I think.

45,516. Knight has not been examined?—No.

45,517. Turner has?—Yes.

45,518. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is Knight's Christian name?—I think John Knight, but I will not be certain.

45,519. What is his address?—Wythey, Bickley Park.

45,520. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When he was in the borough where did he live?—Lesbourne-lane.

45,521. Lesbourne-road?—Yes, that is it.

45,522. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me of anybody else?—A man of the name of Mayle. Frederick Mayle of Redhill.

45,523. Mayle; spell it?—M-a-y-l-e.

45,524. Did he vote for you?—Yes.

45,525. What did you give him?—5*l.*

45,526. Did he vote for you?—No.

45,527. Frederick Mayle; where does he live?—I do not know.

(*A gentleman in Court.*) Walter's-cottages.

45,528. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you got a list of the men you paid money to?—No.

45,529. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell us another if you recollect one?—There is a man of the name of Wood; James Wood.

45,530. He has not put it down to you?—He has not.

45,531. James Wood has not said he got money from you?—I paid him.

45,532. On that occasion?—Yes.

45,533. What did you pay him?—*2l.*

45,534. James Wood of Station-road?—Yes.

45,535. What is he?—A painter.

45,536. Is there anybody else you can recollect?—Yes, I paid a man I think 10*s.*

45,537. Who was that?—He was not a voter.

45,538. Never mind that?—One or two other men I paid 10*s.*

45,539. I will bear in mind the money you paid out, and will count that in; was that all?—Yes.

45,540. You see according to your own account you have received 62*l.*, and you have paid away out of the 62*l.* 30*l.*, and it is not very far off; you say you kept 25*l.* for yourself; it is very near to it, with the 10*s.*; two 10*s.* I think you said?—I said it might be two 10*s.* I employed them and gave them half a sovereign after the election. That is the only payment.

45,541. I do not expect you to make out every shilling, it balances within 3*l.*

45,542. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The Turner of Bickley was Henry Turner, not William?—No, not William.

45,543. Henry Turner has not been examined, I think?—No.

45,544. Do you know whether he received money?—No, I do not.

45,545. I have a sort of recollection that some one went over to canvass him on the part of Mr. Gower?—I know some one went to canvass him on the part of Mr. Monson; I do not know that they did on the part of Mr. Gower.

45,546. I think you are the person that was spoken of as to the canvassing of Knight?—No, I think the Gower party were there.

45,547. Do you know whether the Gower party paid him anything?—I do not.

45,548. You never heard that?—No.

45,549. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was the way you expended the money; so much money you received, and so much money you mentioned you have paid?—Yes, as you say, allowing a margin of *5l.*

45,550. Oh, certainly, you shall have a proper margin. Now, in 1863, you had been taking a part too?—Yes.

45,551. You had been for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

45,552. I think you went canvassing with him a little?—Yes.

45,553. I suppose you were on his committee, but I do not know?—No, I think not; I do not think I was. I would not be positive.

45,554. I dare say you are quite right; tell us, in 1863 did money go through your hands?—Yes.

45,555. What money passed into your hands; not for yourself, you know?—No.

45,556. What money did you pay away in 1863, as far as you can recollect?—I should think about 15*l.* or 16*l.* I could soon give you the voters' names I paid money to, and it would soon tell itself.

45,557. I could help you a little part with that too?—Yes.

45,558. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that the only way you know how much money came into your hands, by going through the evidence; is that the only way you can recollect the amount of money that came into your hands?—Yes.

45,559. By reference to the evidence you know what money came into your hands, and see how it has been expended?—Oh, no.

45,560. In 1865 it is not, as you have given us other names than those who have been before us?—In 1863 I received very little money; it would not require much recollection at all.

45,561. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I can help you. I only know of 9*l.* 10*s.* Thomas Apps 20*s.*; James Childs 2*l.* 10s.; Thomas and George Beales 3*l.*?—I did not pay them 3*l.*; only 2*l.* If I did not I may as well say the truth, I did not pay them.

45,562. Who else did you pay?—George Knight, a brother to John Knight.

45,563. How much?—2*l.* 10*s.* There was James Childs 2*l.* 10*s.*?

45,564. You are sure you paid him?—Yes.

45,565. Quite sure?—Yes.

45,566. I mean, it was not money which passed to him from somebody else than you?—No, I paid him myself. I went and paid it in person. I asked for it to pay them after the election in 1863. I did not pay any till after the election.

45,567. Can you tell me anybody else?—No, I cannot.

45,568. 13*l.* 10*s.*; that is getting on, you see. Do you think you paid any more?—No, I do not think I did.

45,569. You say you paid away 15*l.* or 16*l.*, or rather less?—It might be.

45,570. Can you account for more than 13*l.* 10*s.*; can you tell me what you received for yourself?—Well, Mr. Smith can tell you I think; he gave me after the election a cheque for either 23*l.* or 24*l.* I will not be certain, but Mr. Smith will know, because I signed it to him.

45,571. 23*l.* or 24*l.*?—I think it was.

45,572. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was independent of course of the others?—Yes, that was for myself.

45,573. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now, you see, you recollect very clearly indeed, and tell me very fairly about these two elections; do you go back any further?—No.

45,574. I am sorry for it. I like to make the most of a precise man, and an accurate one; now, you were not here on the former elections?—Yes, I was here, but I had no vote.

45,575. You saw a good deal of them I suppose?—Yes.

45,576. Was there a good deal of treating both in 1865 and 1863?—Yes.

45,577. As much on one as the other?—Yes.

45,578. We have heard 1863 was the most?—I do not know.

45,579. Plenty in both?—Yes.

45,580. Having told me so accurately in 1863 what you spent, and what you got for yourself, and also having told me in 1865, are you aware what Mr. Nichols said yesterday, he paid you in 1863?—He said about 80*l.* Well, he might have done so.

45,581. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a very precise man?—I am not precise at all. I said when making up my account I was not certain of *5l.*; if it came *5l.* over or not.

45,582. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have accounted for 62*l.*, you shall have *5l.* over or under, but 62*l.* is what you accounted for; and you are aware that Mr. Nichols returned you for 80*l.*; here is his evidence. I dare say you know what he said?—I heard what he said; at least, I did not hear what he said, but I heard of it.

45,583. Have you anything to say about that?—I have nothing to say; if he said I had 80*l.* I should say I have had it. I have no recollection what I took; it might be 25*l.* or 30*l.*, or 40*l.* If I wanted 40*l.* I could have had it.

45,584. I am going to give this as your answer if you assent to it, "Having given my account of 1865, I "am still not prepared to contradict Mr. Nichols." Do you mean to say that?—Yes, I do.

45,585. I have been complimenting you, if you will allow me to do so, on your evidence, your precise evidence. I thought you gave a very satisfactory account, but if you say that I am rather afraid I am

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throwing away my compliments?—I have told you the truth.

45,586. Well, it comes to 62*l.*, that is the result of your truth, and I did not doubt your word when you gave it me?—I said then I was not certain within 5*l.*

45,587. You shall take 62*l.* and 5*l.*?—Well, but I might have said 40*l.*

45,588. Well, but 62*l.*; using your own phrase, you shall have a margin; we will call it 65*l.*; or more or less than that?—Yes.

45,589. You have been good enough to tell me particularly when you received particular sums?—I beg your pardon, I could not tell you when I received particular sums.

45,590. You told me you received first in one week, and then others; these subsequent sums were paid after that. I have taken it down, and I was rather pleased with your accuracy?—I have given it very straight.

45,591. But it must occur to you that does not exactly tally with the account?—Very likely not.

45,592. You have told us very clearly your account of disbursements and receipts, so very clearly resembling the one to the other, that it is another reason which makes one think you are most likely to be accurate?—No, I am not.

45,593. Do you think it possible that you might have received 80*l.* from Mr. Nichols?—Yes, I should think I did.

45,594. You have not said that yet; what you said was that "If Mr. Nichols said so I will not say that it is "untrue"?—I cannot say whether he could tell how much. I know I could not, and so I said, "I believe "I had it."

45,595. Did you ever tell Mr. Nichols what sum you had received from him?—No, because I could not; that is very straight.

45,596. Where did he get his 80*l.*?—Where did he get it from?

45,597. How did he arrive at the amount?—How did he arrive at it?

45,598. How did he arrive at the amount of 80*l.* with which he has debited you?—He asked me if I knew what money I had had during that election.

45,599. You gave him the same evidence you have given me?—I said, "I should think 70*l.* or 80*l.*"

45,600. You told him the same story and in the same pleasant way you have told us?—Yes.

45,601. Then that makes 62*l.*?—No, I did not give him the names of all those voters.

45,602. You summed it up?—I summed it up.

45,603. You must have told Mr. Nichols the substance of what you told me?—I did not.

45,604. Can you deny it?—I will deny it.

45,605. Now you are beyond me; I do not quite understand. Mr. Nichols asked you how much money he had paid; is that right?—Yes.

45,606. What did you say to him?—I said, "Some-"thing between 70*l.* and 80*l.*" I am sure I could not remember.

45,607. You did not take the trouble to go through in your own head the amount you have given us?—No, I did not then; I never did to him.

45,608. I mean to him?—Yes, I never did to him; I can answer for that.

45,609. Now tell me, if you please, after the election you received some money, I think, from Mr. Hart?—Not a farthing.

45,610. Then I must have made a mistake, I thought you had?—No, I never made any claim for money.

45,611. Did you not receive any money?—Not a bit.

45,612. I had forgotten the indorsement on some receipt, I thought it was yours?—No, it was not me.

45,613. I thought I had got you in this book, but I have no doubt you are right?—I wish you had.

45,614. It would do you no good?—It would, because I should have it.

45,615. You would have had it, but when it is gone it would do you no good?—If it is there it is false; I do not mind, you will not make me stare.

45,616. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your name is Thomas?—Yes.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I would much rather not give it you; I would much rather not; but it is your handwriting, is it not, at the bottom (*handing paper to witness*)?

45,617. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Across the stamp?—This did not come from Mr. Hart.

45,618. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have not said a word that it did, only that is your handwriting?—That is mine.

45,619. I have not said a word about it yet?—Yes, you did; you asked me whether I had received any money from Mr. Hart.

45,620. Yes, and I have taken your answer?—Yes, but that was from Mr. Nichols. I never had any from Mr. Hart.

45,621. Excuse me, I have not come to this yet. Do you know Mr. Hart's handwriting (*handing paper to witness*)?—No, I do not.

45,622. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) "Received, "29th September 1865, of Thomas Hart"?—No, not a bit.

45,623. I will read it; "of Thomas Hart, agent "for the election expenses for the Honble. E. Monson "at the late Reigate election"—— ?—Yes.

45,624. You can go on?—12*l.*

45,625. 12*l.* for services in canvassing the borough?—Yes, I say I did not receive it.

The Chief Commissioner remarked that he was very sorry, and he did not like the look of it at all.

45,626. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is your signature?—Yes.

45,627. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It is a little bit serious now. Who did you receive this money from?—Mr. Nichols.

45,628. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said that you had received no money after the election?—I was not aware that I had.

45,629. You said you had received all this money before the election; 10*l.* Derby week, and 20*l.* a few months after, and after that, "I am sure I received "nothing after"?—I might have made a mistake.

45,630. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you mean to say you signed that receipt—you can read and write—now be very cautious, for this may proceed further; I would have you be very cautious. I do not at all want to entrap you; be very cautious?—I am sorry I have no recollection of it.

45,631. Do you mean to say that you signed this receipt, written in this way, "Received, the 29th of "September, of Thos. Hart, agent for the election "expenses," when you did not receive any money?—Oh, I received it.

45,632. From whom?—From Mr. Nichols.

45,633. You say here you received it from Mr. Hart. Do not laugh! it is no laughing matter?—I beg your pardon; I said I did not receive any money from Mr. Hart.

45,634. Do not laugh; I tell you it is a very serious matter as regards yourself?—I do not laugh at you.

45,635. It is serious, as your character is concerned. That is your signature?—Yes, it is.

45,636. And do you mean to say that you put your signature to this document, "Received of Thomas "Hart, agent for the election expenses of the Honble. "C. T. Monson at the late Reigate election, the sum "of 12*l.*," when you received nothing?—I do not say I received nothing from Mr. Hart.

45,637. Did you receive anything from Mr. Hart?—No, I have no recollection of receiving a penny.

45,638. Where did you receive that?—In the "Grapes."

45,639. Who brought it to you?—Mr. Nichols.

45,640. Was it in the shape it is now when Mr. Nichols brought it to you at the "Grapes"?—I should think it was.

45,641. Did Mr. Nichols at that time hand you 12*l.* 10*s.*? I should advise you to be very cautious. At that time did Mr. Nichols hand you over 12*l.* 10*s.*?—I have not any recollection whether he did or not.

44,642. At that time did he hand you over 12*l.* 10*s.*?—Well, no, I think not.

45,643. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He did not?—No.

45,644. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why, if you had received 80*l.*, and calculated your own fee at 25*l.*, that is the money that remained in your hand, why did you put down 12*l.* 10*s.* for services?—Why did I put it down?

45,645. Yes, on the receipt. Why did you sign a receipt for 12*l.* 10*s.* when you had 25*l.* in your hands?—Mr. Nichols told me I was to have that; that was what was left, which I did not use; the money which was left.

45,646. Then you did not receive any money at all when you gave the receipt?—I do not understand you.

45,647. No money passed; you do perfectly understand?—I do not, or else I would answer.

45,648. Did any money pass from Mr. Nichols to you at all when you gave this receipt?—Did any money?

45,649. Yes?—Yes.

45,650. At that time?—Yes.

45,651. How much?—I do not know whether it was 10*l.* or 10*l.* 10*s.*; but I owed him something.

45,652. That was not money passing?—Then, 10*l.*

45,653. Do you mean to say, at the time you signed this receipt—you said no money had passed—do you mean when you handed that receipt you received any money from him?—From Mr. Nichols?

45,654. Yes?—Yes.

45,655. How much?—10*l.*

45,656. You adhere to that?—I cannot exactly understand you when you say I am laughing.

45,657. You are not laughing now; oh, no. Did you receive on the 29th of September 1865 10*l.* from Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

45,658. Received from him out from his hand, not off any account?—Yes.

45,659. But received from him?—Yes, received from him.

45,660. In what way, gold or notes?—In sovereigns.

45,661. Then you had received 80 sovereigns from him before?—I might have done.

45,662. You might have done?—I said I could not know.

45,663. That would make 90*l.*?—I said I could not answer as to the exact sum.

45,664. There was 25*l.*, according to your own calculation, remaining in your hands over and above what was paid out, and then you got 10*l.*; that is 35*l.* Why did you not say you got 10*l.* for your services?—I did not know I did.

45,665. Having received 25*l.* from Mr. Nichols remaining in your hands, and then 10*l.* over and above, you do not know why you gave a receipt for 12*l.*; is that what you mean?—Yes; and I am sure I did not know that I had received any money after the election.

45,666. You said so again and again?—If I had I should have said so at first.

45,667. How do you recollect now that you received 10*l.* at the "Grapes"?—When you showed me the cheque I did.

45,668. The cheque would not put you in mind of it, the receipt?—Yes, the receipt.

45,669. What I wanted to say is, when you received 10*l.* why was 12*l.* put on?—I do not know.

45,670. You do not know?—No.

45,671. Does Mr. Nichols owe you any money now?—No, I do not know that he does.

45,672. Does Mr. Nichols owe you any money now?—No, not that I know of; I have got no claim on Mr. Nichols, not that I am aware of.

45,673. I am not saying you have; but does he owe you any money?—No.

45,674. Is there any understanding between you and Mr. Nichols that he owes you any money now?—No, I think not.

45,675. Or that you owe him money?—No.

45,676. You say you received 10*l.* on the 29th in sovereigns, that is the only explanation you can give?—Yes.

45,677. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In both these accounts of Mr. Hart himself—you can read it—here your name occurs in Mr. Hart's account (*showing paper to witness*), and here your name occurs again in Mr. Hart's account (*holding up another paper*), as canvasser, 12*l.*—Not by my sanction; I never knew it.

45,678. But he paid it afterwards?—Mr. Hart never paid it.

45,679. I showed you the receipt which you gave him; you may find it in Mr. Hart's own account, there it is, "Corderoy, 12*l.*"?—Yes, but Mr. Hart did not pay me, that is what I mean; Mr. Hart never paid me. I do not know that I ever had anything to do with Mr. Hart at all.

45,680. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say that out of the 12*l.* there was 2*l.* owed to you by Mr. Nichols?—Owed to me, making up 12*l.*; I did not say he owed it me.

45,681. You said he owed you 2*l.*?—No.

45,682. I want to know what the 2*l.* was owing to you for; you say that you received 10*l.*, and you gave a receipt for 12*l.*; how did you end in giving a receipt for 12*l.* when you only got 10*l.*?—I do not know.

45,683. You said a little while ago that you intended to have from Mr. Nichols what money was owing to you, while you were standing in the box?—No.

45,684. Something very much like it?—No; I beg your pardon.

45,685. Or that you intended to be paid?—No.

The witness then withdrew.

William Holdsworth sworn and examined.

W. Holdsworth.

45,686. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I believe you keep one of the hotels in this town?—A public house.

45,687. The "Red Cross"?—Yes, the "Cross" or "Red Cross."

45,688. What rent do you vote for?—30*l.* a year.

45,689. And who did you vote for in 1865?—Mr. Richardson.

45,690. Were you on his committee?—I do not know. I was on Mr. Monson's committee, but I took a part in it.

45,691. An active part?—I did my best.

45,692. Were you engaged at all in canvassing?—Yes.

45,693. Who engaged you?—Mr. Nichols.

45,694. Did you work entirely under Mr. Nichols?—I did for six or seven weeks; seven weeks, I believe.

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45,695. Did you receive monies from Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

45,696. From time to time?—Yes.

45,697. Did you keep an account?—I kept it in a memorandum book first, but I have not get it by me now.

45,698. What has become of it?—I burnt it about a month ago. I took the leaf out.

45,699. Perhaps you will tell me why you did that?—It was an electioneering affair, and there were certain names in it which I did not wish anybody to see.

45,700. Were those the names of persons to whom you had paid money?—Yes.

45,701. For their votes?—For work done.

45,702. Really for their votes; at this period of the Inquiry you may use plain Saxon language?—I will leave it to you to find out and give a meaning.

45,703. It was in truth for their votes?—The same as the rest, for work done.

45,704. You well understood all the work was done colourably?—I suppose it was; I shall leave that in your hands.

45,705. I do not wish you to leave it in my hands; was it *bonâ fide* or merely colourable work?—Well, I will only say what you think.

45,706. I think it was colourable?—Well, I think it was, it does not signify which way it was.

45,707. As you took the trouble to put those names down in your book they will have impressed themselves on your recollection?—Yes, I have got them all in my head. James Brown, 2*l.* 10*s.*

45,708. He is not a voter?—No; but 2*l.* 10*s.* was given him for William Banks.

45,709. Where did you get the 2*l.* 10*s.* from?—I took it from my pocket.

45,710. Then you did not get it from James Apted?—No.

45,711. Then you gave him 2*l.* 10*s.* to give to William Banks?—Yes; he told you what he did I dare say.

45,712. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He said he had received two sums of 2*l.* 10*s.*, one was paid by H. through Brown, and the other Apted.

45,713. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you know that Apted had paid him 2*l.* 10*s.* besides?—I think so.

45,714. That is one; will you give us another?—Ashdown, 5*l.*; Henry Gray, 5*l.*; Joseph Peat, 5*l.*; —— 10*s.*; Amos Elliott, 10*s.*; Fuller, 10*l.*; Henry Turner, from B., 1*l.* I gave him that to pay his expenses, he did not ask for it.

45,715. Any one else?—No; that is all the money I paid.

45,716. Do you recollect Balchin and Warren being at your house?—I never paid them a farthing.

45,717. Who did?—I do not know. I never did.

45,718. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know if they had been in your stables?—I do not.

45,719. They voted for Gower?—I believe they did.

45,720. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were there any others that you paid?—No, sir.

45,721. From first to last how much did Mr. Nichols pay you?—60*l.*

45,722. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you receive it in one sum?—No; in 10*l.*, 8*l.*, 5*l.* I had 20*l.* at first, and I had 40*l.* afterwards at two or three different times.

45,723. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How much before the election?—The whole of it was before the election.

45,724. Are those all the monies you expended?—Those are all; I had 20*l.* out of the 60*l.* for my services, that was the arrangement with Mr. Nichols beforehand, and there was 11*l.* 11*s.* left, and I spent the money in refreshments. I told him the amount of the money, I told him I had spent that in refreshments and more too.

45,725. Had you any claim for refreshments at your own house?—Yes.

45,726. How much?—About 22*l.*

45,727. Were you paid that simply?—Mr. Hart paid the amount, 37*l.* There was committee rooms, 10*l.* cleaning the house from bills and colouring it, 5*l.* and 22*l.* for refreshments.

45,728. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Hart paid you 37*l.*?—Yes.

45,729. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was after the election?—Yes.

45,730. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where would the 37*l.* be expended?—In different houses where I was and places in going from home.

45,731. Did you attend any of the evening meetings?—Yes.

45,732. Besides those at your own house?—Yes.

45,733. Did you at any time pay money for those parties?—No, only for my own use and standing at the bar perhaps.

45,734. You did not pay the score of the night?—No, not a farthing.

45,735. Do you know on your side who was the paymaster of those meetings?—No.

45,736. You paid this 11*l.* 10*s.* in your own expenses?—Yes, and I have received 20*l.* for myself, and I have spent all that, the 20*l.* I was allowed.

45,737. Beyond the 11*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

45,738. Did you give Nichols receipts for any money you had?—I always told him every time, "This is for so and so," when I had it.

45,739. Is there anything else in regard to the election of 1865 you know of as matter of fact?—No; I cannot tell you anything more than I have told you.

45,740. Were you concerned in the election of '63?—Yes; very little.

45,741. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is it 37*l.* 10*s.* or 37*l.*?—37*l.*, that is right.

45,742. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose you gave Mr. Hart a receipt for expenses in canvassing?—No, I never gave any receipt at all.

45,743. Look at that document (*handing a paper writing to witness*)?—It does not belong to me.

45,744. That belongs to Mr. Hart?—Yes, but it is "Henry;" my name is William.

45,745. It is "for committee room and cleaning "house, 37*l.*," that is yours?—Yes.

45,746. I see you put, "for committee room," and not refreshments?—There were some refreshments.

45,747. Did you explain this to Mr. Hart?—I told him there were some refreshments.

45,748. Which was the larger part of the claim, the hire of the room or refreshments?—I should think the refreshments.

45,749. Was there any arrangement the committee room should be paid for?—I should say 10*l.* or ten guineas, I forget the exact amount.

45,750. With whom was the arrangement made?—I really forget whether it Mr. Hart or Nichols; I think it was very likely Mr. Hart, but I will not be quite certain of it.

45,751. Who paid you the 37*l.*?—Mr. Hart.

45,752. Was it paid by cheque?—I think so, I am almost certain it was, I believe it was.

45,753. What part did you take in the election of '63?—I took but very little. I only took one portion of it. Glover told you the other day as to 10*l.*, getting it for a man named Weedon.

45,754. Did you get the 10*l.*?—Yes.

45,755. Who gave it you?—Mrs. Frederick Joyes; we could not find Fred, and being afraid of losing the man I called at Joyes' house; she said she had got 10*l.*, and gave it me.

45,756. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was used to get Weedon?—Yes. Glover gave it to Weedon.

45,757. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I rather think we had the man?—Yes.

45,758. And you canvassed?—Yes.

45,759. Was that all you had to do in 1863?—Yes.

45,760. And was that all the money that passed through your hands?—Yes, sir.

45,761. And I take '63 was very nearly your first election?—No.

45,762. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

45,763. What did you receive in 1863?—I never received anything, except 10*l.* for Weedon, to pay to him. They had a committee room at my house; 10*l.* I had for it.

45,764. (*Mr Commissioner Smith.*) For how long was the committee room occupied?—For six or seven weeks.

45,765. When was the 10*l.* paid in 1863, how long before the election?—I really cannot tell you at all.

45,766. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was paid? Yes; it was when the election was on.

45,767. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For the committee room, that was paid afterwards?—Yes.

45,768. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When was the 10*l.* paid for the committee room?—I cannot say.

45,769. Was it paid?—Yes.

45,770. At the time of the election, or about?—Yes; I had it soon afterwards.

45,771. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who paid it?—Frederick Joyes.

45,772. I think you said you voted for Mr. Richardson?—Yes.

45,773. You had promised Mr. Monson?—I do not know that I gave a decided promise.

45,774. You had been working for him?—I had.

45,775. And what monies you had expended were for him?—Yes.

45,776. How came you to vote for Mr. Richardson?—I suppose there was a certain move in it.

45,777. Were you asked?—No, I did it on my own responsibility.

45,778. It was arranged he wanted some votes?—Not exactly; there were 13 I think for him.

45,779. When was it you heard Richardson was up?—Nobody asked me to vote for him.

45,780. Were you in committee when it was arranged he should be put up?—No, sir.

45,781. Had you anything to do with the previous elections?—No; but they were nearly the same. I have told you about Wilkinson's.

45,782. Your house being used as a committee room?—That is all, nothing more.

45,783. Were you paid for the hire of the committee room a fair reasonable sum?—10 guineas was not too much at an election for seven or eight weeks here.

45,784. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 37*l.* of Mr. Hart?—Yes.

45,785. And you were paid 10 guineas for the committee room?—Yes.

45,786. And 27*l.* for refreshments?—No; there were bills sticking up over the house, and there was 5*l.* for taking them off and repairing.

45,787. Sticking bills does not destroy the house?—It destroys the colour.

45,788. Take off 5*l.* and we have 22*l.* for refreshments?—Yes.

45,789. And you had 11*l.* 10*s.* for refreshments?—That was for outdoor.

45,790. That was for your own treating?—Yes.

45,791. When did you arrange with Mr. Nichols to support Mr. Monson and get 20*l.* for it?—In the spring; in March or April; the latter end of March or the beginning of April.

45,792. When did you commence to work for him?—Not till six or seven weeks before the election.

45,793. When did you commence spending any of this 11*l.* 10*s.*?—It might be three months before the election commenced.

45,794. I am dealing with a man of substance and a respectable man, and I hope we shall have sensible answers. When did you commence expending any of the 11*l.* 10*s.*?—I cannot tell to a week or two; it might be three months before the election; perhaps not so long.

45,795. Did you get money from Nichols three months before the election?—No.

45,796. How long before?—Perhaps six or seven weeks before.

45,797. You could not commence paying any money for refreshments till then. Was it arranged between you and Nichols you were to treat yourself when you went out for Mr. Monson?—When you go and work hard you want something.

45,798. We have been strict upon poor gardeners and others; let us be just here?—Can you walk about all day and not have refreshments?

45,799. I took a note of it; "I received 60*l.* and "myself 31*l.* 10*s.*; expenses were 28*l.*"?—I had 20*l.* for myself, that was the arrangement between Nichols and me.

45,800. I suppose you neglected your own business very much?—I did indeed.

45,801. One or two other little questions. You fought a little shy as to Mr. Monson when you talked about not having promised him. Do you mean to say you did not intend to vote for him?—I dare say I should if Mr. Richardson had not started.

45,802. Did you intend to vote for Mr. Monson on the evening of the nomination day?—It was arranged the night before.

45,803. Before the arrangement did you mean to give your vote as you had given your influence?—Most likely.

45,804. Is it to be a matter of likelihood; do you mean to say you did not mean to give your vote as you did your influence and services the night before the nomination?—I have told you.

45,805. Did you mean to vote for Mr. Monson the night before the nomination?—I told you I should.

45,806. If you had told me I would not have asked you. Did you not intend to vote for him?—I should, if Mr. Richardson had not come forward.

45,807. Did you not intend to vote for him?—I told you so, probably.

45,808. Had you it in your mind to vote for him the night before?—The day before.

45,809. Was it not understood between you and Nichols that you were not only to work for Mr. Monson, but to vote for him?—I do not think Mr. Nichols spoke to me.

45,810. At the time of the arrangement was it not understood not only you were to work, but to vote for him?—Well, it was so in the first place.

45,811. You are very shy. Were you not one of the persons who proposed or seconded Mr. Richardson?—Yes.

45,812. Who asked you to second him?—I do not know that any one asked in particular.

45,813. Was he proposed by your friend Francis?—Yes.

45,814. And you seconded the proposition?—Yes.

45,815. How came you to fix upon 20*l.* as your figure?—There was no fixing at all, that was my price beforehand. I told Nichols I should have 20*l.*

45,816. Did the other party speak to you at all?—Which other party?

45,817. The Gower party?—We used to be together occasionally.

45,818. Did they wish to engage your services?—No.

45,819. How came you to put it at 20*l.*, why not 50*l.*?—I was satisfied at 20*l.*

45,820. Now, tell me candidly, did you not intend to include your vote in it?—There was no talking about it. I considered I should give it.

45,821. I think you told me you were engaged six or seven weeks?—I was engaged six or seven weeks in canvassing and going about.

45,822. Did you tell Mr. Nichols at the time?—Yes.

45,823. Did you tell Mr. Nichols, "I shall not "support Mr. Monson unless I have 20*l.*"?—He asked me if I would go and canvass, and do what I could.

45,824. For whom?—For Mr. Monson; and I said I would if I was paid properly for it. He said, "What "do you want?" and I said, "I want 20*l.*"

45,825. That would be about 3*l.* a week?—No, not so much. We were all seven weeks I'm sure.

45,826. It would be about 4*l.* 10*s.* a week with the

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11*l.* 10*s.* Now, apart from the money you paid, will you tell me any one man you secured in getting to vote for Mr. Monson ?—I think I have told you.

45,827. You told me who you paid, that is all ?—I really cannot say. I know I asked two or three hundred, three or four hundred.

45,828. But you cannot say any one you secured ?—I cannot say ; I mean independently of that.

45,829. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you be good enough to attend to me, Mr. Holdsworth, particularly for a minute or two. You say you received after the election a bill of 37*l.*, for which I have shown you the receipt from Mr. Hart ?—Yes.

45,830. That was for your room. It is stated in the bill to be for committee room and cleaning rooms, something like that, 37*l.* ?—Yes.

45,831. Did you not receive something more from Mr. Hart ?—No, not a farthing.

45,832. Are you quite sure ?—I think I am almost sure ; I cannot speak positively.

45,833. I want you to be positive ?—I do not think I did.

45,834. I shall help you, perhaps ; I do not know whether I can or not ; did you receive 10*l.* in addition ?—I do not recollect anything of the kind.

45,835. If not from Mr. Hart himself, did you receive 10*l.* for yourself from Mr. Nichols, who paid you for Mr. Hart ?—I do not recollect anything about it.

45,836. Now look here ; opposite your name I have drawn a mark with a pen ; that is Mr. Hart's bill (*showing document to the witness*) ?—This here is all I received.

45,837. Look at the left and you will see a mark with a pen ?—" William Holdsworth."

45,838. Carry that out ?—" 47*l.*" All I had was 37*l.*

45,839. I only want to show you that ?—That is all.

45,840. Be so good as to look at that account in the same way and you will see another mark of mine. (*The document was handed to the witness.*) Down at the bottom, do you see, " William Holdsworth " ?—Yes ; all that I received.

45,841. Answer my question ?—I see " Holdsworth."

45,842. Carry that out ? — " 47*l.* ;" yes. All I received, I will take my oath, was 37*l.*

45,843. I do not say it was not ; how do you account for it ?—I had a cheque on the London and County Bank ; that would be on it.

45,844. I have shown you the mistake ?—Yes.

45,845. I have shown you your name down in two places ?—Yes, that is wrong.

45,846. I have shown you your name in two places for 47*l.* ?—37*l.* is the amount I received, and by a cheque.

45,847. I do not doubt that ?—I know what the 47*l.* is.

45,848. That is exactly what I want ?—Mr. Hart asked me to take a little off the account, and I did do it.

45,849. Did do what ?—I took 10*l.* off the account ; Mr. Hart is aware of that.

45,850. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did you send it in ?—I do not really know the date of it.

45,851. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you send in an account for 47*l.* in the first instance ?—Yes.

45,852. When Mr. Hart asked you to take off 10*l* did you agree at once to do so ?—I hesitated some little time.

45,853. And then you said that you would be satisfied with some little loss ; with 10*l.* less ?—I was not satisfied very well, because I thought I was entitled to it.

45,854. That was at the same interview ?—Yes.

45,855. Then before that 47*l.* was scratched out and a 3 written over it to make it 37*l.* ?—Yes.

45,856. If you look at that you will see, I think, a figure has been scratched out and a 3 put over it ? (*The document was handed to the witness.*)—Yes.

45,857. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you send in two accounts or one ?—No, I believe that is the account.

45,858. And the only one ?—I believe that is the same.

45,859. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me, if you please, a very short history of that ; how came Mr. Hart to question the 47*l.*, or to complain ?—He thought the refreshment seemed to be a great deal of money, and I told him we would not have any words about that. I would give him the lot if he liked.

45,860. It shows how particular you ought to be ; you have charged him for committee room and cleaning room, there is not one word about refreshments ?—I know there is not, but that is what there is, there is refreshment in that as well.

45,861. I want to know what Mr. Hart said about it, if you please, Mr. Holdsworth ?—I cannot tell you any more than what I have said just now.

45,862. Did he at once pay it ?—He said if I wished it he would pay the whole amount.

45,863. He said that ; did he say he would ?—Yes.

45,864. How had you made up the 47*l.* ?—It was the amount for refreshments ; he thought it seemed a great deal of money.

45,865. Can you account how the 7*l.* came into that. I am rather curious to know ?—7*l.* ?

45,866. Yes, 37*l.* ; why was it not 30*l.* or 40*l.* ?—Because I returned that in the amount which was had for refreshments. There was the committee room 10*l.*, and I got 5*l.* for cleaning and colouring the house, and taking the bills off ; the remainder was something about 28*l.* or 29*l.* for refreshments.

45,867. Did you ever send in a bill for 30*l.* to Mr. Hart ?—No.

45,868. Are you sure you did not send in a bill for 30*l.* ?—No, quite sure.

45,869. Did you not send in a bill for 30*l.* to Mr. Hart for committee room ?—No.

45,870. You are clear of that ?—I am quite sure of it.

45,871. Just look at that, " William Holdsworth 30*l.*"; you can tell me what it is. (*The document was handed to the witness*) ?—I do not know about it. never had the money.

45,872. That may have been, may it not, looking at this account ; that may have been part of the 37*l.* That made me ask what the 7*l.* was for. You see you are down in that ; it is not an account sent in. You are down there for 30*l.* ? — I never received that money at all. All I received from Mr. Hart was 37*l.*

45,873. Was your brother a canvasser ?—Well, he went out and canvassed along with me.

The witness withdrew.

T. Page.

THOMAS PAGE recalled and examined.

45,874. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you ?—An auctioneer and surveyor.

45,875. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And assistant overseer ?—No, the overseer.

45,876. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are responsible for the way in which the lists are made out ? —Yes, I have just been attending to the jury list.

45,877. Never mind the jury list, you are responsible for the voters list ?—Yes.

45,878. And have been for some years ?—For three years.

45,879. You are responsible for them, you and your assistant ?—Yes.

45,880. For whom did you vote at the last election ? —For Mr. Monson.

45,881. Were you on his committee ?—No, I think my name did not appear on his committee.

45,882. You assisted him ?—Yes, I worked for him.

45,883. We understand you went with Mr. Nichols to Burton Hall to wait on Mr. Monson?—Yes.

45,884. Did you receive any money from Mr. Monson?—Yes.

45,885. I mean without passing through Mr. Hart's or Mr. Nichols' hands?—Yes, directly from Mr. Monson himself.

45,886. How much?—113*l.* 3*s.*, I think it was; 50*l.* and 63*l.* 3*s.*

45,887. Had you it by cheque?—Yes, both by cheque.

45,888. When had you the 50*l.* cheque?—I think it was about February 1865.

45;889. So early as that?—Yes.

45,890. What was that for?—It was entirely a professional matter between me and Mr. Monson, and it had nothing at all to do with the election.

45,891. I cannot accept that answer; you and Mr. Nichols had waited upon Mr. Monson in the September before?—Yes.

45,892. I cannot accept your former answer; were you aware at that time that a requisition was getting up for him?—I wrote it about the time; no, before.

45,893. That was long enough before?—It was the August previously; here is a copy of it.

45,894. Then I am afraid Mr. Steer was under a great mistake, he said he was composing it at Nichols'——

(*Mr. Steer* (*interposing.*) May I be excused, I said nothing about composing it. Here are the two short-hand writers present, or one of them, and if my evidence is referred to it will be found I said nothing about composing.

45,895. Now, Mr. Page, you say you wrote it?—I wrote it and showed it to Mr. Hanbury and Mr. Phillips, and it was afterwards written on vellum.

45,896. And you copied it?—I did.

45,897. And you put it in circulation?—I did.

45,898. When Mr. Gower decided he would not come forward again?—Yes.

45,899. Then you put it in circulation and got it signed?—Yes, by as many as we could.

45,900. We heard Mr. Nichols received 210*l.*?—I was not here, I have heard that statement.

45,901. 210*l.* for his work in getting that up?—I do not know what his work was.

45,902. Did he take any share in it?—I went down with him into Lincolnshire; the MS. was taken to Lincolnshire, I took it in my pocket.

45,903. What did Mr. Nichols do for the 210*l.*?—I cannot tell you, he was very energetic in assisting and furthering Mr. Monson's plans.

45,904. Can you tell me what Mr. Steer had to do with that?—He was earnest in getting voters, and also for their signatures.

45,905. Shall we say 50*l.* that you received was for your services on that occasion?—It was not.

45,906. Then am I to understand you received nothing for your services in getting that requisition up?—Oh, yes; but the 50*l.* you are speaking of had nothing to do with it whatever.

45,907. What did you get for the requisition?—63*l.* 3*s.* for the requisition and other matters; he reimbursed me in the September of last year.

45,908. How much of the 63*l.* 3*s.* do you think would be paid for the requisition?—I should think 35*l.* It was an arrangement I should be paid for the thing; I was to pay, and he would reimburse me: that was agreed upon. I went down into Lincolnshire to see him, and three or four times I made journeys to London; and my time of course is my money.

45,909. Of course you cannot afford to do that. And then you had several interviews with Mr. Monson in London?—Yes.

45,910. And for your expenses the 35*l.* would be a fair remuneration?—The whole of it was 63*l.* 3*s.*

45,911. You said the 35*l.* for yourself?—Yes, I should think about that, I never kept any particular account.

45,912. What would be the other?—I paid several subscriptions; one was the credit club at Redhill.

45,913. That had nothing at all to do with the election?—Nothing at all; he agreed to pay me, and here is his letter.

45,914. That would be money you paid for him?—He reimbursed me.

45,915. What is the date of it?—The 4th of September.

45,916. I do not want to look at it, but if it is any comfort to you I will do it?—I certainly should wish you to read it.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) "According to pro-"mise, I enclose you a cheque for 63*l.* 3*s.*, and am "very much obliged," &c. (*reading letter*).

45,917. That seems to have nothing to do with election matters?—Nothing at all.

45,918. Did you canvass for him?—I worked as hard as I could, for which, as I told you, Mr. Hart paid me fifty guineas; in my former examination I said that.

45,919. That was your regular canvassing fee?—Yes.

45,920. Had you ever canvassed before?—Yes, and I did not get my canvassing fee. I got nothing. I worked first for Mr. Gower.

45,921. Had you made an arrangement?—Nay; the money would not run out.

45,922. Who did you arrange with?—Partly with Mr. Nichols.

45,923. This time you had an arrangement?—I had an arrangement with Mr. Hart, and gave a receipt for the money.

45,924. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I was looking for it. I cannot find it?—I most undoubtedly gave it.

45,925. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You told us the 50*l.* had nothing to do with the election?—Nothing at all.

45,926. That it was only private matters. I understand that you pledge yourself, and as an honest man, to say that had nothing to do with the election?—It had nothing to do with it any more than two tradesmen's accounts in the way of their business.

45,927. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I will just ask the date of it?—I believe it was in February 1865; I certainly gave a receipt.

45,928. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It does not appear to have anything to do with the election?—Nothing at all.

45,929. The letter seems to confirm all your expenditure; I suppose it was a just account of what you had expended?—Yes, a very just one.

45,930. And he immediately replied, and sent you that?—Yes.

45,931. Did any monies pass through your hands for the purposes of the election?—None whatever.

45,932. You had no connexion with Mr. Nichols?—Nothing in the way of money; I never received a shilling or disbursed a shilling for him.

45,933. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Not on the election?—No.

45,934. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a professional man. How long had you been canvassing. I understand you had a regular engagement to go canvassing from Mr. Hart from the 29th of November 1864?—Yes, and I did most earnestly.

45,935. You had not your arrangement, I think, so soon as that?—I can hardly tell you, but I think it was somewhere about January when we began to assemble ourselves and form a kind of nucleus of a committee.

45,936. You think it was as early as January?—I think it was.

45,937. It would be before February?—I think so.

45,938. And you worked from that time to the period of election?—It would be somewhere about that, or the first time Mr. Gower declared he would not come forward, that I commenced canvassing; it would probably be quite independently of the arrangement with Mr. Hart I canvassed.

45,939. When did you commence your regular canvass?—Six weeks before the election.

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45,940. Did you devote your whole time to it?—Nearly.

45,941. Did you canvass with Mr. Monson at all?—Yes, very often I went about with him; I rode about with him, and walked about with him.

45,942. I suppose Mr. Hart did not canvass much?—We divided our forces where we thought we could do most good.

45,943. Did you canvass with Mr. Richardson?—I did on one occasion I know.

45,944. Did you canvass with Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

45,945. Were you aware money was going?—Of course I was.

45,946. Through Nichols' hands?—I preferred it should go through Mr. Nichols' hands. I never saw it paid. I drew my own inference.

45,947. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I wish to ask you one question or two. You interested yourself about this requisition; I suppose you did as much towards it as anybody else did?—I think I did, quite as much, but it is not for me to boast of my own ability.

45,948. I mean the trouble and pains you were at?—Yes.

45,949. Did you do as much?—I do not know how to measure my services.

45,950. Do you think you did more?—I should think so.

45,951. You drew it up, and when drawn up you went out and about to get signatures to it?—Yes.

45,952. Do you believe you did as much as anybody else?—Yes.

45,953. Do you think you did more?—Probably I might, but I do not know how to measure my services.

45,954. Do you think you did as much as Mr. Nichols?—I cannot say what he did. We worked separately; when he was at one place I was at another, we so divided our services.

45,955. If you went out together to work at the same time?—Canvassing together.

45,956. I am not speaking of canvassing entirely; but do you think you did about the election as much as Mr. Nichols did?—I dare say I did.

45,957. Do you think you did more?—I cannot tell you. I have no standard to measure my services with him.

45,958. Do you think you did as much?—I meant to be as earnest.

45,959. May I say, "I think I did as much about "the requisition as Nichols did"?—Yes, I think so.

45,960. For your services in canvassing were you paid a fee by Mr. Hart?—Yes.

45,961. Did Mr. Nichols help you in drawing the requisition up?—He was not present when it was drawn up, but I have no doubt it underwent his supervision.

45,962. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The draft was your own composition?—Yes.

45,963. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) So far as that would go, you did more than Nichols, for you drew up the requisition and he did not?—His supervision might be of more value than my draft was.

45,964. He settled it?—Yes.

45,965. Were you employed as long about it as he?—We went to Burton Hall together.

45,966. There was this difference, the requisition was lying at his house for signatures?—It was lying all over the parish; there were three copies. I had one at my house, Mr. Nichols had one at his. It was lying in my house when I was there, and when I went out it was in my pocket.

45,967. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) We have been told by Mr. Steer at some time it was lying at Mr. Nichols' for signature?—One of the copies was.

45,968. Was one of them lying at your house when not in your pocket?—Yes.

45,969. Did any persons come and sign it?—Only two voters.

45,970. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And I think you went once or twice to London about the requisition?—Yes.

45,971. And was Mr. Nichols with you?—Yes.

45,972. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Nichols also go alone?—I believe he did.

45,973. Something was said yesterday about a blank cheque. He said it was a cheque lent to you in blank for you to draw for your private account?—It was, I gave him a penny for the stamp.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned until 11 o'clock the following day.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

Wednesday, 26th September 1866.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

J. Croucher.

26 Sept. 1866.

JOSEPH CROUCHER sworn and examined.

45,974. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Mr. Croucher?—A gardener.

45,975. Were you a voter at the last election in 1865?—Yes, sir.

45,976. What rent?—10*l.*

45,977. How do you pay your rent, by the year?—I paid it by the week.

45,978. How much did you pay a week?—4*s.* 6*d.*

45,979. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

45,980. Were you on his committee?—No.

45,981. Who canvassed you for him, and asked you to give your vote?—My brother wrote to me about it to know who I was going to vote for.

45,982. Was he a voter?—No.

45,983. Did you say you belonged to Mr. Gower's committee?—No, sir.

45,984. Were you living here at the time?—No, I was living at Kew.

45,985. How long had you been there?—About three months.

45,986. Three months before the 12th of July?—Yes. I left here about the 1st of May.

45,987. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You left here altogether?—Yes.

45,988. You had given up your house and all?—Yes.

45,989. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You came here to vote from Kew?—Yes, I came down the morning of the election.

45,990. The morning of the nomination day or polling day?—The morning of the polling day.

45,991. Did you receive any money before the election?—No.

45,992. Did you receive any after?—No.

45,993. None at all?—No; I was paid my expenses.

45,994. I did not say for what, but did you receive any money? Who paid you your expenses?—My brother, Peter Croucher.

45,995. And he paid you how much?—30*s.*

45,996. When did you go back again?—The same day.

45,997. And who gave him the money?—I don't know.

45,998. I wish you would tell me, I suppose you know pretty nearly?—No, I saw him in the street.

45,999. Who was he working under, what agent?—I believe it was Durrant that gave the money; he was working for Mr. Gower.

46,000. Was that your first election?—Yes, sir.

46,001. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did your expenses come to?—I think my expenses came to about 1*l.*

46,002. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The fare, first of all?—That would be 7*s.* 6*d.*

46,003. Return ticket?—No; I did not take a return ticket. It is 9*d.* to the Waterloo station the single ticket, and 3*s.* here.

46,004. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You put it, I suppose, as having got 1*l.* for all your loss of time?—Well, I did nothing that day.

46,005. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did you receive per day?—6*s.* wages.

46,006. Well, at most that is all you could have lost?—Yes.

The witness then withdrew.

JAMES WILLIAM SUMNER sworn and examined.

J. W. Sumner.

46,007. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you? I am in the Civil Service; clerk to the works, building a new county prison for Government at Woking.

46,008. You do not now reside at Reigate?—I do not.

46,009. How long have you left Reigate?—Three years, I think.

46,010. How long did you reside in Reigate?—Eight years.

46,011. During that time did you take any part in the elections?—I did in one or two.

46,012. Which was your first?—When Mr. Doulton, Mr. Wilkinson, and Mr. Walters were the candidates.

46,013. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you vote at that election?—I did.

46,014. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who did you vote for?—I almost forget. I voted twice. It was in 1858.

46,015. February 1858?—Yes.

46,016. At that election there was a contest between the Liberal candidates, as to which should stand, and Mr. Doulton gained the ballot?—He did.

46,017. Did you take an active part in that election?—I did, somewhat unfortunately. I took the part of Mr. Walters at that time.

46,018. I will ask you generally without putting any specific question to you. You can tell us what you have to say in respect of that election?—I will as well as I can. Mr. Walters stopped at the "White Hart," and his agent Mr. Cross sent for me. I will speak as accurately as I can, but it is now some seven years since.

46,019. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Cross was the agent for Mr. Walters?—Yes. Mr. Walters was chairman of the South-eastern Railway Company.

46,020. At that time?—Yes.

46,021. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He was the agent of Mr. Walters?—Yes.

46,022. You went to the "White Hart" and saw Mr. Cross?—Yes.

46,023. What time was this, how long before the election?—I can hardly say.

46,024. What took place between you?—I should tell you a ballot was to take place between the three candidates, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Doulton, and Mr. Walters, as to which of the three should stand; and he asked me my opinion as to the policy of speaking to certain parties in order to induce them to vote for Mr. Walters; and I told him my opinion was it would be bad policy to do so.

46,025. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told him you considered it would be bad policy?—Yes; I said, "You may just as well give the town crier 5*s.*, for it "will be all over the town in an hour;" but he persisted in his determination.

46,026. The ballot went on?—Yes; he asked me if I could operate on certain parties.

46,027. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did he say in what way?—He authorized me to pay them.

46,028. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who authorized you?—Mr. Cross.

46,029. What were you to pay the money for?—To vote for Mr. Walters on the ballot.

46,030. Go on with your statement, and make it as concise as you can?—I went to one party in the High-street; a friend of mine.

46,031. Do you remember who it was?—I do.

46,032. What was his name?—I would rather not mention his name unless it is necessary.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) We will hear what it was you said first.

(*The Witness.*) I spoke to him of the matter of the matter of business we had in hand, but he was very indignant, and I came out of the house and did not press it any more. That was all the operation I carried on in the election.

46,033. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know anything more about the ballot?—I know other parties who were operated upon to the same effect, but what they did, of necessity I do not know.

46,034. After the ballot you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—I voted twice for Mr. Wilkinson, but I forget who the candidates were.

46,035. Mr. Doulton was the only Liberal candidate put up?—Who were his opponents?

46,036. Mr Monson and Sir Henry Rawlinson.—I never voted for Mr. Monson or Sir Henry Rawlinson. I always voted for Mr. Wilkinson. I was the first man that voted for Mr. Wilkinson on his last election I believe.

46,037. Do you know anything more of the election of 1858?—I do not.

46,038. Do you know whether money was spent by either of the candidates for the election?—I know money was spent for the ballot.

46,039. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How do you know that, Mr. Sumner?—Because I saw money pass.

46,040. For the ballot?—Yes.

46,041. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you give any instance of money passing?—I know money was given to parties to operate.

46,042. From whom did that money come?—Mr. Cross.

46,043. Do you know to whom it was paid?—He gave me some money.

46,044. Do you recollect anybody else he gave money to?—I think to a young man named Holdsworth, a son of a man who kept the "Bell." It is seven years ago, and I only speak from memory.

46,045. You say money came into your hands for that purpose?—Yes.

46,046. What became of it?—I went to the party, but he refused to co-operate, and I, without being egotistical, felt all along these matters were a disgrace.

46,047. What did you do with the money?—I handed part of it back to Mr. Cross.

46,048. What did you do with the rest?—I kept it.

46,049. How much did you receive?—5*l.*; a bag of silver.

46,050. How much did you hand back?—2*l.*

46,051. What became of the other 3*l.*?—I kept it.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

J. W. Sumner.

26 Sept. 1866.

46,052. Was it applied to the election purposes?—It was not; I went to this party and others, and they were very indignant.

46,053. You retained 3*l.*?—Yes.

46,054. You told me young Holdsworth received some money?—He was in the same room with me, with Mr. Cross.

46,055. But you retained 3*l.*?—Yes, because I felt indignant; and I felt ——

46,056. Well, never mind that; did you see money pass into Holdsworth's hands?—My memory tells me it did; I saw him have a bag of money like me.

46,057. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Why did you not return it all?—I cannot tell you that, except I felt the matter was illegal, and I imagined I might as well have some of it as anybody else.

46,058. But why did you not return it all?—I cannot tell you more.

46,059. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Who is Mr. Holdsworth?—He was the son of a man who kept the "Bell."

46,060. When you left the town what was his occupation, and where did he live?—He was a carpenter; I met him London some six or seven months ago.

46,061. You do not know whether he lived in the town at the time you left the town?—I do not think he did.

46,062. Do you know of money paid by Mr. Doulton for votes?—I never countenanced Mr. Doulton.

46,063. Are you ignorant of anything about Mr. Doulton as to money matters?—I am ignorant of them, except from hearsay.

46,064. And I suppose the same observation applies to Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I know nothing of it.

46,065. Were you in the subsequent election of October '58, when the Hon. Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson were candidates?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson at that time.

46,066. Have you anything to communicate to the Commissioners in respect to that election?—Nothing.

46,067. And shortly after that I suppose you left?—I left about 1863.

46,068. You were present at the election of '59, Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes, I voted three times for Mr. Wilkinson; I had something to do with the election in '63; I was here.

46,069. In '63 you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—I did; I think I was the first or second man who voted.

46,070. That was Wilkinson against Gower?—Yes.

46,071. Were you on Mr. Wilkinson's committee?—I think so.

46,072. Did you take an active part for Mr. Wilkinson?—Somewhat I did, but not particularly.

46,073. Did you canvass?—I did.

46,074. Did any money pass through your hands?—After the election.

46,075. What was it?—A 5*l.* cheque from Mr. James.

46,076. What for?—For travelling expenses, and so on.

46,077. What travelling expenses?—I went to London and Brighton.

46,078. And Mr. James gave you a cheque at Mr. Langridge's at Redhill for 5*l.* Was that the only money you received?—Yes.

46,079. That was something over the actual expenses, I suppose?—Though no money passed betwixt me and the parties, still there is always a little besides that; a little brandy and water, or something like that; 5*l.* more than covered it, I dare say.

46,080. That would be when you were canvassing the voters?—Yes, I brought one down, and had his expenses to pay and so on; that I paid out of my own pocket; I had the 5*l.* some weeks after.

46,081. Who was that?—A man named Bentley; but I think I had the money from other persons as well.

46,082. Did he then come from Bickley?—He came from London.

46,083. Is that the man who came from Chelmsford in Essex?—I got him from London, somewhere in the New-road.

46,084. He was paid twice?—I believe he had money from both sides.

46,085. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is Bentley's Christian name?—I do not know. If I may be allowed to say, previous to the election of '63 I had a conversation with Mr. Nichols.

46,086. With Mr. James Nichols?—Yes, I had a conversation with him at the "Crown" here.

46,087. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long was that before the election?—When the canvassing began.

46,088. During the time that the canvassing was going on?—Yes.

46,089. Whilst Mr. Nichols was acting as agent for Mr. Gower?—I knew he was acting for Mr. Gower, and I was in a small degree, perhaps, acting for Mr. Wilkinson, and I met him against the "Crown;" I suggested to him the propriety, if it was possible, of saving the borough from a good deal of disgrace which had been made in it, and I said, "Let us see if nothing "can be done by both parties," and that the blood money, as I term it, should not pass at that election; term it blood money if you like, I believe it began at Mr. Hackblock's election.

46,090. Were you acting on the same side as Mr. Nichols?—No, opposing him.

46,091. Did Mr. Nichols know that you were opposing him?—Quite.

46,092. I do not expect you got much from Mr. Nichols?—I can tell you what he said, if it would be of any use; I thought it was disgraceful so many public houses should be open in the place, and he said at once that it was only on Mr. Wilkinson's side, and they were obliged to resort to that in self-defence.

46,093. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That was true, was it?—Well, all the public houses were open.

46,094. Was that true which he said, that they were opened on Mr. Wilkinson's side?—It was true; whatever respect and regard I entertain for Mr. Wilkinson, and I entertained a great respect for him, I must say it is true that was so. I called it to Mr. James' attention, and he said it could not be helped.

46,095. What Mr. Nichols said on that occasion was quite true?—Yes.

46,096. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He was fighting you with your own weapons?—Yes, and we were fighting them; I think we were both tarred with the same brush.

46,097. You told him you had an interview with Mr. Wilkinson, you told Mr. James so?—I did.

46,098. Then Mr. James said it could not be done without?—Yes.

46,099. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you filling your public office in 1858?—No.

The witness withdrew.

T. J. Wall.

Thomas John Wall sworn and examined.

46,100. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—An accountant.

46,101. Are you an elector of the borough?—I am not.

46,102. Did you take any part in any of the recent elections of the borough?—I did in both the last elections, 1863 and 1865.

46,103. If you are not an elector, we will take them in the order in which they occurred. In 1863 with whom were you concerned?—I was concerned with Mr. Wilkinson.

46,104. And under whose orders were you acting?—Under Mr. James.

46,105. Had Mr. Wilkinson himself appointed you, or were you appointed by Mr. James?—I was appointed by Mr. James.

46,106. I suppose you were brought down from London by Mr. James to aid them in the business of the election?—Yes.

46,107. Is that so?—It is.

46,108. Will you tell me about how long you were engaged here, either here or in London, about the business of the election of 1863?—First of all I came down in December 1862, and then I came down again in January 1863.

46,109. And then, I suppose, remained till the election?—I then remained.

46,110. The election was, I believe, on the 6th of February 1863?—It was so.

46,111. Then you came down first in December, and returned, and then came down again in January, and remained?—Yes.

46,112. Had you any opportunity of seeing and observing how the business of the election was conducted on both sides?—I had.

46,113. Now, first with regard to Mr. James, what position did you fill under Mr. James; were you his clerk?—No, what I had to do was, I was sent to different parts of the borough to test the people as regarded Mr. Wilkinson.

46,114. Did you go round in different parts of the borough?—I did.

46,115. Did you go alone, or did anybody accompany you?—I went by myself.

46,116. Now, what district did you frequent most in those visits?—Redhill in the first instance.

46,117. Very well, I will take you to the Redhill district; can you tell me what you did in the Redhill district?—I went in the evening and the daytime round places, to get into conversation with the persons, the electors and non-electors, so as to report as to the proceedings with regard to Mr. Wilkinson.

46,118. We are not inquiring here about the non-electors, but the electors; now can you give me any information as to the electors in the Redhill district?—Yes, that they were remarkably favourable to Mr. Wilkinson, of which I made a report.

46,119. You reported that, I suppose, to Mr. James?—Certainly I did.

46,120. Had you any money entrusted to you at all?—No.

46,121. Do you know anything of the expenditure of monies under Mr. James' direction, or by any of the sub-agents in the election of 1863?—Only from what Mr. James told me himself.

46,122. That is quite evidence, you must tell us what Mr. James told you?—After I had returned, prior to my leaving in December, I felt the feeling so strong in Mr. Wilkinson's favour, that I told Mr. James at once that the election was a certainty, and I believed it would have been a certainty on the part of Mr. Wilkinson, because Mr. Norman Wilkinson carried an immense power in the Redhill district, and there were also for the Miss Wilkinsons in Reigate a very strong feeling.

46,123. Do not introduce more names than you can help?—Then I have to state that I felt perfectly certain that the election was a won election for Mr. Wilkinson. I then returned to London, and in January Mr. James sent to me to come down, and to bring a person with me, if I possibly could, who would be likely to have some influence in the way of speaking and conversing with the working classes.

46,124. Which you did?—Which I did do so.

46,125. Who did you bring down?—I brought down a person of the name of Osborne. When I came down Mr. James said that a change had come over the borough, and he wanted me to run about to see how the parties were acting.

46,126. Can you tell me the date of that, when the change had come over the borough?—That must have been before I came down.

46,127. When he told you is what I want?—That would be about the middle of January.

46,128. When you went up it was very favourable, and when you came down you found a change had come over the borough?—Yes; and then I went round with Mr. Osborne to various places in the borough, and I found that the persons wanted employment.

46,129. I suppose you mean voters?—Voters.

46,130. Confine your attention to voters, we do not want to go beyond the voters; the voters wanted employment?—Yes.

46,131. That is, they wanted to be nominally put down for work and to receive money?—Yes.

46,132. Did you find that rather extensive in the district?—I did.

46,133. What class of persons did they include?—I found it even among the respectable persons when I went about of an evening.

46,134. Well, everybody is respectable?—I mean the class above those persons who have to labour for their daily living.

46,135. You mean above that class?—Yes, above that class.

46,136. And including some shopkeepers?—Yes, because when I went to the "White Hart" and various other places I met with those persons; and I found it quite a different tone of conversation to what there was before.

46,137. They then discussed, I suppose, what they were to have?—It was then become a general conversation, I think, throughout the borough.

46,138. As to money?—Yes. I then attended the first meeting of Mr. Gower at Redhill, where I carried an amendment in opposition.

46,139. Never mind that, what I want to know now is about the expenditure of money. You have given us now a very graphic account of how money came to be a requisition; do you know anything about the expenditure?—I do not; on the day of the election Mr. Wilkinson was, about 12 o'clock, ahead, with a large percentage he had then over Mr. Gower. I saw Mr. James at about half-past 1 or 2 o'clock.

46,140. Do not tell us what Mr. James told you as affecting third parties, except it was affecting yourself or the others engaged; what he said affecting third parties we have no right to hear?—No. Mr. James then said, "The election is very strange, what you "tell me is correct with regard to the difference there "is;" he said, "There are persons now standing out, "and the election will be a question of money."

46,141. At 12 o'clock on the day of the election?—No, between 1 and 2.

46,142. He was ahead at 12?—Yes, and then Mr. Gower was going ahead.

46,143. Creeping up?—Yes, he told me that there were 20 persons——

46,144. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He said the election would be carried by money?—Yes, he told me there were 20 voters who were bound together, and wanted a sum of money, which would be at least 20*l.* each, which he did not think it was proper to give to persons in their sphere of life.

46,145. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now just attend to this question if you please, if you know; do you know, or had you the means of knowing, whether there were any persons (I am not asking for the names at all), but whether there were any persons banded together in that way except from what Mr. James stated?—Simply from what Mr. James said.

46,146. You knew nothing else?—I knew nothing else.

46,147. Was there anything else that you can tell us?—After the election and when the petition——

46,148. Oh, we have not got through the election yet; the election then went on, and ended in a small majority for Mr. Gower?—It did so.

46,149. Now tell me this, you attended closely I suppose upon Mr. James, or about Mr. James, during that part of it. I want to call your attention to a particular incident; do you know yourself of any expenditure of money on the part of Mr. James during that time?—No, I do not.

46,150. I dare say you have read it, we have had an incident described here, a very grave one, though it had a ludicrous interest, that of the gingerbread; that of Mr. Joyes being brought in and invited to

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search the room or the mantelpiece of the "Swan," and that he received a parcel of gingerbread which contained 100*l.*; do you know anything about it?—I do not.

46,151. He described that as taking place at that time; you did not know it yourself?—No.

46,152. Or did you know where the money came from?—No, I was sent off directly I could be to do the best I could.

46,153. I suppose the "Swan" was what we call the head-quarters of Mr. Wilkinson at that time, where the committee sat?—Yes.

46,154. Can you tell me who were standing upon the day of polling at the "Swan," I mean the committee there?—I cannot, I had naught to do with the committee, I had only to do with Mr. James.

46,155. Did you yourself know of this fact, we have had it in evidence, that there were voters being brought into the passage and paid there after the names were sent in to the committee?—I saw a number of persons there who I presumed to be voters, and I expect that was their errand.

46,156. You saw them?—In the passage of the "Swan."

46,157. On the morning of the election?—On the morning of the election.

46,158. Are you able to say from what you saw whether they had voted at that time or not?—I should think not.

46,159. You would be able to judge whether they were voters?—I should, beeause I have been engaged in elections some time.

46,160. They were in an attitude of expectancy; do you know anything else of the expenditure?—I do not.

46,161. As well as from that which Mr. James had told you about the change which had come over the mind of the electors as to their hopes, or whatever it was, had you any means of information; did you yourself observe it, or had you the means of observing it?—Yes.

46,162. Did that change include the whole district of the borough?—The whole of the borough.

46,163. The entire part?—Yes, at Merstham and every district I found that that was so, that that was the fact; the fact was, that the electors had been well tampered with.

46,164. You did go out when Mr. James told you to go?—Yes.

46,165. Where did you go to?—I went off with Osborne then to see if we could get any of the electors.

46,166. So as to bring them up, those that were out?—Any of the voters who were out.

46,167. Can you tell me any you pounced upon?—There were several. I had a small list then with their names, which I have not now.

46,168. Did you see voters who had not polled, but who had promised?—I saw very few then, because they were up somewhere with a guardian when I had to call on them.

46,169. They were strong?—Indeed they were.

46,170. You did not see any?—I saw two or three that were out.

46,171. Did you carry things with you, or did the other gentleman who went out after the shy voters?—No.

46,172. That is all very proper, but I have a right to ask you; you had no money?—No.

46,173. Or Osborne either, to your knowledge?—No.

46,174. Did you bring any voters back?—No, I did not bring any voters; the one or two whom we saw they promised they would be up and that they would vote.

46,175. They waited for something else?—Very likely, most likely; that was my impression.

46,176. Could you at all give us the names of those persons?—I could not, because I gave the list in directly I returned.

46,177. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not remember the names of any one?—No, I could not at the present moment.

46,178. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You would have the list given to you and you would return it back again, you would have the description given to you, and you would send it back again to report your fruitless mission?—I should do so.

46,179. Did that deepen the impression, as you said, that nothing but money would do?—Certainly.

46,180. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) In what district did you go to look for these voters?—I went off to the neighbourhood of Redhill; some of them were lounging at the railway.

46,181. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The few you met with you were unsuccessful with; was the subject of money started, or did they evade giving you an answer?—They evaded.

46,182. Did they at all give you, by any hints or otherwise, to understand that they might come if they had money?—No; one or two did speak of others having money, and why should they lose their time.

46,183. That is exactly the hint I meant, that is as much as asking for money, speaking like that to a gentleman of your position; they said others had gone up for money, "and why should we not go up for "money ourselves?"—"Why should we not be paid "for loss of time" they said.

46,184. Did they mention what others had got?—I heard various rumours as I went about the borough; I heard of some tradesmen who had received 5*l.* and of the working classes who had been employed at 5*s.* a day.

46,185. You cannot give me the name of those persons?—I cannot at this time.

46,186. Was that the answer you received from those you happened to meet with?—It was.

46,187. Was there any exception to that answer on the day of the polling?—No.

46,188. Of those you happened to meet with?—No.

46,189. I understand you to say you know nothing of the expenditure of any money on the side of Mr. Wilkinson, or on the side of Mr. Gower, yourself?—No.

46,190. Now about the public houses; I will ask you one question; were the public houses open on both sides?—Yes, no doubt of it.

46,191. You were here in the borough and saw it?—Yes.

46,192. In all the districts?—In most of the districts.

46,193. In most of the districts where the voters were?—Yes, the populous districts.

46,194. Were you down at all in 1865?—Yes.

46,195. Were you at all concerned with either of the conducting agents in 1865?—I was sent from London by Mr. James to Mr. Nichols.

46,196. When did Mr. James die?—That would be about the period of the election.

46,197. But Mr. James sent you down?—Yes, in May 1865.

46,198. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) By whom were you sent?—Mr. James.

46,199. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And put in communication with Mr. Nichols?—With a communication to Mr. Nichols.

46,200. And by that communication you were put in communication with Mr. Nichols?—I was.

46,201. Did you remain long in the borough in 1865?—I did not, for I had to make my report to Mr. James as to how I found the borough.

46,202. He died in November last year?—It would be after November, the election; November, I think, would be the time of his death, after the registration; he attended the East Middlesex registration.

46,203. Then you made your report of the state of the borough to Mr. James?—I did.

46,204. How long did you remain in the borough, in Reigate, when you came down, about how long from the first night?—From the first night I remained down altogether two days.

46,205. Two days ?—Two days and two nights.

46,206. Did you go about the borough ?—Yes.

46,207. Did you go into the different districts of the borough ?—Yes.

46,208. Then you made your report ?—Yes.

46,209. Did you see voters ?—I went to the house the voters used.

46,210. What did you find then with regard to the voters ?—I found then what I reported, that Mr. Monson had not the slightest chance, and that the agents were perfectly reckless in their manner of doing work.

46,211. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is what you observed ?—Yes, and what I reported.

46,212. Never mind what you reported; what did you observe yourself, if you please ?—That the agents of Mr. Monson were remarkably reckless in their conduct and in their talking. I saw Corderoy and others about, and I could see that they had monies to spend, and it was perfectly reckless on the part of Mr. Monson; there were really no business habits among the persons who had Mr. Monson in hand.

46,213. They were reckless, in what way ?—In spending money.

46,214. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) A want of organisation ?—In spending money at public houses.

46,215. A want of organisation ?—Yes, they were all at sixes and sevens.

46,216. At the time you went money was being expended ?—Yes.

46,217. By those, as you say, who had Mr. Monson in their hands ?—Yes.

46,218. That was what you observed in May, early in May ?—Yes.

46,219. Can you tell me what time of the month you came down, because it will be important with reference to one or two transactions ?—In the early part it must have been.

46,220. Before the Derby week ? — Before the Derby week.

46,221. Did you return at all to the borough after that ?—I did not after, it was perfectly hopeless.

46,222. I want this cleared up; I understand you came down to make inquiries, upon Mr. James' instructions, as to what was Mr. Monson's chance ?—I did.

46,223. You had no communication yourself with Mr. Monson personally ?—No.

46,224. Had you any communication with Mr. James afterwards, with regard to the Reigate election ?—Only to see him and make my report with regard to the state of the borough.

46,225. You had no communication except sending your report to Mr. James ?—No.

46,226. Do you know yourself what interest Mr. James had, or what object he had, in sending you down ?—Yes; Mr. James was then engaged on the Wilkinson election; he had been engaged on the Reigate election formerly; he wanted to know the exact state of the borough, and wanted to know the feeling, and he sent me down.

46,227. He wanted to ascertain the feeling as regards Mr. Monson ?—Certainly.

46,228. Had you instructions to ascertain the feelings of the borough as regards Mr. Gower ?—No.

46,229. But did you, as a fact, know from your own observation, whether money was being expended at that time on behalf of Mr. Gower ?—I came to that conclusion.

46,230. From what you saw among the electors ?—From what I saw, certainly. They were acting in a very systematic manner, were the Gower party.

46,231. For example, had you an interview with Mr. Job Apted ?—No.

46,232. Did you see any of the heads of the Gower party ?—I met some of them when I was walking about.

46,233. You judged from what you saw that they were acting systematically and expending money ?—Yes.

46,234. Is there anything else, Mr. Wall ?—No, save this; when the petition was withdrawn from the House I was in the lobby of the House of Commons.

46,235. You mean in 1863 ?—Yes, I was there then.

46,236. That was a petition on the part of Mr. Wilkinson against Mr. Gower, charging bribery ?—Yes.

46,237. Did Mr. Wilkinson claim the seat in that petition ?—I did not see the petition.

46,238. From what you know did he claim the seat for himself ?—No doubt.

46,239. Now tell us what you were going to say ?—I was told then of the compromise. Mr. James told me of the compromise, that Mr. Gower was not again to present himself to Reigate.

46,240. Did he tell you why ? We want to know the reason of the compromise ?—That I had from Mr. Dann.

46,241. I will not hear any information except from Mr. James. Mr. James was the conducting agent for Mr. Wilkinson ?—Yes, he was.

46,242. Was he engaged in the petition ?—He was.

46,243. Now, tell me, not as to what Mr. Gower had done, but tell me the reasons he assigned for the compromise ?

The Commissioners consulted, and it was decided not to take an answer to the question.

46,244. I do not want to go into the terms of the compromise in any way. The gentleman who will give us the real explanation of it is not here. Is there anything else, Mr. Wall ?—No.

46,245. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to ask you a question about 1865, Mr. Wall. You came down here, by Mr. James' desire, about the 8th or 9th of May to see the condition of the borough ?—Yes.

46,246. Can you tell me a little more closely what he sent you down for, if you can recollect; what directions he gave you. To see what was the state of the borough; in reference to what ?—To Mr. Monson.

46,247. Did he mention his name ?—He did so.

46,248. Was it to inquire into the state of the borough in case he might wish to send down any candidate, or was it to inquire as to the state of the borough in case he wanted to send down Mr. Monson in particular ?—Mr. Monson only.

46,249. His name was mentioned ?—Yes.

46,250. Do you know yourself what relation there was at that time between Mr. James and Mr. Monson ?—I do not.

46,251. Do you know whether there was any or not ?—I do not know whether there was any.

46,252. Do you know whether there was subsequently ?—No.

46,253. You do not know whether any relationship was entered upon afterwards ?—I do not. I had naught to do with the election after my return and making my report.

46,254. You had nothing to do with the Reigate election after the month of May ?—None.

46,255. Then you do not know of any relation existing between Mr. Monson and Mr. James after that ?—No, I do not.

46,256. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Although you do not know that Mr. Monson did, do you know who instructed Mr. James ? — That I cannot say, though I can give a shrewd guess.

46,257. Is that guess of yours founded upon facts known to yourself ?—Oh, yes.

46,258. Then, we must have it. Who instructed Mr. James ?—I should presume ——

46,259. I mean facts, arising from facts known to yourself ?

46,260. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You had better give us the facts on which you found the presumption ?

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—Only from knowing that Mr. James was originally acting under the instructions of a person.

46,261. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) With reference to this election?—With reference to elections generally.

46,262. Was it with reference to this?—I do not know with regard to this one; I do not know whether he was or not.

46,263. Is that the only reason?—That is the only reason.

46,264. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was Mr. James a kind of London general agent for elections?—Yes.

46,265. On the side of the Liberal party?—On the side of the Liberal party. He had Middlesex, he had Westminster, he had Surrey.

46,266. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You mean he took an active part in those elections? You do not know what his office was?—He was the agent for the Liberal party.

46,267. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You understand my term "general agent"?—Yes, he was the advertised agent.

46,268. For general information?—For the particular elections to which I alluded, such as Middlesex, Westminster, and others.

46,269. But you know this; there are some agents in London who act as a kind of general agent; for instance Mr. Roberts, who took a very wide extent of country?—Yes, I am aware that Mr. Roberts does.

46,270. Was Mr. James an agent of that class?—No. Mr. James at the last election had, I presume, three or four in which he was acting direct himself; and then he was acting with others.

46,271. What was it brought Mr. James' attention to the borough of Reigate in 1865? He had left it in 1863?—That I do not know.

46,272. That is the very general knowledge we want to get before you can tell us Mr. James' connexion with the borough?—He sent for me; I went and saw him. "Now" he said, "you must go down "this evening to Reigate; go and see how the land "stands."

46,273. Was that the first time you had an interview with Mr. James in reference to the election of 1865?—It was.

46,274. Had you been with Mr. James before at all?—Oh, yes.

46,275. On other matters?—Yes; I had been with him before that time. I had been engaged with him on the Westminster election.

46,276. I mean recently?—I was at that time.

46,277. Were you acting in his office?—No, not in his office; mine was always outdoor work.

46,278. For election purposes?—Yes.

46,279. Then does that fact bring to your knowledge that Mr. James had some specific instructions with regard to Reigate?—I can only presume so; I cannot say for certainty.

46,280. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You think a man would not have sent you down to Reigate unless he had been instructed?—Certainly not.

46,281. We all presume that, and of course you cannot presume that more than others?—No.

46,282. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you any other grounds (don't tell me the name) for suggesting the name of the person who instructed Mr. James, other than what you have just told us?—None.

46,283. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to ask you one question more. Go back in your mind to the election in 1863, when you went to the "Swan," and saw Mr. James, and he told you that 20 voters were banded together and would not vote unless they got such a sum of money as would amount to 20*l.* each. On that occasion did you hear anything about railway voters?—I did not.

46,284. Or anything in particular at any time about that?—No.

46,285. Do you know which way they voted, what are called the railway men?—I do not. I know they were remarkably favourable to Mr. Wilkinson.

46,286. And they did vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—They were remarkably favourable towards him.

46,287. Are you aware of any money going to them at that time?—I am not.

46,288. Had you any information at all as to who these 20 men were?—I had not.

46,289. Not as to their names. But you said Mr. James said it was not proper to give so much money to men in their condition in life. That was your answer. Did he specify anything more?—No.

46,290. He did not specify what their condition in life was?—No.

46,291. Do you remember his putting accurately that expression, "It is not right to give so much "money to men in their condition of life"?—Those were the words which he made use of.

46,292. Or at any rate the meaning?—Yes.

46,293. What did you understand from that?—That these men were waiting and getting their price up, so as to vote at the last moment and get the most they could.

46,294. Did you suppose that the price of 20*l.* a head, supposing it came to that, was too high for such men?—Yes.

46,295. Did you understand anything further than that?—No.

46,296. Well, there is another inference very obvious from it. You did not understand anything further than that?—No.

46,297. You knew nothing about money being paid away on that occasion?—I did not.

46,298. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You say your duty was to attend upon Mr. James in 1863?—I had not to attend upon him. What I had to do was to go about and see how the feeling was as to the candidates.

46,299. I mean on the day of polling?—On the day of polling? I had a roving commission on the day of polling.

46,300. Then you were about the borough, wherever you thought you could be of service?—Yes.

46,301. Then you were not much with Mr. James at the committee room?—No.

46,302. Did he occupy his time chiefly at the committee room, so far as you know?—I presume he did.

46,303. Were you from time to time visiting the committee room where Mr. James was?—Very seldom I did that.

46,304. Did you go to the committee room between 1 and 2, when you told Mr. James there were 20 voters holding out?—I did not tell him so; he told me so.

46,305. Where was he when he told you?—He told me at the committee room.

46,306. At the "Swan"?—At the "Swan."

46,307. Did you see Frederick Joyes on that day?—Yes.

46,308. Did you see him after Mr. James had told you there were these 20 men holding out?—No, I did not.

46,309. Did you mention to any of the supporters of Mr. Wilkinson the fact that there were 20 voters holding out?—Certainly not.

46,310. Not to any of them?—No.

46,311. Not to Mr. Joyes?—No. It would have been an injury.

46,312. And you had your information from Mr. James?—Yes. You see it was after 1 o'clock that the great mischief was done. There was great delay in regard to the issuing of the writ.

46,313. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) During your intercourse with Mr. James, and while you were upon the particular subject of your visit in 1865, was any name mentioned by Mr. James to you?—Only that of Mr. Monson.

46,314. No other name of an intermediate party?—None.

46,315. I mean while you were upon the very sub-

ject of the election?—None; no other name was mentioned to me.

46,316. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Now that you have had time to think, Mr. Wall, let me ask you a question before you leave the box. Do you now recollect any of the names of the persons, one of those 20 voters who was holding out?—I do not, because I was never told the names of them, or who they were.

46,317. I thought you said you had seen a list?—Oh, no.

46,318. Did Mr. James tell you how long he had received that information, that there were 20 voters hanging out?—He did not.

The witness withdrew.

George Hewitt sworn and examined.

G. Hewitt.

46,319. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you, Hewitt?—A whitesmith.

46,320. Do you live here?—No.

46,321. Where?—In London.

46,322. In 1865 were you a whitesmith here?—Yes.

46,323. What rent did you pay for your house?—7*s.* 6*d.* a week for house and shop.

46,324. Whom did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

46,325. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

46,326. Who put you on?—I was put on at the first general meeting.

46,327. Who asked you to go for Mr. Gower in particular?—No one before Mr. Gower himself.

46,328. But after that; were you not acting under any of his sub-agents?—Yes, I was.

46,329. Who was it principally?—Mr. Penfold and Mazden.

46,330. Did you pay away any money during the election to anybody for them?—No.

46,331. What money did you receive yourself?—I received 2*l.* in November.

46,332. From whom?—Mr. Penfold.

46,333. Anything else did you receive?—No.

46,334. You received nothing before the election for yourself?—No.

46,335. And only that 2*l.* from Penfold afterwards?—Yes.

46,336. You are sure there was nothing else?—Quite sure.

46,337. Did you send in any bill for anything at all?—No.

46,338. Had you been concerned in the election of 1863?—Yes.

46,339. Whom did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

46,340. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

46,341. I suppose you were living here then?—Yes, at Mead-vale.

46,342. What money did you receive in 1863?—Altogether about 4*l.* 10*s.*

46,343. Who from?—Ephraim Rose.

46,344. Was that after or before the election?—I had 1*l.* before and the rest after, as near as I can recollect.

46,345. I dare say you are correct about the sum?—I am correct about the sum.

47,346. Had you been in any previous election to that?—No.

46,347. Had you done anything in 1865 besides having your name put on the committee?—I was engaged.

46,348. In doing what?—In canvassing and going round of an evening.

46,349. Did you succeed in getting any votes for Mr. Wilkinson?—I don't know. I suppose it was owing to some three or four of us that he got the majority of them in Mead-vale to side with us.

46,350. Are you able to tell me of any vote you got yourself, any man whose vote you secured for Mr. Wilkinson?—No, I am not at present, not to say I got it myself.

The witness withdrew.

James Parker sworn and examined.

J. Parker.

46,351. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you vote at the last election?—No, in 1863.

46,352. Have you left here then?—I have left Redhill.

46,353. Since 1863?—Since 1863.

46,354. And you did not vote in 1865?—No.

46,355. In 1863 what rent did you pay for your house?—18*l.* a year.

46,356. What were you?—Seedsman, greengrocer, and fruiterer.

46,357. For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

46,358. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

46,359. You canvassed for him?—Yes.

46,360. In what way?—By speaking to different friends that I knew had a vote, and saying they should vote for Mr. Gower.

46,361. Just as you met them in the street, casually?—Yes.

46,362. You voted, and did you get paid?—I got paid afterwards.

46,363. Who paid you?—Mr. Apted.

46,364. Which Apted?—Job Apted.

46,365. How much were you paid?—I was paid 5*l.* for the whole time.

46,366. How much time did you give?—From the beginning of the election to the end.

46,367. You told me you did nothing but merely ask a few friends as you met them in the street?—Yes, in the evening. I was always about. I was about every day.

46,368. After your shop was closed?—Before my shop was closed. I went round in the morning, in the morning before dinner.

46,369. Then did you take your walk and meet your friends?—Yes, I used to walk then.

46,370. How much time did you occupy in walking about and meeting your friends?—I don't know, I am sure; perhaps two or three hours some days.

46,371. Did you call at anybody's house?—No, I never called at anybody's house except the fishmonger's house, shop close to me. That is Mr. Miles.

46,372. Was he on the committee too?—Yes.

46,373. It was not much use calling on Mr. Miles if he was on the committee?—That was before; he was not on the committee at first.

46,374. Then did you persuade him to go on the committee?—After I had talked to him a time or two his name was put on.

46,375. Then he was always next door to you?—No, about two minutes' walk.

46,376. But that did not interfere very much with your time?—No.

46,377. That was the only house you called at?—The only house I called at.

46,378. And the others were friends that you casually met in the street?—Yes.

46,379. Were you at the nomination?—Yes, I was.

46,380. Did you charge anything for coming to the nomination?—No.

46,381. That was a portion of your time?—That was a portion of my time.

46,382. I suppose that was taken into account in the 5*l.*?—Yes.

46,383. And the polling day?—That was all in the 5*l.*

46,384. How much of the 5*l.* did you put for the nomination and polling day?—I do not know. I

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never thought anything about that, because that was the agreement. I was to have 5*l.* to get all the voters I could for Mr. Gower.

46,385. When was the agreement made?—That I cannot say. It was quite the early part, when there was a talk about the election.

46,386. Was the sum mentioned?—Yes, at the time.

46,387. 5*l.*?—Yes. I was to get all the voters I could.

46,388. Who was the agreement made with?—With Mr. Job Apted.

46,389. Did you take any part in previous elections?—No.

46,390. That was your only election?—That was the only election.

The witness withdrew.

F. Mayall.

FRANCIS MAYALL sworn and examined.

46,391. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mayall?—A mason.

46,392. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes, I did so.

46,393. What rent did you pay for your house out of which you voted?—Well, it has been 6*s.* 6*d.*, but I think the good lady lowered it a little.

46,394. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson this time.

46,395. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—Not much.

46,396. Were you on?—Not very much. I was on it perhaps a week or nine days. Something of that sort.

46,397. Who put you on it?—Mr. Corderoy.

46,398. He was, I think, in the building line?—Oh, we worked together before now.

46,399. Mr. Corderoy had some money going; what did he give you?—I voted free. I never received anything until after I came out.

46,400. That is the way to put it. What did you get after you came out?—Oh, "a fiver."

46,401. From whom?—I think it was from him. I was going to ask him to have a glass with me. He was missing; I could not see him when I looked round.

46,402. Who gave you the "fiver"?—Corderoy.

46,403. Where?—At the new public house near the station. I never could get hold of the right sign.

46,404. Well, we will take it, as you have described it, geographically, "the new public house near the "station." At Redhill?—At Redhill.

46,405. Now, you voted in 1863?—I voted once before that for Mr. Wilkinson.

46,406. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

46,407. What did you get for that?—I was on the committee three weeks, and I received the fee which was allowed by Mr. Wilkinson, the plumber; John Wilkinson, I believe. Nothing more.

46,408. What did you get?—Wilkinson came to me the other day and asked me what I did get. I said, "You ought to know;" and I told him I did not know whether it was 5*s.* a day or 5*s.* 6*d.*

46,409. You were paid every day for three weeks?—Three weeks. I attended of an evening and three or four times a day.

46,410. We will take it at 5*s.* 6*d.* Were Sundays included, do you know?—I do not think we did much business on Sundays; we were at work all the week.

46,411. But I mean in the pay; did they count six days or seven days?—Six days we always worked.

46,412. That would be 33*s.* a week, and for three weeks that would be 4*l.* 19*s.*; and you say you got 5*l.*?—Oh, yes, you are right.

46,413. Were you acting under Mr. Wilkinson? Did he put you on the committee?—Yes; I tried all I could to get voters, but I think they all run away from me.

46,414. I mean, was it Mr. Wilkinson who put you on the committee?—That is it.

46,415. He put you on the committee. You tried a number of men, and they all ran away from you?—That's it. I could not keep them together.

46,416. You had no money?—That's it, I had no money.

46,417. Were you paid weekly or after the election?—Every week, and two days after the election; I think it was on the Saturday evening after the election I was paid, which I did not expect anything for the last week, but Mr. Wilkinson said, "Oh, yes, "you'll be paid."

46,418. Do you recollect on what day of the week the polling took place?—I think it was the Thursday.

46,419. Had you voted before?—No, not in my time.

46,420. Were you at all canvassed on the part of Mr. Gower's side before Corderoy got hold of you?—Well, I was asked, but I did not attend.

46,421. Who asked you?—Mr. Featherstone asked me if I could come forward, and there was no answer given, and I did not attend above twice.

46,422. Were you offered anything?—No; they said there was none.

46,423. They said there was none, and that would not suit you?—We asked a little for our trouble, but we were not covetous, when we come to lose time running about, and one thing and another.

46,424. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which Wilkinson was it?—John Wilkinson, the plumber.

46,425. John Wilkinson, Station-road?—Yes.

46,426. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you know whether Mr. Wilkinson the plumber had paid other men besides you?—I had seen him about, but I do not know whether he was paying them or not.

46,427. With whom did you see him?—We should not mention the name of the dead you know; no further I will not go.

46,428. Have you no other name to mention? Do you know of any person alive now that you saw him with?—No.

46,429. Do you know under whom Mr. Wilkinson the plumber was acting?—I do not know.

46,430. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not know who supplied him with the money?—No, I do not.

The witness withdrew.

J. Wood.

JAMES WOOD sworn and examined.

46,431. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you on the register at the last election?—Yes.

46,432. Did you vote?—Yes.

46,433. What were you?—A painter.

46,434. What rented house do you occupy?—22*l.* a year.

46,435. Are you a master painter?—No, a journeyman.

46,436. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Mnoson.

46,437. Were you on his committee?—No.

46,438. Did you receive anything on account of the election?—Not a farthing.

46,439. Did any money pass through your hands?—No.

46,440. Did you take an active part in the election of 1865?—No.

46,441. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes.

46,442. For whom?—Mr. Wilkinson.

46,443. Did you take an active part in the election?—No.

46,444. Did any money pass through your hands or come into your hands?—No.

46,445. Not on account of the election at all?—No.

46,446. Do you know Corderoy?—I do.

46,447. Did you have any transaction with Corderoy with reference to the election?—Not that I am aware of; if I did I have forgotten it.

46,448. What is your address, Mr. Wood?—Stanley-cottage, Station-road, Redhill.

46,449. Is there any other James Wood there?—Not that I am aware of.

46,450. Did you have any conversation with Corderoy with reference to the election?—Yes, I think I did.

46,451. And with reference to your vote?—Yes, I did.

46,452. Was any promise made by Corderoy with reference to your vote?—There was.

46,453. In the shape of money?—There was a promise that I should receive something.

46,454. What was it?—He did not tell me what it was.

46,455. Have you received anything from him?—Not that I am aware of; if I have I have forgotten it. If I had received anything I don't think I should have forgotten it.

46,456. The promise was made before voting?—Before voting.

46,457. On what day was the promise made?—I cannot tell you; according to my memory I cannot recollect.

46,458. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What were you to receive?—I really cannot recollect what it was.

46,459. What did he promise you?—He promised that I should receive something, but what it was I can't recollect.

46,460. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was he working with you then?—Yes.

46,461. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were to receive something, of what kind?—I am sure I can't tell you. He said he would "make it all right" with me, that's all.

46,462. For what?—Why, for my vote, I suppose he meant.

46,463. And you say you have no recollection of receiving anything from him?—I have not.

46,464. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or any amount being mentioned?—No.

46,465. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did he give you?—Not anything at all.

46,466. You mean that? You did not state that positively?—He never gave me anything that I am aware of. I do not recollect anything in the shape of money, nothing of the kind.

46,467. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or in money's worth?—No.

46,468. Could he have paid you any sum of money and you have forgotten it?—I think not.

46,469. Now, then, I will tell you; yesterday he said he had paid you a sum of money, 2*l.*?—Paid me?

46,470. Yes?—I must contradict it. I never received it.

46,471. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But you have not said that to-day, Mr. Wood?—I never received the 2*l.* from Corderoy.

46,472. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) We took the address he gave, which turns out to be your address; "James Wood, Station-road." That is the only person of the name of James Wood on Station-road?—I believe it is.

46,473. Therefore he could not refer to anybody else but you, and you say that is not true?—I am certain of it, I never received it. If I recollected receiving it I would tell you in a minute, but I do not.

46,474. Can you say positively that you never received 2*l.*?—I can say that I never did receive the 2*l.*

46,475. That you can say positively?—Yes, I can.

46,476. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Why are you more positive now than you were two minutes ago? Two minutes ago you could only say that you could not remember it. What makes you more positive now?—You said two sovereigns. I say I never did receive two sovereigns.

46,477. From whom did you receive the two sovereigns?—Not from any one.

46,478. You began by saying, "I have no recollection of receiving anything from him"?—No more I have.

46,479. Then I suppose you have no means of speaking more positively now than when you made that answer?—I know I did not receive anything from him.

46,480. But you did not know it a short time ago; you only said you had no recollection of it?—I could not recollect receiving any; if I had I should have named it.

46,481. I quite agree. Is it not possible it may have escaped your recollection although you received it?—It might be, but I think if I received it I should not have forgotten it.

46,482. Do you recollect receiving any money at all after the election from Mr. Corderoy on any other matter?—No.

46,483. Nor before the election?—No.

46,484. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you working as a fellow workman with Corderoy?—Yes.

46,485. Not under him, or he under you?—No.

46,486. Then you had no business transactions with Corderoy?—I was working with him for Mr. Killick.

46,487. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He has given your name as one of the men that he has paid 2*l.* to; now, I am afraid your memory sometimes is not good?—No, I think it is not. But I do not recollect his giving me two sovereigns. If he had I think I should have recollected it.

46,488. Your memory is not good, yet you think that if two sovereigns had been given to you you would recollect it?—I think I should, most likely.

46,489. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are your wages a day?—4*s.* they have been.

46,490. Paid weekly?—I was, when I worked for Mr. Killick; I worked for him 13 years.

46,491. You see two sovereigns coming into your possession at one time would be a large sum at your rate of earnings?—I should like to have seen it.

46,492. And if you had received it would it have impressed itself upon your mind, when your earnings were 24*s.* a week?—I should have pressed it into my pocket if I had had the chance.

46,493. Never mind about that, I want to test your recollection, to see how far your memory will help you. It is very nearly double your week's earnings?—Yes.

46,494. Taking that fact, are you able to say, positively, one way or the other, whether you received that two sovereigns, or not?—I can say I never received it, not from my knowledge; I can't say further. If I had received it, and it had been in my mind, I would have named it in a moment.

THOMAS CORDEROY recalled and examined.

T. Corderoy.

46,495. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told me yesterday, among other persons, that you paid a man named James Wood of Station-road, a painter, a sum of 2*l.*?—Yes.

46,496. Is that Mr. Wood (*pointing to witness*)?—That is Mr. Wood.

46,497. Where was it you paid him?—1*l.* in Mr. Killick's shop, and 1*l.* in the "Grapes."

46,498. I think you told me that before?

(*The witness Wood.*) You paid me 1*l.* in Mr. Killick's shop! (laughing incredulously).

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

T. Corderoy.

26 Sept. 1866.

46,499. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I dare say, Mr. Wood, that will help you. You spoke to the best of your recollection?—Yes, I did so; but I never received it.

46,500. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Neither in Mr. Killick's shop nor at the "Grapes"?—No, nor at the "Grapes."

The witness Wood stood aside, and Corderoy took his place in the box.

46,501. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Corderoy, you recollect the circumstance of the receipt yesterday?—Well, I have spoken to Mr. Nichols about it.

46,502. You recollect it; I only call it to your attention now?—Yes.

46,503. Therefore be cautious. Who was present when you paid this man 1*l.* in Killick's shop?—I don't think any one.

46,504. No one was present?—No.

46,505. Who was present when you paid him at the "Grapes"?—No one. Directly after he had the money I know he went and paid a man half a sovereign out of it.

46,506. Did you make any memorandum of when you paid this man the sovereign?—No.

46,507. Did you make any memorandum of when you paid the second sovereign?—No; some one else knows that I did pay him.

46,508. Who?—Frederick Killick.

46,509. I asked you whether any one was present?—He was not present, but I mentioned it to him.

46,510. Don't tell me what you mentioned to Frederick Killick. I asked you, was any one present. When did you pay him the sovereign, in Mr. Killick's shop?—Four or five weeks, on the Saturday night, before the election. It was while I was working, before I left off work, for Mr. Killick to go on day work, canvassing.

46,511. Four or five weeks before the election?—Yes; I will tell you the bargain that was made.

46,512. Very well; what was the bargain?—The bargain was; when he was working in the shop, I said, "Well, Wood, what are you going to do about this "election?" He said, "I don't know." I said, "If "you will come on to work for us I'll give you 1*l.* a "week." He said, "Very well." As that might be on the Thursday, I received my money on the Saturday from Mr. Killick, and I gave Wood 1*l.* from the wages I received from Mr. Killick.

46,513. You paid him out of your own money?—Yes.

46,514. Out of your own wages?—Yes.

46,515. Then the agreement was that you were to pay him 1*l.* for four weeks up to the election?—It was not stated then when the election was to be.

46,516. No; but 1*l.* a week up to the election?—1*l.* until the election. Then the next Saturday night I paid him another 1*l.*

46,517. Was that out of your own monies?—No, that was some money that I had received from Nichols.

46,518. But you know you had received monies from Nichols long before?—That is right; but then I paid him as I was in the shop.

46,519. But you had monies of Mr. Nichols in your hand at that time?—I had; but then I had this very money that I had taken.

46,520. You had considerable sums of money of Mr. Nichols at that time?—Yes, but, as I stated, at that time I gave him this.

46,521. Where was Mr. Nichols' money?—It might be at home.

46,522. It might have been. Where was Mr. Nichols' money at that time? You know?—It might have been in my pocket; I might have had the money in my pocket.

46,523. Mr. Nichols' money might have been in your pocket, and yet you paid him out of your wages?—Just as I received it from the desk I gave it to him on that Saturday night.

46,524. And you paid him the second out of what? Out of the money I received from Mr. Nichols.

46,525. And nobody there at all?—No.

46,526. And you were to pay him 1*l.* a week?—Yes.

46,527. Why did you not continue to pay him 1*l.* a week?—He said, "The election is coming off in a "fortnight, and I ought to have 5*l.*" I said, "Look "here, a bargain's a bargain, you must substantiate "what you agreed to." He said, "Very well." I said, "You shall have the 1*l.* a week on the polling "morning."

46,528. No, no, there is another week before that? I never paid him more.

46,529. Why? A bargain is a bargain, and there were three weeks to be paid; why didn't you pay him the third week?—He never came to me for it.

46,530. Did he not come to the shop as before?—He was at work at that time.

46,531. And you continued to work with him?—No, I was not at work in the shop, I was at work canvassing.

46,532. Why didn't you pay him the third sovereign? Because he said he would not vote for Mr. Monson without he was to have 5*l.*; there was to be four weeks, and he was not agreeable to do that.

46,533. Is that it; that he went away from his bargain? Is that the reason?—Yes, that's the very reason.

46,534. Is that the reason you assigned to me first?—Yes, I said I agreed to give him 1*l.* a week. When he found out that the election was coming sooner than the five weeks would be, he objected.

46,535. He objected to what?—He objected to voting for Mr. Monson.

46,536. When?—I should think the week before the election.

46,537. Then why did you not pay him the third week?—Because he said he would not vote for Mr. Monson for the 4*l.*; he could get more the other side.

46,538. Did you go and pay him the third 1*l.*?—No, I did not.

46,539. Why didn't you?—I don't know why I didn't, I know I went over for him in the morning.

46,540. When did you go over for him? in the morning?—The polling morning.

46,541. Where did you meet him?—I didn't see him at all; he was not at home.

46,542. Did you go for him?—I went to the house, he was not at home. I asked Frederick Killick, "Go "and see if Wood is going to poll."

46,543. Did you see him?—No, I did not.

46,544. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you send Killick to him?—Yes.

46,545. Which Killick was that?—Frederick Killick.

46,546. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When was that?—After I had been.

46,547. When was that?—On the polling morning; I went over there with my trap about 9 o'clock.

46,548. Then you sent Killick to him?—Yes.

46,549. I suppose you had told Killick at that time that you had given him the two sovereigns?—Yes, I did, and he knows it well when I paid him.

46,550. Do not tell me what he knows, because he was not there?—I told him of it.

46,551. Did you tell Killick that he had to get two sovereigns more?—Yes, I did; I said he would have to have 1*l.* a week.

46,552. Did you tell Killick that if he had 3*l.* more he would vote?—I do not know that I did.

46,553. According to your agreement with him, if he was to receive 3*l.* more he would vote?—Yes.

46,554. Did you tell Killick that?—I do not know that I did; I would not be answerable that I did.

46,555. Did you give Killick any money to give him?—No.

46,556. Why? You had money in your pocket that you had received from Mr. Nichols?—I did not give him any money.

46,557. Why didn't you?—I don't know why I didn't.

46,558. You had a considerable sum of money in your pocket; why didn't you?—I don't know why I didn't. I went over early in the morning, and if he had voted I should have paid him, according to the agreement, 1*l.* a week.

46,559. Who brought him to the poll?—I don't know. I told Killick the reason. I said, "I know "what he's waiting for; he's waiting back till 1 "o'clock for a lot." About that receipt of Mr. Hart's, I will explain it to you.

46,560. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) If you like to say anything about it you can?—I should. I went straight to Mr. Nichols' after that about this receipt of money to Mr. Hart.

46,561. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) After what? After my examination; because I could not make it out then. I did not know that I signed that receipt when I told you. Mr. Nichols asked me to sign that receipt, and of course I thought it was for Mr. Nichols; I never knew it was going to Mr. Hart. I never knew Mr. Hart had an account of mine. I said I received 10 sovereigns, and I do not know what the date of that cheque is now. That is the time I received the money. I never received a farthing when I signed that receipt.

Witness here handed in an account to the Commissioners.

46,562. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) This is a bill to you, from Joyes and Nichols, for work?—Not for work, it is for clothes.

46,563. You were indebted to Joyes and Nichols?—Yes, that was on the Saturday night; and when Nichols paid me the money I went up and paid it immediately I received it.

46,564. Was that transaction of giving the receipt to Nichols on the 30th of September?—That is.

46,565. I mean that one which was produced yesterday and signed by you as the receipt given to Mr. Hart?—I did not know that it was going to Mr. Hart.

46,566. Was it the same transaction, this bill being discharged and your giving that receipt to Mr. Hart?—No.

46,567. What has this bill got to do with that receipt?—Just to show you that when I signed that receipt I never received a sixpence or a shilling. I was asked to sign that receipt; I never so much as read it; I thought it was for Nichols to put in his accounts.

46,568. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) By whom were you asked to sign the receipt?—Nichols, I told you yesterday.

46,569. You were asked by Nichols to sign a receipt for 12*l.* from Mr. Hart?—I did; I never received the money.

46,570. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How does that bill of 5*l.* 10*s.* call your recollection to the circumstance of giving that receipt for 12*l.* as from Mr. Hart; what connexion has that bill with it?—Not any. I distinctly said here I never received any money after the election, and I say so now; only the money I had to pay this bill with. When I signed that receipt I never had a sixpence.

46,571. But it is more than that bill?—10*l.*, I say, he gave me, and I said so yesterday. I think you said he was indebted to me 2*l.*; I said he was not.

46,572. That would make, not 10*l.*, but 15*l.* 10*s.* if you put that bill to it?—He gave me 10 sovereigns, and I went up and paid Joyes. I did not receive any money after the election. When I went home one Saturday night my wife said, "There's a bill from "Joyes and Nichols;" else I never received a farthing after the election.

46,573. You received the 10*l.* from Mr. Nichols at the "Grapes"?—That was it, and that bill was paid five minutes afterwards on the very Saturday night.

46,574. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) But at the time you signed that receipt you did receive some money?—No, not a halfpenny. I said so distinctly yesterday.

46,575. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Where did you get the money to pay the bill with?—Mr. Nichols gave me the money on Saturday night; but that was not the time I signed that receipt.

46,576. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You did not receive any money, you say, from Mr. Hart?—No.

46,577. You signed this receipt, and it is dated the 29th of September?—Yes; I do not suppose I read it when I signed it.

46,578. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The date is in different ink from the body of the receipt, and that appears to have been put on the day of the receipt?—That is the only bit of mine (*pointing to the signature.*)

46,579. No; at the top?—No, that is not mine.

46,580. That "29" is the same handwriting as the "12" at the bottom?—Yes, I should think it was; I never so much as read it, and I never knew it was going to Mr. Hart.

46,581. Do you mean to say you only received 10*l.* on that 12*l.* receipt?—That's all I received. I received 10*l.* when I had to go and settle this bill. I never received a halfpenny when I signed that.

46,582. But that bill is dated the day after?—Yes, I am sure I did not know the date of that.

46,583. How came you to sign the receipt the day before you received the 10*l.*?—I don't know. Nichols called me in there and asked me to sign this receipt, and I signed it. If it had been for 100*l.* I might have done the same. I never received a farthing.

46,584. Surely something more was said to you when you were asked to sign a receipt without any money?—No, there was not.

46,585. Is it usual for persons to sign receipts for money without receiving anything?—I do not know, but I foolishly did then.

46,586. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Don't say "foolishly"?—I speak the honest truth.

46,587. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Attend to me. I hope you are speaking the truth. Can you tell me whether it was on the 29th of September or not, the date of that receipt, that Nichols called you into the house?—I know I went in, but the day of the month I cannot tell you.

46,588. Can you tell me whether it was in the month of September?—That I cannot tell you.

46,589. Was it more than two months?—Yes, it was.

46,590. We will take it so, that you were called by Nichols into his house?—Yes.

46,591. What did he call you for?—To sign that.

46,592. He placed the document before you?—Yes.

46,593. Can you tell me whether the whole of that was filled in at the time you signed it?—No, I could not. I don't think I read it at all. I have no recollection of reading it.

46,594. Now, Corderoy, you see the word "twelve"?—I see the "twelve."

46,595. That is not in the same handwriting as the rest of the receipt, neither, apparently, is the date; September, at the beginning?—No.

46,596. That is apparently not in the same handwriting. Are you able to tell me from your memory whether that word and those figures "29th" were in the receipt at the time you signed it; aye or no?—I am not able to say.

46,597. You cannot say?—No, I cannot.

46,598. Try and recollect this, because I want to get an answer to the question. Can you tell me when you signed the receipt what was done with it immediately afterwards?—I cannot.

46,599. Where were you when you signed it?—

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

T. Corderoy.

26 Sept. 1866.

In the "Grapes;" it was put on the table in the commercial room, and I don't think I know the time of the day.

46,600. Never mind that?—But I know it was in the commercial room.

46,601. Who was by and asked you to sign it?—Mr. Nichols.

46,602. Did you then sign it?—I did.

46,603. I want you to answer me this. When you had signed it can you recollect what happened; what was the next thing; perhaps you cannot tell me?—I don't think I was in the house a moment.

46,604. Never mind the moment. If it be only half a moment, what was done directly after you had signed the document; what did you do with it?—I did not have it at all.

46,605. You put it out of your hand, I suppose?—Yes, it was put on the table and I signed it.

46,606. Do you recollect what you did next?—No, I don't.

46,607. Do you recollect what became of the document?—Mr. Nichols had it.

46,608. I want you to tell me what was written on it at the time?—I do not think he wrote anything, he did not while I was there.

46,609. You knew it was a receipt, because you signed it on a stamp; give me a reason why you signed it?—The reason why I signed it was, because I thought the account was from Mr. Nichols to go in to Mr. Hart. I did not know then what it was.

46,610. Then that, probably, was not your reason; now give me the reason why you did sign?—Why I did sign?

46,611. Yes?—Mr. Nichols asked me to sign it, and I signed it on behalf of him; not on behalf of Mr. Hart.

46,612. What do you mean by signing "on behalf" of him?—Because I had had the money before, and I thought I was going to send in the account as my claim.

46,613. You mean you had had the money before as one of the sums which you did not mention yesterday?—Yes.

46,614. That was three months before, but the money you received before was previous to the election?—Yes.

46,615. Now, you say that you thought Mr. Nichols was going to send this in to Mr. Hart in order to square some account between him and Mr. Hart?—Yes.

46,616. Don't be in a hurry, if you please; I want to go cautiously. I don't at all understand what your story is about paying a bill to Joyes and Nichols; when did you do that?—On the 30th; that is when I got the receipt.

46,617. That is, the next day?—But I did not know it was the next day till I saw that receipt.

46,618. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You told us you went direct from the "Grapes"?—Yes, that is right.

46,619. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you went and paid the bill, was it the same day that you received the money?—No, it was not. That was on the 29th and this is the 30th, the next day.

46,620. The next day you went to Joyes the tailor, and paid him a bill you owed him?—Yes, that bill amounted to 5*l.* 10*s.*

46,621. Where did you get the money to pay with?—From Mr. Nichols, the same time; five minutes before I paid it.

46,622. Did you receive any money from Mr. Nichols the day after you signed that receipt?—It must have been, because this was the 30th, and that was the 29th.

46,623. You told us before, and told us yesterday, that you had not received any money from Mr. Nichols then?—Yes, I had; but I did not know that I had till I found this bill.

46,624. The bill would not remind you?—Because I distinctly denied it.

46,625. How would the fact that you ascertained having paid Joyes the tailor a bill on the 30th September remind you that you received money from Mr. Nichols after the election?—How would it remind me?

46,626. Yes?—Because I got the money off from Mr. Nichols.

46,627. On the previous day?—The same evening.

46,628. The same evening that you paid the bill?—Yes, I did not have it five minutes.

46,629. Then the day after you signed the receipt you got the money from Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

46,630. Why did Mr. Nichols pay you 10*l.*?—I do not know.

46,631. A man does not pay money for nothing?—I often borrowed money from him, and I went to him very likely, and he gave me the 10*l.*

46,632. Was it a loan?—No, I did not take it as a loan.

46,633. Give me an answer? This was the 29th September, a long time after the election—Yes.

46,634. If it was a loan, let it be so. Why did Mr. Nichols give you 10*l.* on the 30th September?—When we settled up before the election I went and signed the receipt. I went to him, and said, "You "have a bill against me for clothes." He said, "Yes, we will strike it off." I said, "I had rather "have the money, and pay it myself."

46,635. You would rather have what money?—The money and pay the bill.

46,636. What money? He did not owe you any money?—No, the money that he gave me.

46,637. You won't march straight up to the point?—Yes, I will.

46,638. I dare say you will when you know it. What money was it? He did not owe you 10*l.*?—Not that I am aware of.

46,639. Then you said you would rather have the money?—That was when he was going to strike off this bill in my account; the money that I had had before the election.

46,640. But that account was completely closed?—Yes.

46,641. Then there was an end of it, and he owed you nothing at all, and had nothing to set off against it, neither had you anything to set off against the money he paid for you. Therefore it is still to my mind unexplained why Mr. Nichols gave you 10*l.* on the 30th September?—I don't know why he did. He might explain that perhaps better than I can; I only explain it in that simple way.

46,642. You are not simple, you are an intelligent man, and I want you tell me how that was. The election accounts between you and Mr. Nichols had on the 30th September been for a long time closed?—Yes.

46,643. And there was an end of them?—Yes.

46,644. Then it is to me incomprehensible why, on the 30th September, there being no election account between you at all, Mr. Nichols should hand you over 10*l.* I am not talking about this receipt at all; never mind that?—No. I know he did.

46,645. Why did he? On what account?—I do not know I am sure.

46,646. You know you volunteered us this explanation; we did not ask you for it?—No, I wished to give it.

46,647. But do you yourself think it is an explanation? That is a fair question?—Yes, I think so.

46,648. Tell me, how is it an explanation?—I do not know what you mean.

46,649. I want your construction upon it. I cannot understand why Mr. Nichols should advance you 10*l.* on the 30th September. It might be a loan of the 10*l.*, but that was an odd thing to do, because you were going to pay him and his partner a bill out of it; therefore that was an odd thing to do.

46,650. Well, we will ask Mr. Nichols about it?

—Perhaps he can explain it better than I can. There was another man in 1865. I forgot yesterday that I paid something to him.

46,651. Let us have it?—A man named Chapman.

46,652. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What is his address?—He is away from Reigate now.

46,653. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is he to be found?—Yes. I do not know his directions; I think it is somewhere at Chislehurst. I can find out. He was on the register for Mead-vale.

46,654. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Thomas Chapman?—No.

46,655. Benjamin Chapman?—Yes.

46,656. Of Mead-vale?—Yes.

46,657. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) How much?—5*l.*; and there were three I think in 1863.

46,658. In 1863. Who were they?—I think Woodman 2*l.*

46,659. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which Woodman?—Woodman in Mead-vale, and there was Ards. I think Ards was 3*l.* 10*s.*; I won't be certain. And there was Creame I think 4*l.* 10*s.* That is all that I can recollect.

46,660. Those were in 1863?—Yes.

46,661. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you quite sure you paid those yourself?—Yes, I never paid any money only what I paid myself.

46,662. That is what I mean. You paid them with your own hand?—Yes.

46,663. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you recollect how much of this receipt you wrote yourself?—Yes, I do.

46,664. How much?—That "T. Corderoy."

46,665. That was all?—Every bit.

46,666. Do you know Mr. Nichols' handwriting?—Only by his signature; the name "J. Nichols," in the way he writes it.

46,667. Look at that "29th September" 12*l.*, and "Received" across the stamp. Are not those in Mr. Nichols' handwriting?—I should rather think that was.

46,668. Is that writing in the body of the receipt in Mr. Nichols' handwriting? "Twelve"?—I do not know it.

46,669. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Look at it; it is as plain as print. Do you mean to say you signed that without reading it? It is as plain as print?—I do not know whether I read it or not; I did not take any notice of it.

46,670. To a man in your class and condition of life it is as plain as print, "Received of Mr. Hart the "29th September 1865,"—"Of Mr. Thomas Hart, "agent for the election expenses for the Honourable "Mr. Monson." Do you mean to say did not read it?—I did not.

46,671. I defy you to put your name to it without reading it. Was it folded down?—No. I might have read it, but not taken notice of it.

46,672. Is that the only scrap of paper in existence between you and Mr. Nichols?—Yes, that is the only scrap. I should not have known that I signed it if you had not shown it to me.

46,673. That is the only scrap of paper between him and you?—Yes.

46,674. And you received, how much? 80*l.* and 10*l.* is 90*l.*?—Yes, I did not know that I wrote the receipt till you showed it to me.

46,675. You denied it upon your oath?—Yes. I had not the least idea, because you mentioned Mr. Hart's name; that was the reason I was confused.

46,676. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Look again at the receipt; can you tell me who wrote the word "Received"?—No, I cannot.

46,677. Did you write it?—No, I do not believe so; it is so different.

46,678. Are you able to say whether you wrote "Received" or not?—I cannot tell you.

46,679. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I asked you just now if it was in Mr. Nichols' handwriting?—I do not think it is in mine.

46,680. I did not ask you that. I asked you if it was in Mr. Nichols' handwriting?—I should think it was his handwriting.

46,681. Can you say whether the "twelve" in the body of the receipt is?—I cannot.

46,682. To the best of your knowledge is it in Mr. Nichols' handwriting?—I cannot say.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES WOOD recalled and examined.

J. Wood.

46,683. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Have you heard Corderoy's evidence about paying you money?—Yes, I have.

46,684. And attended to it?—Of course I did.

46,685. I mean what he has just stated?—What he told you.

46,686. What he has just said about his having paid you?—Yes.

46,687. Now then, having heard it, what is your opinion about it. You know he stated the fact, and he stated something else along with it. He stated some accompanying fact about Killick, a man to whom he paid something, and so on; now, does that remind you of anything that took place?—Not the least sir, I do not recollect receiving any amount from Corderoy.

46,688. That is what you stated before?—Yes, I state that now.

46,689. Do you go beyond that? You say that you do not recollect it?—I do not; if I did I would say so.

46,690. I dare say you would, but then you are not prepared to go so far as to say that you did not receive it?—I do not recollect it.

46,691. You see there is a difference; very likely you are quite correct, but you do not say more than that you do not recollect receiving the money?—I do not.

46,692. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Frederick Killick come to you on the morning of the polling day?—Frederick Kellick came to me.

46,693. What took place between you and Frederick Killick?—Killick promised me, very fairly, the quarter's rent, but I never received a fraction.

46,694. Are you his tenant?—No, he said he would pay that for me.

46,695. He said he would pay a quarter's rent for you?—Yes.

46,696. Did he mention to you the name of Corderoy?—Not that I am aware of.

46,697. Did Killick take you to the poll?—I do not know. I have no recollection; I know I polled for Monson.

46,698. You do not recollect whether Killick took you to the poll?—I do not believe he did. I do not recollect.

46,699. How soon after Killick promised you the quarter's rent did you poll?—I really cannot tell you that.

46,700. Do you recollect whether you went with anybody to the poll?—No, I do not.

46,701. What time did you poll?—I cannot tell you.

46,702. You do not know the time?—No.

46,703. Was it before dinner or after?—I really cannot tell you.

46,704. What became of you after polling?—I cannot tell you that.

46,705. You don't know that?—I went home, I suppose.

46,706. Did you go back to work?—I really cannot tell you.

46,707. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What rent do you pay?—22*l.*

46,708. Have you any recollection at all about it,

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whether you received the money or did not. Corderoy is very particular in stating that he paid you ?—I have no recollection of receiving a farthing from Corderoy.

46,709. You went further than that before ?—I say that I never received any from him ; not no money from Corderoy, not to my knowledge. I cannot say more.

46,710. That is denying it, you know ?—Well, I never had it.

46,711. You never had it; you pledge your oath to that ?—Not to my recollection, I never did.

The witness withdrew.

F. Killick.

FREDERICK KILLICK sworn and examined.

46,712. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—A painter ; a foreman.

46,713. Were you foreman upon the premises where Wood and Corderoy were working at the time of the election ?—Yes.

46,714. Were you a voter ?—Yes.

46,715. What rent are you paying for your house ?—13*l.* I think you had my evidence.

46,716. Have you been examined before ?—Yes.

46,717. Oh, then I need not have sworn you again. Have you been in Court and heard the evidence during the time that Wood has been examined, and Corderoy ?—Yes.

46,718. I will just ask you, did you go to Wood on the polling day ?—I did, and I will tell you what it was in consequence of.

46,719. Stop a moment. Before you went had you seen Corderoy ?—Yes.

46,720. Had you received any instructions from Corderoy regarding Wood ?—No, none whatever, only that he said that Wood did not seem inclined to vote, and he was afraid the other party would get hold of him ; would I go over and see that he polled. I went in consequence of that.

46,721. Was anything said by Corderoy about the money being paid to him ?—I had heard before that Corderoy promised him 1*l.* a week to work till the election came off. I do not think Wood was at work for us at that time, because he had been ill and was away from the shop, and I do not think he was at work with us at the time of the election.

46,722. Was he at work with you some fortnight or three weeks before the election ?—Yes, he was.

46,723. Which was the last Saturday night before the election that he was at work ?—I cannot recollect. I can tell you by referring to the book. He told me himself that Corderoy had made an arrangement with him that he was to go to work and have 1*l.* a week till the election came off, and Wood likewise told me after that that he had been taken in by Corderoy, because the election was coming off sooner than he anticipated, and the consequence was that he would not receive so much as he expected.

46,724. When did you hear that from Wood ?—I cannot recollect the date.

46,725. Before the election ?—I cannot recollect whether it was before the election or after, I rather think it was before ; and another thing I can fix the payment from Corderoy by is, that Wood owed a man in the shop 10*s.*, and the man thought it was hopeless till he ascertained that he had had 2*l.*, and by that means he obtained the 10*s.* from him.

46,726. Who was that man ?—His name was Notley. He took the opportunity of getting the money owed to him by Wood from Wood at the time.

46,727. Do you know that Notley received the 10*s.* from Wood ?—I believe he did ; he told me so himself.

46,728. Was that during the time that Wood was working at your establishment ?—I do not know that he was working at that time, because I know he was ill about that time; in fact, he has worked very irregularly for us for some years.

46,729. Do you know whether he was to receive wages then ?—Well, he received wages when he worked.

46,730. Corderoy received wages ?—Up to a short time of the election ; he was then away for a few weeks.

46,731. Did you see Wood about your premises up to the last week or day that Corderoy was on the premises ?—I do not know, but sometimes he would call in on a Saturday night to see the men when he was not at work.

46,732. Saturday night was the usual time for his calling in ?—Sometimes he would call in to see the men.

46,733. You saw him upon the polling day ?—Yes.

46,734. When you called upon him did you offer to pay a quarter's rent for him ?—Never. Nothing was mentioned about a quarter's rent, or any money that I should give him ; nothing at all about it whatever. It is an utter falsehood. And another thing I heard was, that he said he would do some one in our shop a "dot."

46,735. A what ?—A "dot."

46,736. Never mind about that. Did you offer him anything ?—Nothing at all. I think we went and had something to drink at Langridge's, that is all.

46,737. When you saw him on the morning of the polling day, did he promise to vote ?—I did not doubt for a moment but what he would vote.

46,738. You did not go with him ?—I do not know whether we walked up to the house at Redhill or not.

46,739. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have been acquainted for some time with Wood ; you say he has not been regular at work ?—No, he has had a good deal of illness.

46,740. Do you know of what kind ?—He had gout, rheumatic gout, and fits besides.

46,741. Epileptic fits ?—Yes.

46,742. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know whether that has had any effect upon his memory ?—Yes, I am sure it has, because one week he had to lose his time because he could not account for how he had been employed. He could not tell the next day what he had been employed at on the previous night.

46,743. Did you hear from Corderoy that he had advanced 2*l.* ?—I heard from Corderoy ; he told me the next morning.

46,744. Did you know it from Wood himself ?—Yes, I did.

46,745. What did Wood tell you ?—He told me that he had been taken in, or something to that effect, by Corderoy, as Corderoy had promised him 1*l.* a week till the election came off, and the election was coming off sooner than he expected.

46,746. That is not telling you that he had had 2*l.* advanced ?—He also told us that he had received 2*l.*

46,747. Why did you keep that fact till the last ? You came up here to give an explanation. If he told you that he had received 2*l.*, why did not you tell us that at first ?—I was not aware but what I had told you.

46,748. You certainly did not ?—If you had asked the question I should have told you.

46,749. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I asked you the question ?—Did you ?

46,750. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did he tell you he had the 2*l.* ?—I do not know whether it was before or after the election.

46,751. You gave us a reason ; because he paid a man to whom he owed 10*s.* ?—That was when he received one payment.

46,752. When did he tell you that he had had the money ?—I do not know exactly when he told me.

46,753. Was it after the election ?—He had received some money previously.

46,754. Was it after the election that he told you he had received the money ?—I do not know whether it was. It might have been ; I cannot fix the date.

46,755. It might be after the election that he told you?—Yes; it might be before.

46,756. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What Wood stated about the agreement for the rent you say was "a lie." Probably, your own subsequent account of his memory being bad may justify you in withdrawing that remark, and applying a less strong one; it may not have been a lie; it might have been a mistake?—I don't know; I don't see how a man could make such a mistake as that.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If he could not recollect what work he did the day before, on one occasion, he might very well have forgotten such a thing as this.

46,757. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I am glad you gave your evidence.—I thought justice required it.

The witness withdrew.

JAMES NICHOLS recalled and examined.

J. Nichols.

46,758. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have been sworn, Mr. Nichols. Look at that document (*handing a receipt to witness*).—Yes.

46,759. Do you know that document?—I know it, sir, because——

46,760. First of all, do you recognise the document?—Yes.

46,761. Look at it again, and tell me how much of it is in your handwriting?—"29th" and "twelve."

46,762. Is there any more?—No.

46,763. Look at the word "Received?"—Yes, that is mine, and the figure "12."

46,764. Can you tell me anything about the history of that document?—I paid Corderoy 10*l.* He owed me two, that he had a week or two previously. He offered to pay me a bill that he owed at my shop, and I said, "I would rather that you would go and pay the "bill yourself."

46,765. I understand. You would much rather he should pay the bill himself. Well, that is very likely; but then that does not affect this document?—No.

46,766. Well, I want the history of this document. It is signed by Corderoy; he acknowledges his handwriting?—Yes.

46,767. How is that?—The document, so far as I see of it——

46,768. I wish you to keep it in your hand.—That is made by Mr. Hart's clerk.

46,769. So I thought it would turn out. That is made by one of Mr. Hart's clerks, and drawn partially in blank, because you filled in the "twelve"?—Yes, quite so.

46,770. Well, can you go on and tell me anything further of the history of that document?—No.

46,771. You cannot tell me anything about it?—Except that it was for what I considered was due to Corderoy.

46,772. Do you know anything about the history of how you got it completed. You know Mr. Hart's clerk, or whoever handed it to you, handed it drawn in blank, and it has been at some time or other filled up?—Yes.

46,773. It came into your possession evidently in blank, without dates or figures?—Yes, and it was filled up on the 29th September 1865.

46,774. By you?—Yes.

46,775. How was that?—I suppose——

46,776. Do you remember the fact, or do you now remember the document from reading it?—That is all.

46,777. Tax your memory, and see if you can recall the transaction?—No, I cannot.

46,778. You cannot recall it?—Unless—the only thing that I can explain about it would be that perhaps Mr. Hart might have called upon me and said, "You will say what Corderoy should have," and then I filled in the account. No doubt I had the cheque from Mr. Hart to pay it.

46,779. You have no doubt you had the cheque from Mr. Hart to pay this?—I have no doubt of it.

46,780. Do you state that as a fact which you remember, or as what you infer from the circumstances?—That is all.

46,781. Very well. Now then, we will take it that you did get the cheque from Mr. Hart yourself. What did you do with the cheque?—I should think it is most likely I kept the cheque myself.

46,782. Mr. Hart handed you this, or you got it somehow from him or his clerk, and you have no doubt, also, that he handed over to you a cheque to cover what you considered Corderoy's deserts?—Yes.

46,783. Who filled up the cheque?—I should think Mr. Hart, undoubtedly.

46,784. Mr. Hart would not hand you a blank cheque, you think?—No.

46,785. But Mr. Hart, you think, did not take the trouble to fill the receipt up, although he did fill up the cheque?—I am sure he did not, because it is in my handwriting.

46,786. You filled in "Twelve pounds," which represents, according to your statement, what you thought Corderoy deserved. Now go on, and tell us what became of the document?—It was signed by Corderoy, and I suppose given to Mr. Hart. I should not have known of it unless you had shown it to me.

46,787. You had forgotten it?—Yes.

46,788. It is quite possible that you had. I want to know if you can account for it by referring back to your general course of business with Mr. Hart?—No.

46,789. If you cannot remember the particular document itself, tell me, why should you get Corderoy to receipt it?—Because I paid him the money.

46,790. Well, that is a reason. That is what I wanted to know. Have you any recollection of paying him the money?—Yes, I have. I recollect now very well that he offered to pay me a bill that he owed at my tailor's shop, and I said I would rather him take the money and go and pay it, because then it would go through our books.

46,791. I understand that perfectly; that occurred to me before. What did you do? Have you any recollection?—That is all.

46,792. Did he pay the bill in to your shop?—I believe so; but our books will show.

46,793. Well, we will assume for the moment that he did. How much money did you hand over to him? I do not know whether it was 10*l.*, or 10*l.* 10*s.*

46,794. Why did not you hand him over 12*l.*?—Because he owed me 2*l.*

46,795. On another matter, not on the tailor's bill?—No; I will tell you what it was for. He would frequently, when he wanted two sovereigns or more, come to me, and at that particular period he owed me two sovereigns.

46,796. I understand; but nothing to do with tailoring?—No.

47,797. That is what I mean. We have seen the tailor's account; he has produced it from you, or at least from the firm, and it is 5*l.* 10*s.*?—I do not recollect.

46,798. You may take it from me. We have got it. Now, what became of the rest of the money? You see he did not want 10*l.* to pay 5*l.* 10*s.* with?—10*l.* was due to him.

46,799. For what?—According to what I supposed he ought to have had.

46,800. 12*l.* you supposed he ought to have had. Then you deducted 2*l.* because he owed you privately 2*l.*, and you handed over to him 10*l.*?—He offered me to pay the tailor's bill, and I said, "I would rather "you would go to the shop and pay it there, because "then it will go through our books."

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46,801. I understand that perfectly; but I am going to ask you the same question over once more. Have you any recollection of this particular document itself?—No, not at all till I saw it.

46,802. Have you any recollection, now you see the document, where it was signed by Corderoy?—I should think most likely at my house, at the "Grapes."

46,803. But you have no recollection of the incident yourself?—No, I have not.

46,804. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Just bring your mind to bear upon it; it is important?—If I could have my cash-book——

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Oh, no; you don't want any cash-book.

The witness withdrew.

R. Fuller.

RICHARD FULLER sworn and examined.

46,805. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you Fuller?—A bricklayer.

46,806. What rent did you pay for your house at the last election?—10*l.* a year.

46,807. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Monson.

46,808. Were you on his committee?—Yes, I was.

46,809. Did you receive any money at all before the election came on?—Yes.

46,810. Before the election you received, how much?—I received 10*l.*

46,811. Who from?—Mr. Langridge, not all for myself.

46,812. What were you to do with the 10*l.*?—I never received it, not all at one time.

46,813. Were you to pay away some of it?—Yes, to men that I got.

46,814. Who were they?—Thomas Cook and William Stuchbury.

46,815. Were they voters?—Yes.

46,816. Did you pay them anything?—3*l.* each.

46,817. What did you do with the other 4*l.*?—I kept it for myself.

46,818. Who told you to keep it?—Why, I was having the same pay as the rest of them, and I had a pound for my own trouble.

46,819. You thought you ought to have the same pay as the others?—I had the same pay as the others and 1*l.* afterwards.

46,820. This was before the election. After the election how much did you get for your services?—None at all afterwards. All the money I had was before the election.

46,821. When did you receive the other 1*l.* that you talk about?—Oh no, I received 10*s.* of it after the election.

46,822. When did you receive the other 10*s.*?—That was a week before the election.

46,823. So that you got 5*l.* for yourself?—I got 4*l.*

46,824. You got 4*l.* out of the 10*l.*?—10*l.* was all the money I received altogether.

46,825. And out of that you paid away 6*l.*?—Yes, and I had 4*l.* for myself.

46,826. After that did you receive 2*l.* 10*s.*?—That is in with it.

46,827. Then how much did you receive altogether for yourself?—4*l.*

46,828. Was that all you received at all?—Yes.

46,829. All the money, either for yourself or anybody else?—Yes.

46,830. Was that your first election?—No.

46,831. In 1863 who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

46,832. Did you do any work for him?—No, I did not.

46,833. What money did you receive then?—I received 3*l.* 10*s.*

46,834. Who from?—I received 30*s.* off of Mr. Green, and 2*l.* off from Mr. Ridge.

46,835. Was that all you received in 1863 from anybody?—Yes.

46,836. Had you voted in the previous election?—No.

The witness withdrew.

G. Nichols.

GEORGE NICHOLS recalled and examined.

46,837. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have been examined partly before?—Yes.

46,838. We could see you were not well?—I was not well.

46,839. I understood you to say, but perhaps wrongly, that you had received no monies respecting the election at all?—No, I had not.

46,840. You had not received any?—No, never.

46,841. Whatever transaction there was between yourself and your brother had no reference to the election?—None at all.

46,842. And you adhere to that now?—I do.

46,843. From your recollection?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

J. Nichols.

JAMES NICHOLS recalled and examined.

46,844. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I see a book before you?—Yes.

46,845. Have you any entries there which will throw a light upon that payment to Corderoy of that 12*l.*, that transaction?—Only, sir, to corroborate what I am told Corderoy said. I was not here.

46,846. That is your business book of Joyes and Nichols?—Yes.

46,847. We are quite satisfied with regard to that, that he did pay on the 30th September 1865 5*l.* 10*s.* to Joyes and Nichols. There is no question about that. You say that you may have received a cheque from Mr. Hart for the purpose of paying Corderoy this 12*l.*?—Yes.

46,848. Can you tell me when you received that cheque?—I think, sir, from the payment there (*referring to the account book*), and the date there, that Mr. Hart gave me that receipt to be filled up by me, that I got Corderoy to receipt that before he had the money, and I have no doubt that he had the money the next day.

46,849. Did you receive from Mr. Hart the specific cheque for 12*l.* to pay Corderoy?—I should think so.

46,850. Did you receive any other cheques from Mr. Hart to pay monies after the election, excepting to Corderoy?—Yes.

46,851. To what amount?—I do not know. I do not know, I assure you.

46,852. Do you know how many you paid after the election under the authority of Mr. Hart?—I do not know, but I am quite sure that the dates would show. It was about the 29th of September. Mr. Hart's cheque book will show it all.

46,853. Now are you quite certain that you received a cheque from Mr. Hart for 12*l.* to pay Corderoy?—I am not quite certain, but I think so, certainly.

46,854. I think you told us you kept no private accounts of the proceedings of the election, but if there was a cheque would that have passed through your account?—Yes, undoubtedly.

46,855. It would be most important for us to have either your pass-book or the books at the bank, which

will show your account as to the receipt of these cheques?—You are quite aware from what I have told you already that they had my pass-book, though they say they had not. There is the evidence of Mr. Tolhurst, who heard them say to me, "Your pass-"book is gone to London to the head office, and I "will endeavour to get it for you." Of course, independently of that, you can get a copy of their letter itself. They had my pass-book.

46,856. You probably endeavoured to get it. This was handed up to me (*producing a letter*)?—It is my letter, which I handed to Mr. De Rutzen the day before yesterday.

46,857. You cannot say what monies you received after the election from Mr. Hart?—I cannot. For instance, this is one which I had forgotten; therefore I will not bind myself to say whether I did or did not make any specific payment, because I might be asked the question and be confused by receipts or cheques.

46,858. Now, how came Corderoy to make a claim to Mr. Hart?—You see, sir, it is not a claim.

46,859. If you answer me in that way, then I must take it by stages?—I will tell you, sir.

46,860. Was any claim made upon Mr. Hart by Corderoy?—I think not. I think Mr. Hart made out that receipt, or rather his clerk by direction of Mr. Hart, in blank, sending it me to fill up the sum that I thought Corderoy was entitled to.

46,861. I want to know why Mr. Hart's clerk should make out that receipt?—I do not know.

46,862. Who informed him that Corderoy was entitled to 12*l.*?—Mr. Hart, I expect. I filled up the 12*l.*

46,863. Then were you supplied by Mr. Hart with a quantity of blank receipts?—No.

46,864. Then had you not told Mr. Hart's clerk before that Corderoy had a claim?—No.

46,865. Or told Mr. Hart?—Mr. Hart, very likely.

46,866. But had you?—I do not know. I will tell you Mr. Hart knew perfectly well that Corderoy was employed, and no doubt said to me, "How much "should Corderoy have?"

46,867. Corderoy was acting under you?—Yes.

46,868. Had you given to Mr. Hart a list of those persons who were acting under you?—No.

46,869. Then how was he acquainted with the fact that Corderoy was acting?—Because he saw him every day.

46,870. Doing what?—Furnishing information, morning, noon, and night almost.

46,871. To whom?—To Mr. Hart and myself.

46,872. Had you communicated with Mr. Hart before receiving this receipt?—Most likely.

46,873. The 29th September was very nearly the last payment that you made upon the election, was it not?—I do not remember, sir. I think not. I think some one said they had received money after that.

46,874. Assuming that this money was paid, that would be about the last time that you had paid monies on account of the election?—I think some one said that I paid them in October.

46,875. Can you not tell us how much money in all you received from Mr. Hart after the election to pay away in this manner?—No; I am quite sure that every shilling I received from Mr. Hart was by cheque, therefore Mr. Hart's account will tell what it was.

46,876. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We want it from you?—I cannot tell you. I would, indeed, if I knew.

46,877. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Corderoy was acting more immediately under you?—Quite under me.

46,878. And you had supplied him with money?—Quite so.

46,879. We have it in evidence that you supplied him with money, at least to the extent of 80*l.*?—Yes.

46,880. And according to Corderoy's account he had expended about 35*l.* of that. Had Corderoy rendered any account to you before you paid him the 12*l.*?—No, he told me that he expended between 60*l.* and 70*l.*

46,881. Are you certain he told you that?—Yes.

46,882. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When did he tell you that?—Soon after the election.

46,883. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then I will put it in this way; a certain sum of money, say about 62*l.* or 60*l.*, Corderoy had received from you; then he accounted for so much money, and there was about 20*l.* for his own services. It comes, morally, to the same thing?—I say, sir, that he had 80*l.*

46,884. Well, 80*l.*; that would make him have more. That would make 20*l.* plus the 25*l.*?—No, it would not. He gave you the names of the persons to whom he paid 40*l.* or 50*l.* The man could not go about for eight weeks without spending money.

46,885. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose he gave you an account in writing?—No, he never did. I never asked one of them for an account.

46,886. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) This was the question?—Make Corderoy answerable for that, not me. I am willing to give you every explanation I possibly can, sir. I will do it cheerfully and with good faith.

46,887. This is the object of the question. I want to know why it was that, having given Corderoy all these large sums of money, and according to his own account he had received something out of it for his own benefit, that claim is made for the 12*l.* as against Mr. Hart?—Well, I thought he was entitled to 12*l.* more, to make him receive the sum that I thought he was entitled to, and, besides that, I knew perfectly well that people would laugh at the accounts if they were published without Corderoy's name being put in.

46,888. Then it was done, in fact, to make up the accounts?—It was done first to satisfy the man for his work, and next to satisfy the public, or to attempt to.

46,889. Had he made a claim upon you for it?—He told me he should expect more.

46,890. When?—Directly after the election, and I told him he should have something more; and if he had never said so, I should certainly think of satisfying those men who work for me well. I always have done so before.

46,891. But, instead of getting the amount of money in a cheque from Mr. Hart, at that time you had a large sum of money in your own possession which had not been expended?—What time?

46,892. September 1865?—I do not think I had.

46,893. I mean to say, according to the way in which you have accounted for it here before us in evidence?—I do not know what balance I had.

46,894. You can only tell from your banker's book, because the accounts would not pass through your book?—I generally had a balance there.

46,895. No doubt you had a balance there in your banker's account, but in reference to the election transaction?—I do not think I had any money in hand at all in September; not a shilling.

46,896. I will draw your attention to this. Mr. Commissioner O'Brien said that would leave your account of receipts from Mr. Monson about 480*l.*?—That was not Mr. Monson's money; that was mine then.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That did not include the 50*l.* received from Mr. Hart. He received 519*l.* for himself.

46,897. How much money do you say you had as a balance upon the accounts at that time?—None.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

J. Nichols.

26 Sept. 1866.

46,898. Do you mean to say there was none?—None.

46,899. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) According to my notion—I shall not go through the shorthand writer's notes now to find it out, but according to my notion of your evidence, there was a balance?—That is all I can say. I am willing to give you every information I possibly can, and I ask to be treated fairly, that is all.

46,900. Is that document produced the only document as between Corderoy and you in writing?—Yes; but that is not between me and him.

46,901. It is between you and him?—That is the only one.

46,902. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is the only document?—I believe so.

46,903. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And you give us the history of the document as this, that you applied to Mr. Hart for money to pay to those who had been working at the election?—No, Mr. Hart applied to me.

46,904. Did Mr. Hart know at the time he applied to you or did you tell him you had paid this man yourself?—No.

46,905. Then you knew when Mr. Hart applied to you that he was paying him in ignorance that you had paid him anything?—He might, and so far as I say I say so.

46,906. Have you any reason to believe Mr. Hart knew you had paid this man?—Except the ordinary sense a man would have in seeing an election continuing so long and never having paid any money before.

46,907. As between you and Mr. Hart, did anything take place before you received a cheque to pay the 12*l.* that would let Mr. Hart know you had paid this man anything?—I think not.

46,908. Then when you got this cheque it was a representation to Mr. Hart, "This man has worked to "the extent of 12*l.*"

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And 12*l.* only.

(*The Witness.*) So far as Mr. Hart was concerned, he did not know what Mr. Corderoy had been paid.

46,909. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose you would have to sign the receipt before you obtained the money?—Before I had the money.

46,910. Now be cautious, Mr. Nichols; did you tell Corderoy you could not pay him this because you had to get the money from Mr. Hart?—No, sir.

46,911. Did you tell him you had got the money from Mr. Hart after he had signed the receipt?—Yes.

46,912. Attend,—did you tell Corderoy you had got this money from Mr. Hart for him after he signed the receipt?—No, it was before it.

46,913. Before he signed the receipt?—Yes, that the money would come from Mr. Hart.

46,914. That the money was coming to him from Mr. Hart?—I believe so.

46,915. Otherwise you would pay him yourself?—I cannot remember every word I said, but I believe I told him so.

46,916. If you did not tell him the money was coming from Mr. Hart, why did you not pay him yourself?—Because I knew it was coming from Mr. Hart.

46,917. You said so?—Take it as such; I will tell you everything honestly and fairly, as far as I can.

46,918. Do not be boasting about that?—I am not boasting.

46,919. Then you told him before you received this 12*l.*; well, I have got an answer.

(*The Witness.*) You say you've got an answer, and for once I will give you another.

46,920. Then do?—Then I will say I did not say I did.

46,921. Do you imagine that attitude will satisfy me; I am here to examine?—You ought to be a little fair with a man.

46,922. I wish to be as fair with you as with any human being, but after you had settled with Mr. Corderoy did you tell him you had yet to receive 12*l.* from Mr. Hart for him, and did you tell him he would have to sign the receipt before he had the money?—I do not know that I did say that. I believe the receipt was put into my hands to fill up for the sum which I thought Corderoy was entitled to.

46,923. Corderoy says he did not get the money the day he signed the receipt?—Quite right.

46,924. Then you would tell him you had to get the money from Mr. Hart or, if not, you would pay him the money?—Very likely, but you wished me to say what I do not remember.

46,925. I have called your attention to it?—Yes, you have done so over and over again, but I cannot recollect.

46,926. Was any means used to connect that receipt of Corderoy's as coming from Hart?—Not the slightest.

46,927. Do you know where he signed it?—No.

46,928. It is very strange that you have no more?—I have taken receipts, as I told you before, for all monies Mr. Hart has entrusted me with for these people; Mr. Hart has given me money to pay away, and I have given him vouchers for it.

46,929. But between you and other men; let me call your attention to the importance of having vouchers when you are dealing with another man's money; you put down Steer as 50*l.*?—Yes.

46,930. He only got 30*l.*?—Quite true what he states; he would have to pay me money; I do not wish to tell you all my private affairs between me and Mr. Steer; I would not mind telling you, but I do not want to tell them to all the people here.

46,931. He said you owed him 15*l.*?—And he spoke the truth on the election account.

46,932. Then you put down the 50*l.*, working it up; do you mean to say there were some transactions between you and Steer with which the election had nothing to do, in which the 15*l.* was not taken in?—Certainly.

46,933. Was that the case in this matter?—No.

46,934. Why did you not mention it before?—The Chief Commissioner asked me about a sum of seven guineas which had nothing to do with the election.

46,935. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The amount you gave of 12*l.*, was it made out in Corderoy's name?—I do not remember.

46,936. Was it made out in Corderoy's name?—I do not remember.

44,937. You do not remember whether it was in yours or his?—No, I cannot say, for if I say one way or other a cheque may be produced against me the next minute. I know that when there have been several small payments Mr. Hart might draw a cheque for several small ones together, but in this case I should think it would be drawn to Corderoy.

46,938. And you changed it for yourself and paid him 10*l.*?—Yes.

46,939. Without getting any detailed account of the expenditure of the 80*l.* you gave him?—Yes.

46,940. Supposing he came and said, "I am not "sufficiently paid for my services," had you any thing to refer to that would enable you to say "I gave you "80*l.*"?—No.

46,941. Nothing at all of that kind?—No.

46,942. How do you know what he had received?—Only from memory.

46,943. You paid a great deal of money away, did you tell him, "Why, Corderoy, you have received 80*l.* already?"—Very likely.

46,944. Well, but did you?—I cannot tell you; I will tell you everything as nearly as I can.

46,945. You did not say, "Why, Mr. Corderoy, you "have received 80*l.* already?"—No.

46,946. Did you not say that before you drew on Mr. Hart for 12*l.*, you must know for yourself what you paid him?—No.

46,947. May I inquire how you came to fix on this particular sum of 12*l.* in your mind?—I thought he should have about 30*l.* for his services.

46,948. Through what process of mental calculation did you arrive at that result?—I cannot say.

46,949. You must remember you are dealing with another man's money, and you cannot tell by what process of mental calculation you arrived at that result?—No, sir.

46,950. You cannot give me the slightest notion?—No, except from memory; I knew very well the men he had operated upon.

46,951. You charged 200 guineas for getting up the requisition?—Yes.

46,952. How came you to fix upon that sum; did you tell Mr. Monson you would charge him 200 guineas for getting up the requisition?—No.

46,953. Did you ever tell Mr. Hart of it?—No.

46,954. How came you to fix upon 200 guineas?—I thought I was entitled to it.

46,955. How came you to fix upon it?—Suppose you said 190*l.*!

46,956. Suppose you said 300*l.* it would have about as much relation as the other?—I don't think so. You take my time from September to March, and further——

46,957. That is not the requisition; you are down as having received 509*l.*; you are a man of business, filling very important offices in this borough, dealing with rights and legal things; now, how did you fix that 200 guineas?—I cannot tell you.

The witness then withdrew.

WILLIAM BONNY sworn and examined.

W. Bonny.

46,958. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A licensed victualler; I keep the "Crown" inn.

46,959. What rent do you pay?—45*l.*

46,960. And who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

46,961. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower himself.

46,962. Was anybody with him?—No.

46,963. Were you not canvassed by any of the under agents?—No; I never was, it was of no use coming to canvass me.

46,964. Did you promise Mr. Gower at once?—Yes, he only called upon me once, about a fortnight before the election.

46,965. And did you tell him you would vote for him then?—Yes.

46,966. A fortnight before the election?—About ten days or a fortnight.

46,967. Were you canvassed on the other side?—I was, by Mr. Monson himself.

46,968. Was any one with him?—I think not.

46,969. Were you afterwards canvassed by somebody, some agent on his side?—No.

46,970. I mean, by canvass, were you not asked for your vote?—No.

46,971. Did not anybody ask you besides Mr. Monson himself to be on their side?—No.

46,972. Do you know a man of the name of Holden?—Yes.

46,973. Of course you do, he lives here; did he call on you?—Yes, he called on me, he wished me to let my house for Mr. Monson's party for a committee.

46,974. Did he make you any offer for it?—I do not know whether he did or not, but Mr. Nichols came afterwards and made an offer.

46,975. And had not Mr. Holden?—I do not know whether he had.

46,976. What was it wanted for?—For the election I suppose, but I did not ask any questions, for I had determined not to let it to him.

46,977. Was it for the election, or for one night?—For the election I should suppose it to be.

46,978. And you said you would rather not let him have the house?—No, I would not let him have the house.

46,979. And Mr. Nichols came afterwards?—Yes.

46,980. What did he want?—He offered me 25*l.* if I would let him have the house for committee rooms.

46,981. Your house is very well situated, close by the town hall?—Yes.

46,982. Was that 25*l.* for the election or for one night only?—For the election I should say.

46,983. You understood it so?—Yes, but we did not have a dozen words, for I said I would not let my house to him on any condition.

46,984. Did anybody else come to you on Mr. Monson's side?—No, sir, I think not; I am sure they did not.

46,985. You are sure they did not?—Not that I can recollect.

46,986. Do you recollect anybody calling upon you saying something to you about your vote?—No, sir.

46,987. Do you remember any price being mentioned for a man's vote?—No, sir.

46,988. Do you know a man of the name of John Reed, of Bell-street, shoemaker?—Yes.

46,989. Does the mention of his name recall to your mind any question about the value of a vote?—No.

46,990. Do you remember Reed asking you about your vote?—No, I have no recollection of his asking me anything about my vote.

46,991. I mean about your own vote?—No, I have no recollection about it.

46,992. Try?—No.

46,993. Did he ask what your price was?—No, and I should take it as an insult if a man were to ask me anything about the price of my vote.

46,994. I do not know whether you did not take it as an insult, but I ask you whether Reed came and asked you about the value of your vote?—No.

46,995. Do you believe he did?—No, I do not believe he did at all.

46,996. Do you remember anybody else coming and asking you about the price of your vote?—No.

46,997. Do you remember on any occasion saying you thought you should be wanted this time and you intended having a goodish price for your vote?—No, I do not recollect it.

46,998. Do you think you said it?—No.

46,999. Are you prepared to say you did not say it?—I do not recollect anything of the sort. I am almost persuaded I did not.

47,000. But you cannot say you are quite certain? I do not think I would have said it.

47,001. Do you remember saying, "I shall be "wanted this time, and I intend to have the price of "100*l.*"?—No, I am sure I did not say so, and if anybody has said that I did, I shall be glad if you will mention his name.

47,002. Do you remember the word "century" being used?—Yes, Mr. Nichols called at my house, and said to my wife he had heard I was a "century" man.

47,003. Do you remember that being put to you?—No, not by any person; in fact I will swear it was not, it never was.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

W. Bonny.

26 Sept. 1866.

47,004. Do you remember the term century being used?—No, but my wife told me Mr. Nichols called in once and asked her whether I was a century; I think it was during this inquiry; if you send for her, my wife will tell you.

47,005. Does not the fact of his talking of it bring it to your recollection; there was an obvious allusion to something supposed to have passed?—No, I do not recollect it.

47,006. You state you do not recollect it; do you say now it was not said?—Not to me.

47,007. Shall I take this down, that "no such term "was used to me"?—Not to me.

47,008. But it was an odd thing that Nichols should say anything about it afterwards, if it was not said?—I do not know I am sure.

47,009. You say no such term was used?—Yes.

47,010. Did you vote in 1863?—Yes, I voted then.

47,011. Who for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

47,012. Were you on his committee?—No, I was laid up the whole time with the gout; Mr. James took my house for a committee during the election, for which he paid me 10*l.*

47,013. Did you receive anything besides, before the election, from Mr. James?—No.

47,014. Nor after?—No, he paid me 10*l.* afterwards, but that was for the committee room.

47,015. In what way did he pay it you, was it by cheque?—I do not remember now whether it was by cheque or note, or how.

47,016. And that was all the money you received?—Yes, except the refreshments, and that I believe they paid for as they had it; I was laid up all that time; there was a meeting or two.

47,017. Did you send in any account for refreshments after that time?—There was a small affair.

47,018. What was that?—13*l.* or 14*l.*

47,019. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) After the election?—Yes.

47,020. I do not mean to bind you to any amount or date, but who paid that?—I rather think Langridge paid me, I will not be sure, he was the subagent for Mr. Wilkinson, I am almost sure it was him.

47,021. Where did Langridge live then?—I am not sure whether he lived in Reigate or Redhill.

47,022. There was a general election in 1859; did you vote then?—Yes; that was one election. I did not vote for the sham election.

47,023. I dare say that is the election you are talking of, in 1859?—I did not vote then.

47,024. At the end of 1858 do you recollect whether you voted, or was that at the next after Doulton's election?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

47,025. I am not speaking of the Doulton election?—No, the one after.

47,026. What did you receive on that election?—On that election I think I was paid 20*l.* for my room upstairs.

47,027. The same house?—Yes. Mr. Cape had several clerks there.

47,028. Were you paid anything else?—No.

47,029. Not from any party?—No, only by Mr. Cape for the expense of his clerks stopping there some time.

47,030. For their board and lodging?—Yes.

47,031. The 20*l.*; what was that for?—For the committee rooms. They were to pay me 20*l.* for the whole of the election for my two rooms.

47,032. That was all you received then?—Yes.

47,033. Go back one step further, to the Doulton election?—Yes.

47,034. Whom did you vote for then?—Sir Henry Rawlinson; and I think I let a committee room to Mr. Morrison for him. I think it was for 10*l.*

47,035. What else did you receive, if anything; you think that was 10*l.*?—I think it was; if not, it was not so much.

47,036. Did you receive any other money at all at that election?—No, sir.

47,037. Is this all the money you have ever received at elections?—Yes.

47,038. Or in any connected with it?—Yes.

47,039. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you have any refreshment bill in 1865?—No, I had nothing to do with it in any way, no further than I went to record my vote for Mr. Gower.

47,040. In 1863 you received 20*l.* for your room as a committee room; was that a reasonable price for it?—I would not let my rooms upstairs for the money. I should be obliged to drive other trade away.

47,041. And when refreshments were supplied you say you were ill. Was it put down on the slate as settled?—Yes.

47,042. Was anything charged for what was not supplied?—No, sir.

47,043. Or beyond the usual price?—No, sir.

47,044. In October 1858 you were paid 20*l.* for your rooms?—Yes, I think it was 20*l.*

47,045. And then Mr. Cape and his clerks paid the money?—Yes, the first part of the time, and the latter Mr. James.

47,046. Had they at any time a notion you were going to vote?—No.

47,047. In '63 it was 13*l.* or 14*l.* for refreshments?—Yes.

47,048. Mr. James had your house then?—Yes.

47,049. Were those refreshments supplied to Mr. James?—No; when they had a committee they had refreshments. I supplied what they ordered and charged it.

The witness then withdrew.

G Holden.

GEORGE HOLDEN sworn and examined.

47,050. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, Mr. Holden?—A collector of rates.

47,051. A rate collector?—Yes.

47,052. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think you were called to produce the rate books and did so, but were not sworn?—No, I was not sworn.

47,053. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You produced the books without being sworn?—Yes.

47,054. Did you vote at the last election?—No, I thought it was not prudent for me to take any part in it, being a public officer; and also in 1863 I had a vote, but I took no part for the same reason, being a parish officer. In 1859 I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

47,055. Were you a parish officer then?—No, I was not.

46,056. You took a part in that election?—Yes. Myself with some others thought we would try what could be done without canvassers or paid agents; that was the object. I think it is a misnomer to call it a sham election.

47,057. That was the time when Mr. Wilkinson was not here?—He was not here. I do not know whether he knew it, he did not operate.

47,058. Did you vote in the October of 1858?—Yes.

47,059. For whom?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

47,060. Had you been at all engaged as agent?—Yes, by Mr. Cape. I did a great deal of his writing.

47,061. That would be in your profession?—Yes.

47,062. You were paid for that?—Yes. I canvassed with Mr. Norman Wilkinson.

47,063. What were you paid upon that occasion?—I think I was engaged at the rate of 2*l.* a week. My nephew was engaged to do my writing while I was engaged; it was for ten weeks.

47,064. Did you receive the exact amount?—Yes.

47,065. Who paid you?—Mr. Cape, 20*l.*; I believe that was the sum.

47,066. Was that a fair and honest price for the

work you did?—It was; I was working eighteen hours out of twenty-four.

47,067. Supposing you had been employed, not on an election matter, but to do the same amount of work, would you have charged at the same rate?—Decidedly.

47,068. Can you give us any information as to the election of 1858?—Yes, sir.

47,069. Anything that fell under your own observation?—Well, there was a great deal of talk about bribery and treating.

47,070. Did any money actually pass through your hands?—Not that election. I cannot remember whether it was in February or October that I had the employment of Mr. Wilkinson's clerk. I rather think it was the February election.

47,071. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The February election was Doulton's?—Yes, sir.

47,072. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who did you vote for?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

47,073. He was not up?—Yes, for nine or ten weeks.

47,074. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

47,075. He was not up then?—Yes, for nine or ten weeks.

47,076. I asked you, for whom did you vote?—For Mr. Monson, in opposition to Mr. Doulton, because I considered they had something to do with the tickets, the Rawlinson party.

47,077. Do you know anything of the balloting in 1858?—Yes; the arrangement between the candidates was that tickets were to be sent, three names, and that every elector who had promised his vote to Sir Henry Rawlinson or Mr. Monson were to abstain altogether from the ballot. I was acquainted with some of those names at the time, but I cannot call them to memory now. The ballot was held at my house, and many persons who had promised for Sir Henry Rawlinson, and others, came and balloted against the candidate who was against being outballoted.

47,078. Do you know of any money being used of your own knowledge?—Yes, there was money used at my gate, 5*s.* a vote. I was told of that, but I did not believe it, and I went out purposely in order to see, and I met a man who said he would go with me in company, intending to speak to Mr. Doulton about it. I believe, if my memory serves me right, I met Mr. Doulton at the "Warwick Arms," and spoke to him about it, saying the ballot would be stopped unless personal interference was abstained from; and he said he would go away.

47,079. How far was Mr. Doulton from your school room on that occasion?—About 100 yards. It was agreed the candidates were to abstain making their personal appearance in the street at the time of the ballot.

47,080. He was the only gentleman, the only candidate you saw there?—Yes; my wife saw him out of one of the windows.

47,081. And a messenger took you down to him?—Yes, he said he had been seen.

47,082. Do you know anything else as to the balloting?—Only that the tickets had been bought up, and parties were going round.

47,083. You did not know that, I suppose, of your own knowledge?—No, I did not.

47,084. Now tell me about the election of 1858, in which you paid some money?—It was in 1858.

47,085. In January or October; what money did you disburse?—I do not know the amount.

47,086. From whom did you receive it?—From Mr. Cape.

47,087. What amount?—It might be 40*l.*

47,088. To one man?—Oh, no; a good deal for bill sticking. It was for work done, rent of room, bill sticking. I should think there was as much bill sticking that election as the two others together; there were so many scurrilous letters.

47,089. How many voters did you employ?—I abstained purposely employing voters. I only employed voters if I could not get the others.

The witness then withdrew.

George Augustus Cape sworn and examined.

G. A. Cape.

47,090. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—An accountant.

47,091. Do you live in London?—Yes; No. 3, Adelaide-place, London Bridge.

47,092. Have you any connexion at all with Reigate?—I have no connexion whatever with Reigate. My introduction to Reigate was through Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson. I had known him many years, and he had been a very good friend to me, and I had his confidence.

47,093. The late Mr. Wilkinson?—The late Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson.

47,094. In 1865 were you in any way employed at the election?—I attended on the day of polling, at Mr. Smith's request, to take charge of the booth at the new town hall. I represented Mr. Gower. He wanted somebody who knew something about that sort of business.

47,095. To take charge of the booth, where?—At the new town hall, Reigate.

47,096. That was on the polling day?—Yes.

47,097. When did you come down here?—I came down here the night before, because I had to be in attendance at 8 o'clock in the morning.

47,098. Did you stay after the election?—I went down by the next train after the election was over.

47,099. And those duties you performed which they engaged you to perform?—I did.

47,100. Afterwards how were you paid for your services?—By a cheque, I think, from Mr. Smith.

47,101. Then in 1863, had you been here then?—In 1863 I did the same duty for Mr. Wilkinson.

47,102. How long had you been here?—I must have come down the night before. I do not know whether I slept at Mr. Norman Wilkinson's, but I came down the night before I attended. I attended there as a friend; I did not receive any pay at all.

47,103. That is all you know about 1863. You took no other part in the election?—No other part in the election whatever; I had nothing to do with it.

47,104. Now we go back to the general election in 1859. Did you have anything to do with that?—I had nothing to do with that in any way; it has escaped my recollection.

47,105. Then we go back to October 1858. Had you anything to do with that?—At that election I was Mr. Wilkinson's agent for election expenses. At that time it was necessary (I do not know whether it is now) to send in the account of an agent to the auditor.

47,106. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was under the Act of 1854?—Yes.

47,107. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you take part in that election before the polling?—Oh, yes, I think I was down here and up in town looking after the business of the election for 12 or 13 weeks. I am not sure, but it was for a very considerable time.

47,108. You were the head agent?—I was agent for election expenses at that time during the progress of the canvassing. I do not know how many weeks then, but for some time before Mr. Humphreys came down; he worked with me in the matter, not as agent for the election expenses, but he came to act on the election.

47,109. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He is the coroner?—Yes.

47,110. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) About how long was that?—I should say perhaps it was a month or six weeks. It is eight years ago; it is a considerable period.

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47,111. Do you know what he came down as?—No.

47,112. He came down to assist you. Do you know whether he was a sort of agent?—I do not think there was any formal agent.

47,113. You were paid?—Mr. Humphreys was a solicitor, and I was not a solicitor. I think perhaps during the course of the election it was thought there ought to be a solicitor in the matter.

47,114. You do not know whether he was a paid agent?—Oh, yes; a cheque either passed through my hands, or I returned it in the election account. He was a paid agent, precisely like myself.

47,115. I suppose Mr. Humphreys was not a voter for Reigate?—No.

47,116. Then if you were here 11 or 12 weeks before, you were here of course during the election?—Oh, yes; I stayed all through the election, and paid all the accounts before the election and everything after the election. I had the whole of the money through my hands.

47,117. You think the whole of the money that Mr. Wilkinson spent went through your hands?—I have not a doubt that all the money from Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson went through my hands.

47,118. Did you require money previous to the election during the canvassing?—I did, and I had cheques from him.

47,119. From whom?—From Mr. Wilkinson.

47,120. Whose cheques were they?—They were his own cheques; I will not say whether they were drawn in his own name or not, but I know they were his own cheques, and on Jones, Lloyd, & Co. I think some were on William Arthur and Norman Wilkinson & Co.; I am not sure about that.

47,121. Some of the cheques may have been drawn?—I do not think there were; I cannot recollect how the cheques were drawn.

47,122. Some of the cheques may have been drawn by the Company of William Arthur Wilkinson?—William Arthur Wilkinson.

47,123. What I want to know is, who drew the cheques?—William Arthur Wilkinson.

47,124. Are you able to say he did in all instances?—I have not a doubt.

47,125. Were they drawn on his bankers?—Yes, I think so.

47,126. Can you recollect what bank they were drawn on?—I cannot recollect.

47,127. You may recollect who his bankers were?—I know it was Jones, Lloyd, & Co.

47,128. Have you any recollection that any of the cheques were drawn on Jones, Lloyd, & Co.?—I have no doubt they were.

47,129. After the election how did you get money for paying the bills?—From Mr. Wilkinson.

47,130. And in what way?—By cheque.

47,131. Then I will call it his cheques too. I am anxious to know whether they were drawn by himself or drawn by him on behalf of the Company. I do not know whether he had power to draw cheques?—I cannot tell you, but I know they were his cheques.

47,132. What did you get money for previous to that election?—To pay the canvassers and clerks and a number of people. I think I must say that prior to that election it was lawful for the agent for the election expenses to pay the current expenses provided he made the return to the election auditor; afterwards, after the election, all the payments had to be sanctioned by the election auditor.

47,133. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had to be sent to him, submitted to, and sanctioned by him?—Submitted to and sanctioned by him. I think I paid all that was necessary to be paid prior to the election myself. After the election I paid everything, every farthing that was paid, under the authority of the election auditor. I made the return to the election auditor, showing the amount that was paid prior to the election and the amount paid after the election. If the officer is here, or you have his papers relating to the election, it will show you the amounts paid and possibly shorten the Inquiry. I must speak from memory, because those documents in the mass were retained by him; but I have with me, and it may shorten it, the amounts paid after the election with his authority for paying them, and I will hand it in. (*The witness handed the documents in.*) The accounts were sent to me, and I examined them to see if they were correct, and then I sent them to Mr. Henneker, the election auditor, and he returned them to me for me to pay them.

47,134. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) These are the original documents?—The very papers, I should say.

47,135. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are these accounts contained in this document an account of expenses all incurred before the election?—All incurred before the election. There may be some few pounds after the election in respect of little expenses down here.

47,136. But all that are here are all expenses returned before the election?—Yes, before the election; but the accounts came in afterwards, the money was not paid before the election.

47,137. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Instead of the money being actually paid through the election auditor he ordered you to pay it?—Yes, he ordered me as election agent to pay it. I was going to say this: after I paid those various amounts I made up my account, and I had a receipt, I believe, for almost everything. I see by my diary that on the 24th of January 1859 I went over it to Mr. Wilkinson, and he expressed himself perfectly satisfied that the case was so, and I retained the vouchers; and I also retained detailed accounts at the election of 1863, when I was not acting for Mr. Wilkinson, but Mr. James was. I sent in the accounts and all those things which I thought would be useful to him, otherwise I should have those for you at this time. I should say also, that there should be another thing, that there should be another list there to make it complete. There should be a list of things that I refused to pay. Those were all admitted by me, and consequently I got them back again; but there were number of things sent in for refreshments and other things which I refused to pay, and consequently the list would go to Mr. Henneker as a list of things not admitted. There was a list of that sort.

47,138. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which was not returned?—Which was not returned.

47,139. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Perhaps he might have paid?—No, those I admitted were paid.

47,140. Those you admitted he sent back to you again?—Yes.

47,141. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He had no control over the accounts?—Yes; the only thing is, I sent in the accounts, and if there had been any refreshments he might have called my attention to it.

47,142. If you had not admitted any account he could not authorised it?—No.

47,143. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I see the sum total is not carried out here?—There are the several amounts I think you will find.

47,144. You forwarded to the auditor, I presume, as much as you admitted?—As much as I admitted. I have one or two of the receipts now.

47,145. According to the account all the monies and expenses, so far as you know, expended previous to the election amount to about 903*l.*, if I have added them rightly?—Yes, there is my own account and Mr. Henneker's; there is very little difference in these accounts, because if they had admitted an account I tried to arrange it with the party; it would make it 900*l.*; the election cost 1,520*l.*

47,146. These are all the expenses that you know of before the election?—No, not all; I paid some during the election.

47,147. I understood you to say the 900*l.* was all before the election; the others were so small?—No.

47,148. Previous to the election I understood this represented all the amounts paid by you?—No, those are the expenses paid by me after the election for matters incurred previous to the election, and in

addition to that there were sums I paid during the election.

47,149. What do you mean by "during the election"?—For the 10 or 12 weeks we were canvassing.

47,150. Before the polling day?—Before the nomination day, and I say that in the accounts returned to the election auditor the total is 1,520*l.*

47,151. I have not got all that yet; I will come to that in a moment. If I understand correctly, this account, or these accounts, were incurred previous to the election, all of them?—Yes.

47,152. You said there might be some one or two that were not, some little things?—Some little things.

47,153. Never mind that then, these accounts are entirely contracted previous to the election?—Yes.

47,154. And those you paid?—Under the authority of the auditor.

47,155. You paid them?—Yes, by cheque.

47,156. Were other expenses incurred subsequently to the election?—That is what I say.

47,157. A very trifling amount?—I was going to say on that that those debts were of very trifling amount; it would be simply the hotel bill; I came down here perhaps four or five times, it would not be more than 5*l.*

47,158. Were there any other expenses incurred after the election?—No.

47,159. Were there any other payments besides those made after the election?—No.

47,160. Then how do you make out the difference between 900*l.* odd and 1,500*l.* odd?—Because the 600*l.* was paid from the commencement of the canvass during the 13 weeks that the work was going on.

47,161. I do not think I quite understand you. I understood that all those expenses —— ?—That is what I returned to the election auditor.

47,162. I am quite aware of that; be so good as to attend to this; those accounts are all of them for expenses previous to the election?—Yes.

47,163. But not of all the expenses?—Not of all the expenses.

47,164. Did you pay these from your bankers. Did you pay these out of your own pocket in the first instance?—I will not be quite sure, but I think I opened a separate account at my bankers for this particular business.

47,165. Did you deposit a certain sum?—I deposited the money as Mr. Wilkinson paid it me.

47,166. He fed you from time to time?—He fed me from time to time. I will not say that it was so, but I dare say he gave me a cheque for 200*l.* or 300*l.* to begin with, and as I found that getting short I applied for more.

47,167. I understand you the expenses that that was to cover were 600*l.*?—Yes.

47,168. Why were they not entered in the election expenses?—They were; I am not making myself clear I am afraid.

47,169. Allow me; the expenses sent in to the election auditor amount, if I added them right, to 900*l.*?—That is not quite right; the expense is sent in to the auditor; the amounts which were paid prior to the nomination, and over which he had no control, are known nothing of till after the election, were 600*l.* Then after the election the agent was at liberty to pay those expenses, only he was bound to have them submitted to the election auditor; after the election I was not at liberty to pay anything until I had the auditor's sanction; if you had the account you would find there are two lines "before nomination" and "after nomi-" nation," and the amounts paid before nomination in one column and the amounts paid after the nomination in the other.

47,170. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And you paid about 600*l.*?—Yes, I paid about 600*l.*

47,171. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I still do not understand why you did not return the larger sum to the election auditor; you were placed in possession of it?—I did return the larger sum.

47,172. What was that?—1,520*l.*

47,173. Where is the account of that?—The account is not here. I say that the details of the 1,520*l.* I cannot give you, but the election auditor can.

47,174. But he has not allowed it; you see some portion of the 1,520*l.* the election auditor paid himself?—I will try and make it clear if I can.

47,175. The whole election cost 1,520*l.*?—Yes.

47,176. Why did you not return the 1,520*l.* to the election auditor?—I did return it.

47,177. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The account would be about 383*l.*?—Well, whatever it is, as agent for the election expenses I paid during the progress of the canvass prior to the nomination certain sums.

47,178. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Which were?—Which were not those; which were for canvassers and bill sticking and current expenses. I paid them without reference to the election auditor at all.

47,179. How do you mean without reference to the election auditor?—I will come to that presently; after the election I paid those amounts under his authority. Then when everything was paid I sent to him an account, showing what I had spent previous to the nomination and those accounts which had been paid after the nomination under his authority. You see it is just this, the election auditor had nothing to do with the expenses prior to the nomination. The agent was at liberty to pay, but the only thing was that after the election he was bound to make a return of what he had paid and what was paid before.

47,180. Where is the account which you returned to the election auditor?—With the election auditor.

47,181. He retained this?—Yes.

47,182. Why did he retain that?—Because he wanted my authority to pay them.

47,183. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were acting at this time as the agent of the auditor, and not of Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

47,184. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) These accounts made it 1,500*l.*?—The whole lot of it is 1,524*l.*

47,185. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You say you have not the vouchers because you sent them to Mr. James?—I have some of the vouchers, but at the time of the election I had all the vouchers for everything, and I went through them with Mr. Wilkinson, and he expressed his astonishment that I was able to get a voucher for everything. A lot of these papers went to Mr. James, as I thought they would be useful.

47,186. During the election, and previous to it, were you aware of any money being paid by any one, not yourself?—I am not aware of any money being paid except by me.

47,187. Mr. Humphreys acted concurrently with you?—With me.

47,188. And he attended you; you drew on your banker for money, which was provided by Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

47,189. Did Mr. Humphreys to your knowledge pay any money away?—To my knowledge he did not pay anything except his petty cash when he was travelling.

47,190. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do not tell us what it was, but did the 1,500*l.* include the amounts?—Yes, they are at the bottom there, and that included the hotel bills of Mr. Humphreys and myself, and our clerks we had down from London (we did not employ Reigate electors for that), and also Mr. Wilkinson's friends; the only hotel bills that were paid for there at Laker's.

47,191. They included that?—Yes.

47,192. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you remember now whether any cheques were drawn at all except on the account of William Arthur Wilkinson, perhaps you can recollect?—Oh, I cannot recollect; it is eight years since.

47,193. I am not expressing any surprise that you cannot, but I should have liked to have known?—I think if they had been in any other name it would have impressed itself on my memory, because I know Mr. Wilkinson's mode of business very well, and I was not aware of any departure.

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47,194. Are you aware of any monies at all being paid besides the 1,500*l.* odd on that election?—I am not aware of any.

47,195. Do you know, subsequently to that election, of any bills being sent in to a considerable amount?—No, certainly not; a small amount.

47,196. Very small amounts?—Small amounts; I consider them very small amounts.

47,197. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Not amounting to 200*l.*?—I do not think they did; I should not say that they amounted to anything like that.

47,198. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say you are not aware of any claims being sent in; have you yourself been asked to pay any sums over and above these?—Only small sums.

47,199. We will take the small sums at 50*l.*, or what?—After the election there were perhaps six or seven, or perhaps more, men went to Mr. Wilkinson, saying I had not performed fairly to them and I ought to have paid them, or something of that sort, and he inquired and sent on to me and asked about it, and he did not pay them, they had no claim.

47,200. Did you pay them?—No; they were not paid.

47,201. Those were small things?—Small things entirely.

47,202. I dare say 20*l.* would cover it?—I have no doubt.

47,203. Discharge that from your mind then altogether. Do you know of any other?—No.

47,204. I take your answer in the strictest sense. You are not aware of any other person besides yourself paying out substantial sums during the election?—Certainly not; if any other monies were paid I know nothing about it.

47,205. You do not know it then?—Certainly not; the money I received I had from Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson; I know of no more than that.

47,206. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had no reason?—No; my instructions from Mr. Wilkinson were very definite indeed.

47,207. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What were they?—I was not to allow any colourable employment or anything of that sort, and I was to use the strictest surveillance in the matter; and I tried to carry it out as well as I could.

47,208. Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson was in partnership with his brother, I assume?—I believe he was.

47,209. I thought you told me the partnership did consist of them?—The name of the firm was William Arthur and Norman Wilkinson, but who the parties were I cannot say.

47,210. Did you receive any instructions in 1858 from Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—Instructions in reference to payments?

47,211. Instructions in reference to payments or in reference to employment which would require payments?—Mr. Norman Wilkinson never instructed me in any case; what Mr. Norman Wilkinson used to do, whenever anything was suggested he would come to me and say such and such a thing was suggested, if anything was not well, and sometimes Mr. Norman and I had a difference; it led to differences.

47,212. Was Mr. Norman Wilkinson in the habit of giving you directions as to spending money?—No; but we were continually together.

47,213. No; but you understand my question I think. Did Mr. Norman Wilkinson himself furnish you, during the election or afterwards, with any money?—Certainly not.

47,2014. For it I mean?—Certainly not.

47,215. Now I must ask you this, have you any recollection of receiving any cheque signed by Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—I have no recollection of it at all.

47,216. I do not ask you whether you did or not?—No; I have no recollection. The only way would be in case I wanted a cheque, and Mr. Wilkinson was down here, I would ask Mr. Norman to get the cheque; if such a thing arose that would be so, but I have no recollection of it. If it did it would be at my bankers.

47,217. It would have been in that way?—I have no recollection at all of it.

47,218. May I say, "I have no recollection of any "cheque drawn by Mr. Norman Wilkinson, though I "may have had one or two"?—I do not think you may say that.

47,219. Then, "I have no recollection of receiving "a cheque from Mr. Norman Wilkinson"?—It would not be at all an objectionable thing; but I do not remember it. There have been so many elections since that it has entirely passed from my mind, and I have a difficulty in charging my memory.

47,220. Now you paid several of the voters at the election of 1858 money yourself, I believe?—I paid them no doubt. I think we paid every Saturday, if I recollect rightly.

47,221. I am asking you whether you did not on several occasions pay the voters sums of money?—I think most likely I did.

47,222. How was that?—On Saturday, whenever the pay time came.

47,223. What did you pay them for?—For their services in connexion with the election as canvassers, bill stickers, messengers, and others. I do not think I paid any messengers though, because those were left to Mr. Holden, and he gave vouchers.

47,224. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Bill stickers are an important item in the expenses I am afraid; placarding and that?—Oh, yes.

47,225. I think there was an immense deal of bill stieking on every occasion?—Yes, and a great deal for that election, because they were always writing addresses and everything of that sort and explanations, and you see the election was going on for 12 weeks before it came off.

47,226. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did any one assist you in paying money; mind, I do not mean that any one had any money to pay except from you?—There was a clerk at Laker's hotel, I have no doubt he paid accounts.

47,227. Your clerk?—Yes.

47,228. What is his name?—Thompson; and then Joyes had money to pay.

47,229. Which Joyes?—Frederick Joyes; and Holden.

47,230. Who else had money to pay?—Frederick Joyes and Holden; perhaps if I looked at the list it would tell (*the witness looked at the list*). I do not think Barker had; Apted had.

47,231. Which Apted?—Job.

47,232. Who else?—I think that is all.

47,233. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Three?—Yes.

47,234. (*Mr. Commissioner OBrien.*) Was that Thomas Barker you mentioned?—Yes; I do not think Barker had any.

47,235. You do not think he had?—I am quite sure.

47,236. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had these men, Joyes, Holden, and Apted, received money from you to pay away?—Yes.

47,237. I suppose you cannot tell me in what amounts at that time?—I cannot; but they were not in large amounts.

47,238. Did you hand over to Joyes 100*l.*?—Oh, certainly not.

47,239. About what?—About 15*l.* at the outside, and that would be when he brought in his list of people he had canvassed and those under his orders; small sums. I think 40*l.* once or twice would be the highest.

47,240. For Mr. Joyes?—I do not think Mr. Joyes had so much; I think Mr. Apted had.

47,241. How did Mr. Apted get the money?—From me; do you mean by cheque or what.

47,242. I did not mean that, but I will take it if you please?—I cannot tell you that.

47,243. Do you remember whether you gave him that by cheque or cash?—I cannot tell; I should think it would be in cash.

47,244. How did you know what Apted wanted it for?—Because I asked him.

47,245. He came to you and said, "I want money"?—Yes.

47,246. And you did ask him what he wanted it for?—What he wanted it for, and then he would give me a list so-and-so. In many cases I had told him to put on people for canvassers, and I knew that he would require the amount.

47,247. In many cases you told them I will say?—Yes, *them*.

47,248. "To put on people, and I knew they would "want money to pay them"?—That they would want money to pay them.

47,249. I am speaking only of voters, of course you understand me?—There were some voters, but there were a great many who were not voters.

47,250. Oh, I dare say?—I may state my instructions distinctly were that I was never to put on a voter because he was a voter, but if he was the best man for the work I was not to regard him because he was a voter.

47,251. Joyes was one, and Holden was another; was not Barker another?—I do not think he was; I hardly recollect the man.

47,252. He stated it; it is very difficult to put them all in the right place. Was James Apted another?—I do not think so; I am almost certain he was not.

47,253. I ask you, in 1859 you paid Barker 15*l.*?—14 guineas.

47,254. He says 15*l.*?—He is near right, I dare say he would not recollect exactly.

47,255. Then he did receive money?—Oh, certainly he received money; you were asking me whether he was an agent.

47,256. You are quite correct; you find then that Mazden was paid 10*l.*?—I dare say he was.

47,257. He had a house, had he not, for committee meetings?—Yes, Mazden's committee rooms; 7*l.* 10*s.* was his account.

47,258. 10*l.*?—He may have said so.

47,259. Now you will allow William Spence 13*l.*?—He was a man employed; I recollect he was canvasser down Mead-hole,—Mead-vale. Spence, for instance, was a man who was not too well paid.

47,260. I do not say he was; he was paid for canvassing?—Yes.

47,261. And no money passed through his hands?—No, the arrangement with all these men was that they were to give me the whole of their time.

47,262. You did not make the arrangement?—I did, and I think a man showed you a letter; I think a man of the name of Younger said he received a note from me in 1863.

47,263. No?—Well, I saw it in some of the papers I had.

47,264. I will tell you who you paid. You paid Mark Wicks 1*l.*?—I did not.

47,265. He was paid during the election. Thomas Titchener 25*l.*?—For his house.

47,266. These are voters; William Spence 13*l.*?—Yes.

47,267. There was a man whom I mentioned to you who was paid 7*l.*; he is down there?—7*l.* 3*s.*, I have no doubt that was.

47,268. You said "according to the amount" when I read out Spence's name for 13*l.* You told me that afterwards it was 7*l.*?—No, that was Mazden.

47,269. Mazden was paid 10*l.*?—Yes, for his house.

47,270. Only 7*l.* for his house according to that?—Then that was all that he had.

47,271. He says he got 10*l.*; how do you know that Apted, or Joyes, or Holden did not pay him 3*l.* and charge you for it?—That might be.

47,272. It is very likely, is it not?—I do not think so, because if he had an account that was going on till the end of the election, and he was not to be paid till afterwards, it would all go in one account, and then it would come into this account.

47,273. Might it not be that Apted mentioned the fact to you and said, "I want money to go on with, I "know that Mazden wants 3*l.*"?—I cannot say.

47,274. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What have you got him down for?—The amount that Apted paid would be 13*l.*, but all that would be shown by the account which is with the auditor.

47,275. Have you received any account from Mr. Apted of what money he did in fact pay?—I had the amount for one week; for instance, on the Saturday we will say we had the money to pay the canvassers, before they got any money for the next week I had the accounts and the receipts for the previous week; I would not say that that was an invariable and inflexible rule, but that was the rule.

47,276. That was the system. This was the sort of letter, "I hereby engage your services ——."

47,277. *The Chief Commissioner.*) Who is that letter from?—From me to George Robson and John Younger.

47,278. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is a formal letter, a model letter?—Yes.

47,279. *The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you let me have that letter?—Yes, and there are the accounts. (*The letter was handed in.*) At the back of the notices in every house taken either as a posting house, or as a committee room, there was a notice that we would not be answerable for any refreshments supplied. At the commencement of the election we made an arrangement with all the men what we should pay them.

47,280. Whether voters or not?—Yes.

47,281. Do you know what the constituency amounted to?—It was between 500 and 600 at that time.

47,282. It was nearer five, was it not?—I fancy it was 540.

47,283. In '59 it was 540?—At the beginning of the year it was 505.

47,284. I understand from my friend that it would be the same then, it may be so; it was 505 in the first election, what we call Mr. Doulton's election?—It was 505.

47,285. We will take it at 505; it would continue to go on until October, it does not change until the 1st of November; 505 would be the amount of the constituency at that time, and at that time you said that the whole expense of Mr. Wilkinson's election was, what?—1,524*l.*

47,286. You were beaten at that election?—By 15 votes.

47,287. How many did you poll?—220, was it? Somewhere there or thereabouts. I do not think I can tell you exactly.

47,288. 15 was the majority?—Yes, I think it was; 210 and 225.

47,289. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And 223?—It was 15 majority; I have that number very clearly impressed on my recollection; I had good reason to remember it.

47,290. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) 505 appears to have been the number of the electors?—That would be a very large number to vote considering that it was at the end of the register, and a number must have been dead; it was a very large number to vote.

47,291. Did you yourself, during that election, make any payment with your own hand to voters, because from their evidence I understand and infer that you did?—No, I do not think I did. I am almost certain I did not.

47,292. I think you did; from their evidence I judge so. I will tell you the men whom I think you paid money to if you like?—It is quite possible I did.

47,293. I want to know whether it passed out of your hands to the voters, that is what I am trying to find out; did you pay them yourself?—I should not hesitate to do so; if I had been in the committee room, and they came in, I might have paid them.

47,294. That increases the probability that you did so?—Yes; that was not the rule.

THIRTY-1ST DAY.

A. Cape.

3 Sept. 1866.

47,295. No, the rule was for Apted, Joyes, and Holden to pay them?—Well, those very men, Younger and Robson, or whatever their names are, I think that the probabilities are, that I or my clerk would pay them, because they were put on directly, not by any of the sub-agents.

47,296. John Younger states that he was paid 7*l.*, and received it from you?—Very likely; that was 7*s.* 6*d.* a day; there is his agreement.

47,297. "I paid some of the voters"?—I do not say I did; I think it is a very probable thing.

47,298. I am calling your attention to it; now John Peters?—45*s.* a week; he would have three weeks.

47,299. I do not care so much about the amount, I want to see whether I was correct that you paid them. Did you not pay Robert Legg 9*l.* 10*s.*?—I think so; I should think very likely by cheque; I see by the list here it was 18*l.* by cheque after the election.

47,300. Robert Legg says he received 9*l.* 10*s.*?—He received 18*l.*

47,301. He told us 9*l.* 10*s.* Did you not pay a man named Henry Sendall 2*l.*?—Laker's gardener; it is very possible I may have; he would be attached to Laker's hotel, and if he had done the work, either I or the clerk there would pay him.

47,302. In all probability you did, because he said so?—Very possibly.

47,303. I also think you paid Mark Wicks 1*l.*?—I do not recollect; I cannot say.

47,304. May I take it that "Some small sums in "money, not in cheques, some small sums in money I "paid to voters," may I take that?—You may take it, sir, that I paid the voters for canvassing or for certain business; I should have no objection to what you said, only it does not go out in that way; the answer gets down very differently.

47,305. You are quite right; "Some of the voters "I myself paid small sums for canvassing, I mean not "in cheques"?—Not in cheques.

47,306. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think I understood that those were persons who you yourself had put on, and you knew they were doing the work?—Yes; for instance, that man Sendall was a man who worked like a nigger, that fellow was always at work, and he was attached to Mr. Laker's establishment and was about all times; if ever I wanted to send off, or if ever I wanted a thing done, he was always ready to go.

47,307. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you pay Thomas Titchener?—There it is in that list under the authority of the auditor.

47,308. Do you recollect John Peters; I mentioned him to you?—It is a long while ago.

47,309. I want to take one instance, may I say Sendall, you remember Mr. Laker's gardener?—Oh, yes; I am surprised to hear it was only 2*l.* What was the last name?

47,310. Sendall?—Before that.

47,311. Peters?—I do not recollect that.

47,312. After you had been some time employed Mr. Humphreys came down and joined you?—Yes.

47,313. Were you made aware by him or by Mr. Wilkinson what he came down for?—No, I was not.

47,314. By either of them?—I was not; merely to give me general assistance.

47,315. That is what he did come for; I mean, were you informed of that?—All that did pass between Mr. Wilkinson and myself on the matter as near as I can recollect is this, "Humphreys is coming down, "or is come down." I had known Mr. Humphreys before, something of him, and Mr. Wilkinson said, "Mind, Mr. Cape, I look to you with reference to the expenditure, I hold you answerable."

47,316. Do you pledge yourself what was said was to that effect?—To that effect. I will not be certain as to the words, but it made an impression on my mind that I recollect it.

47,317. "Mind, Cape, I hold you responsible"?—Yes, "I look to you as to the expenses," or words to that effect, "that you must keep the expenditure in "your hands."

47,318. "I look to you for the expenditure"?—Or words to that effect.

47,319. I will say so. When Mr. Humphreys presented himself did he give you to understand what he came down for?—No, the only thing that I understood from him was, that he had come down to assist me generally, and I was exceeding glad to get an assistant; the matter was then getting excessively pressing, I was eight years younger than I am now, and there were a number of men continually coming to me and telling me that I was starving the election, and that sort of thing, at least the word starving was not used, but they said I was mean, with very many adjectives. The thing was very pressing. I felt the responsibility on the one hand of having to account to Mr. Wilkinson, and on the other hand of losing the election.

47,320. Tell me any names of any persons coming to you to tell you that?—The canvassers, most of them, Joyes and Apted, and others; those representations I know were made to Mr. Norman Wilkinson and others.

47,321. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And brought to you?—And brought to me. And there was a great deal of misunderstanding about the matter; it was excessively trying.

47,322. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Holden came and brought you those representations?—Mr. Holden I knew something of before.

47,323. Take it in this way, "Mr. Joyes and Mr. "Apted, and the sub-agents, came to me before Mr. "Humphreys came down to say that I was starving "the election, or to that effect"?—Yes, a deputation came down to that effect, and said I was so mean, and a very strong adjective.

47,324. Who headed it?—I know Mr. Joyes was in it, and Mr. Langridge I recollect. I was coming out of Mr. Laker's hotel, and met them on the steps.

47,325. Do you remember whether anybody besides Mr. Langridge and Mr. Joyes were in it?—I cannot charge my memory to say who was in it, but I recollect their coming up the steps.

47,326. Do you recollect about how soon before the polling day that was?—Oh, a considerable time before.

47,327. So that these things coming in you were very glad to get Mr. Humphreys?—I was very glad; there was this responsibility upon me, and I could see that Mr. Wilkinson's friends were thinking that all was not being done that ought to be done.

47,328. You mentioned that they went to Mr. Norman Wilkinson?—They told him, and made complaints to him. He did not tell me that in so many words, but I could see as he walked about what he fancied.

47,329. Did Mr. Norman Wilkinson come to you and say that he thought you were—?—No, he never used words of that sort.

47,330. Did he suggest anything?—No, he never suggested to me anything. I could see what his impression was, but he never said anything.

47,331. I do not know that there is anything more. That is all in the election of October '58?—Yes.

47,332. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were in the February election?—Yes, I was.

47,333. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Both in October '58 and February '58?—Yes.

47,334. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you conducting agent?—Yes, for the time it was on.

47,335. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were agent in February '58?—Yes.

47,336. For Mr. Wilkinson?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

47,337. Had you come down some time before the election?—I can tell you when.

47,338. Before we go to that election, you know representations had been made to you in the election that we have been talking about in October, 1858, about starving the election, or whatever it was; now, in consequence of those representations, did you, in fact, relax a little, and open your hand a little more than you had been doing?—I do not think I did. I went carefully into it, and I will not say that one or two more canvassers, or something of that sort, may have been put on, but not to any extent.

47,339. "I do not think I relaxed in consequence, "perhaps a very little;" shall I say so?—Yes, I should not be more stringent.

47,340. You were agent in February '58 for Mr. Wilkinson?—I was.

47,341. And were you down canvassing for him some time before the election came off?—I should think three or four weeks, four weeks. I looked at my diary yesterday, and I think I can give you the dates about that.

47,342. I will do this shorter; through whom was money paid away in that election?—By me only.

47,343. How did you get your money?—From Mr. Wilkinson in the same way.

47,344. Just let me see if my impression is correct. The money was paid by Mr. Wilkinson into your bankers, and you drew a cheque for it?—It was paid to me first, and then it went into the bank.

47,345. Into your bank?—Yes. In the election of October 1858 I opened a separate account, but I am not quite sure whether I did in February; it was a small matter.

47,346. This was a small matter of '58?—Oh yes.

47,347. How?—The expenses were only about between three and four hundred pounds. I think they were about 400*l.*

47,348. The total?—Yes, but every paper connected with that I sent to Mr. Wilkinson; you see we were not candidates; there was a question about whether we were or not. There were none sent to any auditor.

47,349. Not candidates?—Not within the meaning of the Act.

47,350. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were not present at the election?—No, we retired some time before.

47,351. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) About how long before do you recollect?—I should think three weeks.

47,352. You did as much as that?—Yes, we went the wrong way.

47,533. Did you take your departure after Mr. Wilkinson retired?—Directly after Mr. Wilkinson retired I went away. I did not act in these matters; it was only for Mr. Wilkinson.

47,354. Then the 400*l.*, therefore, was all disbursed previous to the election; the expenses were incurred?—Yes, I have got the dates of that. I can give you the exact dates of the time we were down here. I know it was about four weeks—oh, I see I have not got them, but I think it was about from the 5th of January.

47,355. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was a much shorter time; it was represented as being about a fortnight or three weeks?—Yes, I do not recollect the time.

47,356-7. You were employed about four weeks for him; can you tell me the names of the persons whom you employed under you as sub-agents?—I cannot. Mr. Joyes was one.

47,858. Frederick?—Yes. Legg was another; Holden was another, because the ballot was held in his room.

47,359. In his school room?—Yes; I cannot recollect who the others were.

47,360. Do you think you had any fresh ones at the end of the year, in October?—Yes, that was so; you see there were a number let loose in October; they were not tied to Sir Henry Rawlinson, and therefore I have no doubt I secured some of those who were previously engaged. I may as well just mention one thing with reference to the expenses; in one particular they would be a deal heavier for the time, because I made the bargain with the sub-agents and others for the time, and they had a short time in that election, and therefore they had the best of it in that election; instead of its lasting ten weeks it only lasted three or four weeks.

47,361. Were the expenses in that election made in the same way as in the election of October?—Yes, very much.

47,362. That is, by putting on canvassers?—Yes.

47,363. And I suppose I may take it that many of the canvassers were voters?—Some.

47,364. Many I say?—I can go as far as some, but I cannot charge my memory with reference to whether there were many.

47,365. Who put them on; the sub-agents or you?—They were put on in that election by me, but entirely under the advice of the sub-agents, because I had never been in Reigate before.

47,366. Who paid them?—Oh! I paid them, I believe; at least, they were paid under my direction; I cannot now say as to that election.

47,367. I think I can assist you to a very small extent; I can, perhaps, remind you?—It would make no difference, I suppose, to them from whom they received the money.

47,368. James Apted at that time was paid by you, was he not?—I cannot say.

47,369. I think he was; 10*l.*?—Very likely.

47,370. He says so?—I will not say he was not.

47,371. Do you remember James Apted?—I recollect now he was paid at one election when he worked for us, and he may have received the money; I know the man by sight and I know he worked for us, and if I had only been engaged in one election I should have no hesitation in saying he was the man.

47,372. Yes, I reserved him for October. Were the canvassers paid by you or by the sub-agents, who got the money from you?—I fancy they were mostly paid by the sub-agents; I should say they were very much in the same way as the other election.

47,373. Now then, tell me this; do you not recollect whether you paid any of the canvassers who were voters in the election of February '58?—I cannot tell you.

47,374. I have endeavoured to call your attention to James Apted?—I think there was a man named Wilkinson, I do not remember what I paid him, but I remember his name in connexion with the election.

47,375. Who paid the sub-agents?—I did.

47,376. When; after the work was over?—I expect I paid them their own fees after the work was over.

47,377. Besides money which you gave them to pay away; you paid them their own fees?—Yes.

47,378. Did you pay them their own fees separately in the election of 1858 in October, the second election?—I expect I did, I think they were mostly amounts to be paid by cheques, and every Saturday I had to pay by cheque.

47,379. I do not know whether the name of Mark Wicks will recall your paying him?—No, I do not remember Mark Wicks; if there was anything to call it to my mind I might, if I saw his face I might remember.

47,380. And then you would not remember which election?—No.

47,381. By-the-by, with reference to the 400*l.*, you have included your own fee in that?—Yes.

47,382. The placarding?—Yes; I am assuming that we are upon the Doulton election. I said the expenses were 400*l.*, and my fee in that would be a large amount.

47,383. Your fee was included in the 400*l.*?—Yes; and placarding and issuing addresses, and everything; it is 400*l.* within a few pounds.

THIRTY-RST DAY.

. A. Cape.

Sept. 1866.

47,384. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) As to the placarding, the advertising, and all that, that was as expensive to you as if you had gone to poll?—Yes.

47,385. You had to lay out every farthing as if you were going to poll?—Yes; and all the agents we had to pay, and there were some expenses we had to pay over the ballot.

47,386. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know anything about the ballot?—Yes, a good deal.

47,387. Are you aware of its being an expensive proceeding?—When you say expensive, it was not an expensive proceeding.

47,388. Was it made so?—By some of the candidates.

47,389. Were you aware of it?—Oh, yes, because I was aware of this after we had sent out. Mr. Barton, Mr. Doulton's agent, Mr. Cross, Mr. Walters' agent, and myself, sat up all night while we put them in the envelopes, each of us.

47,390. Your own ticket?—To each man.

47,391. That would be a great expense?—And we did it jointly to see that there was one of each, and as fast as they were going out on the one hand, there were some who were buying up Mr. Wilkinson's tickets as soon as they could; I think they got 5*s.* for each.

47,392. Those tickets went to the fire?—Yes; at the ballot the tickets came down to two or three in the box; the whole thing had passed away; we saw that we had no chance in the election, so I thought it was better to lose on the ballot. Sir Henry Rawlinson was sure of being returned.

47,393. Did you do anything in buying up tickets?—Certainly not.

47,394. Did you yourself employ persons to buy up?—Certainly not.

47,395. Are you aware of anybody doing it?—It was not done; Mr. Wilkinson did not.

47,396. You did not?—And I am sure Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson did not.

47,397. That reminds of a question, a particular one; are you aware of Mr. Wilkinson paying any election money except through you?—Certainly not.

47,398. Do you believe he did?—I do not believe he paid any monies.

47,399. Do you believe he paid any monies except through you in the October election?—Certainly not; I believe he did not pay any money except through me, but the cheque for Mr. Humphreys, that was sent by him direct to Mr. Humphreys after the election; that I believe he did himself, and that was the only thing.

47,400. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now, Mr. Cape, I am very glad at having this opportunity of seeing you. You conducted the election in '58; I ask you, in appointing sub-agents did you use your best discretion entirely irrespective of whether they had votes or not?—Oh, entirely.

47,401. I take it most implicitly?—You are very kind to say that, but I will tell you why; my clerks I brought down, I would not employ electors or people here at all; I brought them down.

47,402. And so far as your selection of canvassers and sub-agents went, was it directed entirely by your belief in their efficiency?—Yes, in their efficiency.

47,403. From their knowledge of the electors?—From their knowledge of the electors.

47,404. Was it in any way put forward as a consideration for their employment, either directly or indirectly, that they should give their votes?—It was never mentioned in any way whatever.

47,405. Either directly or indirectly?—Neither directly or indirectly; it was never made a matter of discussion.

47,406. Or consideration?—Or consideration.

47,407. And does that include all the sub-agents, as well as canvassers, that you employed yourself?—That I employed myself entirely, and in posting at the public houses as well; the arrangement made with the public houses was for the whole time, and I am quite sure we took the worth of that we paid them, for we had meetings every night.

47,408. In doing that did you understand that you were carrying out strictly and not only the letter?—Not only the letter, but the spirit of my client's instructions.

47,409. And of the Act?—Entirely. I had seen Mr. Wilkinson lose elections before, and I knew he could bear to do that, but I knew he could not bear to lose the petition.

47,410. Did any money pass through your hands during these elections without having received a regular receipt?—I received a voucher in every case, and where a man could not write, which was often, I had their marks.

47,411. And did you account to Mr. Wilkinson for every shilling of the money that passed through your hands?—For every shilling that passed through my hands, I went through the whole of them in his presence.

47,412. Not from memory?—No.

47,413. Do you recollect how soon before the polling day it was that these gentlemen came to you to say that there were not sufficient canvassers, or something of that kind; that you were starving the election?—I cannot recollect how long, I recollect the fact, because it made a very strong impression on my mind.

47,414. I want to know not whether you employed more canvassers or not, but did you increase the fee of any of the men you had canvassed before?—Certainly not; I thought that was the object of it, I had got the agreement for a time.

47,415. May I take it that you did not increase the fee of any men you had employed before as canvassers?—No, certainly I did not.

The witness then withdrew.

R. Knight.

RICHARD KNIGHT sworn and examined.

47,416. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A cowman.

47,417. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

47,418. What rent do you pay, about; do you pay 10*l.*, or more than that?—More than that.

47,419. 15*l.*?—Yes, I think so; I have forgotten.

47,420. Who did you vote for, Mr. Gower or Mr. Monson?—Mr. Monson.

47,421. Were you on his committee, do you recollect?—No.

47,422. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Monson?—Thomas Corderoy.

47,423. Where were you living then?—At Bickley.

47,424. Who came to Bickley to fetch you?—Thomas Corderoy.

47,425. He came himself?—He sent for me.

47,426. Who did he send?—He came himself; he came to ask me to canvass for Mr. Monson.

47,427. And you said you would?—Yes.

47,428. When did you come here, how long before the election?—The same day; I came right down just in time.

47,429. The same day that he came for you?—No.

47,430. Did you come here on the day of election?—Yes, just in time to vote.

47,431. Did Corderoy pay you any money?—Yes; at least he gave me something to pay my expenses down.

47,432. That was before you came?—Yes.

47,433. And what did he give you after; 3*l.*?—3*l.*

47,434. How long were you here?—I was not here long; I went back again as soon as I had given my vote.

47,435. You came here and went home the same day?—Yes.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

R. Knight.

26 Sept. 1866.

47,436. Were you living at Bickley then ?—Yes.
47,437. How long had you been living there ?—A year and a half, I should think.
47,438. A year and a half ?—Yes.
47,439. Had you been in any other election ?—No.
47,440. That was your only election ?—That was my first election.
47,441. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was the only time you came over to Reigate when you came over to vote ?—Yes.
47,442. You came over before the election ?—No ; I did not come over.
47,443. I thought you said that you were to canvass? —No.
47,444. Corderoy asked you to come and canvass ? —No, I did not understand ; he asked me to give my vote ; that is what I meant to say.
47,445. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know Turner who was working there ?—A butcher ?
47,446. Yes ?—Yes.
47,447. You were at Bickley at the same time ?—Yes.
47,448. Is he here now ?—I have not seen him.
47,449. Where is he now ?—I have seen him there.
47,450. Did you see Corderoy with him ?—No.
47,451. Did Turner come over here ?—He was here the same time as I was.
47,452. Who did he vote for ?—For Mr. Leveson Gower.
47,453. He voted the other side ?—Yes, he did not vote when I did.
47,454. Did you come together ?—No, we went back together.
47,455. Did you hear how much money he had had ? —No, nor yet anything ; I never asked him any questions, nor he me.
47,456. Did you tell him how much money you had had ?—No, not a word ; there was not a word spoken.
47,457. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Turner lives there now, does he ?—Yes.
47,458. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He is there now, is he ?—Yes, I believe so ; I saw him there about a week ago.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned until half-past 11 o'clock the next morning.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.

Thursday, 27th September 1866.

G. Smith.

27 Sept. 1866.

GIDEON SMITH sworn and examined.

47,459. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ? —A carman.
47,460. I believe you voted in 1865 for this borough ?—Yes.
47,461. What rent do you pay for your house ?—40*l.* a year.
47,462. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Monson.
47,463. Were you on his committee ?—No.
47,464. Who asked you to vote for him ?—Mr. Monson.
47,465. And who afterwards ? I suppose you had some talk with some agents ?—No, sir.
47,466. Were you to have anything before you voted or after ?—No, sir.
47,467. There was no arrangement made ?—No, sir.
47,468. Before you voted did you receive anything ? No, not a farthing.
47,469. After you voted did you receive anything ? No, sir, not a farthing.
47,470. You are sure you did not ?—Yes.
47,471. Did you know Mr. Steer at that time ?—Yes.
47,472. Which ?—I believe it is the Steer in Station-road, Richard Steer.
47,473. Do you know any other Steer ?—No, I do not.
47,474. Well, Mr. Steer asked you to vote for Mr. Monson ?—No, he did not.
47,475. Did he not talk to you about your vote ?—He did not indeed, he met me one day and asked me if I was going the same way.
47,476. Had you promised your vote before he spoke to you ?—Yes, for months to Mr. Monson.
47,477. Before you spoke to Steer ?—Yes.
47,478. What more passed between you and Mr. Steer ?—Nothing more particularly.
47,479. Did he go to the poll with you or anything of that kind ?—No.
47,480. Did he agree he would go with you on the polling day ?—No.
47,481. Or meet you ?—No.
47,482. Do you remember seeing him on the polling day ?—No, I never troubled myself about the polling ; I told him I should vote for Mr. Monson, and there was an end of it.
47,483. Do you recollect seeing Mr. Steer on the polling day and talking to him about the election ?—No.
47,484. Were you doubting at all about whom you should vote for at any time ?—No, not at all.
47,485. Did Mr. Richard Steer secure your vote ? Nobody secured my vote at all, I promised my vote to Mr. Monson at the first onset.
47,486. I agree to that, but did Mr. Steer secure your vote, tell me, in any way ?—Oh no, Mr. Steer had nothing to do with the poll with me.
47,487. He need not have commanded you, but he might have influenced you by his talk, did he ?—No.
47,488. I will tell you why I asked you ; when Mr. Steer was here he was asked whether he had secured any votes for Mr. Monson, and he said three, and that one was Gideon Smith ; was that correct ?—No.
47,489. Did anything pass between you that might have led Mr. Steer to suppose he had secured your vote ?—All that passed was this : he met me in the Station-road by accident and asked me which way I was going, whether I would go his side ; I said, I was going to vote for Mr. Monson, and he said, "Yes."
47,490. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had promised Mr. Monson before you met Steer, as you say, by accident ?—Yes, I had promised him six or seven weeks before.

The witness then withdrew.

E. Hooper.

EBENEZER HOOPER sworn and examined.

47,491. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ? —I was a tanner in Reigate.
47,492. How long have you left the borough ?—Two years this week.
47,493. When was the first election in which you were in any way concerned ?—Mr. Hackblock's.
47,494. You are not now on the register ?—No.
47,495. And you have left the town for the last two

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.

E. Hooper.

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years ?—I voted at the last election, for my name was on the register.

47,496. Although you had left the town two years ?—Two years now, but at the time of the election I had left it but a few months.

47,497. What rent did you pay for your house ?—They are my own premises.

47,498. What were they rated at ?—80*l.* or 90*l.*

47,499. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

47,500. Did you take an active part for Mr. Gower ?—No.

47,501. Not on his committee ?—No ; I live in Essex.

47,502. You came up from Essex to vote for Mr. Gower ?—Yes, at the last election.

47,503. Were you written to to come up ?—Yes, I received several letters, some from Mr. Gower and some from his committee, and some from Mr. Monson's party.

47,504. You were canvassed by both parties ?—Yes.

47,505. Did you come up free, or did you charge your expenses ?—I knew Mr. Gower, I had done business for him when I was here, and I voted for him. On the last occasion he wrote to me and asked me for my vote if I was satisfied with his conduct ; I wrote to say that he might have my vote, but I did not wish the trouble of coming unless it was necessary. He wrote to say he was obliged by the promise of my vote, and would be glad if I voted, for though he felt sure of being returned, yet he should like the majority to be as large as possible.

47,506. Was anything said about expenses ?—Not by Mr. Gower ; one of his committee wrote.

47,507. Which ?—Bichcliff, I think was his name, the one who wrote for Mr. Gower, and a Mr. Newcombe for Mr. Monson, and here is his letter (*handing in a paper writing*). In answer to Mr. Bichliff's letter I wrote to say I would come on payment of my expenses.

47,508. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were at Chelmsford at the time ?—Yes, I live there ; I voted for Mr. Gower in '63, and therefore I did the same this last time.

47,509. What did you receive for your expenses ?—The day before the election I received a post-office order for a sovereign, and I thought it rather shabby to pay me only that to come from Chelmsford.

47,510. Who sent the post-office order ?—It was written in a sort of school-boy hand, and was signed "Featherstone." Mr. Rees in his evidence stated he paid me 30*s.* ; that I know nothing about, I received no 30*s.* of Mr. Rees.

47,511. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or from anybody ?—I received a sovereign.

47,512. Was that all you received ?—I came here on the strength of the sovereign sent for my expenses, but which were not my expenses, for I had to sleep here. If no more had been offered I should not have asked for any, but I met Mr. Bichcliff the next day, who spoke to me about my expenses. I said, "I have "received a sovereign, but that does not cover them." He asked what I would have ; I said my fare was 1*l.* 2*s.*, and that I had to sleep here that night, and I said I thought two guineas was not too much. He spoke about payment ; I said that I had had a sovereign yesterday, and he said he would give me 1*l.* 2*s.*, which he did, and which might just about cover, or a little more, the expense I had been put to ; it certainly did not pay for the loss of my two days' work.

47,513. We will not speak of your work, but did it pay your expenses ?—About that ; my fare was 1*l.* 2*s.*, and I had to sleep here.

47,514. When you voted you had entirely left the place here ?—Yes.

47,515. And were no longer a resident ?—No, and I took no interest in it, except having voted for Mr. Gower at the last election I thought I would this.

47,516. Perhaps you were not aware you had no right to vote ?—No, I was not aware of that, and being written to by both the candidates and my name remaining on the register, I thought I had a right, and that they would know.

47,517. When did you leave here ?—Michaelmas '64.

47,518. The two guineas was all you received ?—Yes.

47,519. You did not receive the 30*s.* from Mr. Rees ?—I received no 30*s.* from him.

47,520. In fact, the only money you received at Chelmsford was the 1*l.* ?—It was only 1*l.* I received while at Chelmsford, and it came in the shape of a post-office order the day before.

47,521. All the other money was paid by Mr. Bichcliff ?—Yes, which I thought was as little as could well be.

47,522. Did you vote in 1863 for Mr. Gower ?—Yes.

47,523. You were then resident in the borough ?—Yes, I resided here.

47,524. Did you take an active part for Mr Gower ?—No, I do not think I was canvassed ; I promised my vote to Mr. Gower, and he had it. I had two men in my employ here, and one, I believe, voted for Mr. Wilkinson. I never troubled myself even about them, except asking how they voted. I believe one voted for Mr. Wilkinson, and one did not vote at all. I voted as I liked, and they did as they pleased. I did not take any interest, except to ask them how they voted.

47,525. You received no money to pass through your hands ?—No.

47,526. And you received nothing for yourself ?—No, nothing.

47,527. We will pass on to '59. I suppose you will say the same as to that election ?—I voted for Mr. Monson in April '59 and in October '58.

47,528. And I suppose you will give the same evidence in regard to those elections as you have done in respect to 1863, that no money passed through your hands or into your hands ?—I never thought of such a thing.

47,529. The election before that was October 1858 ?—Yes.

47,530. Do you say the same as to that election ?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Monson then.

47,531. The election of February '58, did you take part in that ?—Very little ; I voted for Mr. Doulton, and I counted the tickets out of the ballot box. Mr. Alexander was to have done it, but a message coming he could not attend I took his place, and counted the tickets out of the ballot box.

47,532. Where did you count the tickets ?—At the school room, the entrance to the Warwick-road.

47,533. Do you know anothing about the conduct of it ?—Here is a copy of the ticket.

47,534. They are initialed ?—Yes, those were the three candidates ; Walters, Wilkinson, and Doulton.

47,535. And this, you say, was the result of the ballot ; Doulton, 110 ; Wilkinson, 93 ; and Ralph Walters, 23 ; there were 226 who balloted ?—Yes ; these cards were not used, they were cancelled on the previous day. They were bought up, and it being found they were tampered with, they were not used as proposed.

47,536. In what way were they tampered with ?—They had been bought up, principally by Mr. Walters, I believe.

47,537. Was that the reason these were used, because the others had been bought up ?—Yes.

47,538. Is this one of them ?—Yes.

47,539. You produce these tickets supplied to you for the purpose of the ballot ?—Yes ; here is one of the envelopes. They had two stamps on, and there was a circular inside stating that we were to destroy two of the cards and use the one of the candidate who was preferred, either Mr. Walters, Mr. Wilkinson, or Mr. Doulton ; two were to go in the fire. On the morning of the ballot day they gave us three papers with

three names on, a name on each; we were to go to the fire-place and put two in, and put one in the ballot box.

47,540. That destroyed the manœuvre of the day before?—Yes.

47,541. Did you see anything of the conduct of that election?—Mr. Doulton came down a stranger introduced by Mr. Roupell, as I understood, and I supposed Sir Henry Rawlinson, from his having been opposed to Mr. Hackblock before. Mr. Hackblock was a friend of mine in London, and Sir Henry Rawlinson opposed him; therefore I was not prepared to support. The next election Mr. Doulton came down, and was introduced as a respectable Liberal gentleman. I did not take much interest in politics at that time. I do not know of any committee that Mr. Doulton had except himself, Mr. William Featherstone, and Mr. Murphy.

47,542. Was anything offered you at that election for your vote?—No.

47,543. I do not mean that you would take it, but was anything offered?—No.

47,544. Did any money pass into or out of your hands in reference to the election?—We were then building a chapel, and it was reported that Mr. Doulton gave 100*l.* towards it; that Mr. Doulton gave money to my friends and myself for building this chapel. I put a letter in the paper to say that it was no such thing.

47,545. No money passed into or out of your hands in reference to the election?—No, not in reference to the election.

47,546. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It was George Bilcliff from whom you got the 1*l.* 2*s.*?—Yes.

47,547. Can you tell me who you got the 1*l.* from?—It came in a letter; the letter was signed P. Featherstone, and I went to the post office and got it.

47,548. Do you know now who sent it?—I think Mr. Rees the next morning said, "You received the post-office order;" and I said, "Yes."

47,549. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The post-office order was 1*l*; what Mr. Rees referred to was 30*s.*?—I did not receive it. I thought as one guinea did not cover my fare I was entitled to two.

47,550. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What is the fare from Chelmsford here?—11*s.*

47,551. What would the fare here and the fare back be?—22*s.* to and from.

47,552. What is the return fare?—I could not have a return ticket.

47,553. Could you not have a return from Chelmsford to London?—Yes, the same day; but they wished me to come the day previous.

47,554. How much did your fare here and back come to?—1*l.* 2*s.*; I did not come first class, but I was entitled to it.

47,555. What is the second class fare?—1*l.* 2*s.*

47,556. No, second class?—14*s.*; I think 4*s.* and 10*s.*

47,557. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The terminus is not the same?—No.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS FEATHERSTONE sworn and examined.

T. Featherstone.

47,558. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—I am a publican.

47,559. What rent do you pay for the premises out of which you vote?—It is my own house.

47,560. But the rate or rent?—About 50*l.*

47,561. Did you take an active part in any of the elections?—Every election.

47,562. Now, we will take 1865; for whom did you vote in 1865?—I do not recollect the date.

47,563. For whom did you vote in 1865?—Mr. Gower.

47,564. Were you on his committee?—I was.

47,565. And you took an active part; now tell me, did any money pass through your hands?—10*l.*

47,566. From whom did you receive the 10*l.*?—I think it came from Mr. Smith, and Mr. Green brought it me, I think; but I am not sure that it came from Mr. Smith.

47,567. Mr. Green came to you with the message, he came from Mr. Smith?—I think it came from him, I am not sure, I cannot charge my memory, it is the first money transaction I had in any election.

47,568. That was a reason you would recollect it?—I could not say; I am not positive.

47,569. Had you seen Mr. Smith afterwards to recall it to his attention?—No.

47,570. What were you to do with the 10*l.*; what did they bring it you for?—I had engaged a great number of them I call a body guard.

47,571. I am sorry to hear that; I suppose that work was necessary; but how did you have a body guard?—I had it on the same principle as we now have the volunteers.

47,572. Do not degrade an honourable body?—You will allow me to speak in my own defence.

47,573. Answer my question.

(*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You must answer.

47,574. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did I ask you anything about the volunteers, or anything of the kind; what was the 10*l.* given for?—Nothing, except I was to expend the money.

47,575. Then nothing was mentioned respecting the 10*l.*, excepting that it came from Mr. Green, who stated that it came from Mr. Smith; is that all?—That is it.

47,576. Had you it suggested to you by any one before that you were to receive 10*l.*?—Not any one; I did not expect 10*l.*

47,577. Not any one; you did not expect it?—No.

47,578. It came in your possession from Mr. Smith?—Yes.

47,579. It came late for the election, and on that it came upon you by surprise?—I am not sure, but I think it was a week before perhaps.

47,580. Did any one tell you after you had received it in that surprising manner what you were to do with it?—Not any one.

47,581. Then you used it at your discretion?—At my discretion.

47,582. Then you might have paid it away to a voter if you liked?—Yes, I might have done so.

47,583. Tell me what you did with it?—I employed about 26 of the body guard.

47,584. Do you mean for your own protection?—At the election previous I was nearly killed, and therefore I had good reason for it.

47,585. Was it what you say, a body guard (we are disposed to associate with great people), or was it for your own protection?—Not merely for my own protection, but it was for the protection of other people.

47,586. For the protection of others also?—More for my own protection.

47,587. Then you employed 26 men; what were you doing that you required a body guard?—I was canvassing.

47,588. Did these men or any part of them go round with you?—They did not.

47,589. They were not useful, then?—Oh yes, they were; I will tell you where they were useful.

47,590. What, on the day?—On the day of nomination and the day of election.

47,591. They voted?—There were not any voters among them.

47,592. The day of nomination and the day of polling what did they do?—They were at my beck and call. I had them stationed at different places, where I could get them if necessary for protection. I told them where to be.

47,593. You placed the men in different positions,

so that you had them under your call and command?—Yes.

47,594. Had you employed them for any purpose up to the day of nomination and the day of polling?—No, only except one man.

47,595. You had not used them?—Except one man, who was my own workman and a labourer, I think he was; I am not quite sure, I could not charge my memory.

47,596. What was his name?—Sulford.

47,597. He had gone round with you?—No.

47,598. What had he done?—He was one of the body guard.

47,599. What had he done for you; was it your own private business: what I mean is, did you use him for the election business; we will put your own business aside; did you use him for election purposes up to the day of nomination and of polling?—Not previous to the nomination and polling; they were afterwards engaged for those two days.

47,600. Did you give any account, did you ever speak to Mr. Smith afterwards?—Never.

47,601. As to what became of the 10*l.*?—No, never.

47,602. Did you not give any account to the gentleman who surprised you with it, I forget his name?—Mr. Green. I think I told him I had not enough to pay the whole, and he paid the rest of them. I paid the men as far as my money went, and I think he paid the rest of them.

47,603. I cannot understand that without any communication with anybody you took it into your head to employ these men?—At the election before I was mudded and dusted and knocked down. I said I had gone for nothing for every election before this time, and I would not be laughed at. I would have a body guard; surely my services are worth 10*l.*, what I had done for the last seven years. That was my reason, and if I had not got a guard I would not have taken any part in the election.

47,604. You would not?—I should have paid them myself.

47,605. You said you would not have taken any part without a body guard?—I should have paid them myself.

47,606. You think Mr. Green paid the remainder?—I think so; I am not positive. I paid so far as the money would go.

47,607. Had you agreed with each of the men, or had you agreed with the head man or captain?—There was no captain at all; they had 5*s.* a day for two days.

47,608. You had 26 of them?—I think so, but I cannot say. I am not sure to within three.

47,609. Did they come to you, or did you go to them?—I believe I engaged them one or two, or three or four, at a time.

47,610. Did you vote in 1863?—I have voted in every election since 1859.

47,611. For whom did you vote in 1863?—Mr. Gower.

47,612. Did any money pass through your hands?—Not any.

47,613. I do not mean for yourself?—Not any money at all.

47,614. I mean to pay away?—I would not touch any money.

47,615. I do not mean for yourself?—Not for myself or for any other purpose.

47,616. Or at any previous election?—Not any.

47,617. We had a William Featherstone?—My nephew. The elections I think have cost me hundreds of pounds out of my pocket altogether.

47,618. Had he been engaged?—I think he was engaged by Mr. Green.

47,619. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Would you tell me, did you mention beforehand to Mr. Smith what you wanted 10*l.* for?—I never asked him for any money, and I did not expect any, but when it came to me it was by surprise.

47,620. I suppose there is no doubt it was from Mr. Smith?—I really cannot tell you. Mr. Green brought me the money, but I could not say whether it was by cheque or not.

47,621. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was it by cheque or in notes?—I do not know that. I asked Mr. Green the other day, and he thought it was by cheque; but I do not know, for I had forgotten the matter. I cannot tell you whether it was by cheque or in gold.

47,622. Was it before the election you received the money?—I should think the week before the election; about that time.

47,623. You do not think it was after the election?—Oh, certainly not, because I employed these men on the same day.

47,624. And all the money you spent on those people?—I think I did.

47,625. Were any of the body guard voters; we will adopt your term if you like?—Not any, to my knowledge; they were labouring men. I told my son to get no voters, I would have independent men.

47,626. Was Sutler a voter?—I do not know the name.

47,627. You said there was a man of the name of Sutler?—Sulford. There was Lang and Charwood; Lang is dead now.

47,628. You paid them all the money you had for them, but that was not enough?—No, I think not; I think there were half a dozen or more to pay.

47,629. Did you pay away a little of your money to every one, or did you pay as far as it would go among some of them?—I paid every man.

47,630. Every man something?—I think there were about five. I did not, but they all had their money in full.

47,631. Not in full, because you had not enough?—Those I did pay. I think out of the 10*l.* there was 10*s.* I paid Potter for going to London.

47,632. I do not mind that. Supposing you had twenty-five or twenty men, did you pay fifteen of them in full and leave the other five unpaid altogether, or did you pay a proportion amongst them?—No, I paid them in full.

47,633. You paid all you did pay in full?—Yes.

47,634. And the others were paid by Mr. Green?—I think so; I could not say, but I think they were paid. There were no voters, and they were all sober steady men, because I can tell by myself I would have nobody but sober men.

47,635. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What money you received you distributed among the men?—I do not know how much there was. There was a statement made I wish to call your attention to: a man named Andrews said that I called to Hewson out of a public house window.

47,636. Did he say so before us?—I saw it in the papers.

47,637. That was the man I was looking for in my book?—I was going to mention it.

47,638. I was going to call your attention to it. I was looking to my notes for that purpose, for the purpose of reminding you of it?—There is another man of the name of Jupp you will find mentioned my name, he said I offered him a dry fiver rather than have all the lush.

47,639. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is that correct?—I never said so in my life.

47,640. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I rather think the material part of the evidence was this, not in reference to the fact of your asking him to come into the house, but whether Hewson did not say at the time he was asked whether he had voted, whether he did not say he had got nothing to vote for?—No, not to me.

47,641. Did you hear him say that?—No. The papers stated that I looked from the window from the "Warwick Arms," but I was not in the window or the house, for I was away, and therefore what he said is untrue.

47,642. It was merely in reference to this, that he had not voted. It was suggested that he had been

hanging out for the purpose of being paid for his vote; that was the point in the evidence; it was suggested that you had spoken out of the window and asked him whether he had voted, and Hewson then said, "I have not got anything to vote for yet."—I was not in the house; it is a perfect untruth.

47,643. Then that story falls to the ground?—And as to Jupp, I never mentioned the election to him.

The witness withdrew.

HENRY BOULT sworn and examined.

H. Boult.

47,644. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—Well, you may call me a gentleman.

47,645. Are you a freeholder?—Yes.

47,646. What is the freehold for which you vote worth by the year?—I am rated at 40 guineas.

47,647. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monson.

47,648. At that time were you living in your own freehold house?—Yes.

47,649. A private house?—Yes.

47,650. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee?—I was put on.

47,651. When you were on the committee did you take an active part in doing what you could for Mr. Monson?—No, I only attended two committees.

47,652. Did you busy yourself during the election on the polling day and nomination day?—No.

47,653. Was any arrangement made with you before you went on the committee?—Oh no, not a word.

47,654. Not by anybody?—Not by anybody.

47,655. Did you assist in getting voters to vote?—I cannot say that I canvassed anybody at all.

47,656. I mean, did you try to get them?—No, I did not.

47,657. Did any money pass through your hands to give to any of the voters?—No.

47,658. To pay them for their services?—No, not a shilling.

47,659. No money passed through your hands?—No.

47,660. You understand me?—Oh, perfectly! I never had a shilling.

47,661. I mean, had you a shilling to pay away?—No, never.

47,662. I am not speaking of yourself?—No; I never paid any one a shilling.

47,663. You never had any money to do it?—No, never.

47,664. Then no money passed into your hands, I suppose?—No, never.

47,665. Had you voted in 1863?—Yes.

47,666. Were you living in a private house then?—I was living in the same house.

47,667. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Wilkinson.

47,668. Was anybody at that election staying with you, any of the agents?—No.

47,669. Did you take an active part in that election?—I took a more active part in that election than I did in the last.

47,670. Did you pay away monies then?—No.

47,671. None at all?—Never.

47,672. Did you never pay monies at all to anybody at any election?—Never.

47,673. You understand what I mean?—Oh, I perfectly understand. I never did.

47,674. You never paid money for other people?—No, never.

47,675. Or at any other election?—Never.

47,676. Then I will ask you the same question that I did before. Did any money at all get into your hands in that election of '63?—Never.

47,677. You understand my question?—Oh, quite. I perfectly understand you. I answer that I never had any.

47,678. Not at any election?—Never at any election.

47,679. In that election of 1863 did you happen to see money paid?—No, not at any election.

47,680. I do not mean by you?—No, not by any one.

47,681. You saw no money paid?—Not a shilling.

47,682. Did you hear any offer made of money?—I never heard any offer made of money. I never heard any offer, except in the case of Topliss. I heard that he was to have 40*l.* for his house, but that was only hearsay.

47,683. Not from himself?—No.

The witness withdrew.

AMBROSE BRAY sworn and examined.

A. Bray.

47,684. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you carry on any business?—I am a hairdresser.

47,685. What rent do you pay for your house?—Now I pay 20*l.*, and at that time I paid 16*l.*

47,686. I mean at the time of the election?—16*l.*

47,687. For whom did you vote?—At the last election I took no part whatever.

47,688. Did you vote at all at the last election?—Not at all.

47,689. Were you canvassed?—I was canvassed by Mr. Wilkinson, and I told him certainly I would not vote, and I was canvassed by persons on the part of Mr. Gower, and I told them the same.

47,690. You would not vote?—I made up my mind I would not.

47,691. Is it impertinent to inquire why?—Certainly not; they were both personally known to me, and my connexion in business lay on both sides; therefore, having no particular political principles, I was determined not to vote.

47,692. Did you vote in '63?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

47,693. Were you on his committee?—I was not.

47,694. Did you exert yourself for him?—No, not at all.

47,695. You did nothing?—Nothing whatever.

47,696. Did any money pass through your hands?—Nothing of the kind.

47,697. In any way?—In no shape or form.

47,698. Did you pay away?—Nothing whatever. I saw no monies in any way.

47,699. I do not say for yourself; I mean to pay away?—No, not any.

47,700. Were you at all in communication with any agent?—The only person I saw was Mr. Norman Wilkinson in the early part of the election, and then I stated the same objection to him, but I promised him I would vote if my vote was of any service; it was so, and therefore I did vote.

47,701. Had you voted in '59?—I cannot call it to my remembrance; I have tried to do so, and I cannot, my memory is so bad.

47,702. Do you recollect whether you voted in '58?—I voted for Mr. Monson at one election.

47,703. Did any monies pass through your hand?—Not a farthing.

47,704. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did any monies ever pass through your hands for voting?—Never.

The witness withdrew.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.

J. Payne.

27 Sept. 1866.

JOHN PAYNE sworn and examined.

47,705. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are a voter for this borough ?—Yes.

47,706. May I ask what your rent is ?—35*l.* I have a lease.

47,707. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Monson.

47,708. Did you take an active part for him ?—I should say that I was on the committee with a reservation; but the committee, like everything else in the last one or two elections, has been a mere pretence and a sham. Nothing has come before the committee, nothing of importance; it passed away into the hands of those I should consider totally impossible to do anything. I don't know what, I am sure, and any gentleman on the committee must feel that.

47,709. Was there anything in reference to the election of 1865 which you think you should inform the committee of ?—I really personally know nothing; the air was full of all sorts of reports on each side, the most wild, as well as, unfortunately, the most true things.

47,710. We won't go into the reports, because we have had a great many facts ?—I know nothing.

47,711. Had you taken part in any previous elections ?—I took no active part at any of the elections. I voted at all the elections since 1857. I took a very active part to further the election of Mr. Hackblock.

47,712. Have you anything to inform the Commissioners of with reference to those elections ?—Well, really I am afraid that anything I could say would be mere matter of personal regret or sorrow.

47,713. With reference to facts ?—I do not think I know anything that would bear on this Inquiry at all.

47,714. You know nothing in reference to Hackblock's election ?—Oh, yes, I think I know everything in reference to Hackblock's election. Mr. John Hackblock is the brother of Mr. William Hackblock. There was a statement made here some short time ago that that election cost 2,000*l.* I am sure it was not true. The election was conducted——

47,715. Have you any account here ?—Yes, this is the copy of the account (*handing same*) presented by Mr. Smith to Mr. Hackblock, and that I am prepared to say, on Mr. Hackblock's own word and that of his brother now living, is a correct account.

47,716. Where does this come from ?—It comes from Mr. John Hackblock, he lent it to me.

47,717. When ?—The day after Mr. Burt gave his evidence here.

47,718. I think, if Mr. Hackblock himself wishes to put it in evidence, we can receive it from him ?—This is why I have it. Mr. Hackblock, I should say, called upon me and asked me if I would take it. He said he had not been consulted himself. I said, as a neighbour and friend of Mr. Hackblock I should be bound to contradict the statement made by Mr. Burt, believing it to be erroneous.

47,719. Then I can only take it that, so far as you know, you believe the statement of Mr. Burt to be erroneous ?—In the relation of 500*l.* to 2,000*l.* That was a long election, and there was a great deal of printing.

47,720. Now, as to the election of 1858, did you take an active part in that ?—No, I did not. I voted for Monson, I think, in 1858, after Wilkinson had retired. I should have voted for Wilkinson if he had stood.

47,721. Have you anything of importance which you can inform the Commissioners of in reference to the election of 1858 ?—I am sure nothing that you do not know already in direct evidence.

47,722. Then let me ask you, you know the description we have had from time to time of the election of 1858, do you agree in general terms with that description ?—Most decidedly. Some allowance must be made for the side on which the evidence is given; it is coloured for the party; one would say more of one, and the other the other.

47,723. Substantially, whether it comes from one side or the other ?—Yes, substantially I believe it is true.

47,724. As a general proposition, do you agree with those descriptions ?—Most entirely.

47,725. With regard to the other elections, 1859 and October 1858, probably the same ?—I think I supported Mr. Wilkinson in each case. I took very little part.

47,726. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do I understand your description to apply to both 1863 and 1859 ?—In 1863 I voted for Wilkinson, but I was not on the committee. I was extremely engaged, and so at the last election. I should think, Mr. Commissioner, that anything more to answer the purpose of a sham or blind, or anything that can be said bad for it, would not be enough to apply to the committee as constituted last time.

47,727. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then I understand from that you mean to infer that no real business of the election came before the committee ?—Not in the slightest degree.

47,728. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The bandage was kept tight about their eyes ?—I can assure you that a week before the election there was some point, the committee was called together, and it was a meeting of gentlemen one might be proud to act with; it was about a week or a fortnight before the election, and some proposition was made about some compromise or some left-handed thing that we could not as gentlemen admit for a moment. It did not come through our regular recognized agent, Mr. Hart, for whom we had every respect, and we would not admit it as a committee.

47,729. From whom did it come ?—I think it came from the hand of Mr. Nichols. Mr. Nichols made the proposition. I know my impression was that it was an insult to the committee that any communication should be received except through the recognized agent.

47,730. And it was not entertained ?—It was not entertained.

47,731. Was that the last time you attended ?—Well, I think the general committee met three or four times, but it was in each case a blind. I do not know whether every gentleman felt as I did; that, in fact, we were being played upon.

47,732. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say you have taken part in all the elections, were you personally aware of any sum of money passing through any voter's——?—Not in the slightest degree, never saw or heard any money mentioned whatever, and I say most sincerely——

47,733. I do not mean from yourself ?—But I can tell you, Mr. Commissioner, and I am sure you will believe me, that I never heard a single individual man, I never heard the name of any single individual man who was to receive anything on either side. I heard loose reports.

The witness withdrew.

H. Webb.

HENRY WEBB sworn and examined.

47,734. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you chairman of the Redhill committee ?—I was.

47,735. On whose behalf ?—Mr. Gower's, at the last election.

47,736. And voted for Mr. Gower ?—I did.

47,737. Are you a retired gentleman, or do you carry on business ?—I carry on my profession in London still.

47,738. What profession ?—Solicitor.

47,739. Did you take an active part in that election ?—I took the part of friend upon the last occasion.

47,740. I mean, of course, you did not take a professional part ?—No.

47,741. But you were acting under or with Mr. North, he was general chairman ?—Yes.

47,742. Did any money at all pass through your hands?—Not a sixpence.

47,743. And do you know anything of what was going on at Redhill, of what we have heard since?—I was present at the meeting of the sub-agents.

47,744. You were present, I recollect, when the sub-agents came up to Mr. North and Mr. Smith as presenting a kind of requisition. Give me an account of it in your own terms?—I was in the committee room of the general committee, and I was requested to walk into the other room to hear what was going on. I had not seen the requisition before and knew nothing about it till I went into the room, and then Mr. Gower asked what it was they wished. It was then said, according to my recollection, they required 500*l.* down, and 1,500*l.* more to make the election secure.

47,745. Before you go farther, it would be very important if you could fix the date. Perhaps you cannot. Taking the polling day as the terminus, will you fix it as near as you can?—It was not near the polling day.

47,746. But, taking that as a point to enable you to determine it relatively, how long before was it?—I should think it was quite three weeks before.

47,747. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) This they said to Mr. Gower?—This they said to Mr. Gower.

47,748. (*Mr Commissioner O'Brien.*) You, and Mr. Gower, and Mr. North were there, and Mr. Smith?—Mr. Smith was there too.

47,749. And I believe you were the only persons except the deputation?—The sub-agents; I do not think anybody else was there.

47,750. Will you tell me what answer was given to that?—Mr. Gower said it was preposterous; he said he should do nothing of the sort. He said he had pledged himself for a pure election and he would not give those men any money; that he did not know how they would use it, and he would have no control over the expenditure of it.

47,751. Now, one question with regard to yourself; had you at that time any knowledge that monies had been advanced to these men before?—No, sir, none whatever.

47,752. One other question, before you give the full detail, because we heard of this. What was the attitude of the men, did they appear friendly, or what?—Oh, yes, they appeared to be friendly; at the same time they seemed to have a great desire to get hold of money. They manifested a desire to squeeze as much as possible.

47,753. Give us as true an account as you can of what occurred?—Mr. Gower said that, and he said he should do nothing of the sort.

47,754. Then did the deputation withdraw?—I withdrew.

47,755. You did not know afterwards what occurred between them?—No; I think Mr. North spoke to Mr. Smith outside in the passage, and said they must have something to go on with, it must be left to his discretion.

47,756. Did you hear that yourself?—I think I did. It was only in such a way as this, "Well, Mr. Smith, "you must advance the necessary expenses, and the "necessary expenses only."

47,757. Who said that to Mr. Smith?—Mr. North.

47,758. In the passage?—I think it was in the passage outside.

47,759. Does your recollection serve you to enable you say where Mr. Gower then was?—No; I think we all went almost immediately back into the general committee room. I think it was upon that occasion that Mr. Gower cautioned Mr. Smith that he was determined to have no unnecessary expenditure, and he then asked him how many agents and canvassers would be necessary.

47,760. He asked Mr. Smith?—Yes; and he then told him that he would not have one more that what would be justified.

47,761. Did he tell him how many?—Yes; I think Mr. Smith said he thought about 60.

47,762. 60 canvassers?—60 canvassers and agents.

47,763. Was it at all discussed between them at that time whether the agents and canvassers should be voters, or was anything said about it?—Nothing whatever was said about it.

47,764. Was anything said about their not being voters?—No, Mr. Gower demurred to the number, and said he thought it was a very unnecessary number. He said he thought that one half would be quite sufficient. He said "Don't employ one more than you "can justify before a committee of the House of "Commons."

47,765. Is that the substance of what you recollect?—That is the substance of what took place on that occasion.

47,766. Had you any interviews afterwards?—No, not upon that subject.

47,767. With any of these sub-agents?—We all used to meet twice a week in committee to go through the register.

47,768. Mr. Green was a very active man?—Yes, Mr. Green was the principal, and another man named Rees.

47,769. He had a good deal of money to disburse in his hands. Did you know anything about the money he disbursed?—Nothing whatever. I was asked to take the chair, because they said it would assist Mr. Gower. I consented to do so, and I used to attend about twice a week.

47,770. One word more, before I take you farther into the subject, Mr. Webb. I understand you to say, I only want to have it clear on the notes, that you knew nothing whatever of the undue or corrupt expenditure while you were acting as chairman in 1865?—Certainly not, sir. I may say this that I was not aware that the committee ever met, or that the sub-committees ever met, in any public house; it was the particular wish of Mr. Gower that they should not do so.

47,771. I do not mean alone in public houses, but any money passing to voters under the colour and pretence of employment?—I can assure you I would not have sat on the committee if I had known that any one of these committee men expected anything for their attendance.

47,772. Did you know; had you any means of knowledge, or did you know, in fact, that money was passing from the sub-agents to the voters under the pretence of colourable employment?—I did not.

47,773. I take your answer in the fullest and most absolute sense?—The most absolute sense.

47,774. I want you to call upon your memory as accurately as you can in one point with regard to the deputation. Can you tell me whether you had left the room before Mr. Gower? Had you left the room where the deputation was before Mr. Gower?—No, I think we left very much about the same time. I just went in there to hear. Mr. North wished me to hear what was passing. I think it was about three weeks before the election; it might be a little more.

47,775. I am not at all surprised that your memory does not carry you back so particularly as that. Now we will go to 1863. Did you take an active part in 1863?—No, I only voted.

47,776. Voted for whom?—I voted for Mr. Gower on that occasion.

47,777. We understand that there was a petition on that occasion?—Yes, there was.

47,778. Do you know yourself anything in reference to that petition?—Nothing whatever.

47,779. Or the circumstances under which it was withdrawn?—Nothing whatever.

47,780. Of your own knowledge?—No, of course, I only know that there was a letter written.

47,781. A what?—A letter passed, which was made very public.

47,782. Oh, of course, that was public. But from any knowledge that you yourself had from Mr. Gower or his agents, or Mr. Wilkinson, or Mr. Wilkinson's

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authorized agents ?—No, I had nothing whatever to do with it.

47,783. You had no knowledge ?—No.

47,784. One other question. Did you find in consequence of the misunderstanding, or whatever it was, the feeling that arose in consequence of that petition, a lack of support among the gentry for Mr. Gower ?—Very great.

47,785. So that he has been thrown more upon that class of voters that we have heard speak of ?—Yes, and that was my reason for doing what I could.

47,786. He was thrown upon that class of voters ?—Oh, he was, no doubt.

47,787. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You told the Commissioner just now that you did not know of any of the voters being employed in any colourable service during the election of 1865. I suppose you heard that that sort of thing was going on, although you knew of no instances of it ?—Just so, sir. When the question was asked about the canvassers I presumed that they would be all paid for what they really did.

47,788. That was in committee. What do you mean when the question was asked about the canvassers ? By the deputation ?—No, when Mr. Gower put the question to Mr. Smith, how many he ought to have.

47,789. That was on the same occasion as the deputation ?—I think it was the same.

47,790. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It might arise out of it you know ?—I think it was the same.

47,791. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At that time of the deputation, taking it about three weeks before the election, I suppose,—I am only repeating my question,—I suppose you had heard by common report that a good many voters were employed in colourable service ?—No, I was not aware of any.

47,792. I do not mean any particular instance, but you say that you concluded the canvassers would be paid. Did you not also conclude that of those canvassers many were voters ?—I assumed that it would be so.

47,793. Why did you assume that, Mr. Webb ?—Because they would be employed; they would be as messengers as well.

47,794. Then you had no reason for thinking from what you heard that their employment was a sham ?—No, I did not suppose that, because I believe Mr. Gower was anxious that it should not prevail.

47,795. I quite understand that, but although Mr. Gower might know nothing of it, and not like it, were not you led to suppose that those voters who were employed as canvassers would not do work which would fairly earn the money they were being paid ?—No.

47,796. You were not ?—No.

47,797. Then could not you judge of it from this fact, when you heard Mr. Smith state that he should require 60. Did not you infer that all the 60 could not be at *bonâ fide* work ?—Well, at once Mr. Gower put a stop to that by saying he thought that was a great many too many, and he did not think it could be justified; therefore they were at once to put a stop to that. But I am also aware that a great many men are required during the time of an election, and beforehand, canvassers and so on, delivering notes, delivering letters, and that they must have a relay of men, because, if they sent one man in one direction, they must have another in another. I was constantly receiving letters from Mr. Smith, sometimes twice a day.

47,798. Very well. I won't ask you any more ?—I may say I was present also at the "White Hart" on one occasion in Mr. Smith's room when Mr. Gower repeated; Mr. Clutton was there, myself, and Mr. North, and several other gentlemen.

47,799. Can you at all tell me when that was ?—That was very early; I think it was nearly one of the first meetings.

47,800. Well ?—And he then said that the election should be carried on with purity, and that he would petition against the seat if there was anything on the other side.

47,801. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was at an early period ?—Very early.

47,802. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell me this; referring to the time the deputation came, you know; can you remember when the deputation said they wanted money, and you told us what, that there was any alternative line of conduct stated by them ?—No, they never went so far as that.

47,803. I don't mean to say that they said they would not work if they were not paid, but another alternative. Do you remember their saying that there were two modes of carrying an election, or anything of that sort ?—No.

47,804. You have no recollection ?—No.

47,805. Who was the spokesman, do you remember of the deputation ?—Job Apted.

47,806. Do you remember his making any proposal to Mr. Gower about there being two ways of conducting the election ?—No, I have no recollection.

47,807. Do you remember something of this kind. "If, sir, you will abstain altogether, agree to have "no money spent, and no public houses open, then" —something about a petition ?—No.

47,808. Do you recollect this; I have stated some of it; do you remember their saying, or either one of them, "If, sir, you will advance no money at all, and "have no public houses, we will work for you in the "best way in our power, provided you will pledge "yourself to petition against the return of the other "side, against the return of your opponent" ?—I think I may say——

47,809. "And also for the seat" ?—I think I may say that nothing of that sort ever came from the agents; at least not in my presence.

47,810. If you don't remember it as having been said on that occasion, do you remember it on any other occasion ?—I remember Mr. Gower saying that he would do so before the committee.

47,811. Do you remember anything of that kind coming from the agents ?—No, never.

47,812. From Job Apted ?—No, never.

47,813. Or anybody else ?—No, never.

47,814. Would you remember it, you think, if it had happened ?—I think that would have been so strong a fact that I should not have forgotten it, and another reason, sir, why I should not have forgotten it.

47,815. Was there anything of the sort referred to in your hearing by Mr. Gower ? At any time during the election did you hear Mr. Gower say anything which seemed to denote that such a proposition had been made to him ?—Upon the occasion which I referred to; the meeting at the "White Hart."

47,816. That was earlier ?—At Mr. Smith's private room. He then said he would do so. He would petition against the member if he was returned by undue influence, and that he would pray the seat. He himself would petition for the seat.

47,817. But you did not hear anything said about that on the occasion of the deputation at Redhill ?—No.

47,818. And you think you could not have forgotten it ?—I could not have forgotten that, sir.

47,819. You went into the room and found the deputation there ?—Yes.

47,820. Who did you find in the room besides the deputation ?—Mr. North was there, Mr. Gower, and Mr. Smith.

47,821. They were already there when you got in ?—They were already there.

47,822. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was Mr. Ivimy there ?—I do not think he was, I am not sure.

47,823. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then you told us what you heard while you were there. I want to know if you can recollect how the meeting terminated. Who went out of the room first ? Could you give me any notion ?—I think they all went out pretty much at once.

47,824. Who went out first ? Did the deputation

withdraw, or did the committee members withdraw by going to their committee room?—I cannot remember.

47,825. Can you tell me whether you left the room, leaving the deputation there?—I think we all went out pretty much together.

47,826. The deputation and all?—I think so. I think Mr. Smith went out first.

47,827. You cannot remember, when you went out, who you left in the room?—No, I cannot.

47,828. After that when did you see Mr. Gower? It is a little important, but, of course, if you cannot remember it, I won't press you any more about it?—Upon the next occasion of seeing him——

47,829. You were with the deputation in the room with him. Very well, did you lose sight of him when he withdrew? Did you lose sight of Mr. Gower?—No.

47,830. How was that?—I think we went. Some of us left the room, and we might have stood for a short time in the passage, in the open part, and then I think we went in to the committee.

47,831. With Mr. Gower too?—Because Mr. Gower always had a few words to say to the general committee.

47,832. Did you leave Mr. Gower, do you believe, with the deputation when you went out in the passage just for a short time?—For any private conversation?

47,833. Oh no. Did it so happen that you left Mr. Gower in the room with the deputation when you withdrew into the passage on your way to the committee room?—I cannot remember it particularly, my impression is that we all went pretty much; they had had their answer, and then we went out together.

47,834. Are you prepared to say that Mr. Gower was not left with the deputation; I mean, a very short time?—I do not think he was.

47,835. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were chairman of the general meeting?—I was chairman of the district.

47,836. The meeting of that night?—Oh, yes.

47,837. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I do not know whether on that account you would be the first person retiring to go into the committee room to take the chair, to re-open the committee?—I am not sure about that.

47,838. Do you recollect, perhaps that will recall it to you; do you remember when you went back into the general committee room walking up, and taking the chair. I suppose the chair is really a fixed seat at one end; I mean the chairman's seat?—I think it was at one end of the table.

47,839. He would keep his own place, I mean?—Yes.

47,840. Would that remind you of it?—No.

47,841. Do you recollect whether when you went back into the committee room you were the first person, as it were, to open the meeting? You don't recollect that?—No. The object of our committee meetings was night by night to go through the register and ascertain what more of the voters there were that had not promised, and therefore they could do that without me.

47,842. But I want to know where Mr. Gower was in the meantime. You see my object. As I understand you, Mr. Smith and Mr. North came out immediately after the deputation into the passage. You also told us what you believe passed between them. I suppose you did not hear that?—No.

47,843. You probably got that from one of them afterwards?—I dare say that was the tenor of it.

47,844. You did not hear it?—No.

47,845. We will suppose that was the tenor of their conversation. Was that immediately after they came out from the deputation? Was it on their way, in fact, to the committee room?—Yes, that would be so.

47,846. Now, then, Mr. Gower was not present when they two were talking together in the passage?—I do not know.

47,847. I mean, he was not present with them?—I do not know; I think not.

47,848. You think not. Then where would he have been?—I think Mr. North came out and gave a sort of advice, you know, to Mr. Smith.

47,849. Then while that was going on Mr. Gower was not with those two?—No.

47,850. Then where could he have been, do you think? I want to remind you of this. The deputation would probably stay in the room; the deputation room. You had come out of it, Mr. Smith and Mr. North were having a private conversation about money, which even you did not overhear. Where was Mr. Gower? Where must he have been at that time?—I think he came out, as far as I can now remember, out of the deputation room, as we may term it, and walked about the passage in that way before he got into the other room.

47,851. That is what I wanted to know?—I was not aware of there being any communication held between him and the deputation, or any part of it.

47,852. I am only speaking about whether there was an opportunity for it, if such a communication was contemplated?—I cannot recollect.

47,853. I am not the least surprised at your not recollecting. I am asking the question in order to refresh your memory about it?—I beg to say why I should have remembered anything about the public houses would have been this: upon one occasion I met Mr. Gower in the train, and came over with him to Reigate, and I then said that I hoped we should have no recurrence of what took place on the former occasion.

47,854. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Referring to 1863?—Referring to 1863, when so many public houses were open. I said, "I happen to know the "great amount of evil that was brought upon the "place; the great amount of drunkenness."

47,855. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I dare say there was a great amount?—And that I was quite certain, if he knew as much as I did, he would be one of the first to prevent it. He never said a word to me, but he did what I thought a great deal better, came over to the general committee here, and told them that he would not open a public house, nor hire a room in a public house, nor have a committee meeting in a public house, nor even address one, and, as far as he could, he would prevent anything of the sort occurring.

47,856. That was in the early part of the election?—Yes, it was one evening. It was an early meeting; it took place in the room below. I believed that to be thoroughly sincere. I was also present at a meeting that took place at Earlswood, at which we have been told there was a great deal of drinking afterwards.

47,857. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are said to have adjourned. It would not be likely to have been in your presence?—We all left. The very booths were erected there in order to draw the people away from the public houses, not to entice them to drink.

47,858. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you recollect being present at any time when Mr. Gower was saying he would have no undue expenditure, and the reply was made to him by some of the persons in the room, "It cannot be done without," that is, "the "election could not be carried on without." Were you present then?—I do not remember it.

47,859. Where did you principally attend the committee meetings? At Redhill?—At Redhill.

47,860. Did you attend any of the meetings in the hall below?—Twice, I think, if not three times.

47,861. What was your last time of attending the meeting in the hall below? How long before the election?—That I cannot tell.

47,862. Was it a fortnight?—I cannot remember.

47,863. I will draw your attention to this. I do not know whether you will be able to give any explanation about it, but perhaps this may call it to your recollection. Do you recollect Mr. Gower alluding in his speech at one of his committee meetings down

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below to those who worked for him, stating that they should be well paid, paid well?—That was at the same meeting after he denounced the drinking at the public houses. He then said, "Gentlemen, I do not want you "to work for me without being paid. All those who "really do work I shall pay and pay well." That was with reference to those men who were employed to work *bonâ fide*.

47,864. Was that before or after the deputation?—I should think it was before.

47,865. Did you hear that speech repeated after the deputation, or in words to the same effect?—No; I may mention this, that I was asked once or twice, I do not know by whom, what the men should be paid; those men that were engaged upon the business of the election.

47,866. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who by?—I think Dolman was one of the persons who asked me. I am not quite sure whether Mr. Smith asked me or not. I said "I should pay them rather more than what "they would earn at their daily work; that is to say, "if a man is earning 5*s*., give him 6*s*."

47,867. Did you mention those sums?—Yes. Then I said, "For that 6*s*. he must do a good day's work;" and if men are employed in the evening after they have left off work, if you really employ them, and take away their time at which they could earn money by "overwork" and other things, pay them for that, and I should think about a shilling an evening would do; but then for that shilling they must give two or three hours. I never had the slightest idea that they would be paid for attending the committee meetings, sitting round the hall and doing nothing, because we would much rather have been without them; it was exceedingly hot weather.

47,868. You thought they ought not to be paid for attending the public houses?—I did not know there was a beer shop open; I never saw it.

47,869. Now I will take you back again for a moment. Did you at any time hear Mr. Gower say this, "I will tell you what I will do. If I am beaten in "endeavouring to carry on the election in the way I "propose, I will petition against the return and for "the seat." Were you ever present when he said that?—He said that in the committee room at the "White Hart" to Mr. Smith. Those are the words that I mentioned.

47,870. And "I will not have any undue expenditure"?—He was most anxious to hold down the expenditure.

47,871. Was it after that that you adjourned into the hall below?—I think it was.

47,872. And then a speech was made by Mr. Gower, that all those who worked for him should be paid and paid well?—Just so; those that did work, not under any colourable pretence.

47,873. Now was that a large meeting of the committee when that speech was made?—A very large meeting indeed.

47,874. You know the advertised committee of Mr. Gower was very extensive; it was a long list?—Yes, it was said that he could not get a committee at all; he had been twitted with that, that nobody would go on his committee at all, and then the list was published.

47,875. When you saw that very long list repeatedly published, did you take the trouble to look or to inquire into the class of persons who were on the committee?—Oh, I pretty well knew that; I pretty well knew the class. I knew most of the men's names. As, for instance, one man when I asked him for his vote said, "Yes, sir, I will promise to vote for Mr. "Gower, but you must put me on the committee."

47,876. Who was that? Do you recollect his name?—A labourer; he sometimes works in the pit. I will try and remember the name; he married a widow with two or three children.

47,877. You cannot recollect the name?—No; others of course were ambitious to get on the committee.

47,878. That person was a labouring man?—Yes; there were bricklayers and others who were put on the committee on both sides. It has been the system here to get as many names as possible, and for a very obvious reason, that after a man sees his name on a committee he cannot very well go and vote for anybody else. It is a mode of fixing them. That is the object, I believe.

47,879. Perhaps you will be able to let me know the name presently?—I will try to recollect it.

47,880. It may probably in the course of the afternoon come to your mind?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

J. Wilkinson.

JOHN WILKINSON sworn and examined.

47,881. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A plumber.

47,882. Where at?—The Station-road, Redhill.

47,883. What rent are you paying for your house?—35*l*.

47,884. Do you let out any of it?—No.

47,885. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

47,886. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—No.

47,887. Did you canvass for him?—No.

47,888. Did you do what you could, I mean to get voters for him?—No, I have not done anything for him.

47,889. Some money passed through your hands, did not it?—No.

47,890. I thought it did?—No.

47,891. Are you sure?—Yes.

47,892. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Somebody mentioned your name, Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

47,893. Who was it, do you recollect?—Mr. Barker, I believe; but that was on the election of 1863.

47,894. I rather think that this election your name was mentioned.

47,895. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are right. It was in 1863. Did no money pass through your hands in 1865?—No.

47,896. Did you receive any money yourself before the election?—No.

47,897. Nor after?—Nor after.

47,898. Did no money come to you at all in 1865?—No.

47,899. Do you mean that you gave an independent vote?—I gave my vote to Mr. Gower as an independent one.

47,900. You quite understand me, you had neither money nor money's worth?—I quite understand you; I had neither money nor money's worth.

47,901. In 1863 did you take a more active part?—Yes.

47,902. Money did pass through your hands then?—Yes.

47,903. Were you on the committee?—Yes, I was on a committee.

47,904. How much money did you receive; I do not mean for yourself?—Altogether 23*l*., as near as I can say; there might be a few shillings more; there might be 5*s*., or something of the kind.

47,905. Who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Wilkinson.

47,906. Who did you receive the 23*l*. from?—Mr. James.

47,907. Was that paid to you before the election?—I think I received something like 5*l*. before the election.

47,908. The rest after?—The rest after.

47,909. What did he give you the 23*l*. for?—I worked through the election, canvassing and doing the best I could for Mr. Wilkinson.

47,910. Did he give it to you all for yourself?—No.

47,911. Some of it was for yourself?—Yes.

47,912. How much?—I think I was working seven weeks altogether. I paid Mayall 4*l*. 10*s*.

47,913. Before the election?—Yes, before the election.

47,914. Did you pay anybody else?—I paid John Shepherd, a plumber, 3*l.*, and I think I paid Mr. John Harman 15*s.*

47,915. Was he a voter?—Yes.

47,916. That is 8*l.* 5*s.* you paid away?—Yes.

47,917. Then did you keep the difference?—Yes; but then during the election I spent a part of the other money for expenses.

47,918. Your own expenses?—Yes, my own expenses.

47,919. I will say, "The residue I spent in expenses "and kept for myself?"—Yes.

47,920. Did you give an account to Mr. James of the money you paid away?—I told him that I had paid Mayall 4*l.* 10*s.*

47,921. When did you tell him that?—I told him after the election.

47,922. Did you tell him you had paid any other monies?—I told him I had paid Shepherd and Harman; I believe I told him.

47,923. At that time, when you told him so, had you received the money from him?—No, only the 5*l.*

47,924. Why did he hand you over 5*l.* before the election?—I asked him for it; I told him I wanted some money.

47,925. And he advanced it like?—Yes.

47,926. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And out of that 5*l.* you paid 4*l.* 10*s.* to Harman?—No, to Mayall.

47,927. To Mayall, I mean?—Yes.

47,928. Had Shepherd at that time a shop in Redhill?—No, he was a journeyman mechanic.

47,929. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you give a receipt to Mr. James?—I am not quite sure whether I did or not.

47,930. Do you remember whether he paid you a cheque or money?—Money.

47,931. Are you sure you did not give an account of the persons to whom you paid money?—Yes.

47,932. How did he come to fix upon 23*l.*? Had you been at work in any former election?—Never.

47,933. At the election we are talking of, 1863, did Mayall come to you, or did you go to him?—He come to me.

47,934. What made you pay him?—We were talking together, and I asked him to go for Mr. Wilkinson, and he said he would. He said, "I want to come on "the committee; I am very bad off," or something of that kind, and I told him I would give him 30*s.* a week. At that time there was not much work doing about, and I was a journeyman at that time myself. I gave him 30*s.* a week for three weeks.

47,935. What for?—For doing the best he could for Mr. Wilkinson.

47,936. Did you suggest any work at all?—I told him I should like him to do the best he could for Mr. Wilkinson.

47,937. But did you tell him any particular line of employment that he should take?—No.

47,938. Did you pay him by the week, or all at once?—By the week.

47,939. As soon as you had agreed to pay Mayall, did you go and tell Mr. James the agreement you had made?—No, I did not.

47,940. Why did Mr. James give you credit for having paid it to him?—Mr. James told me I was to do the best I could for the election.

47,941. Then when you came at the end to be paid, Mr. James took your word for it?—Yes.

47,942. He had no other proof that you had paid Mayall anything?—Not at all.

47,943. Do you remember whether Mayall's name was mentioned to him as a person to whom you paid money?—I cannot tell.

47,944. Why did you pay John Shepherd?—In the same way.

47,945. You knew, I suppose, that they did not do any work?—I thought they would have done the best they could for Mr. Wilkinson. They were to canvass for him; I do not know whether they canvassed anybody or not.

47,946. Did you hear at that time that a great many persons were being paid?—I never saw only one sum pass.

47,947. What money was that?—I saw Barker pay Thomas Dale; I was in the room at the time.

47,948. That was before you paid Mayall?—I cannot say. It might be two nights before the election.

47,949. How long before the election did you pay Mayall?—Three weeks before the election.

47,950. Then, you see, that was before you saw Barker pay it. Did you know at that time that the men were being paid; that they were receiving money?—I never saw any pass.

47,951. But you had a strong belief about it?—Yes, I heard there was money passing.

47,952. You would hardly have commenced that line yourself unless you knew there was some authority for it, unless you thought that others were doing the same?—Of course not.

47,953. Well, I say the fact that you paid money yourself leads one to the conclusion that you knew money was being paid. Was that the fact?

47,954. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you try at that election to get any more than your own class of voters?—I did not choose to pay any but to those, and I tried the best I could for Mr. Wilkinson.

47,955. Did you try any more?—No, I never offered any others.

The witness withdrew.

HENRY WEBB recalled and examined.

H. Webb.

47,956. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think the name of the man you placed upon the committee was Robert Dealing?—Robert Dealing was the name.

47,957. A labourer, who voted for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

47,958. Then, according to his evidence, he received 1*l.* from Emery before the election, and 1*l.* after?—I was not aware of it.

47,959. That labourer whom you put on the committee received 2*l.* for his work. That rather shows the danger of putting those men on the committee.

The witness withdrew.

ALFRED JOYES sworn and examined.

A. Joyes.

47,960. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A tailor.

47,961. Were you a voter at the election of 1865?—I was.

47,962. Do you pay rent for a house?—I do.

47,963. How much?—We have a lease of two houses in the High-street, 26*l.*

47,964. Whom did you vote for last time?—Mr. Monson.

47,965. Were you on his committee?—No.

47,966. What relation are you to Mr. Frederick Joyes?—He is my uncle, my father's brother.

47,967. Is your father alive?—My father is dead.

47,968. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You conduct the business for your mother?—I conduct the business for my mother and my uncle, Mr. James Nichols.

47,969. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. James Nichols is your uncle too?—He is; he is my mother's brother.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.

A. Joyes.

27 Sept. 1866.

47,970. Were you put on Mr. Monson's committee?—I was not.

47,971. You did a good deal in the election, didn't you?—I did.

47,972. Whom did you work under?—Under Mr. Nichols, and also Mr. Hart.

47,973. Did you receive money to pay away?—Yes, to pay away for my expenses.

47,974. No, not for your expenses, but to pay away to other persons?—Yes, I paid money.

47,975. Altogether how much money did you receive?—I received altogether 20*l.* from Mr. Nichols and 4*l.* 19*s.* from Mr. Hart.

47,976. Was that all paid away?—No.

47,977. How was Mr. Hart's paid?—By cheque.

47,978. How was Mr. Nichols' paid?—In money. I had 10*l.* before the election and 10*l.* after the election. Before the election I had 5*l.*, the week after the Derby.

47,979. Ten pounds?—First, I had 5*l.* the week after the Derby; and the election week, I think it was the day before the nomination, I had another 5*l.*

47,980. That made 10*l.*?—That made 10*l.*; then I had 10*l.* from him, I think it was the 30th September 1865; I think it was that day.

47,981. Was that all the money you received?—That was all the money I received.

47,982. For any purpose?—For any purpose.

47,983. How much of that did you pay away?—I did not pay any to a voter at all, not a farthing, to the best of my recollection.

47,984. Did you pay any money away at all?—I did. I paid four men that had been working; they were tailors, they had been working for us; they were not working for us at that time. I paid them.

47,985. To do what?—There were some of the opposite side pulling down our bills, and I paid 30*s.* each, four of them, for the election week.

47,986. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are they with you now?—One of them, only one; Joseph McGowan his name is.

47,987. You employed them to prevent the bills being pulled down?—Yes, and other things. The other side came listening to see whether they could get any information of us; some of the other side did, at the "Grapes" and other places, eaves-droppers.

47,988. You do not mean your men were sent as eaves-droppers?—No; to prevent the others prying.

47,989. Did you pay away any more money than that?—Yes, I paid five men for the nomination and polling day 5*s.* each day, 10*s.* the two days, 50*s.* more.

47,990. What were they to do?—They were to swell the show of hands.

47,991. They were not to vote?—No, not to vote. Then I paid a guinea for the hire of a horse for the polling day, riding as messenger from Redhill to Reigate.

47,992. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) A guinea for a horse and man?—No, I rode myself.

47,993. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to ask you about that. Did you pay for that yourself, or did you order it and somebody else pay for it?—I paid for it.

47,994. Yourself?—Yes, out of this 24*l.* 19*s.*

47,995. I do not mean whether it was accounted for out of that 24*l.* 19*s.*, but did you pay for it yourself?—Yes, I paid for it.

47,996. Anything else?—I paid a lot away in expenses. After the committee meeting at the "White Hart" they drew up posters and circulars and such things that I took to Dorking one evening by the last train, and stayed at Dorking all night. There was my expenses for doing so.

47,997. Was that all included in the 24*l.*?—That was all included in the 24*l.*

47,998. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you say how much it was?—I cannot tell you how much.

47,999. Or about?—I cannot even tell you about.

48,000. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then you paid away 8*l.* 10*s.* expenses?—Yes, I paid expenses.

48,001. How much do you consider you were paid yourself?—10*l.*, about.

48,002. The last money you got from Nichols was after the election?—After the election.

48,003. When did you go to get money from Hart?—I sent in a bill to Hart soon after the election.

48,004. Why did you send in a bill to him?—Because Mr. Nichols told me that I was to.

48,005. For how much did you send in your bill?—4*l.* 19*s.*, to the best of my knowledge.

48,006. The same that you were paid?—Yes, the same that I was paid; I forget the items now.

48,007. Is there any other reason? My question was, "Why did you send in a bill to Mr. Hart?" Your answer was, I think, "Because Mr. Nichols "told me."—Yes, and I had done some work at Mr. Hart's request. I went down to Dorking once for him; and he appointed me as messenger from Reigate to Redhill, and I charged for that.

48,008. You did some work for him?—Yes, at his request.

48,009. You went down to Dorking at his request?—Yes, and he appointed me as messenger for the polling day.

48,010. That was when the riding was going on?—That was when the riding was going on.

48,011. That makes me ask you whether you are quite sure it was not he that paid for the horse?—No, I charged for the horse; and he paid me a guinea for myself and a guinea for the horse, if I remember rightly.

48,012. That would not make up the 4*l.* 19*s.*?—No. I dare say you have the items, and can see. I forget.

48,013. How did you receive the money from Hart?—By cheque, I believe.

48,014. No, I want to know?—Well, I feel certain that I had it by cheque, because he has paid me before by cheque at a previous election for services.

48,015. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Could you fix the date?—I could not.

48,016. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who gave it to you?—That I do not remember. I do not remember the incident of taking the money or receiving the money, but I know that I had it.

48,017. How do you know you had it any better than the other?—I remember that I had the money.

48,018. But why do you remember that better than the receiving of it? It is not long ago, I should have thought you would remember having it because you remember receiving it, not the other way?—I remember receiving it, but I do not remember the day, nor I can't be sure how I received it; but I think I received it.

48,019. You say you remember receiving it. That is just what I want to know. Do you recollect receiving it?—I do not recollect distinctly the day that I received it.

48,020. I don't mind a bit about the date?—Nor where I received it. I think Mr. Hart's clerk gave it to me at his office, I think so.

48,021. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) At Mr. Hart's office?—Yes, at Mr. Hart's office; I am often there.

48,022. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you go there for it?—No; I am often there. I am one of the bailiffs of the county court, and my business calls me there. He is registrar.

48,023. Have you any notion when you received the money; never mind whether it was by cheque or money?—I cannot tell you the date.

48,024. You have no notion how soon after the election?—I should think as soon as the accounts were audited. I do not remember how long it was.

48,025. Do you remember what month it was in at all?—I cannot. I should think it was September.

48,026. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I think you mentioned September?—That was the last payment of Mr. Nichols, the 10*l.* from Mr. Nichols. That was the 30th of September, on a Saturday.

48,027. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect the date of that day in September when you

received the last payment from Nichols ?—I say, if I remember rightly, it was the 30th of September, on the Saturday.

48,028. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I may tell you for your information it would be a Saturday ?—Yes, I think it was.

48,029. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where were you when you signed the receipt for Mr. Hart's money ?—I think it was at the office when I received the money.

48,030. Are you sure ?—I am not sure.

48,031. Who wrote the receipt ?—It was written ready for me, if I remember rightly. I think it was in Mr. Small's writing; that is Mr. Hart's clerk. I could tell you if you showed me the receipt.

48,032. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You gave a receipt ?—Yes, I gave a receipt.

48,033–4. Can't you recollect how Mr. Hart's money was paid ?—I cannot.

48,035. In what coin ?—I believe it was a cheque.

48,036. Perhaps you will recollect. Would you remember where you changed it ?—Yes, I think, if I remember rightly, he gave me a cheque, and I changed it at the London and County Bank, but I cannot be certain.

48,037. Have you brothers ?—I have.

48,038. Is Henry Joyes your brother ?—He is.

48,039. Is James Joyes your brother ?—He is.

48,040. That is the bill, no doubt (*handing the same to witness*) ?—That's the bill, I dare say. I think from the look of that it is not in Mr. Small's writing; if you will show it to me I will tell you whose writing it is. (*Witness looked at the document.*) This is my brother Henry Joyes' writing. It is my receipt.

48,041. Is that your brother Henry Joyes' writing (*passing another document to witness*) ?—That's his writing.

48,042. Is either of your brothers a voter ?—They are not.

48,043. Is that his writing (*passing another document*) ?—Yes, that's his writing.

48,044. Did you see him make that out ?—I cannot remember now.

48,045. I mean, if you had been up at Mr. Hart's office, and received the money, one would expect rather that Mr. Small would make out the account ?—I think we sent in our claims, and then they went before the auditor and were audited. Then we were paid afterwards; I think so. I think there was a cheque left with my bill that was sent in.

48,046. You did not see your brothers receive the money ?—No, I didn't.

48,047. Have you taken any part in a previous election ?—I have. I was not a voter before.

48,048. In 1863 you were not a voter ?—I was not a voter in 1863.

48,049. Did you receive any money to pay away at that election ?—I did not.

48,050. You received no money ?—I received money for my services.

48,051. But not to pay away ?—Not to pay away.

48,052. Whom did you receive for yourself any money from ?—In 1863 I think I received money from Mr. Nichols, he having received it from Mr. Smith. He was agent for Mr. Gower.

48,053. How much ?—I forget.

48,054. About ?—I think it was 6*l.* odd.

48,055. Are you quite sure whom you received it from ?—Yes, I think I am; I can't say for certain.

48,056. I should like to know. Then you cannot say for certain whom you received the money from ?—No, I cannot.

48,057. Do you know whether it was cheque or cash ?—I think it was cash in the last election. The election before I received a cheque, I think, from Mr. Hart.

48,058. You think in 1863 it was, which ?—It was cash from Mr. Nichols. I think he drew a cheque for three or four amounts. Mr. Smith gave him a cheque for three or four small amounts; he got it cashed, and paid me in cash.

48,059. How do you know he had received a cheque for the amount ?—Because he told me so. I asked him if he had received the money from Mr. Smith, and he said, "Oh, yes, I have had it some "little time; here's your money;" and he drew a cheque.

48,060. In the previous election, 1859, had you done anything ?—Yes, in each election. I think Mr. Hackblock's.

48,061. Did you pay any money away in either of those elections ?—In neither of them.

48,062. I dare say you also had something for your services ?—I had something for my services.

48,063. But you did not pay any away ?—I did not.

48,064. You are quite sure ?—I am quite sure.

48,065. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You say the last 10*l.* you received was on the 30th of September ?—I think it was; I will not say for certain.

48,066. Had you received from Mr. Hart at that time the 4*l.* 19*s.* ?—No, I think not. You can tell by my receipt, but I don't think I had.

48,067. Did you tell Mr. Hart that you had been receiving money from Mr. Nichols ?—I did not see Mr. Hart on the subject at all.

48,068. You saw his clerk ?—I saw his clerk.

48,069. Did you even tell Mr. Small, his clerk, that you had received any money, the sum of 20*l.*, from Mr. Nichols ?—I did not.

48,070. Then you never have told Mr. Hart ?—I have not told him.

48,071. So far as you know Mr. Hart believed that that was all the money you received ?—As far as I know.

48,072. That included your journey to Dorking and your engagement as messenger on the day of polling. What else did you do; tell me ?—I canvassed. I went about with Mr. Corderoy. I drove him about to several places, and others,—Mr. James Apted and Mr. Brown.

48,073. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) James Brown ?—James Brown, I think his name is.

48,074. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are a tradesman, and conduct your mother's business ?—Yes.

48,075. Are you at all engaged in the books ?—No.

48,076. You have the books ?—My mother has; I have nothing at all to do with them.

48,077. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you go much about with Mr. James Brown ?—Not with James Brown; I did more with Corderoy, a good deal.

48,078. Have you heard of James Brown lately ?—Yes; not just lately. Being bailiff of the county court I often hear of him.

48,079. Did you ever find him ? As bailiff I suppose you were after him ?—I was after his goods; I could not find them.

48,080. Did you ever find him ?—I could not find his goods; I have seen him lots of times.

48,081. When did you see him last ?—I think about a month ago; I was going to Redhill by the 8.7 train one evening, and he got into the same carriage. He was going up the line; and I asked how he was.

48,082. Did you ask him where he was living ?—He said in London. I didn't ask him where he was living. He told me he was going to London, he was living there.

48,083. I suppose you would be the last person he would tell ?—Very likely. I think so.

The witness withdrew.

THIRTY SECOND DAY.

H. Turner.

7 Sept. 1866.

HENRY TURNER sworn and examined.

48,084. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you a voter of this borough now?—No, I believe not.

48,085. Were you a voter at the last election?—Yes.

48,086. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Monson.

48,087. Were you living here at the last election?—No.

48,088. Where were you living?—At a place called Widmore, near Bromley.

48,089. The election was in July. How long had you left this place before July?—On the 28th of December I think it was.

48,090. The previous December?—Yes.

48,091. So you had not been here that year at all? No.

48,092. Who canvassed you, Mr. Turner?—William Holdsworth.

48,093. At the time Mr. Holdsworth brought you up what were you to get for your expenses in coming up?—I told him I should expect my expenses paid, and he gave me 10*l.*

48,094. When did he give you the 10*l.*?—He gave me 5*l.* on the election day, and 5*l.* when he came up to pay my expenses down.

48,095. He came to Bromley, and then he gave you 5*l.*?—Yes.

48,096. What are you, you didn't tell me what you are?—A butcher.

48,097. You had left your house in the previous year, Mr. Holdsworth came down and gave you 5*l.* to vote for Monson, and 5*l.* after you came up?—Yes.

48,098. Did he pay you in his house?—Yes.

48,099. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you pay for your house when you were here?—I think it was 21*l.*; I almost forget, I think it was 21*l* or 22*l.* a year.

48,100. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You must have known that you had not a vote?—I did not know but what I had a vote.

48,101. Had you voted before?—Yes.

48,102. When?—I am not certain the day of the month.

48,103. I mean in 1863?—Yes.

48,104. For whom?—For Mr. Gower.

48,105. Were you living here then?—Yes.

48,106. What did you receive for that?—Nothing at all; I never had anything for voting before.

48,107. Were you on his committee?—No.

48,108. Who canvassed you in 1863?—That I can't tell you now. I voted of my own accord.

48,109. Had you nothing for your loss of time or anything of that sort?—No, I never had a farthing before.

48,110. I want to know what it cost you, the fare from Bromley to this place?—I hardly know; you go three lines to get there. 9*d.* to Penge; from Penge here I forget what it was I paid. 1*s.* and 9*d.* I think; and 4*d.* from Redhill here.

48,111. We will say 5*s.* here and 5*s.* back again; that is 10*s.* That is rather a smart price,—don't you think it was, Mr. Turner,—10*l.*?—I didn't ask for it.

48,112. I believe you refused to come up unless you got some money when he came down?—Well, I said I would have my expenses paid if I came up, or else I could not come at all.

48,113. Was anything mentioned about 5*l.* then?—Yes, he said he would give me 5*l.*

48,114. And he said he would give you 5*l.* when you were up?—Yes.

48,115. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He said he would?—Yes.

48,116. Then the 10*l.* was agreed on before you came?—Yes.

48,117. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) 5*l.* down, and 5*l.* when you voted?—Yes.

48,118. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You went up to his house after you voted, I suppose?—Yes.

48,119. How long before the election did Mr. Holdsworth come for you?—That I cannot say.

48,120. About a week or a fortnight?—Something like that. I promised him before I left Reigate.

The witness withdrew.

N. Wilkinson.

NORMAN WILKINSON sworn and examined.

48,121. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were the brother of the late candidate, Mr. Wilkinson?—I was.

48,122. Have you resided in this borough for a long period of time?—Not within the borough; just without, for forty years or more.

48,123. I presume you are well acquainted with the borough?—Only when the elections commenced; I was not much acquainted with it before.

48,124. How far back do you date your earliest recollection with regard to elections?—1858, I think.

48,125. Was that when your brother first came forward as a candidate?—It was.

48,126. Can you tell me who was in the field first as a candidate at that 1858 election? Was it your brother or Sir Henry Rawlinson?—We came out against Rawlinson.

48,127. Sir Henry Rawlinson in 1857 had opposed Mr. Hackblock?—Yes.

48,128. Then, upon the death of Mr. Hackblock came this election of 1858?—Yes, then my brother came forward.

48,129. And Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I think he was in the field first.

48,130. Then your brother?—There was some doubt whether he would come forward.

48,131. Soon after your brother was in the field Mr. Doulton came; I do not mean within a day or so?—I cannot recollect.

48,132. It was after?—It was after.

48,133. There were three or four other candidates?—Yes; Walters, Monson.

48,134. Was Mr. Monson in the field before Mr Doulton came?—Yes, I think he was.

48,135. You recollect perfectly the circumstance of Mr. Doulton coming?—Quite well.

48,136. I think your brother had been candidate for Lambeth before?—Yes, and member for five years.

48,137. Then, just merely as an introduction to this history, had he lost an election at Lambeth?—If I may tell you without occupying your time too much I should like.

48,138. I don't want it, but merely for one simple fact?—He had lost the election before he came here.

48,139. Who was it opposed him?—Roupell.

48,140. How long before that election of February 1858 had your brother been beaten by Mr. Roupell? Was it at the general election of 1857?—I should say so; it was a general election.

48,141. Mr. Roupell I think, came in by a very large majority?—The largest majority that any man ever had over another at a Lambeth election.

48,142. 1,100 votes, or something of that kind?—Yes, I think it was. May I allude to that petition?

48,143. If you will be good enough to tell us very shortly, if you please, I have no objection to your telling us?—After that election my brother, having been beaten by so large a majority, and having seen an undue expenditure on the part of Mr. Roupell, brought a petition against him for undue expenditure.

48,144. No, I merely want it for this introduction,

Mr. Wilkinson: that your brother had been beaten by Mr. Roupell; that upon the election of 1858, when your brother came down here, Mr. Doulton opposed him?—Yes.

48,145. You recollect Mr. Doulton coming down; did Mr. Roupell come down with him?—I did not see him. He did come. He made a speech here; it has been in evidence before you. I did not see him.

48,146. Now, do you know whether the agents who had acted for Mr. Roupell in Lambeth came with Mr. Doulton here to conduct the election?—Certainly they did.

48,147. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Or any of them?—They did, the two most active, Truman and Murphy, and Barton, a solicitor.

48,148. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith*). Do you know whether they remained in Reigate for the purpose of conducting the election for Mr. Doulton?—They did.

48,149. Is Mr. Barton alive now?—I meet him continually at the committee of the Epileptic Hospital.

48,150. Then you believe him to be alive now?—Yes.

48,151. Do you know his address? Is he a London solicitor?—I think "Barton, Lambeth," will find him.

48,152. Now, Mr. Wilkinson, without putting any specific questions to you, I think I had better ask you to give me your account of that election of 1858?—I walked the borough for 13 weeks, but I never saw or knew anything of my own knowledge as to the expenditure of the money. Everything was studiously kept from me, as it was from my brother.

48,153. That is in reference to any undue expenditure with reference to your brother's election?—Even in reference to any employment of men for services. If anything were to be arranged the sub-agent or canvasser who was with me walked aside with the person to whom he was speaking. I never did anything but solicit votes on political grounds, on the merits of the candidates.

48,154. Then of your own knowledge you have no knowledge whatever of any expenditure in the election of 1858?—Not in the least, not the expenditure.

48,155. Mr. Cape was the agent?—Mr. Cape was the agent.

48,156. Was Mr. Cape agent in February 1858 as well as in October 1858?—Yes.

48,157. Can you give us any information in reference to the general conduct of that election from what you noticed yourself?—I thought it was conducted on very dear principles as far as the expenditure was concerned, and on very unfair principles as far as undue influence and intimidation was concerned, for the intimidation met me at every step among the shopkeepers.

48,158. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In the October election of 1858?—Yes, October 1858.

48,159. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I was speaking of the election of February 1858. I was asking if you could give me of your own knowledge any account of the general bearing and character of that election?—We retired when Doulton came forward. After the ballot I went to town, and I did not take any more interest in the election.

48,160. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You gave it up altogether?—I gave it up after the ballot.

48,161. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did it come under your notice, the keeping open of public houses, in the February election of 1858 by any of the parties?—It appeared to me that Doulton was more lavish in his expenditure than any other candidate, a great deal more, particularly with regard to public houses.

48,162. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) From your own observation?—From my own observation.

48,163. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was Mr. Roupell much here?—I think not.

48,164. Now is that all you can say, I mean of your own knowledge, with reference to the February election of 1858? I suppose that after your brother retired upon the ballot you took no further interest in the election?—No further interest. The ballot was the chief feature to me.

48,165. Now, with regard to the October election of 1858, the candidates were Mr. Monson and Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

48,166. Mr. Monson was elected by a majority of 15?—Yes.

48,167. That was a very close election?—A very close election.

48,168. Were you in the town at that time and taking an interest in the election?—Yes.

48,169. You canvassed for your brother?—Yes.

48,170. I will ask you a general question also with regard to that election. Will you be kind enough to tell us what you have to inform the Commissioners of with respect to that election?—I believed at the time it was conducted on very pure principles, as far as expenditure was concerned on our part; but I had at the time greatly to complain of that which I could not have approved at the time,—that was the intimidation under which the shopkeepers were suffering from the electors.

48,171. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is, they said they were?—That is what they said themselves to me.

48,172. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not know it of your own knowledge, of course; only what they told you?—I did not see the intimidation practised, but they refused their votes on that account to me, and undue influence.

48,173. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is a long time to carry your recollection back to, Mr. Wilkinson, but under those circumstances I think I ought to ask you if you can name any persons who so expressed themselves to you?—I can remember the shops, but I cannot remember the persons. The women in the shops generally complained that their husbands dare not vote. I remember the shops, and could take you to them, but I cannot remember the names, it is so long ago. It was very general.

48,174. I am afraid, if we were to have a view, we should not have the same persons tenanted in the houses?—Possibly. It was the great feature of the election.

48,175. Then you can merely speak from what you heard from those persons, and as a matter of general report?—Exactly. The undue influence I saw.

48,176. I suppose that is all you have to say with respect to that election of October?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He says the undue influence he saw.

48,177. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You mean to say, the effect of that which was represented as undue influence?—Well, my brother in his speech after the election complained of the undue influence which he himself saw exercised by one of the wealthy electors, who brought his gardener down to the poll with his hand upon his shoulder all the way up to the polling booth. That's what my brother complained of. It had as much influence upon the election to me as money did. It bothered me more than anything in my canvassing.

48,178. I am afraid if you cannot give us specific evidence we cannot go so much into general evidence. Now, then, with reference to the election of 1859, that was when your brother was put up as candidate without his consent?—Without his consent or knowledge.

48,179. I presume you know nothing of that?—I know everything of that.

48,180. That it was without his consent?—It was without his consent. I did it myself.

48,181. Oh, just so. Then, perhaps, you can speak of that election of 1859?—I did not come or mix myself up with it in any way; but some few of the electors came to me. I cannot remember the words

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they used, but the effect of what they said was that they thought it a great pity that those who were so zealous to return my brother should not have an opportunity of recording their votes. I said, "If "there is any necessary expense to enable them to do "so, any lawful expense, which I can afford, I will do "it." And I gave them then and there a certain sum of money, which they said they were quite sure was sufficient. I cannot remember the exact sum, it is so long ago. I took no record of it. Then they went afterwards to this hall and proposed my brother, and I believe they have given in evidence that 161 voted without any bribe or consideration whatever. I was very gratified to see it.

48,182. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) To whom did you give the money?—To those three men, but I cannot recollect who they were, whether there were three or four men. They came up to me at my house, and put it to me in this way. "I said, "I am sure "my brother would not like to do it himself, but as "long as he is living he shall stand for Reigate, if I "can manage it, every time there's an election."

48,183. Your blood was up?—My blood was always up in his cause.

48,184. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose that which transpired in the election of 1859 was another inducement for you to put your brother up for Reigate?—Afterwards, in 1863, you know.

48,185. Yes, in 1863?—Certainly it was.

48,186. You don't recollect what the expense of that election was?—No; but it was very moderate; nothing more than the polling expenses, and one or two conveyances.

48,187. It would be something under 100*l.*?—Something about that; very moderate: out of my own purse, and I should not have been able to afford much. However, I did not do much; I never came down or mixed myself up with it in any way.

48,188. Now, with reference to 1863?—In reference to 1863 I am sure you will excuse the natural anxiety that I have, after the evidence that you have had before you, to relieve my brother's memory as much as I can from the reproach of his having in any way sanctioned any undue influence or improper expenditure. It is a very unhappy circumstance that I cannot produce the accounts, and that both he and his chief agent should be dead; and I hope the evidence that has been taken will be taken *cum grano salis*, with a certain consideration, in consequence of our family not being able in any way to rebut it. I am sure it will by the public.

48,189. Then further than that, Mr. Wilkinson, I presume you have nothing more to say with reference to 1863?—No, except that it was a very hot contest; hot in every respect besides money respects. Many of those men who it has been proved before this Court took 4*l.* 10*s.* for their vote wept bitterly after the election, such was their strong feeling about the election, so strong was the contest.

48,190. Mr. Wilkinson, there has been a fact spoken of in evidence here, which is about the only fact that I shall draw your attention to; but inasmuch as it is a serious one I will ask you if you can possibly throw any light upon it. I allude to that circumstance which was spoken of by Mr. Joyes, in reference to Mr. James going to him and asking him if he would like to have some gingerbread, and if so there would be some on the mantelpiece, and that he found it was 100 sovereigns, which he took and then distributed. Can you throw any possible light upon where that money was found, or where it came from?—Not in the least. It was very distressing to me to read it. I cannot give you the slightest information, because I never knew anything at all about the expenditure of a farthing. I never heard any opinion from Mr. James, except after the election he said to me, "Mr. "Wilkinson, these men are a hungry lot." That is all I ever heard from him.

48,191. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was after the election?—That was after the election.

48,192. Was that before the petition?—I dare say it was.

48,193. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You know I take your answer in the fullest sense in which you have expressed it?—Quite so.

48,194. That you have not the remotest notion where that money came from that supplied the 100 sovereigns?—Not the least. My brother would be distressed beyond measure; he was so strenuously against undue expenditure.

48,195. In 1865, did you take any interest in that election?—Not the slightest.

48,196. And, not taking any interest, you know nothing about it?—I know nothing at all about it.

48,197. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I have a question which I wish to ask you, Mr. Wilkinson: do you know at all, did Mr. James furnish an account to your brother after the election of the expenditure?—I only suppose he did; I do not know it of my own knowledge. I suppose he did from my brother's character.

48,198. You do not know at all what has become of that account?—No, I believe all his papers have been burnt.

48,199. I am speaking of 1863; you do not know what has become of them, whether they would be in the possession of his executors?—I do not know at all.

48,200. Did you make any search among his papers or anything of that kind for an account of that expenditure?—I was not his executor, nor did I ever see any of his papers.

48,201. Since this Inquiry came on you did not, perhaps, see the necessity of making any inquiry about them?—No, I have not made any inquiry.

48,202. Do you think they would be accessible if such a document was in existence?—I do not think they are; but I do not know.

48,203. Do you think we could get them? I am sure you would aid us?—I am sure I should; but I think I have heard that all his papers had been burnt, all his election papers.

48,204. It is not at all unlikely. You see they would not be burnt for some time, because the petition was in 1864, the petition claiming the seat for your brother. Have you seen Mr. James after the death of your brother? Your brother died first, I think?—My brother died first.

48,205. Did you see Mr. James after the death of your brother, in reference to anything?—Not in reference to the election.

48,206. You had no communication with him in reference to election matters?—Not in the least.

48,207. Of course, you might be brought in contact with him, as other gentlemen might be, on other matters?—No, I was not.

48,208. Do you know at all where Mr. James's papers are that would give us any light on that election?—Not in the least. I do not know where his widow lives.

48,209. You know we had Mr. Cape down here. I wish we could have somebody that could throw some light on the election of 1863?—I wish we had.

48,210. You have not?—No, I have not.

48,211. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How soon after 1863 did your brother die?—My brother died the Good Friday before last.

48,212. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We have heard that the widow of the late Mr. James is in Jersey. Do you know anything of her at all?—No, I do not know anything of her.

48,213. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is one point I forgot, Mr. Wilkinson. In your brother's course of business, in what way would he draw cheques?—He would draw cheques upon the firm, and they would be carried to his private account. I myself have got a private account, and so has my nephew. But he himself drew on the firm, and the cheques were carried to his private account.

48,214. Was that his usual course of business?—His constant and usual course.

48,215. Then if any cheques have been drawn for or on account of the election they would pass through the firm's account into his private account?—Yes.

48,216. And so, then, he could draw them again?—Yes.

48,217. And the head clerk would charge his private account to the firm?—The head clerk would charge his private account to the firm; I do not know that the head clerk knew that; when he drew his cheque for himself it was for election expenses. He would say, "I have drawn a cheque for Smith or "Jones;" he would not tell the head clerk what they were for.

48,218. Would those cheques pass under your notice?—Not under my notice.

48,219. You say your brother would draw on the firm?—Yes.

48,220. And you are a member of the firm?—Yes.

48,221. Then, as a matter of course, in the investigation of the accounts, you would become acquainted with the amount of money your brother drew from the firm?—No, I never saw the books. The clerks would, I have only my own department; but I drew all the cheques for the 1863 expenditure, almost all of them.

48,222. All the cheques for 1863?—Yes, my brother left me to do that. He said, "Give Mr. James what "he wants;" and when he wanted anything I drew on the firm, and advised my brother of it.

48,223. I ask the question for this purpose; and you will appreciate the object at once. You knew perfectly well the expenses which would be returned to the election auditor?—No, I don't think I ever did. I think I know what each election has cost him, because I have heard it by word of mouth.

48,224. Then, probably, you could not give me this information: the amount of money which was drawn out of the firm in comparison with the expenses of the election?—Oh, no.

48,225. You understand me?—I could not, so as to arrive at the expenses of the election; but I can tell you the expenses of the election.

48,226. My object is this, Mr. Wilkinson (you will probably appreciate it); to ascertain whether your brother drew out of the firm by cheque upon his private account, at the time of the election, more monies than were returned as the expenses to the election auditor. You cannot tell me that?—No.

48,227. You appreciate the object of the question; but you cannot throw any light upon that yourself?—But I may say that the tariff in the borough had so risen between 1858 and 1863 that, although the time was shorter, the expense of the election was double; the tariff of employment I mean.

48,228. There was a great increase of electors from one period to the other?—There was.

48,229. They had increased from 1858 to 1863 or 1865 something like three or four fold, had they not?—I do not know.

48,230. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Wilkinson, will you be good enough to tell me this: I understand you to say that in 1863 you drew all the election cheques for your brother?—Nearly all. When the election was over he drew the remainder. Mr. James went to town, and then he saw my brother, and my brother drew the cheques that remained to be drawn. But while my brother was in town, for convenience' sake, I living here, I drew them.

48,231. Can you tell me which drew the biggest amount, you or your brother?—No, I have no idea. I think I did.

48,232. That is to say, the payments during the election were higher than the payments made afterwards?—Oh, yes, I should think so.

48,233. Can you tell me what the election of 1863 cost your brother altogether?—3,500*l.* about.

48,234. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Over 3,000*l.*?—A little over 3,000*l.*

48,235. You say over 3,000*l.*?—Well, I think so. I only know that from hearing it from the family; I do not know it from seeing books.

48,236. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You know a portion of the expenses; some of the items which go to make it up?—I do not remember the items that I drew the cheques on. I know I drew considerable cheques. I know it is virtually true, because I heard it from his son, and I know the other election only cost 1,500*l.*

48,237. 1,500*l.* in October 1858?—Yes.

48,238. Then the increase was very much indeed?—Yes, it distressed my brother very much; not for the sake of the money.

48,239. Did he give you full authority to use your own discretion in the number of cheques you drew in 1863?—No, he did not tell me to use any discretion.

48,240. But you did in fact draw cheques?—Yes; but I didn't use any discretion, I was to give Mr. James what he wanted. He trusted entirely to him as his agent.

48,241. Were your instructions from your brother to give Mr. James what money he required?—Exactly.

48,242. Did you do so?—I did do so.

48,243. Without examination?—Or demur.

48,244. That is what I meant, without examination or demur; I ought to have said so. Did he at any time give you an account of what he wanted the money for?—Never.

48,245. Did you know what he did with the money?—Never.

48,246. Were you in the habit of seeing him hand over money at that time when he had received it to other people?—He never did any business before me.

48,247. You did not see him hand over money?—Never.

48,248. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you say you used no discretion, I suppose you mean us to understand that you were not empowered to use any discretion?—I was not empowered to use any.

48,249. And that when Mr. James came to you and asked for money, you had the general authority *to* give him what he wanted, and you did give him what he wanted?—And I did give it him.

48,250. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell me what the course of business was between you and Mr. James? Did he come daily or weekly for a cheque?—He sat at Blackiston's hotel, and I was there morning and night before I went out canvassing. Then he would say to me, "If you please, I want a "cheque for such an amount," and I gave it him before starting in the morning.

48,251. And, generally speaking, about what amounts were the cheques you drew?—I cannot remember.

48,252. Of course you cannot remember, so as to be accurate, but can you give us any idea?—You know he had a banking account of his own, and I gave him a cheque for 100*l.*, 200*l.*, or 300*l.*; he paid that into his banking account and wrote cheques himself.

48,253. Do you mean to say your money was only to reimburse Mr. James, his outgoings?—To pay into his account, and he drew cheques for smaller sums upon that.

48,254. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not know whether it was to reimburse himself, or that he was subsequently to draw upon your money?—I knew morally that he was to draw upon that money.

48,255. You do not know that it was to reimburse himself for advances that he had made?—I know nothing about that.

48,256. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) From your last answer I do not understand what monies Mr. James was provided with. He wanted money; if he wanted 5*l.* was he in the habit of drawing on his own banker?—Yes.

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48,257. And so on. If in the course of the day he wanted two or three more, he drew on his own banker? —Certainly.

48,258. And were the cheques you gave him in the morning cheques in his favour, to replace those payments which he had made ?—They might be to forestall other payments.

48,259. If they were to form a balance to draw upon, they would not be to replace previous payments? —No ; they might be in some degree for both.

48,260. Exactly, they might be in some degree for both. Are you able to tell me the amount of all the cheques you drew ?—No.

48,261. Near it?—No; every day when I wrote a cheque I advised my brother of it.

48,262. Did you draw on the firm ?—On the firm; on Jones Lloyd.

48,263. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was a matter of book-keeping, your informing your brother of it ?—I did it as a matter of business. If I wrote a cheque to go to his private account, I would advise him of it, and he would tell the head clerk.

48,264. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then your brother would give notice to the head clerk, not only when he was going to draw a cheque for his private use, but if he had already drawn one, that he had drawn one ?—Yes.

48,265. Either one or the other?—Yes ; but never for an amount that would affect our balance at the bankers. That was 5,000*l.*, which we kept at Jones Lloyd's.

48,266. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I suppose the course would simply be this : you would advise your brother of the cheque you drew in favour of Mr. James ; your brother would then advise your head clerk that such a cheque had been drawn, and to put it to his private account ; then that would go in the ordinary way of business, as if he drew the cheque himself ?— Exactly.

48,267. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Will you tell me, if you can recollect, what was the ordinary amount of the cheques you drew ?—I cannot recollect that.

48,268. Could you say what was the average ?— I should think the average was 150*l.* or 200*l.* He never worried me for small sums.

48,269. That is what I wanted to know ?—He only asked me occasionally for a cheque.

48,270. Probably not much under 100*l.* ?—I think sometimes they were under 100*l.*, but I do not recollect.

48,271. Do you remember the last occasion on which you drew any cheque ?—No.

48,272. During the election I mean ?—No, I do not.

48,273. Did you draw any after the election ?— I think not, for then my brother had it in his own hands.

48,274. You are not able to tell me then when the last cheque was drawn ?—Not by me.

48,275. Can I find out by any means, by reference to your own books, when you drew the last cheque ? —No, because we never know which signed the cheque ; not by entry in the books. You might by finding vouchers, but they would most likely be burnt.

48,276. It occurred to me whether it would be found by the stump of a cheque ?—No, they are burnt.

48,277. I suppose Jones Lloyd's accounts might be easily referred to ?—No, because they are wound up.

48,278. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is your head clerk in existence ?—No.

48,279. Is he dead ?—I do not know which was the head clerk then ; we have two or three head clerks. I do not know which attended to it.

48,280. But by reference to the books of your firm, Mr. Wilkinson, would that disclose it ?—I should think the books of the firm are burnt. We burn them every now and then at the Stock Exchange, they are so numerous. I do not know that they are. They are burnt at the discretion of the clerks up to a certain time, they are so very voluminous.

48,281. Would the private banking account of the firm become destroyed as well ?—Yes. Jones Lloyd's books, while he was alive, would have shown it.

48,282. Those would have been the only books to show ?—Distinctly ; that account, certainly.

48,283. That reminds me of a preliminary question I did not ask you. In what business were you ?— Dealers in the Stock Exchange.

48,284. Is that the custom among the gentlemen of the Stock Exchange after a certain number of years ? —The dealers, not the brokers. The brokers have transactions with the public which they may be asked for afterwards. But ours are only amongst our own body, and within a certain number of years we burn our books and papers.

48,285. Because upon the settling day, I presume, the accounts are closed as between yourselves ?—For ever.

48,286. Then after a series of years they become lumber ?—Practically ; we never have any need to refer to them.

48,287. Then what may be the private transactions between the partnership firm, those go into the private books ?—Which private books of the different members of the firm are kept by them at their own houses.

48,288. Each member remains ignorant afterwards of what the other member has done ?—Yes, we never know each other's private expenditure.

48,289. It is important that that should be explained. Then can you suggest any other mode by which we could arrive at the fact of what was the amount of the various cheques, the way in which they were drawn, in reference to the election of 1863 ?— No, I cannot ; they would not affect the manner in which the money was spent at all, only affect my brother's conduct as to the way in which he trusted his agent.

48,290. Quite so ?—And that was deputed to me for a certain time.

48,291. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was a close contest ?—Very close.

48,292. Were you disappointed at those who voted not having answered their promises ?—Never ; they hung to us to a man.

48,293. In 1863 ?—In both elections.

48,294. I think it is right we should ask, because we did not examine very strictly the railway men who voted for your brother in 1863, and they all said they got nothing whatever. Now, can you say from your own knowledge whether any influence, undue influence, improper influence, was exercised over the railway men who hung together and voted for your brother ? —No improper influence whatever.

48,295. To your knowledge ?—Certainly not to my knowledge.

48,296. Were any members of your firm in the direction to exercise a kind of indirect influence over them ?—Not at all.

48,297. You know what I mean ; in the direction of the railway ?—Not at all.

48,298. I mean from the respect which they would have for him ?—Not at all.

The witness withdrew.

S. Relf.

SAMUEL RELF sworn and examined.

48,299. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you a voter of the borough ?—Yes.

48,300. What are you in business ?—Something between a gentleman and a tradesman, neither one nor the other quite.

48,301. You were formerly the landlord of the "White Hart" hotel ?—Yes.

48,302. Were you the landlord of the "White Hart," in 1863 ?—No ; I left in 1861.

48,303. Did you take part in any of the recent elections ?—Yes.

48,304. In 1865 ?—Yes.

48,305. For whom did you vote ?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

48,306. Were you on his election committee ?—Yes.

48,307. First I will ask you whether any money passed through your hands ?—Not any.

48,308. Were you aware of any money being expended ?—Not till I heard what I have heard ; I knew men were employed, but not an hundredth part of the extent they appear to have been.

48,309. In 1863 for whom did you vote ?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

48,310. Were you on the committee ?—Yes.

48,311. Did any money come to your hands on that occasion to pay away ?—No, not a farthing.

48,312. Did any money pass from your hands ?—No.

48,313. You must not be offended at these questions, they are merely formal with you, I am sure ; no money did pass from your hands ?—No ; I shall not be offended at anything you ask ; if there had been any money I would have left it.

48,314. Did you take an active part in the election of 1863 ?—Not very, I canvassed a few.

48,315. Were you acting with Mr. Gower's agents in any one matter particularly here ?—No.

48,316. Were you not acting with Mr. Page in 1863 ?—I did not act with him, I only canvassed a few.

48,317. Did you act more with him than any other ?—No, he was a paid canvasser, I think, in '63.

48,318. With Mr. Nichols ?—I expect he was.

48,319. Are you aware of any monies that passed from his hands ?—No, not at all.

48,320. Either from his hands or others ?—No, except that what money they had was from Mr. Smith.

48,321. But personally you knew nothing ?—No.

48,322. I am taking your answer in the matter shortly ?—I never knew of any money passing into his hands from me.

48,323. No money was given to you for that purpose ?—No, not a farthing.

48,324. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I wish to ask you a question ; in 1863 you were very much interested in the election ?—Yes, for Mr. Gower.

48,325. On that occasion do you know on whose side Mr. Humphreys was interested ?—No, I did not know the name.

48,326. A gentleman from London ?—I did not know the name.

48,327. Did you know anything of him before 1865 ?—I did not know the name.

48,328. In 1863 do you recollect, just before the election time, having a meeting with Mr. Page about the election matters ; is there anything that brings a particular day to your memory ?—No.

48,329. Do you remember a meeting at which Mr. Nichols, Mr. Page, and you were present ?—I do not remember any particular meeting.

48,330. Do you recollect just before the election came on his coming to you about money ?—No. Do you mean in 1863 ?

48,331. Yes, in 1863 ?—I have no recollection.

48,332. At your private house, do you remember his meeting you at your private house in 1863 ?—No.

48,333. Turn it over in your mind and see whether you do recollect ?—No.

48,334. There was some more money wanted ; did they come to you about that ?—No, they never came to me about money, and it was not at all likely ; I do not remember any money matters being mentioned to me from anybody or in any shape ; I do not think it at all probable they would do ; I do not think it at all likely.

48,335. Do you remember a particular sum was paid to you of 165*l.* ?—No.

48,336. You do not recollect anything about that in 1863 ?—No, sir.

48,337. Do you recollect a meeting in 1865, just before the election, at your house ?—No.

48,338. In 1865, the last election ?—No, they might meet at my house.

48,339. Do you recollect you, Mr. Page, and Mr. Nichols meeting in the morning just before the election ?—I have no recollection of it.

48,340. Do you recollect at your house seeing a particular sum of money pass from one hand to another ?—No.

48,341. Do you think they may have been at your house that morning ?—I think not. I am satisfied no money passed at my house, whether as between Mr. Page or anybody else ; I am positive about that.

48,342. Does anything I have said or mentioned to you now remind you of the name of Mr. Humphreys ?—No, excepting I heard he was down on that day.

48,343. When ?—Why when the petition was got up against Mr. Gower, I had not heard his name before then.

48,344. You had not heard his name in the election of 1865 ?—No.

48,345. I do not know whether having talked about the meeting will bring Mr. Humphreys to your mind ?—No, I think not.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN NEWHAM sworn and examined. *J. Newham.*

48,346. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A brewer.

48,347. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

48,348. What rent do you pay for your house ?—It was my own house at that time.

48,349. What was it worth at that time ?—50*l.* a year.

48,350. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Gower.

48,351. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No, sir.

48,352. Who was it you promised ?—I did not promise any one.

48,353. Who canvassed you and asked you to vote ?—I forget who asked me or canvassed me.

48,354. Did you go by yourself up to the poll, or was a carriage sent for you ?—I went by myself.

48,355. Were you of some service in canvassing for Mr. Gower ?—Not any.

48,356. Was any money paid to you to give to any person ?—Not any.

48,357. Did you receive any money before the election ?—No, not any.

48,358. Did you receive any afterwards ?—None.

48,359. Not any ?—No.

48,360. Of the election of '65 you are speaking of ?—Yes.

48,361. In 1863 who did you vote for ?—I voted for Mr. Gower.

48,362. Did you pay any money then ?—No.

48,363. Did you receive any money yourself then ?—For a committee room ; I was at the "White Hart," and they used my room for a committee room.

48,364. At Redhill ?—Yes.

48,365. Did they constantly use it as a committee room ?—They had it the whole time.

48,366. And they paid you for your room ?—Yes.

48,367. How much ?—I forget now ; 30*l.* or 40*l.* I really forget what it was.

48,368. Anything else that you received ?—Only for refreshments that were had.

48,369. How much altogether ?—I forget what it was.

48,370. How much altogether ?—I forget ; I have no account of it.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.

J. Newham.

27 Sept. 1866.

48,371. Who did you receive the money from?—It was paid by Mr. Smith principally.

48,372. Any sum by any one else?—I received one sum from Mr. Green.

48,373. How much?—That I cannot tell now.

48,374. About?—It was under 20*l.*

48,375. Anybody else?—I do not recollect anybody else.

48,376. About how much do you think you did receive altogether in 1863?—About 200*l.*

48,377. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You say "about 200*l.*"?—I really cannot recollect.

48,378. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What was it for? What did you really consider you were paid for?—For the committee room and refreshments, one thing and another.

48,379. For how long a time did you consider that went over?—Six or seven weeks.

48,380. How were you paid, by cheque?—I cannot tell you.

48,381. That is your hand; it is your bill?—Yes.

48,382. You are pretty right about the amount; it is 194*l.*?—Yes.

48,383. Did you receive all that from Mr. Smith?—Not all at one time.

48,384. Did he pay it you all at one time?—There were two or three payments.

48,385. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was your bill taxed at all?—I think it was taxed.

48,386. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were all those items paid by Mr. Smith? Look at the bottom; you see he pays the balance; he pays you 109*l.*; he pays what the balance is amounting to, 194*l.*?—Yes.

48,387. I suppose all that amount was paid you by Mr. Smith?—Yes, that was paid.

48,388. What I understand is, these items, amounting to 109*l.*, are not taken into account with the sum of 84*l.* at all?—Yes.

48,389. I see the 194*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* appears to have been paid you. I see that at the bottom?—Yes, that was when it was settled.

48,390. And you received the money?—Yes.

48,391. A portion of the money was paid by Mr. Smith?—There was a sum paid by Mr. Green.

48,392. It would not be here?—It was deducted from these.

48,393. It does not look like it on the face of it; how was it paid, I suppose by cheque?—I really forget that now.

48,394. He gives you payment, see above, and there is no sign of any being deducted?—That is included, the amount I received from Mr. Green.

48,395. I beg your pardon. If you received 20*l.* off this account it would have to have been deducted, and there is no sign of any deduction. When was it Green paid you?—Some time ago.

48,396. What did Mr. Green give you money for?—It might be for some of those items.

48,397. For similar items, but not those?—The amount I received from Green was deducted from that.

48,398. And this is the residue, I suppose; and the balance was paid by Mr. Smith. I suppose you sent in an account to Mr. Smith, having deducted what you had received from Mr. Green?—I did not send in separate accounts.

48,399. Tell me why Green paid you 20*l.*?—Because I wished some paid.

48,400. For refreshments and so on?—Yes.

48,401. And you gave credit for that?—I gave no credit for it.

48,402. But you said, "Well, I have been paid "20*l.* off my bill." You said something like that?—Yes.

48,403. And "I shall want 20*l.* less"?—Yes, 20*l.* less of the amount.

48,404. No, not 20*l.* less of the amount?—Yes.

48,405. Will you tell me why Green paid you anything?—Because I wanted the money.

48,406. What really was there passed between you and Mr. Green?—That really was all. I went to Green, and said there were heavy expenses, and I wanted the money.

48,407. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you give any receipt?—No.

48,408. Did you give him any bill?—No.

48,409. He put his hand in his pocket and gave you 20*l.*?—He laid it on the table.

48,410. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell me what it was?—It was 11*l.* or 15*l.*; it was one of those amounts; I really cannot tell you.

48,411. Can you tell me what it was he said?—It was somewhere within six weeks of the election; I cannot tell you more than that.

48,412. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was the bill paid to you by Mr. Smith by cheque?—I really cannot tell you.

48,413. He would not surely pay you 194*l.* in cash?—I suppose it was by cheque.

48,414. Did he pay you the whole of the 194*l.*?—Yes, with the exception of what I had had.

48,415. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were at the election of 1863?—Yes.

48,416. What did you pay a year rent for your house?—It was my own house.

48,417. What was the value?—60*l.* a year.

48,418. It was opened in January, and lasted till the 6th of February; that would be at the rate of 540*l.* a year. I am giving you a fair margin, 500 guineas. And you live in it still?—Yes.

48,419. And your family?—No; they had the rooms.

48,420. How many rooms?—Two, occasionally.

48,421. How many rooms are there in the house?—A dozen.

48,422. That would be 3,000*l.* a year, letting your rooms at that rate; that is the use of figures. Of course that did not include your vote?—No; my vote had nothing to do with it.

48,423. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is your writing too (*showing witness a paper writing*)?—Yes.

48,424. Is that a bill sent in to you by Wallis?—Yes.

48,425. For damage done to your house during the election?—Yes.

48,426. That is over and above?—That is included in that sum.

48,427. It is not?—It ought to be.

48,428. Here is a bill sent in, of March 1863, for damage done to your furniture, &c., during the election (*reading items*), amounting to 37*l.* Show me where that amount is. Look at it?—I do not see it.

48,429. Tell me whether you see the 37*l.* included in Mr. Smith's bill?—No, it is not.

48,430. Did you receive bills to the amount of 244*l.* There is Green, 133*l.*; ditto, 111*l.*: 244*l.* (*reading items*). Have you any explanation to give of these; if so, let us have it, for I cannot explain it?—I had not all that money.

48,431. This 37*l.* is regularly receipted?—Yes.

48,432. You did not take a receipt from Green?—I think not.

48,433. There is 103*l.* or 104*l.*?—Well, I cannot say any more about it.

48,434. I see not only is 37*l.* for damage done, but you're rather hit at the damage in your bill to Mr. Smith, damage 14*l.*?—There was damage——

48,435. Were you engaged in an election before that?—No; that was the first election.

48,436. You had not sent in a bill before that time?—No, that was the first time; I had never voted before.

48,437. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you given up the "Wheatsheaf" before 1865?—Yes.

48,438. Where were you living?—At Horley, four or five miles out of the borough.

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J. Noonham.

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48,439. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When had you gone to Horley?—The Michaelmas previous.

48,440. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The Michaelmas of 1864?—Yes.

48,441. And given up all connexion with the borough?—No, not all connexion with it.

48,442. What other connexion had you with it?—I had other houses.

48,443. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you occupying?—No.

48,444. Who canvassed you for your vote in 1865?—I forget who came round.

48,445. Who came round? I am now much more curious than I was before to know. I hope my telling you so will not prevent you informing me who canvassed you in '65?—I cannot recollect.

48,446. Did Mr. Gower ask you for your vote?—No.

48,447. Did Mr. Green?—I really forget.

48,448. Did Mr. Green ask you for your vote; he is a Redhill man; about '63 I mean?—He might.

48,449. Did he come to Horley on purpose?—I do not remember. I saw him at Redhill from time to time.

48,450. Did he ask you there?—He might.

48,451. Do you not think he did?—I do not know; I forget.

48,452. You forget, do you?—Yes.

48,453. I wish you would recollect?—I cannot recollect.

48,454. I should like to know who did. Perhaps you will not gratify me?—I cannot remember. I had made up my mind to vote for Mr. Gower.

48,455. When did you make up your mind to vote for Mr. Gower?—I had done before.

48,456. Was it directly you heard he was coming out?—Yes, most likely it was.

48,457. Did it occur to you that you had not a vote?—I thought I had a vote.

48,458. Who told you so, who made you think you had a vote?—I cannot tell you, I do not know who, I thought I had.

48,459. Your house was gone in which you were living and there was an end of your vote; who told you that you had a vote after all?—I do not know that any one did.

48,460. I must give it up; I am sorry you will not tell me?—I would if I could, but I do not know.

48,461. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Naturally you would think when you leave a house which gave you a right of voting by its occupation, you would think your right was gone?—I was not aware of that.

48,462. You had no qualification whatever; you did not expect it would be fixed upon you for ever?—Not after a certain time.

48,463. I should have imagined you would naturally have thought, when you had gone to Horley to reside in the Michaelmas of 1865, that you had lost your right to vote for the borough of Reigate in the election of 1865?—I did not know anything at all about it.

48,464. Or who canvassed you?—No.

48,465. Or what money passed?—I did not get any.

48,466. Who came for you when you voted?—I drove over in my own horse and cart.

48,467. Who reminded you of the time of voting, or what you were to do?—Nobody; I wanted no reminding, nothing of the sort; I went in and voted, as I had promised for Mr. Gower.

48,468. Surely somebody met you. They would say, "Here is the landlord of the 'Wheatsheaf'"?—I went in and gave my vote; I did not want any reminding or fetching.

48,469. Who was there to welcome you at the poll?—Nobody.

48,470. When you say you do not recollect the impression will come on my mind you do not want to give us a clue; who did you see and talk to after you came? You received a large sum of money for voting before, there is no delicacy about it; which of Mr. Gower's friends thanked you?—I cannot tell you; I went there in the morning and then went back again.

48,471. Which of Mr. Gower's friends did you speak to?—I do not know, I did not take particular notice.

The witness then withdrew.

T. Hentley.

Thomas Hentley sworn and examined.

48,472. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you?—A grocer and a furniture dealer.

48,473. What rent do you pay for your house?—20*l.*

48,474. Do you live in Reigate?—Yes.

48,475. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Gower.

48,476. Were you on his committee?—Yes.

48,477. Did you take an active part in the election?—Yes.

48,478. Did money pass through your hands?—No.

48,479. Not any money?—No.

48,480. Did you receive any money to expend on behalf of the election?—No; but I received three guineas for myself for work.

48,481. Who paid you?—Mr. Smith himself.

48,482. Did you send in a bill?—No.

48,483. You did not?—No.

48,484. Did you apply to him for that sum?—No. I did work for him; I went out canvassing, and attended the committee room down below here; writing circulars and making out district accounts.

48,485. When were you paid the three guineas?—I was paid somewhere in June, before the election.

48,486. Were you paid in one sum, or more?—In one sum.

48,487. You never applied to Mr. Smith, or sent him in any bill?—No.

48,488. It was the latter part of June?—Somewhere about the 14th.

48,489. If you did not send in any bill how do you know?—I know it was somewhere about the 14th.

48,490. And you gave Mr. Smith no account of it?—No.

48,491. Where were you when he paid you?—At his office.

48,492. You went to his office?—Yes, I took the district list which I had been working out there.

48,493. You wrote them there?—Yes, from the register.

48,494. Districts including what?—I will show you; it is similar to that in 1862 or 1863; it is not the one, but it is similar to that; I wrote it out before it was printed.

48,495. You had arranged beforehand that you were to have three guineas?—Yes.

48,496. Why was it not four guineas or five guineas that you were paid?—They gave me three guineas.

48,497. Well, I do not exactly understand how you came to have that sum?—That was all I received.

48,498. Three guineas?—Yes, that was all I received.

48,499. Did you apply for any more?—I applied to Apted.

48,500. To which Apted?—To Job Apted.

48,501. When did you apply to Job Apted?—Some time after the election.

48,502. How soon after?—About a month or two.

48,503. What did you apply to him for?—He came to me at the first crisis.

48,504. I thought you said it was Mr. Smith?—No.

48,505. I certainly understood you said it was Mr. Smith?—You misunderstood me, or I misunderstood you.

48,506. Well, what did he say?—He asked me to come and to write.

48,507. Did he mention any sum by which you

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T. Hentley.

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were to be remunerated?—No, he did not mention any sum; but he asked me if I should be satisfied if I had the same as he had.

48,508. Do you know what he had?—No.

48,509. Well, I do not think you soared quite so high as that; Mr. Apted had 50*l.*; you would not expect 50*l.*, would you?—No.

48,510. Did you tell Mr. Job Apted that you would expect as much as he had?—No, I did not; he told me that ——

48,511. He told you that you should have as much as he did?—He asked me if I should be satisfied with as much as he had.

48,512. And you said, of course you would?—I left it to him.

48,513. Did you ask him at any time what he had?—No.

48,514. Did you send him in any bill?—No.

48,515. You merely said, I suppose, "What is "coming to me"?—He said there would not be any more till after the petition.

48,516. Well, but you must have asked him for something?—He said there would not be any more till after the petition.

48,517. You sent in an account?—No, I did not.

48,518. How much did you put your work at in your own mind?—I had no notion at all.

48,519. Was it 10*l.* or 20*l.*?—I had no notion.

48,520. A shilling would not have satisfied you; you must have had some notion as to what you thought you were fairly entitled to?—I had not given it a thought.

48,521. You say you had not given it a thought?—No, and if I did not get anything it would have been the same.

48,522. What else did you do except getting out this district list?—I attended the committee rooms and writing out circulars and canvassing, and so on; I canvassed a good many.

48,523. Did you go out in the day to canvass?—Sometimes I went out in the day.

48,524. Expressly for the purpose of canvassing?—Yes.

48,525. How many days?—I should think three weeks, off and on.

48,526. You do not mean to say you were out from your business three weeks canvassing?—I should think I was, off and on.

48,527. How many days; now be cautious as to this?—Well, I cannot say exactly.

48,528. How many hours were you out at a time?—Perhaps I might have been half a day, at least part of the day.

48,529. With whom were you canvassing?—I was canvassing by myself.

48,530. Had you a canvassing book?—No.

48,531. Who did you canvass?—A great many.

48,532. Can you tell me the name of one single man you got?—No; it was a difficult thing to get them.

The witness withdrew.

J. Bailey.

JOHN BAILEY sworn and examined.

48,533. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—I am out of business at present.

48,534. What were you?—A draper.

48,535. Were you a draper at that time, at the last election?—Yes.

48,536. You were a draper then?—Yes.

48,537. But you are not now?—No, I am not now.

48,538. Were you a voter then?—Yes.

48,539. Have you a vote now?—I do not know.

48,540. What rent do you pay?—20*l.*

48,541. Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

48,542. Did you take an active part?—Yes.

48,543. Did you pay any money away to voters?—No.

48,544. Was any money given to you to pay away?—No.

48,545. Did you receive any money after the election?—Yes.

48,546. After the election who paid you money?—Mr. Smith.

48,547. How much?—4*l.* or 4*l.* 10*s.*

48,548. Did you send in your account to him?—Yes.

48,549. A written one?—Yes.

48,550. And did you give him a receipt for the money?—I did.

48,551. Did you receive any money other than that you sent in your account for?—No.

48,552. Not at all?—No.

48,553. Had you been a voter before 1863?—No.

48,554. Not before that time?—No.

48,555. Were you living in your house here when you voted in 1865?—Yes, in the same house that I am living in now.

48,556. And did you send in your account and ask Mr. Smith to pay it in the first instance, or did he come to you?—I went to him.

48,557. Did he know you?—Yes.

48,558. He had known you before?—Yes.

48,559. What had you done for Mr. Gower?—I canvassed amongst my neighbours or persons that I knew.

48,560. And what else?—There was nothing else that I did.

48,561. Do you recollect whether when he paid you the 4*l.* 10*s.*, or promised you the 4*l.* 10*s.*, it was given you for your vote?— No, I never expected that, I am sure.

48,562. What do you think it was given you for then?—For canvassing my neighbours.

48,563. Had you succeeded in getting one vote?—I cannot say that any one exactly promised me, but I asked when I could.

48,564. I dare say you did; may I ask you, if you did not get the money for your vote, what you consider you did get it for?—For canvassing.

48,565. Do you mean to say that you did 4*l.* 10*s.* worth of work in canvassing; do you consider you did work to that amount?—Yes, I should think I did.

48,566. You think that your time and labour would come to that sum?—Yes, I should think that it would come to 4*l.* 10*s.*; I think I did five weeks' work.

48,567. Do you not think, I am not speaking of the time you were employed about the work, but I ask you whether you do not think that some portion of the money was meant for your vote?—No, I do not think it was.

48,568. And you really do think that you received the 4*l.* 10*s.* simply for the work you did, and not for your vote?—I think it was for the work I did.

48,569. Now be candid; do you not think that a portion of the money was given in order to secure your vote?—Well, perhaps I should think it would be.

48,570. In 1865 you had this job of canvassing; now, supposing you got a job and were to be paid by the hour, what would you value your services at?—I cannot say.

48,571. Would you value them at 4*l.* 10*s.*?—For the whole time. For this matter of 1865 I consider I was fairly paid.

48,572. You mean you were fairly paid in reference to the other canvassers?—I was satisfied.

48,573. Do you mean you were fairly paid with reference to what other persons got?—I do not; I stated I was not aware what others got.

48,574. I really do not know whether you were or not, but for the work you did you think you were fairly paid?—Yes.

48,575. You say you were not expecting anything?—No.

48,576. How came you to send in an account?—I went and saw Mr. Durrant.

48,577. Did he suggest the propriety of sending in

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an account ?—He said I had better send in an account to Mr. Smith.

48,578. Was that the first time it was suggested to your mind you might expect anything ?—That was the first time.

48,579. How long before the election was that ?—It might be a month or five weeks.

48,580. How came Mr. Durrant to know you had been doing anything ?—He saw what I was doing, or, at least, we were living close together, and we frequently used to talk the matter over together.

48,581. Were you neighbours ?—We were living within a few minutes' walk of each other.

48,582. Did you canvass Mr. Durrant at all ?—No.

48,583. Did you canvass Mr. Durrant ?—No.

48,584. Will you put Mr. Durrant down as one of the neighbours you canvassed for the 4*l.* 10*s.* ?—I cannot say he was.

48,585. He was a neighbour ?—Yes.

48,586. Did you ask him which way he was going to vote ?—I knew.

48,587. Did you know before you met him ?—Yes.

48,588. How many neighbours did you ask ?—Twelve or fourteen, but I cannot call them to mind.

48,589. You do not know beyond the neighbours ?—No.

48,590. I suppose Mr. Durrant had canvassed them all ?—That I do not know.

48,591. He was very active in canvassing ?—Yes, he was.

48,592. Did you see him about canvassing ?—I did not see him about canvassing ; I saw him talking to some of them at times.

48,593. Did you see him talking to the 12 or 14 you canvassed ?—I do not remember whether I did or not.

48,594. And that is really all that you did ?—Yes.

48,595. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Have you got any such lucky jobs since that time ?—No.

48,596. Or in the first course of your time ?—No ; I do not recollect.

48,597. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You never voted at any other election ?—No, I voted for the county and for the election, but not for ——

48,598. Did you vote at the municipal election ?—Yes.

48,599. Did you get paid for your time there ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned until 11 o'clock the next day.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY

Friday, 28th September 1866.

J. Coomber.

28 Sept. 1866.

John Coomber sworn and examined.

48,600. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you ?—A working man.

48,601. What rent did you pay last election for your house ?—4*s.* a week.

48,602. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Monson the last time.

48,603. In 1865 ?—Yes.

48,604. You are one of four brothers ?—No, my name is not Comber, it is Coomber.

48,605. Were you on Mr. Monson's committee ?—Yes.

48,606. Who put you on ?—I do not know who put me on hardly, I was in the committee room.

48,607. Did you work at all for Mr. Monson ?—Yes, all the time.

48,608. What were you doing ?—I was to go and get what information I could, and to bring it to Mr. Nichols in the first place.

48,609. You worked under Mr. Nichols ?—Yes.

48,610. What were you at that time ?—A labourer.

48,611. Where were you at work ?—At Mr. Waterlow's.

48,612. On his land ; the estate ?—Yes.

48,613. Then you went on with your work at that time ?—No, not at that time ; I lost a good many days.

48,614. Did you lose nomination day ?—And polling day too ; I was not worked by the day, I was worked by the time.

48,615. That is, by the job ?—You see that I lost all that.

48,616. Then you worked as you liked ?—Yes.

48,617. What were you paid before the election ?—We were earning about 4*s.* a day.

48,618. Whom were you paid by, Mr. Nichols or anybody, on account of the election ?—What I received for the election ?

48,619. Yes ?—6*l.* 10*s.*

48,620. Was that all before the election ?—It was.

48,621. Was it all before the election ?—And during the election time it was.

48,622. Before polling day ?—No.

48,623. That is the sum you received altogether ?—Yes.

48,624. You did not receive any more at all ?—No.

48,625. It was Mr. Nichols who paid you ?—Yes.

48,626. How did he pay you ?—The first time he gave me 20*s.*, and I went again and told him I wanted more, and he gave me 20*s.* more.

48,627. And so on ?—Yes ; the next time he gave me two sovereigns.

48,628. That is 4*l.* ; when did he give you the 50*s.* ?—After the election.

48,629. Have you voted before ?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

48,630. That was in 1863 ?—Yes.

48,631. Who did you vote for in 1863 ?—Mr. Wilkinson.

48,632. Were you working very hard at the election ?—Yes, I was ; I went about as usual.

48,633. Much the same as you did at this last time ?—Yes.

48,634. Who were you working under then ?—Our head agent was Mr. Rose of Mead-vale.

48,635. Ephraim Rose ?—Yes.

48,636. Did he tell you beforehand how much you were to be paid ?—No.

48,637. Did you receive any money that time before the polling day ?—No.

48,638. After the polling day how much did you receive altogether ?—30*s.*

48,639. Altogether ?—Altogether.

48,640. From Mr. Ephraim Rose ?—Yes.

48,641. You did not receive anything more ?—No.

48,642. Had you voted before that ?—I never voted before that, I have not been in Reigate.

48,643. But you did not want any more money for any other purpose ?—No.

48,644. You lived in your own cottage, I suppose, not a public house ?—Yes.

48,645. You had nothing to do with any public house ?—No.

48,646. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose

THIRTY-IRD DAY.

. Coomber.

Sept. 1866.

you did as much in 1863 as in 1865 ?—I did my best.

48,647. About the same thing ?—Yes.

48,648. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long after the election did Mr. Nichols pay you 30*s.* ?—After my doing the work would be about it.

48,649. Where did he pay you ?—At his house, at the "Grapes."

48,650. And you gave him a receipt ?—No, I did not. I do not think I signed any paper, I do not remember that I did.

The witness withdrew.

. Dickinson.

WILLIAM DICKINSON sworn and examined.

48,651. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What are you ?—A tobacconist.

48,652. Do you keep a shop in this town ?—Yes, a private shop, not a public shop ; my business is out of doors, because I am a wholesale tobacconist.

48,653. A tobacconist in a large way ?—Not a large way.

48,654. But you would call it a wholesale tobacconist ?—Yes.

48,655. Where do you live ?—High-street.

48,656. What rent do you pay for your house ?—10*l.*

48,657. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Monson.

48,658. Were you on his committee ?—No.

48,659. Then you simply voted for him ?—Yes.

48,660. Did you get anything for your vote ?—Not for my vote.

48,661. What did you get paid ?—For my services.

48,662. What services ?—For work at the time.

48,663. You told me just now you did nothing ?—I said I was not paid for my vote ; I received it for my services.

48,664. How much ?—3*l.* 10*s.*

48,665. From whom ?—Mr. Hart.

48,666. You gave him a receipt for it ?—Yes.

48,667. Was it 3*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.* ?—3*l.* 10*s.* I think. I thought it was very inadequate at the time.

48,668. Who engaged you ?—Mr. Hart.

48,669. I asked you whether you did anything other than vote ?—I understood you said that I got paid for my vote, and I said no.

48,670. The next question was, "Did you do any-"thing else but vote," and you said "No" ?—I said, "Yes, I did." I was in the committee room doing anything that could be done for five weeks.

48,671. You were not on the committee ?—No.

48,672. But you attended the committee room ?—Yes.

48,673. What did you do in the committee room ?—I was as a kind of messenger, directing envelopes and taking them out to gentlemen's houses ; in fact, I was as a messenger for the committee room for five weeks.

48,674. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How many days in the week ?—Every day backwards and forwards, doing the best I could.

48,675. That would be 2*s.* a day ; do you mean that you, a wholesale tobacconist, only got that ?—Yes, that is about as near as I can tell you.

48,676. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were attending the committee for 30 days ?—Every day, backwards and forwards.

48,677. When were you engaged by Mr. Hart ?—Some time before the election Mr. Hart sent me some bills to post, and I posted the bills for him. I have worked for Mr. Hart now for 12 or 14 years ; he sent me some bills.

48,678. You were engaged by Mr. Hart before the election, you say ?—Yes ; the first engagement was, that Mr. Hart sent me some bills to post, announcing Mr. Monson was coming forward as a candidate. I posted his bills, and from that day I considered I was engaged.

48,679. Did you act as a bill sticker ?—I posted some bills ; I acted as a messenger or anything.

48,680. I do not understand by that that there was any distinct engagement by Mr. Hart ?—I considered that was the engagement.

48,681. Sticking the bills ?—Yes. I said to Mr. Hart, "I presume I shall go on now ;" he said, "Yes ;" which I did. I was in the committee room continually, directing envelopes and also distributing them.

48,682. Then the engagement was that you were to do the best you could ?—Yes.

48,683. Were there any terms mentioned ?—No terms were mentioned ; I sent my bill in to Mr. Hart, and allowed him to fill it up.

48,684. Now, at any time whilst you were attending on the committee, were terms mentioned as to the amount which you would be paid ?—None at all.

48,685. Then I may take it as a fact that there was no arrangement ?—An arrangement was first of all commenced with these bills, and I went on attending the committee room. I considered I was engaged by Mr. Hart to act as messenger to the room.

48,686. I want to see in what way you were engaged ?—By receiving bills from Mr. Hart in the first instance.

48,687. Other persons might receive bills ?—They might.

48,688. You had some bills to post ?—There might be a dozen, or 14, or 20 ; it was merely announcing Mr. Monson was coming forward.

48,689. You could post those bills in a very short time ?—It might take me a couple of hours, not more.

48,690. Did you put them on the walls ?—On the walls over Redhill and Reigate.

48,691. I suppose you had got a cart and used to go round with it ?—No.

46,692. How did you deliver your wholesale goods ?—By carrying them in a carpet bag.

48,693. You would walk round and carry your goods to the various houses ; I suppose you supplied public houses and taverns with tobacco for smoking. Upon one of those rounds you posted these bills ?—Oh, no, I went expressly.

48,694. That took you a couple of hours ?—I dare say it might ; and perhaps three.

48,695. How soon did you commence attending the committee rooms ?—I mean running in and out.

48,696. Just when it suited you ?—I made a point of going into them twice early in the morning, between 10 and 11 o'clock.

48,697. You say you were engaged, but you have not mentioned when you were engaged specifically ?—I cannot exactly say, it was a few days after.

48,698. Was it at any time that Mr. Hart said to you that you were to attend the committee as messenger ?—Yes, certainly.

48,699. When was that, because you have not told us ?—I cannot say within a few days ; it was soon after I had those notices ; it might have been perhaps a week.

48,700. I am asking you whether, because you received those bills beforehand, you considered yourself engaged by Mr. Hart ?—Then I attended every day ; I went there four or five days after.

48,701. You did not tell Mr. Hart you expected to be paid ?—I asked Mr. Hart whether I was on that side ; he said yes, he had engaged me.

48,702. When ?—About three or four days after.

48,703. That is the first time you have mentioned it ?—I thought you understood that it was the commencement of my engagement.

48,704. No, all that you have said about the engagement was, that you mentioned a dozen bills to post ; from that you said you were engaged ?—Yes.

48,705. You have not mentioned any actual time?—A few days after.

48,706. Nothing was said specifically between you and Mr. Hart, that you were to attend the committee room and to be paid for it?—I understood that the work I was on in the committee room would be paid for; I was backwards and forwards the whole of the time, and saw Mr. Hart.

48,707. You might have volunteered; that is what I mean?—I did not volunteer.

48,708. I know you were paid, but up to the time of your being paid you were a mere volunteer?—No, I think not.

48,709. It might be supposed so by the members of the committee?—I was backwards and forwards every day.

48,710. A great many others were backwards and forwards; I want to know whether there was a specific arrangement between you and Mr. Hart?—There was; I understood it as such.

48,711. You simply understood it; I want to know whether anything specifically was said?—I cannot say.

48,712. Upon your posting the bills announcing Mr. Monson was going to stand you understood your arrangement began?—Yes.

48,713. And nothing more?—Nothing more.

48,714. I will ask it in that way?—Yes; of course I considered I was engaged.

48,715. I distinctly understand that you only understood that you were engaged from your receiving from Mr. Hart 12 or 14 bills to post?—Yes.

48,716. When were you paid?—About five or six weeks after the election.

48,717. Did you send in a bill?—Yes.

48,718. In what way did you shape your bill?—"On Mr. Monson's committee, and to Mr. Dickinson, "five weeks' services," and I left it blank for them to fill it up.

48,719. When were you paid?—About five or six weeks after the election.

48,720. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Hart paid you?—Yes.

48,721. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You sent it in in blank; then it was left blank, and I have a copy of it; how much were you paid?—3*l.* 10*s.*

48,722. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think there is some mistake about it, it is not very material, but are you sure you were paid 3*l.* 10*s.*?—I do not know whether it was 3*l.* 15*s.* or not.

48,723. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is a receipt of yours (*handing a receipt to witness*)?—That is right.

48,724. Then I suppose you will alter the amount from 3*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*?—Yes, that is right; I told you at the time I was not certain; I said I received 3*l.* 10*s.* I thought, and I was very much surprised.

48,725. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want you to tell me when you were paid by Mr. Hart?—I really cannot tell you within a week.

48,726. Tell me within a fortnight?—I know it was some time after, and I should say rather over six weeks.

48,727. Can you tell me what month it was you were paid in?—I cannot now.

48,728. How long was it after you had sent in your account?—I should think three or four weeks.

48,729. You sent in your account to Mr. Hart?—Yes.

48,730. When did you send in your account?—Some time after the election.

48,731. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) About a week from the election you said?—Yes, I think that was so.

48,732. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now what I want to know is, in what month Mr. Hart paid you?—I think it gives the date; there is the date.

48,733. The election was in July; I want to know what month you were paid?—I think it was in the month of September.

48,734. Can you tell me what part of September you were paid?—No, I cannot, or else I would with pleasure. I cannot recollect it; I know it was some long time after.

48,735. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you in any other election?—I was in Mr. Gower's election.

48,736. In 1863?—Yes.

48,737. I will ask you one short question; did you receive anything for the election of 1863?—5*l.*

48,738. From whom?—Mr. Smith.

48,739. What for?—I was engaged by Mr. Smith as a messenger.

48,740. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

48,741. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When were you engaged by Mr. Smith as a messenger?—Some time before the election.

48,742. Was it a specific engagement by Mr. Smith, for the election as messenger?—Yes.

48,743. What time did you go to him?—Two or three hours a day.

48,744. For what length of time?—Five or six weeks.

48,745. What was your occupation?—Partly canvassing; the other time I devoted to the committee room.

48,746. Where did you canvass?—At Redhill. I had a few friends, and I tried to do what I could.

48,747. I suppose in 1863, as in 1865, your occupation in business was to travel about and deliver your goods?—Certainly.

48,748. Was it at the places where you delivered your goods you canvassed?—Not particularly.

48,749. Did you canvass elsewhere?—Any person I knew of, who I thought was likely to come on the same side, I tried to persuade.

48,750. How many did you try to persuade, do you know?—Well, one and all, that I thought I could successfully.

48,751. You do not mean by that the whole of the borough?—I do not mean that I succeeded in canvassing a single one.

48,752. By canvassing you mean getting a vote?—Yes.

48,753. I mean by canvassing trying to get a vote?—I was also employed in delivering circulars, taking Mr. Gower's circulars; I used to deliver his the same as I did for Mr. Monson last time.

48,754. How long were you engaged in that way for Mr. Gower?—Five or six weeks.

48,755. Had you promised your vote to Mr. Gower or to somebody for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Smith canvassed me and Mr. Gower, and I promised my vote.

48,756. How soon after you promised your vote were you put on?—Previously.

48,757. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do you mean you had been put on before you promised your vote?—Precisely, and the same for Mr. Monson at the last election.

48,758. You were put on before you promised?—Yes.

48,759. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That is with regard to 1865, when you received the bills by post before you promised Mr. Monson?—Precisely; it was the night previous to the last election that I met Mr. Hart coming from the committee room, and I pointed out a heap of stones beside the hall, and I said, "Mr. Hart, do you not think those stones ought not "to be removed," because that was the night before the nomination.

48,760. That was the night before the polling?—The night before the nomination. I called his attention to that, and he said, "Yes, by all means get the "stones taken away;" and I engaged two men to take them away.

48,761. Did you pay the men?—I did.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY.

W. Dickinson.

28 Sept. 1866.

48,762. What did you pay the men ?—3*s.* and some beer; they would not do anything without beer.

48,763. I suppose you were repaid the money?—No.

48,764. That was part of the 3*l.* ?—Yes.

48,765. That might happen to any person ?—No, I would not have asked anybody else.

48,766. Anybody else might have drawn Mr. Hart's attention to it, knowing that he was the responsible agent ?—They did not.

48,767. Do you consider the suggestion to Mr. Hart that those stones were dangerous was part of your work ?—He said, "That is a very good idea of yours; "let them be removed."

48,768. And that it ought to be well paid for ?—No.

48,769. No doubt it was a very proper and charitable suggestion, because those stones might have been used in a very improper way ?—That is what I thought.

48,770. You would not have suggested that to Mr. Hart if you had not been engaged ?—I cannot tell.

48,771. I am sorry to hear you say so ?—I could not.

48,772. You could not suggest to Mr. Hart that those stones were dangerous ?—I should not have mentioned it to anybody else but Mr. Hart on Mr. Monson's side.

48,773. You were going to vote for Mr. Monson? —Precisely; I was, and that was the reason I wanted the stones removed; and for Mr. Gower too. I think you misunderstood me.

48,774. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You mean you would not have presumed to do it for yourself?—That is what I mean. I certainly should have liked the stones removed by anybody else.

48,775. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I thought you had put that forward as a reason why you were engaged by Mr. Hart, because you told Mr. Hart those stones were dangerous?—On the other hand, why I mentioned it to Mr. Hart was that he was one of the magistrates, and if I had taken those stones away I might have been in the wrong; but if I mentioned it to Mr. Hart I knew I had his support, and therefore I had them removed from the hall to the back of my house.

48,776. I did you wrong; but I understood you that you would not have done that; but you mean you would have done that whether employed as messenger or not ?—Certainly I should.

48,777. I thought I might have misunderstood the tenor of your answer?—I believe you did.

48,778. I certainly did. I am very glad I now understand you ?—My reason was that Mr. Hart was a magistrate, and I thought that he was the proper person to get them removed.

48,779. Had you voted at any election before 1863? —Yes, for Mr. Doulton.

48,780. In February 1858?—Yes.

48,781. At that election did you receive anything? —Yes.

48,782. How much ?—I sent in a bill to Mr. Truman, who was the financier.

48,783. What was the amount of your bill ?—I left it to him to fill up, and I receipted it.

48,784. Just let me ask you another question; was any specific agreement made between you and Mr. Smith as to what you were to receive in 1863 ?—No.

48,785. And you sent in a blank bill?—Yes.

48,786. Now, in 1858 you sent in a blank bill also? —To Mr. Truman.

48,787. Was that bill filled up?—No, in blank.

48,788. You receipted it in blank ?—Yes, and he said, "You have got a great deal of confidence in me."

48,789. Did he reward that confidence ?—Yes.

48,790. With how much ?—7*l.* or 8*l.*

48,791. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He put that figure 7*l.* or 8*l.* in?—Yes.

48,792. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What had you done for the 7*l.* or 8*l.*?—I had worked very hard night and day.

48,793. I suppose you took a great deal of interest in the cause ?—I did, and I wish Mr. Doulton had been returned; we should not have had any bother now.

48,794. I suppose there were many others who took an interest in the cause ?—Yes.

48,795. You were paid for taking an interest in the cause ?—I was so.

48,796. Had you been engaged for any services in 1858 ?—I heard Mr. Doulton once or twice in this room, and I fancied him very much, and I thought it better to vote for him.

48,797. Having voted, you expected to be paid ?—No.

48,798. But for the zealousness in the cause you expected something ?—Yes, I did.

48,799. You sent in a bill in blank ?—Yes.

48,800. Then you received 7*l.* or 8*l.* ?—Yes.

48,801. In 1863 and 1865 you sent in, just in the same way, a blank bill ?—Yes.

48,802. I suppose in 1863 and 1865 you were equally zealous in the cause ?—No, I think not.

48,803. You were more zealous in 1858 ?—A great deal more.

48,804. You were younger then ?—Yes.

48,805. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Had you arranged with Mr. Truman before that you were to be paid for any services rendered ?—No.

48,806. Had you arranged with any one ?—No.

48,807. Beforehand, that you were to be paid ?— My arrangement with Mr. Truman was; he said, "If "anything is required, I am the financier, and you "must look to me for it."

48,808. That is something like it. He said, "For "the purposes of the election I am the financier" ?— Yes.

48,809. That was inviting you to send in a bill?— Precisely so.

48,810. Tell me, was that after the election was over or before the polling ?—Long before.

48,811. Long before the polling ?—Yes.

48,812. He put you on to work; he did not give you any specific work to do ?—No.

The witness withdrew.

H. Green.

HENRY GREEN recalled and examined.

48,813. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have been sworn. I want to ask you one question. Do you remember in the election of 1863 a man named John Newnham ?—Yes.

48,814. Do you remember, after the election, I think, but I am not quite certain, paying him some money? —I do.

48,815. Was it after or before? — After the election.

48,816. Can you tell me how much it was ?—19*l.*, 19 sovereigns.

The witness withdrew.

H. Westley.

HENRY WESTLEY sworn and examined.

48,817. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you? —A builder.

48,818. What rent were you paying for your house at the last election ?—It is my own.

48,819. A freehold?—No, a leasehold, under Lord Monson.

48,820. What is the value of it ?—I think it is rated at 42*l.*; I do not know whether it is 38*l.* or 42*l.*

48,821. Who did you vote for at the last election in 1865 ?—Mr. Gower.

48,822. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee ?—I never knew whether I was or not.

48,823. Which of the sub-agents was it whom you principally worked under ?—I did not work at all.

48,824. What did you receive before the election came on ?—Nothing.

48,825. After the election what did you receive ?—Nothing.

48,826. Did you not receive anything for the election ?—Not at any time in my life.

48,827. Did you keep a public house at that time ?—No.

48,828. Was any room in your house taken as a committee room ?—No.

48,829. Or taken for any purpose during the election ?—No.

48,830. Did any money pass through your hands to give to any other person ?—Never ; not a halfpenny.

48,831. Did any money at all come to your hands ?—No.

48,832. I mean not to put in your own pocket, but for any purpose ?—Not for any purpose ; nobody dare attempt to put money in my hands.

48,833. You must forgive me asking the question ; did you receive money for the hire of a room or for the hiring of anything ?—No, nothing.

48,834. In 1863 you took a more active part ?—In Redhill.

48,835. Money in 1863 did pass through your hands ?—No, it did not.

48,836. I thought it did ?—No, it did not.

48,837. Then I am wrong perhaps, and you are right. I thought you paid money in 1863 ?—I might have done ; but it did not pass through my hands in any one election, from me, to give away. I should not have had it.

48,838. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Wilkinson, as I had always done before, and should now if he lived.

48,839. Did you canvass for him ?—Oh, yes, I canvassed. I should naturally ask others to vote the same way as myself.

48,840. Did you succeed in getting voters for him ?—I dare say I did a great many.

48,841. Can you tell me the name of any person ?—I would not attempt to do it ; I went from one parish to another.

48,842. You would not attempt to do what ?—To tell you the names, because I took the register in my hand and went about.

48,843. Perhaps I can tell you ?—You cannot.

48,844. We will see ; did you not canvass a man in 1863 of the name of Coomber ?—No ; I think perhaps you have got another man on the register for that.

48,845. I wish you would assist me at once ; that may be so. Is your name Henry Westley ?—It is Henry Westley.

48,846. The men I have got as men you paid in 1863 are John Coomber, Edward Langton, George Harman, and John Peters ?—I am the Henry Westley that Langton said I paid money to.

48,847. Did you pay John Coomber ?—No, I did not pay him a penny.

48,848. I will say you deny that ?—I deny it.

48,849. Do you know the man ?—Very well.

48,850. Can you account for his saying that ?—I have not the least idea why the man should say so ; I should not have done it.

48,851. Do you know Edward Langton ?—Yes.

48,852. Did you pay him 7*l.* ?—Never.

48,853. You deny it ?—He denied it himself, and his brother too.

48,854. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I will just tell you what his brother said, "In 1863 I voted for Mr. "Monson. I had 7*l.*" Then he said he could earn quite as much as that at his own work, if he was put on a job. "Henry Westley came to me for my vote. "I would not vote until he handed the money over to "some one I could trust. I named Barker, and it was "handed to me ;" and Barker told you in his evidence that Mr. James gave him the money, and not Westley ?—I deny it totally.

48,855. Deny what ?—Either seeing Langton or offering him money, or having anything to do with him ; if you look at Mr. Barker's evidence, he says he received it from Mr. James.

48,856. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is the explanation, it is suggested to give you an opportunity to explain these matters ; you ought not to grumble at that. Will you give me some explanation with regard to Coomber, as to who did pay him the 1*l.* ?—I do not know. I have got an uncle of the name of Westley ; he has been drunk and running about the election, and his name has been mentioned in this Court.

48,857. Did you pay John Harnan 3*l.* ?—I have no recollection, but I might have. I recollect being in Topliss's one night, amongst two or three of my own men, and there was one wanted 5*s.*, and another one had 1*l.* from me. It might have been had, but certainly I never had anything of it. I never received a shilling for the election.

48,858. Did you pay Joseph Peters 1*l.* ?—No.

48,859. Do you know the man ?—I used to know him.

48,860. May you have forgotten it ?—No.

48,861. It seems that he got 1*l.*, and I want to find out who he got it from ?—It was not from me.

48,862. Did he not ask you ?—No, I only recollect once being asked out of the committee room.

48,863. Who asked you ?—My own uncle called me out. I had 40 or 50 men at that time, and if they wanted any money my men would come there, when they knew I was in the committee room, and I might give them half a crown or two, and therefore Harman might have got the 1*l.* ; but I know Peters.

48,864. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Men came who were working for you in your private business ?—Yes.

48,865. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) He says in 1863 he received 1*l.* for Mr. Wilkinson from Westley, and before he had voted for Mr. Wilkinson he received 2*l.* He said it with no hesitation ?—I think my uncle was chairman of the committee.

48,866. May you not have forgotten it ?—No ; there were two Westleys then.

48,867. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was your uncle's Christian name ?—William.

48,868. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think I shall take it that you don't recollect it, I will not take it as a positive denial ?—Well, it is almost a positive denial.

48,869. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Are you prepared to go so far as to say you did not ?—I think I will say I did not pay it to Peters.

48,870. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where did you get the money from that you paid away ?—Out of my own hands, I never got any other.

48,871. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And never claimed it ?—No, I never had any money, I had something else, but I never had any money.

48,872. Did you receive any money at all ?—Not a farthing.

48,873. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you get instead of money ?—I got a letter of thanks for being an honest man.

48,874. I mean money's worth ?—Oh yes, I did, I got this portrait (*holding up a portrait to the Commissioners*).

48,875. That is, I suppose, a likeness of the candidate ?—No, of myself ; that was after the election.

48,876. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understand, Mr. Westley, that you never received a farthing in reference to any election ?—In my life I never did, and I never paid any away, except when I had been amongst my own men at night I have spent a shilling. I worked as hard as any one worked, and I think I did more, but I have not taken, from beginning to end, anything.

The Chief Commissioner remarked that he was very sure the witness must be glad of having the opportunity of stating that.

The witness withdrew.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY.

F. Doulton, Esq., M.P.

28 Sept. 1866.

FREDERICK DOULTON, Esq., M.P., sworn and examined.

48,877. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I believe you are at present member for Lambeth?—I am.

48,878. I will take you at once to this; do you recollect being a candidate for this borough in 1858?—I do.

48,879. Might I inquire whether you had a requisition from any persons in the borough, that brought you down here?—Not a requisition in writing, I received a request from many who were here.

48,880. From many of the respectable voters of the borough?—Yes.

48,881. Were you at all connected in business or family with the borough of Reigate at that time?—I was not.

48,882. Can you tell me whether you can recollect when it was the first time made known to the electors, either by placards or advertisement, that you intended to become a candidate at the election?—The beginning of January 1858.

48,883. And when did the polling at the election take place?—On the 6th of February. I am not certain as to January being the time when I came down; possibly it was December. My first meeting was in January.

48,884. We will take it the latter end of 1857 or the beginning of 1858; how did the election arise?—From the death of Mr. Hackblock.

48,885. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The sixth of February was the polling?—Yes.

48,886. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Who at that time acted as your conducting agent?—Mr. Barton was really an agent appointed.

48,887. Who acted at that election; I do not mean at first, but who acted at the election as conducting agent?—I think Mr. Truman signed the accounts that were sent in as the electioneering agent; I think he did.

48,888. It was necessary to have a person appointed as agent, and you think, on the accounts being sent in, that Mr. Truman was the election agent. Mr. Barton was your private solicitor, and you called him in, I suppose, to aid in the conduct of the election, and to advise you?—Yes.

48,889. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) May I take it, Mr. Doulton, that Mr. Truman was your expense agent; you understand the term under the Act of 1854?—Yes; it was necessary to send in an account signed by some one, and I suppose, that becoming necessary, his name was put down as the agent.

48,890. You understand what we mean by the expense agent?—Yes.

48,891. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you tell me, how soon after your first meeting did Mr. Truman come down to the borough?—I cannot tell you.

48,892. About?—I cannot tell you, it is now nearly 10 years ago.

48,893. We will not bind you to any particular time?—I shall be glad to give any information I can, but I cannot recollect whether he came down at first, or whether he came down weeks after. My own impression is, that some two or three days after it commenced he came down.

48,894. About the middle of January?—Yes.

48,895. Had you known Mr. Truman before?—I had known him as having taken an active interest in two or three elections.

48,896. You knew him as a person who had been engaged in managing electioneering business and the ordinary business of elections?—Engaged at elections.

48,897. Engaged as you engaged him, in that capacity?—Yes.

48,898. Had you any other person to manage the expense department and money department of the election except Mr. Truman?—I managed it myself; I did not allow even Mr. Truman to engage any one, or to pay any one, without first sending those payments to me.

48,899. Now that brings me to another question. How did you pay; did you pay by cheque in favour of Mr. Truman, or did you pay them by cheque drawn in favour of the man himself?—When I came down to Reigate I placed 1,000*l.* in the bank here, and as I could not myself expect to draw every small cheque, I authorized Mr. Barton and Mr. Truman to sign them. Mr. Truman could not sign anything before he sent to Mr. Barton, and the accounts were brought to me, and then Mr. Barton signed it.

48,900. You placed the 1,000*l.* drawn upon by a cheque signed by Mr. Truman and Mr. Barton?—Yes.

48,901. That was when you first came down?—Yes.

48,902. Can you give us about the date of that?—It was the beginning of January, a few days before I had my first meeting.

48,903. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say joint cheque, not signed by one or the other?—Yes.

48,904. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Signed by both; you did not sign them?—I did not.

48,905. Might I inquire, Mr. Doulton, because it will save us the necessity of applying to you again, what bank you paid that into?—Really I cannot recollect, it was very close here in Reigate; I know, because I took it myself.

48,906. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Excuse me, Mr. Doulton, for one moment, I think there is a little misunderstanding with regard to the drawing of cheques. Mr. Barton had the authority to draw cheques without your putting your name yourself to the cheques?—I never put my name to the small cheques. At the end of the week the accounts were sent to me to approve them, and then Mr. Barton signed the cheque.

48,907. Did Mr. Truman sign the cheque as well as Mr. Barton?—Yes.

48,908. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You gave directions to your bankers not to honour any cheque except it had the name of Mr. Truman and Mr. Barton to it?—Yes.

48,909. You cannot tell us what bank it was?—You can ascertain, it is close by; there were only one or two bankers here.

48,910. Was it the London and County?—I do not think it was; I think it was a provincial bank. Yes, now I am reminded, it was the London and County.

48,911. Mr. Marsh was the manager?—I do not know the manager.

48,912. That was when you came down as a matter course, in the early part of January. Can you tell me when the next payment for the purposes of the election was deposited into the bank?—There was no other payment to the bank; the balance was drawn out. I think not, but I am not quite sure upon that point; but so far as I can recollect there was a balance of 40*l.* or 50*l.* drawn out of the bank.

48,913. A balance might be drawn out, Mr. Doulton, soon after the election was over, and yet more have been put in; of course your attention has been drawn to this point?—I am not sure about it, I know that the published accounts came to between 900*l.* and 1,000*l.*; after that time some other accounts were paid, whether they were paid by money being paid into this bank, or were paid separately, I cannot tell.

48,914. I want to know whether you paid for the purposes of the election any other sums of money into the bank?—I say I cannot recollect whether the sums paid afterwards were paid through the bank, or whether they were paid separately.

48,915. Can you tell me whether the subsequent payments made were paid before the balance of 40*l.*, or whatever it may be, was drawn out from the bank?—I really cannot tell.

48,916. Now, Mr. Truman being here, did you yourself remain on the spot during the period of the canvass or at Redhill?—I do not think I was out of Reigate or Redhill from that time till the commencement of the polling; I was here every day.

48,917. Will you tell me, if you can, at what period of the contest between January and the 6th of February was the balloting out, which left you as the sole antagonist to Sir Henry Rawlinson?—I cannot tell you, I can only form an opinion that it was about 10 days or so before the election.

48,918. Taking the polling day as a terminus, you think it was about 10 days before the polling day when the balloting took place, which left you as sole competitor and antagonist to Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Not sole competitor, because Mr. Monson still remained.

48,919. Oh, did he remain?—Yes.

48,920. You say all the bills for which the cheques were to be drawn were submitted to you before they were paid?—And I generally was present when they were paid also.

48,921. If you approved of them your presence would be a matter of indifference. Have you any means of estimating how much of the 1,000*l.* had been paid away up to the time of the ballot?—No, I cannot; I can only tell you the amount that was paid up to the day of nomination, and that was nearly 500*l.*

48,922. Do you speak from memory?—I speak from memory.

48,923. Have you any document or any means of informing us?—It was not a sufficiently interesting election for me to keep documents for 10 years.

48,924. I do not put the question to you as a matter of complaint in any way whatever; do not misunderstand me: what I mean is, have you nothing to refresh your memory, or to enable us to arrive at the truth; have you any memorandum, any book, or any accounts?—No, nothing that would show that up to the time of the balloting.

48,925. Nor up to the period of the nomination, except your memory?—I have some few things here, which you may call a memorandum book, and the sum what I actually paid before the nomination was about 500*l.* I have some figures here.

48,926. Figures made at that time or after that time?—Yes, made at the time. I searched over my papers, and I only found two or three accounts in my memorandum book, and that was the amount, 470*l.*

48,927. Have you the memorandum book?—No. I have not got it here. I think Mr. Barton has got it.

48,928. Any private matters in it would be safe with us if you had it here?—Mr. Barton, I think, has the exact amount that was paid up to the nomination.

48,929. You think from the memoranda, which you have not with you, that it was 470*l.*; was that principally spent or expended in paying canvassers weekly, and paying for posting bills and placarding, and other things of that kind?—That is how it was expended.

48,930. Had you paid at that time anything, for example, for advertisements in the papers?—Yes, naturally.

48,931. And the first portion of the expenditure?—Yes.

48,932. Can you tell me at all how many men were engaged in your behalf up to the day of polling?—I cannot tell you. I have my own opinion about it, but I should be sorry to give it in case I am wrong.

48,933. There has been evidence to which I wish to call your attention, because I desire to give you the fullest opportunity of explaining it. There has been evidence before the Commissioners that a very large proportion of the voters had been employed in various capacities, and some in degrading capacities, such as putting boards around a voter, sending him out between two boards; that has been stated in evidence, are you aware of it?—Of what.

48,934. That such was the case?—That persons were employed?

48,935. Yes, that voters were employed?—I would desire now, as you are approaching that point, to adopt a course which I see you have allowed with several other witnesses, and to make a general statement as to the evidence which has already been given.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I think you had better first let this gentleman ask questions and confine yourself to answering them.

48,936. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) No doubt, Mr. Doulton, you from time to time have read the reports in the public papers of the evidence before the Commissioners?—Yes.

The Commissioners consulted together.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Confine yourself to the facts as much as you reasonably can; the Commissioners think that is a reasonable request.

(*The Witness.*) It is just a few remarks which I wish to make touching the evidence which has been given on the election of 1858.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But confine yourself to facts as much as you can.

(*The Witness.*) I must state my opinions, and I must also place before the Commissioners, if I may be allowed to do so, reasons which would tend to show that some of the evidence given has not been strictly correct. If I understand the nature of the evidence which has been given there has been no distinct charge of bribery, I mean of immediate direct bribery, payment of money for votes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I will call your atention to this, that there is evidence by a gentleman here, who seems a very intelligent man indeed (Mr. Job Apted) who said you came to him.

48,937. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Has your attention been drawn to that evidence?—Yes; the evidence appears to me to be: firstly, that there was at that election great corruption by profuse expenditure of money—by treating; and, secondly, by colourable employment of persons who were voters. Those were the two main points on which evidence has been given. Now, I admit at once that the election was a very noisy one, a very exciting one, and a very riotous one, but I deny—and will endeavour to show to the Commissioners and give reasons for my opinion—that that was owing to corruption either by treating or bribery on my part, and, I will add, on the part of either of the other candidates; for I do not think that at that time on the part of Mr. Wilkinson or of Mr. Monson bribery was practised to any extent—if at all. The excitement appeared to me to be consequent upon the fact, that up to that time the borough had been practically a close borough. There had not been any such thing in Reigate as a really contested election, and the mayor of this borough (Mr. Searle) very aptly described the state of things which had existed previously when he said that all the elections had been arranged,—a very significant term, which the Commissioners will understand. When I agreed to come down it was deemed a piece of great impertinence for any one to come down to disturb the happy state of things which had existed, and no doubt there was considerable excitement on my coming here. But the real reason of that excitement and riotous conduct in my opinion was the gross intimidation which was practised by persons living in this town and in the immediate neighbourhood over the smaller shopkeepers and voters. That fact became known, and the excitement increased. What Mr. Wilkinson said yesterday in his evidence respecting the election of '63 I repeat. I cannot use better words than that the intimidation came not from the candidates, but from the persons of some position around the borough, who exercised and used undue influence over the voters; that is quite correct, and that to my mind was the reason of the excitement that prevailed. As the election went on the excitement increased, and it was a very long election, lasting five or six weeks. I believe no payment had been made when I saw this intimidation. I may here state that I had a list. I exceedingly regret that I cannot produce it—of 70 persons at that time who told me myself personally that they could not vote as they wished on account of the intimidation exercised. When I found that

was the case I took every precaution to avoid it, and I sent a notice, which was hung up in every committee room, stating that I would not be responsible for one penny that was not ordered by myself or my agents by a written order, and I appended with that notice an extract from the Bribery Act, showing the penalties which would be inflicted if that was departed from; and I am here to state on my oath that that was strictly adhered to. It is very true that accounts were presented after the election which were for very large amounts, and in those accounts large amounts were said to have been expended in public houses for treating and so on.

48,938. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And for employment?—And for employment. Not one of those accounts was paid. Applications were made repeatedly to me for payment, and I refused to pay them, and to this day I have never paid them.

48,939. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Without wishing to interrupt you, could you say to what amount, so far as your memory serves you?—I cannot recollect at all; there were a number of accounts sent in by persons who were employed by me.

48,940. Might it be to the amount of 500*l.* or 600*l.*?—I have an impression that there were accounts presented to me afterwards to the extent of 300*l.* or 400*l.*, which were never paid; they were disallowed.

48,941. As we are upon it I will ask you this question; were you ever sued upon them?—No; my answer always was the notice which I had hung up in every committee room, and of which every person employed was cognizant. This brings me to the evidence of one person—and very important evidence so far as myself is concerned—and that is the evidence of Mr. Barker. Mr. Barker stated in his evidence that he received 23*l.*

48,942. Not from you personally?—No, not from me, but my agent. Nine years have passed, but I have no doubt in my own mind that that statement is correct. I have no doubt he did receive it. It was necessary that I should employ one or two persons, some what above the general canvassers, like Mr. Barker was, for this reason,—I could not obtain here the services of any local solicitor, they being engaged already; so I had to engage one or two other persons.

48,943. I wish fully to exhaust this part of the subject. Did you apply to all the solicitors in Reigate?—I believe my agents did; I know I applied to two or three.

48,944. You do not know that you exhausted the whole of them?—I believe we did; at any rate we canvassed the whole so far as those men were concerned who were said to be good men, who had taken part in elections previously. I think, therefore, that it is very likely he did receive a sum like 23*l.*; but Mr. Barker did not tell you he was one of those who after the election sent me in an account for expenses which he said he had incurred in reference to the election.

48,945. Will you say what was the amount?—I cannot. I have asked some of my agents, and they believe the amount was 12*l.* or 13*l.*

48,946. If I put you out in your statement. —— I would rather you should go on?—No; if any point arises I shall be glad if you remind me of it. I think it was something like 10*l.* or 12*l.* I did not pay it. He applied repeatedly to my agents; they refused. He applied to me personally, and I refused; and then I am prepared to prove it by distinct evidence before this Commission, Mr. Barker over and over again said that he would take care ever afterwards to annoy as much as he could.

48,947. No, no, never mind that.—But that is a very important point, because I think it is the secret of a great deal of the evidence given here,—the manner in which I treated those who made claims upon me.

48,948. He said nothing here of that kind?—No, of course not; but I am prepared to place one or two witnesses in the box. I have not heard of him lately, but I think I am right in saying that up to within this last three or four years I have had an application of that kind. In engaging Mr. Barker I engaged him myself, and I looked upon his payment as for services actually rendered. It seems that he thinks he was bribed. I read the evidence of Mr. Barker, and it appeared to me that, if he did not intend to convey that impression, at any rate that impression was conveyed to the Commissioners—that he was really paid the 23*l.* in connexion with a bribe, and not for actual honest services which he rendered to me. I can only say that if Mr. Barker looked upon that as for a bribe, and not for services rendered, I was grossly deceived, and the sooner he returns the 23*l.* the better, and so takes his name out of the list of those who received bribes.

48,949. That is a matter for us to consider and to judge.—Yes. I wish to state that he was employed as a superior canvasser or sort of sub-agent, and very likely he received the 23*l.*, but that was for services actually rendered by him, so far as myself was concerned.

48,950. That was what you believed at the time?—Yes. Now the most important statement which has been made, so far as I am individually concrned, was the statement made by the person to whom you referred (Mr. Job. Apted) who stated that I told him it was my intention to buy the borough, that he took the chair for me at my first meeting, and that when he had that communication from me he retired from my service—from supporting me. Now, in every possible particular I deny that *in toto*. Mr. Apted did not take the chair at my first meeting, and no such statement was made by me, nor any statement that would bear such construction.

48,951. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you recollect who took the chair?—I think it was taken by a solicitor. I distinctly deny that statement in every particular. He was the last person.

48,952. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Leave out names; you mean that I should take that general denial?—No, I must just state that Mr. Apted was about the last person.

48,953. No, no?—Excuse me, whilst I show to you the position which Mr. Apted occupied at that time.

48,954. I will examine you on that part of the subject, because it is a conflict of testimony, and it must come only in answer to questions, if you please?—There are some things I wish to show to the Commission; in the statement he made there is direct contradictory evidence. Mr. Apted was known at that time as the gossip of the borough, and if I had contemplated such a thing as that I might as well have told the town crier at once as made such a statement; and I made no such communication to him. He did not take the chair at my first meeting. He always appeared to me to be one of those persons who are quite the pests of an election; they wait and hesitate before they decide. Mr. Apted took the chair at a meeting for me when he was asked to take it as a joke; he took the chair when he was Sir Henry Rawlinson's supporter at one of my meetings, thus conveying to my mind, as he did to everybody else's, that even at that time he was still waiting to be engaged in some capacity if I would engage him, and that he would have been engaged is perfectly clear from the evidence he gave as to the receipt of 50*l.* No word passed from me to convey to him any such impression as he has stated. No man of any judgment at all in election matters would make such a statement public, even if he contemplated such a thing; but I did not contemplate it, and I did not make that statement. Undoubtedly a great many persons were employed; some of them were voters and some were not. In the employment of those persons no question was ever raised or asked as to how they were going to vote; on the contrary, it was a fact well remarked upon at the time, that many of those who were employed by me in various capacities did not vote at all, and some of them even voted for my opponent.

48,955. Can you give us the names of those who were employed by you and did not vote?—I think Mr. Barton can; there were certain men who were

employed by me and did not vote. I have been looking at the register, but I cannot recall to my mind who these persons were. I know that fact was remarked upon at the time, that many of those I employed did not vote at all. You asked me just now how many persons were employed. I may as well say that, according to the best of my judgment, I think the persons actually employed, voters and non-voters, were from 30 to 40; I think that was something like the number, not more. This is really like two boroughs, and I think there were some additional canvassers required. Redhill is a distinct place from Reigate, and there was a necessity for persons being employed; as regards the boards, I adopted a course which was rendered necessary, and caused the employment of extra persons, by finding that as fast as the bills and placards were posted they were covered by opponents' bills.

48,956. We have heard that there was a war of placards; that was so?—Yes. I adopted this course; I employed a certain number of board men to carry the boards to convey to the electors what I wanted to convey to them by that means rather than by sticking bills. I think there were some voters employed in that way. I am not here for a moment to justify the employment of persons in any capacity who are voters. None of those persons employed and paid by me in any capacity were employed in a colourable manner, nor was the question with regard to any one of them raised as to how they would vote. When Sir Henry Rawlinson, seven or eight months afterwards, resigned, I then received several requisitions to come forward at Reigate again. I sent some one down to Reigate to ascertain what the state of feeling was. I found there was quite as likely to be the same intimidation exercised as previously, and I declined to come down. Those were the general statements which I had to make, and I shall now be very glad to answer any questions which may be put to me.

48,957. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I mentioned to you in the early part of the few questions I put to you, that some voters who were examined here before us stated that they were employed, and I used my own epithet, and said in a degrading capacity; but I will withdraw that; I will say in a very unbecoming capacity, as it appeared to me, that of carrying boards about; and one man stated that his shoulder pained him still. At that time were you aware, Mr. Doulton, that the electors whom you were canvassing for their votes were employed in carrying those placards about at 3*s.* 6*d.* or 4*s.* a day?—The question as to whether they were voters never arose.

48,958. Were you aware of your own knowledge, or by your agents, that men whom you were canvassing for their votes as electors were engaged in carrying round placards, one board at the back and one in front?—I am not aware whether they were voters or not.

48,959. Were you aware that they were engaged in that capacity?—I am not aware that they were.

48,960. Were you aware that voters were engaged in that capacity?—I am not aware of it at all.

48,961. I wish to make myself distinctly understood to you, and I wish to point the question as sharply as I can. Were you aware of that fact at the time, that men who were carrying those boards about, one placard in front and one behind, were voters?—I can only state, in answer to that question, that persons were employed for various services indiscriminately, whether they were voters or not, and they were placed in that position which they were best fitted to fill. Whether those were voters or not never came to my knowledge.

48,962. Then may I take it that you were not aware of it?—Certainly; it may have been so, but I never knew it; the fact was never brought to my knowledge at all.

48,963. There is no doubt but that persons were engaged, and those persons voters?—That fact was not brought to my knowledge.

48,964. If that fact were brought to your knowledge you would not countenance such employment by voters?—I never canvassed any one in that position.

48,965. If that fact were brought to your knowledge would you countenance that employment?—That is a matter of opinion. I thought I was not allowed to give that.

48,966. There was one incident which has been rather a prominent topic here before us. You recollect the occasion of the ballot?—I do.

48,967. Who was acting for you and protecting your interests with regard to the ballot?—I think Mr. Hooper took charge of that department.

48,968. Were there three or four candidates? There was Sir Henry Rawlinson, Mr. Wilkinson, yourself, and who else?

48,969. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was Mr. James in the field?—No, the persons who submitted themselves to the ballot were Mr. Wilkinson, myself, and Mr. Walters. Mr. Monson declined.

48,970. Did Mr. Monson at any period of the negotiations at all come into that arrangement?—I do not think he did.

48,971. What is Mr. Hooper, who managed the ballot department?—He is a voter; a very respectable tradesman.

48,972. I do not think we have had him here?—Yes, he was examined yesterday.

48,973. Oh, I beg your pardon. Do you recollect where the place of balloting was?—I believe it was at a school at Redhill. I think so.

48,974. Now it is right I should call your attention particularly to it, because it presses upon my mind. I will speak for myself. Mr. Holden said that at the ballot money was being paid for the tickets, and he added that, whilst the ballot was in the process of going on, his attention was called to the fact of one of the candidates whose agents were buying tickets, or being employed in that kind of way, and he went out and saw you about a hundred yards from the place where the ballot was being held; do you recollect that circumstance?—No, I do not. I had nothing whatever to do with the ballot, no more than being one of the candidates.

48,975. Are you prepared to deny it? You recollect Mr. Holden's statement, which was very specific?—I am prepared to deny that I was connected at all with the ballot.

48,976. His attention was called to the fact, that one of the candidates was within 100 yards of the room where the balloting took took place, and that he went out and saw you there?—I distinctly deny that I tampered with the ballot in any way.

48,977. You do not deny your presence there?—I do deny it.

48,978. Do you deny the fact of your being there?—I cannot bring to my mind at all the occasion.

48,979. Your memory does not serve you as to that important fact?—My memory does serve me.

48,980. Were you there or not?—It serves me to deny the inference drawn from it.

48,981. He says it was the occasion on which the process of balloting was taking place; it was on the balloting?—What is it you wish to know.

48,982. Were you within 100 yards of the place, standing outside in the street?—Certainly not. I did not go into the balloting rooms at all.

48,983. Were you aware before this Inquiry that the tickets after they had been sent out in the way described, the representative of each candidate being present, and seeing that the three names were put in the envelopes, were you aware that men were sent out to buy them up?—It was notorious that Mr. Walters did traffic with those tickets.

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F. Doulton, Esq., M.P.

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48,984. You were aware of that?—Yes, and I never heard up till now the slightest suspicion thrown on any other candidate.

48,985. Did you know this, that with your sanction, either directly or indirectly, any money was applied on your behalf for the purpose of buying any of those tickets?—Certainly not. I never heard such a suspicion raised.

48,986. Do not consider from the way I put the question that that inference is in my mind at all. I am obliged to put the question to give you a full opportunity of answering. Do you recollect what majority you had upon the ballot?—I forget now.

48,987. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think I can tell you; according to the card produced by that gentleman the numbers were 225. How many voted for you at the election?—120 I think.

48,988. I think about half of those who supported you upon the ballot supported you finally at the poll. Were those tickets sent throughout the borough, or were they confined to those who had agreed to this?—I believe they were distributed to all who were supposed to be Liberals.

48,989. Many of those tickets might have got into the hands of those who intended to support Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Yes.

48,990. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you tell me how many voters there were at Redhill?—It has increased since then. I think there were altogether 500 voters.

48,991. But Redhill has much increased since then? Oh, yes.

48,992. Can you tell me at all what rate of pay the men were paid; the man who was carrying the board told us 7*s.* 6*d.* a day?—I do not think any of them were paid like that for being mere messengers or board men. I think it was 3*s.* 6*d.*

48,993. Did you fix the tariff, or did Mr. Truman?—I dare say Mr. Barton fixed it.

48,994. Now I must call your attention particularly to the interview with Mr. Apted, I think it was at your committee meeting. Do you recollect his attending a committee meeting of yours?—No.

48,995. He did attend?—A committee meeting?

48,996. Yes?—No, I do not think he did.

48,997. Do you recollect having an interview with him, whether at a committee meeting or not, and your soliciting him, or speaking to him, about his becoming an agent for the purposes of the election on your side?—Oh, no. I may have gone canvassing him.

48,998. You gave us a very good reason why you were driven, if I may so without any disrespect to Mr. Barker, to a man like Mr. Barker, because of your inability to obtain assistance from the respectable solicitors of the town. I ask you, is there any improbability in saying you applied to Mr. Apted?—I did not. He was supposed to have a great deal of interest, and I canvassed him more than once.

48,999. It would not be on the ground of want of intelligence, or anything of that kind?—No.

49,000. There is a conflict of testimony, and I wish you to tell me particularly whether you recollect having an interview with him upon the subject of how the election was to be won?—Certainly not. It is a fiction from beginning to end.

49,001. Both of you may be under a mistake of memory?—No, there is no mistake here.

49,002. Do you recollect on the occasion of canvassing his vote wishing to engage him in your behalf as a canvasser or sub-agent?—I recollect going to him when I wanted to ask him for his vote and support.

49,003. As a canvasser?—I never made any engagements at all, and he is quite correct in his evidence that I did not offer him any.

49,004. I suppose you made inquiries, you being comparatively a stranger here, as to the men who would be most likely to promote your interests amongst the great body of the electors?—Of course I did.

49,005. Was not Mr. Apted pointed out to you as a man who would be efficient?—Certainly.

49,006. Did you not then go to him?—I went to him several times.

49,007. But for the purpose of aiding you otherwise than by his vote?—Of aiding me of course.

49,008. As a canvasser?—I never made him any offer of the kind.

49,009. But did you go to him for the purpose of making it, of endeavouring to engage his assistance like Mr. Barker and others; there were a very large number employed, did you go to him?—Not with the slightest intention of engaging him.

49,010. Was anything said between you as to his engagement in your behalf?—Nothing at all.

49,011. Did not he offer himself to you, and say he would assist you?—No, I only met with indecision.

49,012. Do you mean indecision as to his vote?—Indecision as to who he would vote for, and who he would support.

49,013. I have a few more questions to ask you. I understand you to deny in the most implicit terms any conversation of the kind on any occasion with Apted?—I do, other than the ordinary conversation arising from canvassing.

49,014. From canvassing a voter who is understood to be an influential voter?—Yes.

49,015. Can you tell me, besides Mr. Barker who were the sub-agents. Can you tell me the names of the sub-agents?—We did not call him a sub-agent; we always looked upon him as different.

49,016. Can you tell me the names of the others in that class. I ask you most confidently, because the bills were sent to you before they were paid?—Yes, but this is nine years ago. I cannot recollect the names. I do not think there were many. There were three or four who were employed, who received somewhat more than ordinary canvassers.

49,017. The canvassers were all sent to you, and the names of the persons employed?—It was not so if they wanted a messenger, but any person who was employed in a confidential employment was not employed without my consent. I took the entire control of the election.

49,018. Persons employed at the rate of 10*s.*, or 7*s.* or 8*s.* a day, and persons of that class would be sent to you?—No one was employed at 10*s.* or above without being sent to me.

49,019. We find in the evidence some of the voters said they were paid that; can you say what names were sent to you?—I have no list.

49,020. You would see the names of the voters?—They brought to me names of persons whom they wanted, and they asked me whether they should be employed.

49,021. I think that you would see that these men were voters whose names they brought to you?—Very likely.

49,022. May I take it that you know amongst those employed there were some voters?—Undoubtedly.

49,023. And I think you will find without tiring yourself that the majority of them were voters. I will not go further?—I cannot say, but I do not think the majority were voters, and I am certain a majority did not vote for me.

49,024. I mean a majority of those who were employed over 4*s.* a day, I do not care about the small fry; the majority of those were voters?—It is impossible for me to say.

49,025. You cannot say one way or the other?—I cannot.

49,026. Now there is one thing I wish to ask you, do not answer it unless you can put your hand upon the fact. Do you know of any instance yourself (for Mr. Wilkinson did not give us any) of intimidation being exercised during your canvass; I do not mean from what you heard?—I assert emphatically that there were nearly 70 who did not vote because of that.

49,027. I want to know whether your memory will enable you now to place any act before us as to any act of intimidation?—Not any instance.

49,028. Any act?—There were many shopkeepers, in Reigate especially.

49,029. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Your experience in elections must be this, that there is hardly any election where that is not said, and often without the slightest foundation?—Mr. Wilkinson, living in the neighbourhood, is better able to answer than myself.

49,030. It very often is a mere reason for not giving a vote?—I am perfectly well aware of that in many cases.

49,031. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were any monies expended for the purposes of the election, either before or after the polling, except by cheque, by Mr. Truman and Mr. Barton?—I cannot say.

49,032. There may have been monies expended then?—I cannot say whether they paid in cheques or in money.

49,033. No; but I want to know, were any monies paid for the purpose, or what you would consider for the purpose, of the election, except money that passed through the hands of Mr. Barton and Mr. Truman?—Not any money that I know of; I did not pay any money myself, everything passed through their hands.

49,034. Of the monies that were paid after the election; did those monies pass through their hands?—Yes, certainly. I always referred everybody who applied to them.

49,035. Were any monies paid except those that were returned by the election auditor; are you aware of that?—Yes.

49,036. There were monies paid?—Certainly.

49,037. Can you give me the figures?—No.

49,038. As near as you can?—I believe the monies returned in the election audit came to 937*l.* 13*s.*: before the nomination 425*l.*; after that 519*l.* As far as I can make out from my own accounts, it must have been something like 250*l.* or 300*l.* beyond what was returned to the election auditor.

49,039. Without confining you at all to a figure, 10 or 20?—Yes, I think it was about 300*l.*

49,040. Do you say it was not over?—It is my impression it was somewhere about it.

49,041. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you pay any of that yourself, or any of your clerks, or any of that kind?—No.

49,042. It all came through the hands of Mr. Barton and Mr. Truman?—Certainly.

49,043. Now, did the injunction given that no cheque should be paid except by both those gentlemen continue to govern the payments that were made after the election?—I thing very likely that the small payments made after the election were paid by Mr. Truman alone; they were small sums.

49,044. Several small sums will mount up in time; they were paid by Mr. Truman?—I think so; I am not sure.

49,045. Did he come down here, Mr. Doulton, to discharge those bills, or did he pay them, do you remember, in London?—I do not recollect.

49,046. Most likely he would come down here?—I think most likely.

49,047. That would enable you, I think, to say whether you advanced him some more monies than the 1,000*l.* that had been lodged in the bank?—To the extent of 200*l.* or 300*l.* after the election, I am sure.

49,048. Thus making about 1,300*l.*?—I think so.

49,049. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to ask you two questions in the absence of Mr. Barton. Are you able to tell me in a word what the election cost you?—I always put it down as somewhat under 1,500*l.* I have seen Mr. Barton, but, except a few squibs and so on that were published, there really are no papers.

49,050. I dare say Mr. Barton has them?—I don't think he has. I have searched through with him a tin place full.

49,051. Let us exhaust it a little bit more if we can, Mr. Doulton. Putting it down as near 1,500*l.*, I suppose you mean by that it may well have cost between 1,400*l.* and 1,500*l.*?—I do not think it cost more than 1,300*l.* or 1,400*l.*; but I always look upon it as an expenditure of 1,500*l.*

49,052. You make it up by 950*l.* before the election, and the expenses after the election make it a little under 1,300*l.*; then do you claim now a margin of 200*l.*?—You see you asked me how much, and I say 1,300*l.*; that is the figure I give, that is what I believe it cost me. I say that that is my own personal impression, but that it may have reached 1,500*l.*; that is including my hotel bill.

49,053. You take your own personal expenses in?—Certainly; all my expenses at the hotel were paid by cheques given by Mr. Barton and Mr. Truman.

49,054. They paid for you?—Yes.

49,055. You did not pay your own bill?—No.

49,056. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That ought not to be taken into account. Deduct that from the 1,500*l.*, would it be 1,300*l.* nearly to a fraction?—I expect so.

49,057. You told us you took the conduct of the election altogether?—Very much. I was always down here.

49,058. You did say that, but I do not want to tie you to it; I only want to remind you, as you were on the spot the whole time while you were here, I suppose you became acquainted with persons and the names of several of the voters of all classes; when names of persons were submitted to you for employment, I suppose you frequently recognised those names as of persons you knew?—No; I did not know them at all before I came down.

49,059. After you had been down here, in the course of your canvassing did you not then put on a great many men?—After I had been down here.

49,060. You came down here and started a certain staff; did you not find it necessary to employ a great many more persons after you had been down here some time?—Yes.

49,061. By that time you had become acquainted with the persons and names of several of the voters, had you not?—Yes.

49,062. Then when those recommendations for employment were made to you, did you not find the names of the persons recommended names you were acquainted with?—Undoubtedly.

49,063. Then in that case you did, in fact, allow the employment of a person who was known to you both by name and person?—If he was considered an efficient person for the place required he was appointed.

49,064. What I am trying to get is this, that in some of these instances, where payments were required, they were of persons with whom you were acquainted; that being so, are you prepared to state that you did not see any one going about as messenger, or carrying boards, whom you knew by name, and whom you knew to be a voter?—I cannot recollect such a case.

49,065. I want to press you on that.—Yes, but I cannot recollect such a case.

49,066. Your agent, Mr. Truman or Mr. Barton, said, "Here is a person"?—I have already stated that some persons who were employed as messengers at 3*s.* 6*d.* a day I did not employ, but if they wanted a special messenger it was different.

49,067. A man named A. B. was recommended to you as a fit person to be employed, and if one of your agents wanted to employ somebody, I presume you would recognise A. B.'s name when you saw it, and would recognise the man as a man you had become acquainted with. Were there any persons you were acquainted with as voters employed?—No; as a general rule, I do not think persons who carried boards were sent to me at all.

49,068. We have not heard that before?—I said messengers and board men at 3*s* 6*d.* a day were not appointed by me.

49,069. Where is Mr. Truman now?—I do not know. He is summoned to come here. I expected him here to-day.

49,070. Have you seen him recently?—Yes.

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49,071. When?—I saw him this morning in London, and I believe he came down here. He received a summons, I believe. I do not know his present address.

49,072. Can you not give me his address?—I do not know; but I think he lives in Parliament-street.

49,073. Did he tell you that he had been summoned?—Yes; his address is, I think, Golden-square.

49,074. And Mr. Barton's address?—Walsingham place, Lambeth.

49,075. Is he there now?—Yes.

49,076. After the election was over, after the polling day, Mr. Barton retired altogether from money payments or from taking any part?—I cannot say when he retired or what payments were made.

49,077. Did you ever on any occasion audit the election accounts with Mr. Truman and Mr. Barton?—No, I left it to Mr. Barton.

49,078. Did you ever audit the election accounts with Mr. Truman, the accounts which he had paid away by himself?—Only by his sending to me from time to time what accounts he had to pay.

49,079. You did not see him afterwards, after all the payments were made?—No.

49,080. Mr. Barton, I understand you to say, has all the papers that remain in reference to the election?—Yes, I looked them over with him, and there were no papers excepting a few squibs and songs, and so on, which he kept from curiosity; nothing else.

49,081. Can you tell me what became of the papers?—The greater part of them were given to me soon after the election.

49,082. Do you know what became of them?—I burnt them years ago; this is nine years ago.

49,083. Are you able to tell me whether, when persons who were employed received payment from time to time, they always gave receipts?—I do not know, but I believe they did. You can get that from Mr. Barton.

49,084. I do not know whether it might not be within your knowledge?—I believe, as a general rule, they were very strict indeed as to the mode in which payments were made, and my own impression is that 10*s.* was not paid to any person without a receipt from that person.

49,085. I believe every bill was paid on Friday evening?—Friday or Saturday.

49,086. And you believe that in all instances receipts were given?—I think so.

49,087. Do you think it would be possible to get at any accounts?—I only saw Mr. Barton yesterday; whether he can give you any information I do not know.

49,088. But accounts?—I think the whole of them were given over to me immediately after the election, and I kept them for years.

49,089. Mr. Cross was the agent for Mr. Walters, was he not?—Yes.

49,090. What Mr. Cross was he?—I do not know.

49,091. Do you know whether he was a solicitor or not?—I think he was.

49,092. A solicitor in London?—I am not sure.

49,093. Do you know how many of these persons, ten or a dozen of them, how many of them were employed in carrying boards?—Board men solely?

49,094. Yes, boardmen and messengers, persons paid by the day or by the week?—I should think about 20.

49,095. Not more?—I do not think so.

49,096. I called your attention to it, because no doubt your attention has been called to a fact in reference to the evidence given here, but it may have escaped you. The witness said on every Friday night these men were paid at the "Royal Oak," at Redhill, and it was like a little factory. He used that phrase, meaning thereby that a very large number of persons were being employed?—They came to be paid, and of course there was a very large crowd of persons, as there were at every other committee room, but especially there. I do not suppose he meant to impress on your mind that all who were there were employed.

49,097. I rather think he did. I concluded so, that the majority of those at the "Royal Oak" were expecting to be paid?—No, I think not.

49,098. You say that was not so?—No; naturally a crowd was assembled.

49,099. Would you confine the number of those persons employed to be paid for their week's employment at the "Royal Oak" to something like 30 or 40?—Certainly not more.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Before you go I want to mention this to you, that you being here to some extent to suit your own convenience it has turned out very well, and has not at all inconvenienced us; but you are the first member of Parliament or candidate down here who has been examined before their agents have been examined, and we will examine you again afterwards, if you like, and of course you can, if you like, have an opportunity of giving further testimony as to any statement made by them.

(*The Witness.*) And by any other witnesses?

49,100. Oh, certainly; by any other witnesses. We have rather interpolated you out of your usual course?—I am much obliged to you for your courtesy.

The witness withdrew.

H. Green.

HENRY GREEN recalled and examined.

49,101. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You stated that in 1863 you paid 19*l.* to Mr. Newnham?—Yes.

49,102. What did you give it him for?—I have no recollection, except it was to reduce the amount of his bill.

49,103. Did you know at that time what his bill was, that it was more?—I knew it was.

49,104. Your 19*l.* reduced his claim to 40*l.*?—Yes. I do not exactly know, but I have some recollection; it was mixed up in my mind with other things. I do not know whether he stated it or not, but they broke his windows and went to his house.

49,105. He sent in a bill for 37*l.* for repairs, that was paid?—I did not know that.

49,106. He had a very large bill?—I have no other remembrance, only of that sum.

49,107. Did you ever make any representation to Mr. Smith that he had the 19*l.* which you paid him?—No.

The witness withdrew.

T. Hart.

THOMAS HART, sworn and examined.

49,108. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At the last election, in 1865, you were the election agent to Mr. Monson?—I was.

49,109. In 1863 (I think you told me, but I have forgotten) were you agent?—No, I was not.

49,110. For either side?—I acted for Mr. Stuart Wortley, who did not come forward.

49,111. In 1859 were you agent?—Yes.

49,112. For whom?—Mr. Monson.

49,113. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The present Lord Monson?—The present Lord Monson.

49,114. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In 1858, between Lord Monson and Mr. Wilkinson, were you election agent?—Not at all.

49,115. Or in Mr. Doulton's election, in the beginning of the year?—Yes, I was for Mr. Monson in that election.

49,116. That was in February 1858?—Yes; I was for Mr. Monson.

49,117. Now, then, as to 1865, can you tell me when you were appointed agent to Mr. Monson?—I really could hardly tell you.

49,118. You were appointed in writing, I think?—Yes.

49,119. I think I have seen it?—It was a regular legal document.

49,120. Can you give me the date of it?—I was acting before that.

49,121. When did that document come?—It was sent to me as a formal thing to sign, and I signed it a day or two before the election.

49,122. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Before the polling?—Yes, to meet the Act of Parliament.

49,123. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When were you employed to work as Mr. Monson's election agent in 1865?—I think as early as April we commenced.

49,124. At that time it was not known?—Perhaps I am mixing up a consultation with Mr. Monson. Before Mr. Monson commenced we waited a long time for the declaration of Mr. Gower. Mr. Monson would not come forward until Mr. Gower had decided.

49,125. Do you recollect when you commenced publicly?—I think in April.

49,126. Were you at that time appointed in writing?—I am pretty sure, not at that time.

49,127. I do not know whether there was another appointment in writing?—No; I have always acted for the Monson family.

49,128. Were the first arrangements made by Mr. Monson for you or together?—Together.

49,129. Did you set at work at first in appointing committees and sub-agents?—I did.

49,130. At once?—Yes.

49,131. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was one of the first steps?—That was one of the first steps.

49,132. Can you tell me the names of the original sub-agents?—Yes.

49,133. Who were the sub-agents?—Mr. James Nichols and Mr. Thomas Page.

49,134. You appointed them?—In the first instance I considered Mr. Nichols my principal agent. I had more to do with him. I did not see much of Mr. Page.

49,135. Can you tell me when it was you appointed Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page your sub-agents; you appointed them, not Mr. Monson?—There was no formal appointment.

49,136. But you appointed them?—Yes.

49,137. Can you tell me when?—As soon as the election commenced; when the canvassing commenced.

49,138. Would that be in April?—In April or May. I think it was as early as April, because——

49,139. Why?—No, I do not suppose that the appointment did take place before May.

49,140. I thought you were going to say something; you knew something?—I see that the address was settled in April, and that is the only thing that gives it to my mind.

49,141. Then you were appointed at the end of April or May?—I think so.

49,142. Did you tell them what they were to do?—I did, most particularly.

49,143. Did you tell them separately or together?—Only Mr. Nichols.

49,144. What did you tell him?—I said to Mr. Nichols, "Whatever you do, do not let there be the "slightest treating or the slightest bribery."

49,145. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I take that to be at your first interview?—Yes. "If we only "poll a hundred votes, let us do it, and go in upon "petition." I think those are the very words I used.

49,146. Where was this; do you recollect that?—I do not exactly recollect whether it was at my office or whether it was at his house.

49,147. Allow me to read this: "I said to Mr. "Nichols, 'Whatever you do, let there be no treating "'or bribery; if we only poll a hundred votes, let us "'go in upon petition'"?—I did. I made some further remark upon the chance of whether Mr. Gower would stand after his first election.

49,148. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell us where it was that conversation took place?—I think it was at the office, but I cannot tell.

49,149. At this time was Mr. Monson here or away?—He was very much here, I think; at that time he was very much here.

49,150. Did you tell Mr. Monson after you had mentioned this to Mr. Nichols, or had you received from Mr. Monson any direction as to what you were to tell Mr. Nichols?—It was a private understanding between Mr. Monson and myself that he was appointed.

49,151. What made you think so?—Conversation.

49,152. I want to know the conversation if you could manage to give it me?—We were speaking of the election, I think. I gave it as a sort of advice. I said, "Let us do so and so."

49,153. As you had said to Mr. Nichols. What did Mr. Monson say?—He quite approved of it.

49,154. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He apparently acquiesced?—I am quite sure it was his intention.

49,155. We can hardly be sure of another person's thoughts?—I understood it to be so.

4 9,132. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) After you had given this communication to Mr. Nichols, and it wat once started, did he work at all under you?—Of course he worked under me.

49,157. I thought he would naturally, because you appointed him?—In the first part of the election he did, but afterwards it went out of my hands.

49,158. May I take it that at the first Mr. Nichols worked under you?—Yes.

49,159. What do you mean by that, that he referred to you when he proposed to do anything?—Committee meetings were called, and he attended, and we went through the voters' list together, and suggestions were made as to what course should be adopted.

49,160. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And he accepted your suggestions?—Quite so.

49,161. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I should like to know when the appointing of Mr. Nichols took place; do you think it was the beginning of May?—I think there was some little difficulty in the first instance about Mr. Nichols acting, because he was acting previously for Mr. Gower. I am quite satisfied that Mr. Nichols did not intend to become agent until the declaration from Mr. Gower that he did not intend to stand for Reigate.

49,162. Have you got the date?—No.

49,163. When you had this conversation with Mr. Nichols and told him how you should go on; that was in the spring, you say, the end of April or beginning of May?—That was as soon as he had accepted the agentship.

49,164. Were you aware afterwards of a sub-committee being formed at which you did not sit?—I certainly heard that was the case.

49,165. When?—I really cannot charge my memory with dates, because I should have entered these matters particularly in my ordinary business, but as I was to receive a fee I did not enter the attendances in my day book.

49,166. I am asking you rather more, when it was you became aware that a sub-committee was formed at which you did not sit?—I do not know whether you could call it a sub-committee; there were committee meetings.

49,167. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Held independent of you?—Yes. Perhaps if you will allow me, I think I can explain that. The facts were these: you know it is a very important thing at elections to get over our public meeting, and we got

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through it very well. A committee meeting I appointed, that meeting was to have been a strong committee meeting, at which we should have invited our friends, as well as being a committee; but on the morning of this committee meeting I received a communication from the deputy-chairman that the meeting should be changed. It was a general meeting, a public meeting rather than a committee meeting, and from that I date our misfortunes. I mention that because I think it will elucidate it.

49,168. After the general meeting did you yourself call together another committee meeting?—There were committee meetings after, certainly; but Mr. Joyes, who is a very active and a most capital electioneerer, was quite disgusted with the meeting, and was angry with me for making it a public meeting.

49,169. After that meeting were there committees sitting?—There were committees sitting.

49,170. At which you sat?—I attended.

49,171. Can you give me the date of the general meeting?—The fact is, I gave you my box with all the papers, and I have no means of refreshing my memory.

49,172. Do you think you can tell me?—I should say it was the 22nd of May. I see in my diary that is entered as a committee meeting, and I should say that was the general meeting.

49,173. There were other committee meetings?—Yes.

49,174. Did you hear of any committee meeting being appointed at which you did not attend?—Oh dear yes; many after the election proceeded.

49,175. But about that time; did you generally consider it your duty to attend all the committee meetings?—No; the latter meetings I did not attend.

49,176. But did you at this time? Shall I say you attended about all the general committee meetings?—Certainly.

49,177. Did you ascertain that committee meetings were being held at which you did not attend?—At a subsequent period.

49,178. How soon after?—I really do not know.

49,179. Some time?—Yes.

49,180. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And without being consulted upon them?—Yes.

49,181. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you know where they were held?—I heard there were meetings at the "Grapes" and at Mead-vale that I did not attend.

49,182. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And at Redhill?—Yes, I attended the meeting at Langridge's.

49,183. At Topliss's?—Yes.

49,184. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you surprised to hear that there were meetings held at the "Grapes" and other places? Had you any notice of that?—No.

49,185. Were you surprised to hear that?—I was surprised to find it.

49,186. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was letting the conduct of the election pass from you?—I considered it had passed in a great measure from my hands.

49,187. Were you consulted upon them?—No, certainly not, upon those meetings.

49,188. Did you remonstrate with any person or persons whom you heard and believed to be managing these meetings?—No, I do not think I did. I expressed my regret to Mr. Monson's friends.

48,189. Very likely you may have done it to the chairman, Mr. Hanbury, or any one in that position?—Exactly.

49,190. But you did not remonstrate with anybody whom you believed to be holding these meetings?—No, not beyond that.

49,191. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Now, after these committee meetings which you heard of, were your committee meetings as efficient as they were before?—I hardly think I held any.

49,192. I was coming to that. You rather think after that you discontinued yours?—Yes.

49,193. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Or at any rate partially discontinued them?—Yes.

49,194. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you wholly discontinue them, or partially?—I should say partially; I should think there was a meeting just previous to the election.

49,195. But you felt, did you not, that you were giving up your cards, as it were?—No, I did not feel that, but I thought that it was a very foolish thing.

49,196. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You felt it was passing away?—Yes.

49,197. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) About this time, that is, in the month of June, did you pay out much money?—I paid nothing till after the election.

49,198. Do you mean literally nothing, not any small sums?—I should pay a bill-sticker or anything of that sort. Dickinson I did not pay till after; Dickinson was a man whom I was in the habit of employing. If any bills for bill-posting were brought to me I should possibly pay them.

49,199. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you pay any considerable sum at all?—Decidedly not.

49,200. None over 10*l.*?—No.

49,201. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were accounts sent in, and were you required to pay money?—No.

49,202. Tell us about how much money passed through your hands before the election?—All my accounts I can tell you in a moment.

49,203. No, merely give me that, because the accounts are afterwards; I am not speaking of your accounts?—These were payments before the issuing of the writ.

49,204. Did you pay any of the sub-agents monies?—I have no recollection of it.

49,205. The election came on, and I suppose you were aware before it did come on that a great number of persons were employed for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

49,206. Did you employ many of them?—No.

49,207. Was reference made to you when they were employed; I am speaking of before the election now?—Of course.

49,208. Was reference made to you when they were employed?—I think Mr. Nichols said now and then, "So and so is a valuable man, we must employ him."

49,209. Are you speaking of sub-agents recommended by Mr. Nichols?—I had nothing to do with anybody but Mr. Nichols.

49,210. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Do I understand that all who were employed were employed by the agency of Mr. Nichols, by his referring to you?—I think so, with the exception of Dickinson.

49,211. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) With that exception you think they were all put on by Mr. Nichols, or through his agency?—And many of them with my approbation.

49,212. Does that refer to the sub-agents, or did you yourself put on many of the voters who received small sums. You put on Dickinson for one; now can you refresh your memory with any other names, I do not mean sub-agents only, but others did you put on yourself?—Bill stickers or messengers for my own purposes.

49,213. I do not mean for your own purposes?—I know of Dickinson, I must say in justice to him I believe he was paid badly; he was very much in my office filling up forms. Dickinson was employed in carrying out those papers.

49,214. What I want to know is, whether you can recollect employing other small voters?—No, I think not; I think that a man who was under examination I employed, but it is so long that I forget his name at this moment. Corderoy I remember very well, he was very active. No doubt Mr. Nichols had previously spoken to him. I recollect his telling me that his master had given him a fortnight's holiday during the election. I said I was very glad of it, and I know he was a most active man.

49,215. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) When was that?—I cannot say.

49,216. Would that be a fortnight before the polling

day?—Before that, he was engaged very early in the election.

49,217. He had got a fortnight's leave?—Yes, he told me he had; those are the only cases I recollect.

49,218. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You said you were very glad of it, did you?—Yes.

49,219. Did you put him on?—I think he was working at that time. I forget who had spoken to him before.

49,220. Do you mean that you did not engage him?—There was no formal engagement, but of course it amounted to my sanction.

49,221. I want to know whether you were the first person to start him?—Decidedly not.

49,222. Did he tell you by whom he was appointed?—I dare say he spoke of Mr. Nichols; I know it was by Mr. Nichols, because there was nobody else authorized to do it.

49,223. There was nobody authorized but Mr. Nichols to engage them?—Mr. Page was one.

49,224. If that was so, and no one else was authorized to engage, Mr. Nichols was authorized?—Oh, decidedly.

49,225. But that is an important matter; he was authorized by you?—Yes, that part of the election I left in his hands.

49,226. To engage sub-agents?—Yes.

49,227. And when you left it in his hands was anything said by you to him about Mr. Monson, what he should pay; anything as to terms?—Not at all; I told him to keep down expenses as much as possible.

49,228. But no mention was made as to terms?—No.

49,229. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Am I right in this, that Mr. Nichols was authorized to engage sub-agents, and you left that part in his hands?—I would rather call them canvassers than sub-agents.

49,230. Did you understand him as being a sub-agent or canvasser?—I should say canvasser.

49,231. That is the reason I called your attention to the word?—Yes, the fact is the men were most active, and Corderoy was one, and I should be disposed to pay him according to his services, but I should not have considered him a sub-agent.

49,232 (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There were sub-agents, were there not; it may be that you recognise no other sub-agents except Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page?—I think I mentioned them in my accounts under the head of agents.

49,233. You have; did you recognise any other sub-agents but Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page; you have stated in your account, I think, nine names?—I dare say there are.

49,234. Were all those persons whom you recognised afterwards in your accounts all appointed by Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

49,235. And appointed pursuant to the authority which he had?—Decidedly, and with my sanction.

49,236. Then he had authority to appoint what we call sub-agents?—Yes; it is merely a term.

49,237. I mean the upper class of canvassers?—Yes, the agent was myself.

49,238. For that reason I put in the word sub-agent. I suppose you had heard a good deal about the election, about the way in which your canvassing for Mr. Monson was conducted. You heard of a good deal being done that you took no part in, whether you had a committee or not?—Certainly.

49,239. Tell me whether you witnessed before the election anything being done which you disapproved of. I want to know that?—I witnessed a great deal of drinking going on in the public houses, which I regretted very much indeed.

49,240. Never mind the regrets, because at this moment I am exculpating you. Did you know who was doing it?—No, I did not; I was quite satisfied that I was not.

49,241. Who was doing it?—It was apparently being done by sub-agents and canvassers.

49,242. For which of the candidates?—Oh, both, there was very little difference; but that did not come to my knowledge.

49,243. Do you mean it did not come to your knowledge as agent, but merely as a bystander?—Yes, as a bystander; every one knew it.

49,244. Did you remonstrate at all?—No.

49,245. At that time when you saw this going on was Mr. Monson here?—I think Mr. Monson was here almost during the whole time; he occasionally left.

49,246. Can you tell me when Mr. Monson first came here?—Certainly, as early as April.

49,247. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was he at the hotel?—At the "White Hart."

49,248. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you remonstrate about this to Mr. Monson?—I do not recollect that I did.

49,249. If you did not remonstrate, do you recollect on any occasion at all ever calling his attention to it; I do not wish to use the word "remonstrate," because it may be understood in a different sense?—I do not think I did; I always made up my mind to keep myself clear of anything of the kind, and I do not think I interfered.

49,250. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Or did not make it the subject of discussion or conversation?—No.

49,251. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) After the election did claims come in to you to be paid?—I by the Act of Parliament gave notice.

49,252. Did claims come in within the month, the limited period?—Yes.

42,253. Did you give any notice that they should do so?—I did.

49,254. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Publicly?—By the newspaper.

49,255. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to get this from you; when did you give the notice, at what time of the election?—I gave it in the papers according to the Act of Parliament.

49,256. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There are two local papers, I think?—Yes.

49,257. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And you said, of course, in the usual way that you would pay them?—Yes, reference was to be made to me.

49,258. Had you before that period given money yourself?—Certainly not.

49,259. You had not?—I had not.

49,260. Had you before this received any money at all for the purposes of the election?—No.

49,261. Do not answer hastily at all?—No, I received ———

49,262. I do not want to know what you received afterwards?—I received two sums.

49,263. At this time had you received anything; you had been conducting the election for some little time, and now the election was over; had you previous to sending that notice out for claims received any money?—Without my accounts I cannot tax my memory. I think there were some payments made before; there were election expenses, I think they were only small things; I think there were some payments.

49,264. What I want to know is, had you at this time been provided with money to pay those expenses?—No.

49,265. I do not mean for 10*l.* or 20*l.*, but any substantial matters?—I think not; I am sure I had not, I had not the accounts before me.

49,266. You can have your own book in your hand if you like?—I want my accounts between Mr. Monson and myself. (*The accounts were handed to witness*).

49,267. Now I should like to know whether you had at this time received any money at all?—I see now. This puts me in mind that there was before the election; I think I received some money before.

49,268. About how much; I do not care to know exactly?—I seem by this account to have received 171*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*, and to have paid 152*l.*

49,269. Never mind what it was for at this moment,

but had you been provided with money?—Not for the purposes of the election.

49,270. Had you previous to this time, when you advertised for the accounts?—I suppose I had.

49,271. Can you tell me how much?—171*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*

49,272. How much did you receive before for the election?—I think 32*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*

49,273. If there were any other payments you paid those, drawing on your own account?—Yes; there is 150*l.* I see.

49,274. I should like to know whether you did make payments; these are subsequently I see. I did not take how you disbursed them; will your banker's book tell you that?—I think this was a private account of mine before the election, but I laid the papers before you.

49,275. What I want you to understand is this, never mind what you received the money for, but I want to know whether, previous to the election, you had received any money at all on account of the election from the Monson side?—It seems that the sums amount to about 170*l.*

49,276. Was that received from Mr. Monson or any person in his behalf?—From Mr. Monson. I should tell you, as regards Lord Monson, the only accounts between him and myself were, that I paid all his subscriptions and never received anything from him.

49,277. Can you tell me whether you received any other money except the 170*l.* previous to your sending in the election accounts?—Certainly not.

49,278. The accounts came in then, pursuant to your notice?—They did.

49,279. Did you set to work to pay them?—Having first of all gone through them with Mr. Nichols.

49,280. Why did you do that?—Because he had employed the persons, and I wanted to know whether the labourer was worthy of his hire.

49,281. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) To measure their services?—Yes, I taxed several of the bills.

49,282. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you do so in consequence of anything said to you?—Yes.

49,283. Perhaps you could tell me how much you taxed?—There were one or two bills I would not pay at all.

49,284. May I say that you taxed some?—Yes.

49,285. That means you and Mr. Nichols?—Yes, certainly.

49,286. Did he join you in taxing?—Yes.

49,287. And assented?—Yes, I told him what I had done; we went through them.

49,288. You may have gone through with him and Mr. Nichols may not have assented to your taxing one single item of any single bill, but I take it that you and Mr. Nichols together did tax them?—Yes.

49,289. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And struck out some altogether?—Yes.

49,290.—(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Two altogether?—Yes, there were two bills never paid at all.

49,291. Why not; I do not want to know whose bills they were?—Because I found the work had not been done.

49,292. How did you find out?—From Mr. Nichols.

49,293. What bills were they?—One was for the hire of a fly, and we found he had not sent it.

49,294. Do you recollect what the other was?—I think the other was for canvassing; and, if I recollect right, for services professed to have been rendered.

49,295. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you recollect the name?—No, but I think the bills are amongst my papers.

49,296. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect paying a man of the name of John Nye?—No, I do not.

49,297. That is the man I mean; you will see by the receipt (*handing receipt to witness*)?—If I paid this there is my draft for this; but I should mention one circumstance that I think led into a little error the other day with regard to Corderoy; there were several small bills, something like 20 bills, that I handed over to Mr. Nichols to pay. I drew it all in one cheque, and I think Corderoy's 12*l.* was entered in that.

49,298. We will come to that by-and-by; do you know anything about that particular one?—I have not the slightest recollection about it.

49,299. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is paid in October. "Received 4th October 1859."—I do not understand this at all; if I had paid it I should have put a mark upon it. Oh, yes, it is quite right, here is my endorsement. Then this was one that I handed over to Mr. Nichols to pay for me, I have no doubt of it.

49,300. Thomas Hart's signature is drawn over and erased?—You will find all my bills endorsed in that way.

49,301. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is one of the bills you handed over to Mr. Nichols to satisfy?—I think it may have been.

49,302. Are you sure you paid it?—Oh, I paid it. What is the date?

49,303. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) October 4th the receipt is?—I do not find any draft drawn in that way.

49,304. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then it must be paid by Mr. Nichols; you paid monies to Mr. Nichols, and he paid that?—I suppose so.

49,305. How else could it be. Did you pay monies to any one else to pay these accounts, except to Mr. Nichols?—No, except, I think, I gave monies to my clerk, and he went and paid a few.

49,306. Then it must have passed through Mr. Nichols. Now one other question upon this amount. Did you receive some papers of this kind receipted before you had paid the money (*handing receipts to witness*)?—I should say not.

49,307. You think in every instance you had paid the monies before you received the receipts?—Except in a case where I might have given a cheque or something of that kind to Mr. Nichols, to pay some sums.

49,308. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It would be so if you gave Mr. Nichols a cheque to pay any small balance?—Yes.

49,309. Then you paid the money before you got the receipt?—Oh, I entrusted Mr. Nichols with the receipts.

49,310. If you had handed over a cheque to pay certain bills, you handed him the receipts?—I handed him receipts in my clerk's handwriting to be signed.

49,311. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And he would bring them back to you from the parties?—Yes.

49,312. So that he would have the money to pay the parties before the receipt would leave your office?—Quite so.

49,313. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect in any case at all, or in more than one case, Mr. Nichols ever bringing you ready receipted an account?—I do not recollect that, and if he had brought it me it was a bill in the schedule; of course I should make a draft of it.

49,314. You had made out a schedule with him?—Yes; I have no recollection of having done it.

49,315. Is what you mean like that (*handing schedule to witness*)?—Yes, that is one of the schedules I did make out.

49,316. Do you recollect in any instance a receipt being brought you ready signed before you handed over the money?—No, I have no recollection of it.

49,317. Do you recollect anything of this kind: Mr. Nichols or somebody for him, or anybody else, bringing to you two or three bills ready signed and saying, "Here, Mr. Hart, these men are all entitled "to so much apiece, will you give me the money for "them; here are the receipts"?—If I did it was by draft. If receipts were brought to me of the amounts that I had settled with Mr. Nichols, and brought to me in that way, I should certainly pay him by draft.

49,318. Do you recollect any instance in which that was done?—I do not.

49,319. Do you think it may have occurred in some instances?—It might have occurred.

49,320. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) A receipt signed by the party?—Yes.

49,321. And then you gave him a draft for the amount?—I have no recollection of doing so.

42,322. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have particularly asked you, not whether you remembered any instance, but whether it might have occurred?—Yes, it might have occurred.

49,323. Now I want to ask you this; tell me if you know the handwriting of the body of that (*handing Nye's receipt to witness*)?—Yes.

49,324. Tell me whose it is?—Dickinson.

49,325. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your man?—No, Mr. Dickinson's.

49,326. The man you had employed?—Yes, the bill was made out by Dickinson.

49,327. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) The body of the receipt, which is Nye's, is in Dickinson's handwriting?—Yes, at the top here was written "to pay," date such as it is, July 1865.

49,328. Was Dickinson in your employ?—He was employed the whole time of the election.

49,329. Look at the receipt, October 1865; whose handwriting is that over his signature; you will see it?—I do not think it is the same.

49,330. The man writes in a smaller hand?—There is the same freedom of hand.

49,331. After these men's claims came in you proceeded to pay them?—Yes.

49,332. Where did you get the money from to pay them?—From Mr. Monson. I sent him a copy of the schedule setting out 1,240*l.* which I received. I received that sum in two drafts, one for 667*l.* 9*s.*, and the other for 597*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*

49,333. How much would that make?—1,264*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*, which, after the payment of bills, would leave a balance in my hand of 31*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* The balance would be a balance arising from bills I had taxed.

49,334. And then there is the 171*l.*?—I have not taken the former sum at all; all that was before the election.

49,335. What did you return as the expenses of the election in your expense account?—The very amount I received from Mr. Monson.

49,336. This appears to be 1,232*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*; there seems to be a little difference?—Yes.

49,337. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that the account of money both before and after the election?—Those are the actual sums I have paid.

49,338. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) There is 30*l.* in excess of that, how is that?—That would arise from sums I had decided I would not pay. I sent in to Mr. Monson the amount of the whole of the bills as they were sent in to me, but between the time of my receiving Mr. Monson's cheque I deducted something off them.

49,339. The money you received would altogether be 1,264*l.* odd, plus 171*l.* odd?—The 171*l.* I do not take any notice of.

49,340. The 171*l.* odd; how do you bring that into account? Did you subsequently give him credit for that?—I have not settled with him yet, not quite, because I have a balance of 31*l.* in my hands now.

49,341. You appropriate the 171*l.* for payment of expenses incurred previous to the election?—Of which I did not send in any account.

49,342. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not place that among the expenses?—It did not apply; it was altogether before the election.

49,343. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) If you please we will discharge ourselves of the 171*l.* You received 1,264*l.* to pay the election expenses, which were about that amount?—Yes.

49,344. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The 171*l.* would be for some portion of the election?—No, previous to that.

49,345. I mean election expenses; suppose you were to say how much it cost Mr. Monson, you would say 1,417*l.*?—Yes, you would calculate it in the expenses of the election; there were some very heavy printing expenses.

49,346. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) At this time when you satisfied these claims which came under the head "election expenses," did you pay any more money for Mr. Monson?—Only what appears in the schedule.

49,347. Did you pay any other money?—None whatever.

49,348. You are sure about that?—Quite sure of that; there was a little bill sent in since, 4*l.* odd, which I have not paid yet.

49,349. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you undertake to pay anything more?—No, there is the whole amount.

49,350. You paid for Mr. Monson no monies except those contained in the election expenses?—None whatever.

49,351. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) "I undertook "to pay no more"?—Certainly not.

49,352. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Can you tell me at all about what date you had paid all those claims contained in the election expenses?—The receipts would speak for themselves; my memory will not serve me as to that.

49,353. Several of the receipts have no date?—The drafts were answered; I paid nothing except by draft.

49,354. You are sure of that?—Oh, sure of it, except some small sums that I gave a cheque to my clerk for.

49,355. You told us some time Mr. Nichols would send up to you two or three accounts, for which you would give him a draft?—If he did do that I should have done so, but I have no recollection of doing so.

49,356. I understand you to say there were several little accounts which Mr. Nichols sent up to you, and which you paid by a cheque for the whole?—Yes, the schedule will show it, you will see from my papers; I think that Corderoy's 12*l.* was among them.

49,357. I am coming to Corderoy; I find a receipt signed by Corderoy for 12*l.* from you, dated on the 29th of September; that was a good bit after the election accounts were sent in?—Oh, they were not paid till some time after.

49,358. Can you explain that, if you please; this is a receipt signed by Corderoy, dated the 29th of September?—That is scheduled at 12*l.*; I think you will find amongst my papers Corderoy's account and several others, amounting to something above 20*l.*, for which I drew a cheque and gave to Mr. Nichols, and Mr. Nichols paid them.

49,359. Before you got the receipt?—I sent the cheque with the receipts in blank.

49,360. Before you got the receipt signed by Corderoy you had sent the 20*l.* in a draft to Mr. Nichols?—I think so; there can be no doubt about that I think.

49,361. I cannot get the date?—There is among my papers a cheque for the amount, and I think you will find the date, I think you will find amongst my papers a schedule, in my clerk's handwriting, amounting to 47*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*

49,362. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I see the cheque is paid in your banker's book?—But you see I have many business matters with Mr. Nichols, and therefore it might be an execution or something of that sort; it is a large amount.

49,363. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) It occurred to me that it was a larger amount probably that contained the aggregate of those. I do not think there is anything else, but if you like you shall look for yourself? (*The document was handed to witness*)—I should be almost disposed to think now that it has no reference to the election. I always keep a cheque book against the bankers, and I always put what it really was for.

49,364. On the back of the cheque?—Yes.

49,365. Tell me, if you can recollect at all the 10*l.* for Corderoy?—The 12*l.* I recollect perfectly well,

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because that I thought him fully entitled to that amount.

49,366. And you and Mr. Nichols agreed he was?—That was the amount.

49,367. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you tell me what date that was when you and Mr. Nichols agreed upon the amount; how long after the polling?—After the bills were delivered in.

49,368. Tell me as near as you can say when it was that you and Mr. Nichols agreed upon that 12*l.*?—Of course we agreed as soon as possible, and therefore it was soon after the month.

49,369. Have you any recollection at all yourself of paying that particular 12*l.*?—I have the strongest feeling that that was in the list I speak of; several bills were handed over to Mr. Nichols, and I am pretty sure that that was the case with Corderoy.

49,370. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then, besides that receipt, with reference to Corderoy for his services of 12*l.*, was it agreed between you and Mr. Nichols, in discussing what Corderoy should be paid, that 12*l.* was a reasonable sum for his services?—Yes.

49,371. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) For all his services?—Of course. Those receipts were made out in my clerk's handwriting.

49,372. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is your clerk's handwriting?—Yes; not the 29th September.

49,373. Have you any recollection, now you see that, about Corderoy's 12*l.* You had agreed that Corderoy ought to be paid the 12*l.*, and Corderoy sent in a claim for it?—He sent in a claim in blank and we agreed upon the 12*l.*, I feeling at that time that he had fully earned it. I saw no man work as he did, I was struck with it; as I said before, he had a fortnight's holiday.

49,374. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Nichols received the money for this and brought back the receipt?—I think it was so.

49,375. You sent that with other accounts to Mr. Nichols, and he having received it brought you back the receipts?—I think so.

49,376. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I concluded that this bill of Corderoy's was paid with others by Mr. Nichols, and that he handed you the bills receipted after you gave him a draft for the full amount?—Inasmuch as I find no cheque; that is my reason for supposing it.

49,377. Yes, we understand that quite well. Looking at the receipt can you say when that was paid?—Not from looking at this; I say that I have no doubt it was handed to me.

49,378. Can you say when the money was paid by you to meet that?—I cannot; I do not see any cheque of mine about that date.

49,379. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Look further on?—Cheques are often held some days before they get into the banker's hands.

49,380. Or a wrong date may sometimes get on a receipt?—On the 29th September I see a draft, "Paid "Nichols, 94*l.* 7*s.*"

49,381. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Paid by you?—By me.

49,382. May that have contained Corderoy's claim along with others?—I have no doubt it did.

49,383. Now tell me, if you please; it is clear that Mr. Nichols received the 94*l.* on the 29th September?—It is, there is the date.

49,384. Your banker's book would be as good as anything for that; I mean it cannot be any later date than that?—No.

49,385. Now tell me, please, whether you recollect a sum of money being paid to a man named Ridge?—Perfectly well.

49,386. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It may be a formal question to ask, but did you know, or had you any suspicion, that any monies had been paid to Corderoy at that time in behalf of Mr. Monson for the services he had rendered?—Certainly not.

49,387. Did you know 50*l.* had been paid?—Certainly not.

49,388. If you had known that would you have given him the cheque for 12*l.*?—Certainly not; I recollect perfectly well paying Ridge myself.

49,389. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you pay him?—10*l.*

49,390. Was that a 10*l.* note?—I paid nothing but by cheque.

49,391. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you gone through Ridge's account with Mr. Nichols?—We agreed upon that sum, that he was entitled to 10*l.*

49,392. Do you know whether Mr. Nichols represented to you that 10*l.* was a fair sum for his remuneration for all his services during the election?—Quite so.

49,393. I see the bills all got paid?—Yes.

49,394. Did you receive any money after that on account of the election?—Not any, I have money in hand now, a small balance.

49,395. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that account sent in in blank to you and Mr. Nichols?—It was one of the amounts left for me to settle; I do not mean to say that it might not have been sent in, but the bill would speak for itself if I could see the bill.

49,396. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I want to know how this is to be explained; there are some very small sums stated to have been paid by you?—Yes.

49,397. You paid John Le Coutoir?—Yes.

49,398. How was that?—I employed him.

49,399. Was he paid in money?—A cheque was drawn for it.

49,400. Would it be a cheque for that small amount?—No, I do not think I should draw a cheque for so small a sum as that.

49,401. Then Edwin Small was paid?—That was for attending at the election as clerk.

49,402. Richard Tugwell 3*l.*; I do not think there are any more small sums, I will read the list to you (*reads list of names to witness*)?—Yes, that is right.

49,403. What part did you say you took in 1863?—No part. I was agent for Mr. Stuart Wortley in the first instance, and he withdrew before the polling.

49,404. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Before you go to the election of 1863, in order to get the notes clear, allow me to draw your attention to this. I see "No-"vember 1865, Mr. Nichols 12*l.*," do you remember anything at all about that item?—I have no recollection, but that may be Corderoy's.

49,405. I want to know whether the cheque for 12*l.* to Mr. Nichols is the cheque for Corderoy; can you tell me aye, or no?—With reference to my own book I could not.

49,406. There is the amount, 12*l.*, just refer to that and see whether it is for that amount that is received. Would the 12*l.* be paid into the hands of Mr. Nichols to pay away?—This is one of the papers I referred to; they appear in my schedule as payments made.

49,407. Were there three sums paid through Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

49,408. The cheque I have drawn your attention to has reference to these accounts?—Yes.

49,409. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Before we go from 1865, there are one or two payments I want to call your particular attention to; did you know that Ridge had received 50*l.* from Mr. Nichols?—Certainly not.

49,410. Did you know that he said that 10*l.* of that was for Sir Henry Rawlinson, and 10*l.* for Mr. Monson, and 10*l.* for Mr. Gower?—I saw that in the report in the paper.

49,411. Did you know that?—Oh dear no.

49,412. Would you have sanctioned that?—Certainly not.

49,413. Do not be surprised at my putting these questions; I only wish to give you an opportunity of saying so. Did you see here also a payment to Thomas Ireland? Is that the Thomas Ireland who is since dead?—I do not know.

49,414. It is the Thomas Ireland referred to in Mr.

Nichols' account as having received from him 45*l.*; it is only to-day I have got these accounts. Did you settle with Mr. Nichols in going over the accounts that Thomas Ireland was fairly entitled to 7*l.* 10*s.*?—I must have my schedule, I cannot remember the names.

49,415. Do you recollect settling with Mr. Nichols that Ireland was entitled to 7*l.* 10*s.* for services rendered?—I have no such name in my list.

49,416. It is in the account sent in, it is in the copy of it, "Ireland Thomas, 7*l.* 10*s.*"?—I do not see the name at all; if I have paid that I have made no mention of it.

49,417. You will see it entered in your account as "Thomas Ireland, 7*l.* 10*s.*" (*the document was handed to witness*)?—Yes, this a proper document, I can tell now.

49,418. Did you come to a conclusion with Mr. Nichols, that 7*l.* 10*s.* was the proper sum due to Ireland for his services?—I have no doubt I did.

49,419. Were you aware at that time that he was paid by Mr. Nichols 45*l.*?—Certainly not.

49,420. Do you know what Ireland was?—I do not; he was a man, I think, who kept a small shop.

49,421. Now, another question I have to ask you; you see put down to young Alfred Joyes, 4*l.* 19*s.*; did you settle that amount with Mr. Nichols?—He sent in the bill for that amount.

49,422. Were you aware that at that time he had been paid by Mr. Nichols about 20*l.*?—Certainly not.

49,423. Now there is Henry Francis; he has been entered here, I see, by the cheque for 5*l.*—Yes.

49,424. Is that the gentleman who has been examined here?—Yes.

49,425. Were you aware at that time 80*l.* had passed through his hands?—Oh dear no.

49,426. You are not angry with me for putting the question?—Not at all.

49,427. I think he says 60*l.* had passed through his hands?—Yes.

49,428. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Perhaps you were not aware that any money had passed through his hands at all?—No.

49,429. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I see "Thomas Jordan, 15*l.*"?—Yes.

49,430. Did you and Mr. Nichols in going over the account settle that as the proper amount for the services he had rendered?—That was one of the bills I took off; the bill was sent in for 20*l.*

49,431. You taxed it down to 15*l.*?—Yes.

49,432. He agreed to that?—He took it.

49,433. Did you consider that was a fair sum for all his services?—I did.

49,434. Were you aware that he had in his hands, however he disposed of it, 130*l.*?—No.

49,435. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that account taxed down with Mr. Nichols?—Yes, he was quite aware that I did not like the 20*l.*

49,436. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have one more question to ask you about these bills, I want you to explain this; there is a bill without any name, 17*l.* 10*s.*?—That is one of the bills I disallowed, I would not pay it. It came with a name; I am very glad you have found that, because it shows that I was correct in stating I had disallowed one or two.

49,437. In 1863 you took no particular part?—None whatever. I assisted my friend Mr. Smith after Mr. Stuart Wortley had retired, and I had declined to assist any of the candidates.

49,438. In 1859, at the general election, you were agent to Lord Monson?—Yes.

49,439. Mr. Wilkinson opposed him, but did not come down in person, did he?—Did he not?

49,440. We have heard he did not. Was there a a good deal of money spent on that election, the general election in 1859?—The accounts are all in the box, and I have not referred to them since, I could not charge my memory at all; you will find all my accounts of the 1859 election.

49,441. Are you able to tell me what money you received to pay the expenses of the election of 1859?—Not from memory, but they are all there.

49,442. In 1858, in the Doulton election, you were agent for Lord Monson?—Yes.

49,443. Are you able to tell me what money you received to pay for that election?—No, all the accounts are in the box.

49,444. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I want to ask you if you know the handwriting (*handing document to witness*)?—I should not like to speak with any certainty, but it is handwriting that is familiar to me, but I should not like to speak to it.

49,445. From first to last in the election, did Mr. Monson ever intimate to you that large sums of money had been paid to Mr. Nichols?—Certainly not.

49,446. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you know anything of it?—I did not; I was quite aware that sums of money were being paid.

49,447. By Mr. Nichols?—I do not know who paid them; I had no knowledge by whom those monies were paid.

49,448. You had no knowledge of the machinery?—I had not.

49,449. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you aware that large sums of money were being paid in the town to voters?—I was quite certain that that must be the case. I only know that from *on dit*, but of my own knowledge I did not know anything of the kind; until this revelation I had no idea of it.

49,450. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You knew it was going on?—I knew that large expenses were going on.

49,451. And not from you?—Yes.

49,452. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were aware that sums of money were distributed, but not from you?—I cannot say that I knew that monies were distributed, nothing of the sort came to my knowledge.

49,453. Were you aware that at Mr. Nichols', for instance, there were refreshments being distributed to a large amount?—I knew that refreshments were going on.

49,454. Did Mr. Nichols ever suggest to you that there was a bill owing to the "Grapes" for refreshments had during the time of the election?—Certainly not, he knew that I never paid refreshment bills for elections.

49,455. Was this the first time that you had the large claim against Mr. Monson of 119*l.* for refreshments on account of the election?—Yes.

49,456. When were you actually appointed the expense agent, you were appointed in writing?—It was a very short time before the election; I put my signature to it a short time before.

49,457. Then, before you were legally appointed the expense agent, in what capacity were you engaged in reference to the election?—I was acting as Mr. Monson's agent.

49,458. But you were not formally appointed?—No.

49,459. You were not formally appointed till about the day of nomination?—No.

49,460. I was alluding to it more with respect to the conduct of the election, as to how far you had control over the conduct of the election?—My rule in conducting the elections always has been never to jeopardize it.

49,461. You mean by a payment of an illegal character?—Yes; I have always said to Mr. Monson, "I "must be in a position to go in the witness box the day "after the election;" I have always prided myself upon that; it may be too much to say, but I have done so. I have been an election agent 50 years.

49,462. Can you point out, Mr. Hart, any other bills which were taxed by you and Mr. Nichols; if you can I should be very glad, I should like to know the character of the taxation. There was a bill of 47*l.* sent into me from Mr. Holdsworth, and I knew that there were refreshments, and I said, "I

THIRTY-THIRD DAY.

T. Hart.

28 Sept. 1866.

cannot allow this," and 10*l.* was taken off for refreshment.

49,463. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That is one of the bills taxed down?—Yes.

49,464. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that taxing of the bills a taxing off of what you considered an illegal claim, and you paid all the legal ones?—Yes.

49,465. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was in the course of the Inquiry insinuated rather than stated, that you must have known both of the treating and the expenditure that was going on through Mr. Nichols, that you must have known that he was spending money, and that public houses were open?—I was quite aware that public houses were open and treating was going on.

49,466. It was put to you distinctly whether you were aware that money was passing from Mr. Nichols' hands for the purposes of serving the election?—No I did not; I should not have countenanced it.

49,467. In fact, an expression was used in reference to you, that you must have known that; I take it in the same truthful way, that you did not know money was passing his hands for the purpose of influencing voters?—Certainly not; I knew money was passing.

49,468. Were you aware that in some measure you were superseded by his agency?—I was aware that the election in a great measure was conducted without me.

49,469. Were you aware that monies were coming direct from Mr. Monson's hands through Mr. Nichols. I ask you whether you were aware of it?—I was not.

49,470. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Hart, I must ask you a question upon that; you were aware, were you not, for whatever purpose it might have been, that Mr. Nichols was paying away money?—No doubt he was.

49,471. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were asked that question?—I was not aware of it more than anybody else in the town might suppose it. It did not come to my own knowledge.

49,472. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) No doubt you were aware that Mr. Nichols was spending money?—I presumed that money went out, I could not be certain.

49,473. And you presumed it at the time, though you could not be perfectly certain; you presumed that Mr. Nichols was spending money?—Of course I presumed he was so, though I had no knowledge whatever.

49,474. In reference to the election?—Yes.

49,475. You went over the accounts with Mr. Nichols, you have told us?—Yes, I went into the accounts.

49,476. Was anything said at that time between you about other monies?—No.

49,477. Nothing whatever?—Nothing.

49,478. Never by you to Mr. Nichols, or by Mr Nichols to you?—No.

49,479. You understand my question?—Oh, quite.

49,480. At that time did you ask Mr. Nichols point blank whether other monies had been spent?—No, I did not.

49,481. Did he say anything to you about it?—Certainly not.

49,482. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Would the amount of money expended give a larger expenditure than you had reason to think was going on?—I do not quite understand the question.

49,483. Would the 1,266*l.*, or whatever it was, fairly represent to your mind the expenditure that you saw going on?—I thought that there must be something in the background, but it was merely matter of opinion.

49,484. I am not going to fix you with any actions by anybody else?—You shall have all the knowledge I have, but I have no knowledge, and it is not fair to speculate.

49,485. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You thought that 1,260*l.* odd would not represent all the expenditure you had witnessed?—I could hardly say I witnessed it.

49,486. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Well, then, suspected it?—That is a very proper term.

49,487. Did you ever ask Mr. Nichols whether he had any claim against Mr. Monson beyond his fee of 100 guineas?—No.

49,488. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did that include everything that Mr. Nichols received; did he receive anything for personal expenses?—No, merely the fee.

49,489. The 100 guineas included it?—Yes.

49,490. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You have for many years been conducting elections; do you believe that the 100 guineas was a fair recompense for Mr. Nichols' service?—I consider that was so.

49,491. And a liberal payment?—Yes; it is only lately that a sub-agent has been paid so well.

49,492. You considered it very handsome and was liberal pay for his services?—Yes.

49,493. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just give me a word on that; when was the amount of his fee arranged?—I am sure I do not know

49,494. Was it before or after the election?—It was not before the election.

49,495. It was after?—Yes, it was after the election I arranged his fee. He said he wanted to have that sum, and that Mr. Page was entitled to 50*l.*

49,496. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I see by your banking book that 105*l.* was paid long after the election?—Yes, it was; I paid all the small sums and kept back the large ones. That was by cheque.

49,497. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I may take it that after the election, in going through the accounts, Mr. Nichols stated that he ought to have that amount?—He did.

49,498. And you were of the same opinion?—Quite so.

49,499. For doing what?—For canvassing.

49,500. Canvassing and for countenacing Mr. Monson?—Yes, he was a very active and excellent agent.

49,501. Did you know yourself at that time that Mr. Nichols had incurred any personal expenses?—No, I am quite sure that he must have; I did not know of any certain amount.

49,502. You had not incurred any personal expenses?—Yes, I had, a few.

49,503. Do not tell me what, I do not want to be curious, but you received your personal fee?—Oh, it was 200 guineas.

49,504. I am quite satisfied, I do not want to know the amount?—I included in that all expenses. I had many journeys to London.

49,505. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did Mr. Nichols ever suggest to you that he had incurred personal expenses which ought to be paid beyond the 100 guineas?—We never had any conversation at all about that.

49,506. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you settled with him about his fee nothing was said about any money out of pocket?—No.

49,507. And you did not calculate in his fee any money out of pocket?

49,508. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It was a general fee to carry all expenses. That would be calculated?—That would be calculated.

49,509. Either then or since?—No, not to me.

49,510. You would be the proper person for him to make the claim to?—Certainly.

49,511. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was after the election you state?—Yes.

49,512. Of course you had not known that there were any money transactions between himself and Mr. Monson?—No.

49,513. You recompensed him as if there had been no money passing between him and Mr. Monson?—Exactly.

49,514. I mean, treating him as liberally as if he had not received a shilling from any other quarter?—Yes.

49,515. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) As if no other monies were to come to him for the election?—Yes.

49,516. I think I asked this with reference to this expenditure; in what way was it arranged with Mr. Nichols that he should receive the 100 guineas. What took place between you and him?—Nothing until after the election, when he said he was entitled to the 100 guineas.

49,517. Nothing more?—Nothing more.

49,518. You did not go into particulars to make up the 100 guineas, but it was in a general round sum?—Oh, it was a fee, just as my own 200 guineas.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM DICKINSON recalled and examined.

W. Dickinson.

49,519. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are sworn; in whose handwriting is the body of that receipt?—It is mine.

49,520. How did you come to get it; be so good as to tell me that?—Nye asked me to write it for him.

49,521. Where was he when he asked you to write it out?—I cannot say whether it was at home at my own house or not; I have written once or twice for him.

49,522. He came and asked you to write it?—Yes; to make out a bill for him, and I wrote it out according to his dictation.

49,523. Then he took it away?—He took it away.

49,524. Have you ever seen it since?—No.

49,525. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you give it to Nye?—Yes.

49,526. Did he tell you what he was going to do with it?—No, I made it out for him and gave it to him.

49,527. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are the figures yours as well?—Yes.

49,528. And then you gave it to Nye?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

JOHN NYE recalled and examined.

J. Nye.

49,529. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are sworn?—Yes.

49,530. Just look at that (*handing receipt to witness*). Do you recollect going to Dickinson, and getting him to write that out for you?—Yes.

49,531. Where at?—At my house in Nutley-lane.

49,532. What did you want it for?—Mr. Nichols said I was to give him a receipt for 5*l.*

49,533. But we have not got at that yet. I want to go by steps. Why did you go to Dickinson to get the receipt?—I asked Dickinson——

49,534. Why did you do that?—Mr. Nichols told me I was to bring a receipt to him to receive something.

49,535. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For how much?—For 5*l.*, I suppose. I could not read myself. Mr. Nichols asked me to sign the paper, and I did so.

49,536. Having got the receipt written out by Dickinson, what did you do with it?—I took it down to Mr. Nichols.

49,537. When?—I cannot say how soon it was.

49,538. I should like to know?—It was after the election.

49,539. When had the receipt been made out for you; when had Dickinson written it?—I cannot say.

49,540. Had he written it before the election?—No, after the election.

49,541. How long before you took it to Mr. Nichols?—I took it the same day.

49,542. The same day that he wrote it out for you you took it to Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

49,543. When you got there did you find Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

49,544. What did you say?—I told him I had drawn up a bill, and he told me to put my handwriting to it.

49,545. Did you?—Yes, that is my handwriting.

49,546. Go on?—He said he would settle after a few weeks, that he would settle up.

49,547. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did he pay you then?—No.

49,548. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) And did he pay you up?—No.

49,549. Have you asked him for it since?—No.

49,550. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He told you he would settle in a few days?—In a few weeks after.

49,551. Why did you not tell us that before?—I had forgotten it.

49,552. Now do, like an honest man, tell us the whole truth; why was it you did not tell us before?—I had quite forgotten it.

49,553. The receipt was put into your hand, every possible effort was made to call your attention to it; do tell us, like an honest man, how it was?—I had quite forgotten it. I knew I had signed my hand with Mr. Nichols, but I did not know what it was for.

49,554. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Why did you sign a paper for Mr. Nichols?—I do not know; he asked me.

49,555. Why, if he asked me I should not have done it; why should you?—It was for something I was to have for the election.

49,556. That is a receipt for 5*l.*; why did you sign that receipt if you did not have the money?—I did not have it.

49,557. Why did you sign the receipt if you did not have the money?—It was to be something off what I had borrowed.

49,558. And what had you borrowed?—20*l.*

49,559. And then did you give the receipt for 5*l.* off what you owed him?—Yes, to Mr. Nichols.

49,560. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then you had owed Mr. Nichols a certain amount, and the account was taken off that amount?—Yes.

49,561. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) "Received "4th October 1865;" do you know, in whose handwriting is that?—I cannot read it.

49,562. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now I implore of you to tell me if you recollect it; now attend to this, because it is serious as regards your own character; did any one speak to you about the evidence you were to give here about the receipt?—Not a soul.

49,563. Either before you were examined?—No.

49,564. Or since?—Not after.

49,565. Nor before?—No, no one has ever said a word to me.

49,566. How is it you have forgotten taking the receipt down; you know we are not indebted to you for knowing this; we are indebted to Mr. Hart, who knows the handwriting. You can give us no further explanation?—No.

49,567. Nobody spoke to you?—Not a soul.

49,568. No one?—No one.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned till Monday, the 29th of October, at 11 o'clock.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.

M. Ireland.

29 Oct. 1866.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.

Monday, 29th October 1866.

MARY IRELAND sworn and examined.

49,569. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Your husband some time ago lived here at Reigate, did he not?—Yes.

49,570. What was he?—A grocer.

49,571. Did he take an active part in this last election of 1865?—He was here; I do not know what he did.

49,572. Had he meetings at his house?—Yes.

49,573. Did you know where he attended; did you ever see him about anywhere?—No, I was not with him; I was always at home.

49,574. Are you aware of his paying any money away during the election?—I do not know that he did. I do not know anything about that.

49,575. Had your husband a vote?—Yes.

49,576. Are you aware who he voted for; I suppose you would only know from your husband?—Yes, Mr. Monson, I believe.

49,577. Do you say you do not know of his paying any money away?—I do not know.

49,578. Did people come to him to be paid; did they come and tell you that they came to be paid?—No, I do not know anything about it.

49,579. You do not know anything about his paying any money. I want to know whether any people came to him for money. They may have come, and not finding Mr. Ireland at home they may have said, "We "want him to pay us something;" do you know anything of that kind?—No.

49,580. Do you know of your husband receiving any money before the election?—I only know of 10*l.*

49,581. Was that before the election?—I really do not know when it was.

49,582. Where did he get the 10*l.*?—I do not know.

49,583. How do you know that he had 10*l.*?—He told me so.

49,584. Did he give it you?—No.

49,585. How did he come to tell you?—I am sure I cannot recollect.

49,586. What was it he said to you? Did he say, "I have had 10*l.* for the election;" I want you to tell us what it was he said?—I do not remember; I really cannot say.

49,587. Probably you remember something about it?—I do not remember anything about it, only that he had it.

49,588. You remember that he told you he had it?—Yes, but I do not remember more than he said he had 10*l.*

49,589. Did he tell you that in his own house?—Yes.

49,590. Did he show you the money and say, "Here, I have had 10*l.* for the election," or anything of that sort?—No.

49,591. Did he buy anything for you or for the family, and say that it was from the election?—No.

49,592. Did he come home one day and say, "I "have had 10*l.*?"—It was one day he came home and said he had that.

49,593. He said what?—He had 10*l.*

49,594. How did you know it; did he show you the 10*l.*, or do you remember his saying it?—He said so.

49,595. Did he tell you where he got it?—I do not know.

49,596. Did he tell you who paid him the 10*l.*?—No.

49,597. Did he tell you where he was when he received it?—No.

49,598. Nothing about it?—No.

49,599. Did he tell you of any more money he received besides the 10*l.*?—No.

49,600. He did not?—No, he did not tell me.

49,601. Did you see him with any money out of the customary line?—No.

49,602. About the election time did you see him with money?—No.

49,603. Now I have been talking of before the election. After the election did he say anything to you, or were you made aware of his receiving anything?—He was ill directly after.

49,604. Probably people came to see him at home then?—No.

49,605. Do you know of anybody coming to the house?—No.

42,606. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How soon after the election did he get ill?—Directly after.

49,607. About a day or two after?—Directly after, I could not say to a day or two.

49,608. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you not think you could recollect a little more about what he said when he told you he had the money?—No.

49,609. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Have you a family?—Yes.

49,610. Did he buy anything for the children?—No.

49,611. Did he act as if he had received a large sum of money?—Not that I am aware of.

49,612. I mean by his acts?—No, he never showed me such actions.

49,613. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect his buying anything and saying it was with the election money, and he wished to lay it out, or anything of that sort?—No.

49,614. How soon after the election was it that your husband died; can you tell me when he died?—On the 23rd of October, I think it was.

49,615. The election was on the 12th of July?—Yes, I mean September.

49,616. A little more than two months after the election he died?—Yes.

49,617. Was he a careful man with his money, generally speaking?—I did not know but what he was.

49,618. I do not want to ask any curious questions. I am speaking generally, not at all in particular. Did he generally invest his money that he got and buy stock with it, and so on?—Yes.

49,619. Or did he put it into a bank or anything of that kind, generally speaking?—He generally put it into the bank.

49,620. You were the administratrix afterwards?—Yes.

49,621. I do not want to press you about this, but tell me generally, before he died had you cause to know what his property consisted of; did he tell you that?—Yes; at least, I knew what he had in business.

49,622. After his death, when you went to get in his estate did you find that he had more money at the bank than you expected?—No, just the amount that I knew of.

49,623. I do not want to ask any improper questions. Had he told you before he died about what you would find at the bank?—No, I knew it.

49,624. You knew what he had; had you authority to go to the bank to look into his accounts?—I knew what he had.

49,625. And then you found there was about what you expected?—Just the sum.

49,626. Then, as I understand you, you are not aware of his receiving for election money more than 10*l.*?—That is all I know of.

49,627. Can you recollect this: whether he told

you in what shape the 10*l.* had come; was it a 10*l.* note or in sovereigns or what?—I do not know.

49,628. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think you say, Mrs. Ireland, that you do not recollect how long before the election it was?—I do not know when it was.

49,629. You do not know how long before the election it was he told you that he had received the 10*l.*?—I do not know.

49,630. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) It was before the election?—I do not know whether it was before or after.

49,631. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You do not know whether it was before or after the election?—It was some time during the election.

49,632. Did your husband at all communicate to you generally on matters of this kind?—Yes, but he never said much about the election.

49,633. About saying that he had received a large sum of money; was he generally so communicative to you that you think he would have communicated the fact?—I believe he would.

49,634. And was it only to the amount of 10*l.* that he did communicate to you he had received?—Yes.

49,635. Supposing he had received so large a sum as 45*l.*, do you think he would have been likely to have communicated the fact to you?—I do not think it would have been possible for him to have that without my knowledge.

49,636. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You were on those kind and confidential terms that you would have been aware of it?—Yes.

49,637. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you any reason to suppose about the time of the election that he had had such a large sum as that to expend?—I had not.

49,638. What was his general occupation?—He was a grocer.

49,639. Was he a grocer in a large way of business or small?—Not very large,—enough to keep him employed himself and another one.

49,640. Who was the other one?—A boy in the shop.

49,641. A boy employed to carry out parcels and goods?—Yes.

49,642. Did you yourself take much part in the business of the shop?—Well, I was always in the shop.

49,643. Always in the shop?—Not all day, but as much as I could be.

49,644. Had you any family?—Three children.

49,645. Of course they would require some portion of your attention?—Yes.

49,646. Did you keep any servant?—Yes.

49,647. One?—Yes.

49,648. One domestic servant?—Yes.

49,649. The domestic servant was attending probably to the house?—Yes.

49,650. And you had your attention more directed to the children?—And the shop.

49,651. What age was the boy in the shop?—Twelve or thirteen.

49,652. Then the boy would not be the person entrusted much in the sale of goods or the business?—No.

49,653. Then the actual business of the shop would rest between yourself and husband?—Yes.

49,654. Then, that being so, you can probably tell me whether you husband was much absent from the shop during the time of the election?—Yes, he went abroad.

49,655. You had more cast upon you during that time?—Yes.

49,656. At what time of the day was he mostly absent?—In the morning between 12 and 1, and in the evening.

49,657. Morning, afternoon, or evening, what time was he mostly absent?—Nearly all day sometimes.

49,658. And did he tell you when he returned home what he had been doing?—No.

49,659. Had he occasion to go out at that time about his ordinary occupation in his own business?—He had not been well, but he did as much as he could when he was at home.

49,660. He was not very well before the election?—No, he died of consumption, and it was upon him during that time.

49,661. How soon after the election did he die?—On the 23rd of September.

49,662. Did his illness at the time of the election at all incapacitate him from the conduct of business, from conducting his business as actively as before?—Yes.

49,663. It did?—Yes.

49,664. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) During the election?—Yes.

49,665. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How long before the election, can you tell me, had that weakness and incapacity come on in conducting his business?—I do not know.

49,666. Was it some time before the election?—It was all the summer.

49,667. Ending with this attack of consumption?—Yes.

49,668. Can you tell me whether when he went out on those days it was for his customary business as a grocer, or for change of air, or for what did he go out?—I am sure I do not know.

49,669. Was he in the habit of going out for orders at all in his business?—Only on Saturday.

49,670. Your business was local to the shops but not with families?—People used to come to us.

49,671. They would come to you, but you used not to attend upon families?—That was it.

49,672. Before the election began he had been in the habit of going out?—I cannot remember.

49,673. You cannot remember?—He was out sometimes, but I cannot remember when.

49,674. I mean before the election came on?—I am sure I do not know.

49,675. You cannot recollect?—No.

49,676. How is it you recollect more about the time of the election; how comes it about that you recollect he was out more just before the election, that he was out then more than at any other time?—He was laid up directly after.

49,677. What, in bed?—Yes.

49,678. Now, having been laid up directly after the election, will that draw your recollection to the fact whether or not the 10*l.* had been received before or after the election?—It was some time before the election.

49,679. In all probability it would be before, if he was laid up shortly after?—It was some time before.

49,680. What I mean by before the election is before the actual polling?—Oh, yes; it was before that.

49,681. I am drawing your attention to the day of polling as the time we call the election?—It was before that.

49,682. Can you give me any suggestion at all as to how long it was?—No, I do not remember.

49,683. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I will not trouble you at all, but there is one little question I wish to ask. How is it you know that it was about the election business you received 10*l.*?—Only because he said so.

49,684. He said when he mentioned the 10*l.* it was about the election business?—Yes.

49,685. Did he carry the 10*l.* into his ordinary trade account, his ordinary business?—No.

49,686. You do not know what he did with it?—No; he kept it himself.

49,687. Mrs. Ireland, what rent did he pay for his house that he voted for? Do you live in it still?—Yes.

49,688. What was the rent of his house?—30*l.* a year.

The witness withdrew.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.

C. Miller.

29 Oct. 1866.

CHARLOTTE MILLER sworn and examined.

49,689. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are the wife of Miller, who was an elector of Reigate?—Yes.

49,690. What was your husband's name?—Robert Miller.

49,691. What was he?—He did the bill sticking during the election.

49,692. What was his other occupation; I do not mean during the election, but his general occupation?—Anything that he could get to do; he was not well, he was not able to do much.

49,693. Was he a voter?—No.

49,694. Was he the person who was employed in keeping the door at the hall?—No.

49,695. Do you know of his receiving any money during the time of the election?—I do not know at all what he received; I know he had so much a week, but what it was I do not know.

49,696. Do you know how much a week he had or was to have?—No, I cannot say.

49,697. Did he tell you what he was to have?—No.

49,698. Did he tell you from whom he was to receive the money?—From Mr. Jordan, I believe.

49,699. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What Jordan?—Thomas Jordan.

49,700. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know how long before the election he began receiving any money?—I do not think he received any before the election.

49,701. Do you know of his receiving anything after the election?—I believe he came to Reigate to receive something.

49,702. You think he did?—I know he did; but what it was I do not know.

49,703. Before he came to Reigate did he tell you he was going to receive it?—Yes.

49,704. Did he tell you to whom he was going to receive the money?—He told me he was going to Reigate to Mr. Hart's office.

49,705. To Mr. Hart's office to receive it?—Yes.

49,706. When he received it did he tell you how much he received?—No, I never knew.

49,707. Did you know of his being occupied then on the election in posting bills?—Yes, I knew he was.

49,708. He was not a voter?—No.

49,709. I will put the same question to you that I put to Mrs. Ireland; was your husband at all communicative to you upon matters of this sort?—Yes; I think he never deceived me in anything.

49,710. No, not deceived you; but suppose he received a large sum of money?—I am sure he would have told me.

49,711. Had you any reason to think that he had received so large a sum as 25*l.*?—No, I am sure he did not.

49,712. How long after the election did he die?—He died on the 15th of December.

49,713. What were his ordinary earnings?—From about 18*s.* to 1*l.* a week.

49,714. 25*l.* would have been a large sum for him to receive at any time?—Yes.

49,715. Or for a short space of time I may say?—Yes.

49,716. Do you believe if he had received so large a sum as that in so short a space of time in one payment that you must have known it?—Oh, yes; I am sure I must have known it.

49,717. Did he tell you, or did you know at all, what the amount was that he did receive?—No.

49,718. Not in any way?—No.

49,719. So you are not enabled to give us any information as regards all that?—Only that he told me he was to have so much a week.

49,720. How much?—30*s.* a week. I do not think he had it.

49,721. Perhaps you can tell me within a reasonable certainty how many weeks he was at work?—I cannot say.

49,722. It was after the election, was it not, that he told you he was going to receive money?—During the election.

49,723. When he said he was coming down to the town to be paid?—That was after the election.

49,724. Did he tell you then whether he had been paid anything at all?—I know he told me he got something, but what it was I do not know, and that he was to come to Reigate again to receive some money, but he never did, because he was too ill.

49,725. He was to come to Reigate to receive more, but he was then taken ill?—Yes.

49,726. He died in December; how long was he ill?—He was not well then, but he was worse certainly after the election; still he was able to get about, but he did not come to Reigate.

49,727. Then it would be very shortly after the election that this would take place, when he was taken ill. Was it after he came to Reigate and got some money that he said he should receive more?—Yes.

49,728. But he did not come to Reigate?—No.

49,729. Did you never receive any after his death?—No.

49,730. Or after his illness?—No.

49,731. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Or during his illness?—No.

49,732. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Can you at all give me any idea of how many weeks he was employed?—No.

49,733. Whilst he was being employed in sticking bills did he tell you at the end of the week he had received money for that work?—No, I never saw him have more than his usual earnings.

49,734. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) During the whole time?—Yes.

49,735. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) For whom did he work?—He lighted the public lamps.

49,736. What did he get for that?—18*s.* a week.

49,737. Then during the time of the election did you ever have brought to you for your household expenses, for carrying on your household expenses and so on, more than 18*s.* a week?—No.

49,738. Was it his habit to bring to you his weekly earnings?—Yes, he always did.

49,739. Then, if he had received more than the 18*s.* a week during the time of the election, do you think that he would have communicated the fact so you?—Yes, I think he would.

49,740. And brought it into the general expenses of the house?—Yes.

49,741. If he had any spare money, where did he generally keep it, or was he likely at all to have spare money?—Yes, sometimes, when he had many different jobs.

49,742. Did he give the money to you?—Yes.

49,743. Then you kept the general expenses and the accounts for him?—Yes.

49,744. Did he not bring some money to you after he had gone to Reigate, to bring it into the general accounts of the house?—He gave me a sovereign after he came from Reigate.

49,745. And that was all he gave you?—Yes, that was all I received.

49,746. Had you any reason to believe that he had received more than the sovereign?—No; he was not a man to spend any money at all.

49,747. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not see him spend any?—No. Of course I could not tell what he did; he was always out all day long.

49,748. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You knew his general habits pretty well, and you had no reason to suppose that he had spent more money than was usual?—No.

49,749. And after his death did you find any more money than you expected he might be possessed of?—No.

49,750. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You found no money in any form or way?—No.

49,751. Nor any money he lent to anybody?—No.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.

C. Miller.

29 Oct. 1866.

49,752. Nor any new clothes he had bought?—No.

49,753. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or private accounts of his own?—No.

49,754. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Tell me, Mrs. Miller, do you know James Nichols?—Yes.

49,755. Was your husband acquainted with him?—I believe he was.

49,756. Have you ever seen them together?—Yes.

49,757. Did you ever know him receive any money from Mr. Nichols?—No.

49,758. I do not mean about the election?—I never saw Mr. Nichols give him any money.

49,759. During the election have you seen him with Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

49,760. What was he doing with Mr. Nichols during the election?—I do not know.

49,761. What were they doing? talking, or what?—Talking together, but what about I cannot say.

49,762. Do you know what your husband was employed on during the election? He took an interest in the election, did he not?—Yes.

49,763. How did he busy himself about the election?—In bill posting.

49,764. On the part of Mr. Monson?—Yes.

49,765. Do I understand you to say that he was engaged in bill posting?—Yes.

49,766. Did you see him after with Mr. Nichols?—Oh, no, not very often.

49,767. But occasionally?—Yes.

49,768. More than once?—Yes.

49,769. Did you live in Reigate yourself?—No, at Redhill.

49,770. Did you ever know him during the election or afterwards receive any money from Mr. Nichols?—No.

49,771. Nothing at all?—I do not know whether he did or not.

49,772. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you ever hear from Mr. Nichols or your husband, or from any one else, up to the time of this Inquiry, that your husband had received 25*l.* from Mr. Nichols?—No.

49,773. From what you know of your husband's habits, and from what you found during your husband's illness and death, do you believe he received 25*l.* from Mr. Nichols?—No; I am quite sure he did not.

49,774. Is that your husband's handwriting (*handing document to witness*)?—My husband could not write.

49,775. Look at that, it may be his cross?—It is not his handwriting I know.

49,776. That is a bill paid by Mr. Hart for 30*s.*?—Yes.

49,777. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Could your husband write?—He could write, but he never did, because he had a bad arm.

49,778. You have seen him write?—Yes.

49,779. Look at the signature across that stamp (*handing another document to witness*)?—That is his handwriting.

THOMAS HART recalled.

T. Hart.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Look at those three bills, one for 6*l.* 10*s.*, one for 10*s.*, and one for 1*l.* 10*s.* (*The documents were handed to the witness.*)

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 8*l.* 10*s.* in all.

49,780. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Those appear to be bills on the face of them that you paid. Do you recollect whether you paid them yourself?—That I certainly paid, because that is my handwriting.

49,781. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You mean the larger one?—Yes.

49,782. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You see on the back of this (*pointing to document*) the aggregate of all the three bills endorsed?—That was endorsed by my clerk, Mr. Small.

49,783. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) That was for bill posting?—Yes.

49,784. He was employed?—Yes.

49,785. Did you employ him yourself, Mr. Hart, or was he employed by Mr. Nichols?—I rather think I employed him myself. I was in the habit of employing him for bill posting.

49,786. He was a respectable man?—Quite so.

49,787. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Let me ask you, Mr. Hart, whether you were aware of any other monies except those which you paid to Miller himself having been paid to Miller?—No.

49,788. On account of the election?—No, certainly not.

The witness withdrew.

JOSEPH JOHNSON sworn and examined.

J. Johnson.

49,789. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What are you, what business do you carry on?—I am a joiner.

49,790. Are you a voter?—Not now; I was three years ago.

49,791. Did you vote at the last election?—No.

49,792. Did you vote in 1863?—Was that Mr. Gower's election?

49,793. Yes; Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes, I did vote then.

49,794. What rent did you pay for the house for which you voted at that election?—About 11*l.*; 4*s.* 6*d.* per week.

49,795. For whom did you vote at that election?—For Mr. Gower.

49,796. Had you been using your best exertions to secure his return?—No, not in any way.

49,797. You did nothing at all?—I did nothing at all.

49,798. Did you receive any money by way of expenses, or anything of that kind?—I might have cost 3*l.* or 4*l.*, but the money I received was only 30*s.* altogether.

49,799. Where were you living at that time?—At Horley, seven and a half miles from this place, on the road to London.

49,800. Had you left this place altogether?—Yes; I had left it seven or eight months, and perhaps longer.

49,801. And given up your house?—Yes.

49,802. And you had been away for seven or eight months?—Yes.

49,803. Was there a railway to the place you were living?—No; Mr. Apted fetched me.

49,804. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which Apted?—Mr. Job Apted.

49,805. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He sent for you in a fly?—No, it was a dog cart; a light cart.

49,806. He sent this to bring you for the election?—Yes.

49,807. You did not pay anything for that?—No.

49,808. How was the 30*s.* expense incurred then?—It was something for my time. I could not afford to lose a couple of days without being paid for it.

49,809. Who paid you?—Mr. Job Apted.

49,810. We will drop the expenses, though you have put them at 3*l.* or 4*l.* There was no expense; you know you had a little treating; you had your beer too?—I should have lost time.

49,811. You did not lose time; you were brought over in a dog cart, and it would not take you more than an hour?—When you begin the day by going out in that way you do not always get back so soon as you actually might.

49,812. Did he drive you back?—He sent me back.

49,813. In his dog cart?—Yes, by a man of the name of Morgan.

49,814. I suppose you were treated well while you were here?—Yes, I had everything I required.

49,815. And you did not pay for that?—No, I did not.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.

J. Johnson.

29 Oct. 1866.

49,816. A dog cart is sent for you to bring you here, when here you had everything you required, and then you are sent back in the dog cart; now, what was your expense?—Well, I came down the night before.

49,817. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you been before to vote?—No, that was the first vote I ever had.

49,818. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They did not canvass you the last election?—No.

49,819. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you living here in 1863?—No, I had been away.

49,820. You are speaking of 1863?—Yes. I left in the month of February, and the election was somewhere about that time twelve months.

49,821. Was your name still on the list of voters in 1865?—No; I did not vote at the last election. I voted at Gower and Wilkinson's election.

The witness then withdrew.

W. Denman.

WILLIAM DENMAN sworn and examined.

49,822. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

49,823. What rent did you pay for your house in 1865 at the election?—11*l.* a year.

49,824. Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Mr. Monson.

49,825. Were you on on his committee?—No, sir.

49,826. You say you were not on Mr. Monson's committee?—I was not.

49,827. Did you do any work for him at the election?—No, sir.

49,828. Nothing at all?—No, sir.

49,829. Before you voted did you receive any money?—Yes.

49,830. Was that paid through Emery?—No; I received it from William Jeal.

49,831. Before the election?—Yes, on the Tuesday night.

49,832. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How much?—30*s.*

49,833. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did you receive money after the election?—Yes.

49,834. How much after?—7*l.* altogether; 3*l.* 10*s.* for myself, and 3*l.* 10*s.* I was to give to Jeal. I had the whole of it given to me.

49,835. Did you hand the 3*l.* 10*s.* over to Jeal?—Yes.

49,836. Who did you receive the 30*s.* from?—Jeal gave me the 30*s.*

49,837. And who gave you the 3*l.* 10*s.*?—I believe it came from William Woodman, making altogether 5*l.* I had.

49,838. Are you sure you did not receive 6*l.* instead of 5*l.*?—Only 5*l.*

49,839. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was that all you received?—5*l.* was all.

49,840. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you know where the money came from?—No, sir, I do not.

49,841. Do you know who paid the 30*s.* to Jeal for you?—I believe it was William Coomber.

49,842. Do you know who he had it from?—No, I do not.

49,843. Do you know Langridge, a publican?—Yes.

49,844. Did he pay you anything?—No.

49,845. Did he tell you he had given any money to anybody for you?—I do not recollect that he did.

49,846. I will tell you what Langridge told us; he said, "I paid 12*l.* to two voters, Denman and Jeal"?—5*l.* was all I received.

49,847. Did you say you got 1*l.* 10*s.* from Woodman?—No, Coomber.

49,848. I thought you said Woodman?—No, he paid me the 7*l.*

49,849. Are you sure it was Woodman?—Yes.

49,850. Had you taken any part in the election in 1863?—No, I only voted once.

49,851. You had not a vote previously?—No.

49,852. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Are you a voter now?—No, I am away from Reigate now. I was away at the election.

49,853. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were away before the election came on in July?—Yes.

49,854. When had you left Reigate?—It was early in the year; I think it was February.

49,855. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Which Woodman was it?—William Woodman the bricklayer.

The witness then withdrew.

W. Jeal.

WILLIAM JEAL called, sworn, and examined.

49,856. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—A bricklayer.

49,857. What rent did you pay at the last election?—6*s.* a week.

49,858. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Monson.

49,859. Previous to the election did you receive any money?—Yes.

49,860. How much?—3*l.*

49,861. Who from?—William ——; I forget the surname.

49,862. Do you mean Langridge?—No, it was Mr. Langridge's fly-driver gave me the money; put it in my hands.

49,863. Was this before the polling?—Yes.

49,864. Was 30*s.* of that for yourself?—Yes.

49,865. And 30*s.* for somebody else?—30*s.* for Denman.

49,866. Had you been on Mr. Monson's committee?—No.

49,867. Had you done anything for Mr. Monson besides voting for him?—No further than going and seeing Mr. Denman.

49,868. Where did you go to see him?—Only about a mile.

49,869. What did you go to see him about?—To know whether he would vote the same way that I was going.

49,870. What did he tell you?—He said he was quite agreeable to go with me.

49,871. After the election did you get some more money paid you?—Yes, 3*l.* 10*s.*

49,872. You say you went to Denman before the election?—Yes.

49,873. Who sent you to Denman?—Mr. Langridge.

49,874. Did you agree with Langridge what you were to have before you went to Denman?—No.

49,875. Did you agree what Denman was to have?—No; all the agreement was, that if we were to receive anything it would be both alike.

48,876. When you got to Denman did you tell Denman what he was to receive?—No, not when I went to him.

49,877. What did you tell him?—I told him that they were come to see us, and they wanted us to vote for Mr. Monson, and I asked him if he was willing to vote for him if I did, and he said yes.

49,878. Did he tell you why? What was the reason that he was to vote the same way that you did?—There was nothing passed about that. We had agreed both to go one way.

49,879. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You and Denman had made up your minds to vote together?—Yes, we working handy one another.

49,880. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you went to Denman did you tell him what agreement you had made with Langridge for yourself?—No.

49,881. You had made an arrangement with Langridge, you know?—Not then I had not; not before we all came together.

49,882. I understood that before you went to Den-

man; Langridge sent you there and told you —— ?—He asked me to go and see him.

49,883. Well, had you not made an agreement with Langridge about receiving something?—No; not then.

49,884. When was it?—Not till after Denman and we all came together.

49,885. "We all?" Were there any others?—Mr. Langridge, Denman, and me.

49,886. When you met after the election?—Before the election when we met.

49,887. Did you receive money after the election?—After I gave my vote.

49,888. How much?—3*l.* 10*s.*

49,889. Who did you receive that from?—William Denman.

49,890. Do you know who William Denman received it from?—I believe he received it from William Woodman.

49,891. Who is Woodman?—A bricklayer.

49,892. Has he anything to do with Langridge?—I do not know; I suppose there was something between them at the time.

49,893. When you, and Denman, and Langridge met together was before the election?—Yes; on the Tuesday night.

49,894. When you met together what did you agree for?—They agreed to come and fetch us on the voting day, in the morning.

49,895. Anything else?—Our pay was to be 5*l.*

49,896. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that in Langridge's house?—No, at the hotel at Godstone.

49,897. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you voted before, at the election in 1863?—No; I had no vote then.

49,898. Was this your first vote?—No, I voted for Doulton.

49,899. For Mr. Doulton in 1858?—Yes.

49,900. Was that the only other election at which you voted?—Once for Mr. Wilkinson.

49,901. You do not know when that was, perhaps?—No, I do not.

49,902. How much did you get for voting for Mr. Doulton?—I really cannot tell you.

49,903. About?—I was paid weekly.

49,904. How much were you paid weekly?—I believe 35*s.*

49,905. Can you tell about how many weeks, about how much it came to?—About three weeks, I think, very handy to that; it is a long time, I almost forget it.

49,906. You say you voted for Mr. Wilkinson; do you know which election that was?—That was the time before this last election, when Mr. Wilkinson put up.

49,907. When Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson were candidates?—Yes.

49,908. What did you do for Mr. Doulton? Did you do anything besides voting for him?—Yes; I was employed.

49,909. To do what?—To walk about and see; to get people on that side.

49,910. You got 35*s.* a week, you know?—I was to get all the voters I could for him.

49,911. Did you get any voters for him?—Yes; I gained three or four, I believe.

49,912. Three or four that you really got for him?—Yes.

49,913. Then you can tell us who they were?—I cannot; it is so long ago I cannot recollect.

49,914. If you got three or four you can recollect one of them?—No, I cannot now.

49,915. Are they all dead?—I do not know that they are, and I do not know that they are not.

49,916. You can tell us one of them?—I really cannot.

49,917. Tell me what you got for Mr. Wilkinson's election; that was in 1863 that you voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes.

49,918. What did you get for that?—1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

49,919. I do not understand that; how do you explain it; it is a very odd sum?—I had 2*s.* 6*d.* from Bonny, and Mr. Holden, the schoolmaster, of Redhill, gave me a sovereign.

49,920. Did Mr. Holden tell you anything about the sovereign when he paid you?—No.

49,921. Did he tell you where he got it from?—I believe it came from Mr. Wilkinson.

49,922. Who gave you the 35*s.* a week at Mr. Doulton's election?—I cannot tell the gentleman's name now.

49,923. Was it Truman?—Yes, Truman, that is right.

JOHN ASHDOWN sworn and examined.

J. Ashdown.

49,924. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you a voter at the last election?—Yes.

49,925. What rent did you pay?—6*s.* 6*d.* a week.

49,926. For whom did you vote?—Mr. Monson.

49,927. Were you employed upon the election at all?—No.

49,928. What are you?—A bailiff.

49,929. A farm bailiff?—Yes, at Chaldon.

49,930. Is that in the borough?—No.

49,931. How far is it from the borough?—Seven miles.

49,932. You were living seven miles away?—Yes.

49,933. Somebody asked you to come and vote, I suppose?—Yes, Mr. Woodhouse.

49,934. When did he ask you to come?—I know it was haying time, about June.

49,935. That would be early in June?—Yes, it was early in June.

49,936. Was Mr. Woodhouse the only person who found you out?—One of Mr. Gower's men came over first to see me, James Dormer, that was.

49,937. He came to you from Mr. Gower?—Yes.

49,938. And Woodhouse from Mr. Monson?—Yes.

49,939. And eventually you voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

49,940. We will take Woodhouse first, as you voted for Mr. Monson; did he hold out any inducement to you to go and vote for Mr. Monson?—No, not at all.

49,941. How did he canvass you?—He came and asked me if I would vote for Mr. Monson; I told him I should not vote for Mr. Gower. So I agreed to vote for Mr. Monson; at least, I said I would if they would pay my expenses, as it was so far off.

49,942. What did Mr. Woodhouse say to that?—I do not know that he said anything.

49,943. Did he say he would do so?—He did not say he would or would not, not at that time.

49,944. Then you voted? Were you seen by Woodhouse, or by anybody else on the part of Mr. Monson, before you did vote, after Woodhouse saw you at the haying time?—Yes; I came over here one evening.

49,945. How long before the election?—A week or ten days, I think.

49,946. Where did you go to?—Down to the "Grapes."

49,947. What took place at the "Grapes" about your vote?—Nothing more than that we had two glasses of grog; I paid for one, and he paid for one.

49,948. Who did?—Woodhouse.

49,949. Then you saw Woodhouse there?—Yes.

49,950. Did you see Nichols there?—I do not know Nichols.

49,951. The landlord?—I know him by sight, that is all.

49,952. Did you speak to anybody but Woodhouse at the "Grapes"?—Not that I know of.

49,953. Was anything arranged between you and Woodhouse about your coming over and voting?—No.

49,954. As to your expenses?—No, nothing.

49,955. Who paid your expenses for coming over to the "Grapes" on that occasion?—Nobody. I

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.

J. Ashdown.

9 Oct. 1866.

drove myself over in a light cart, the same as I came to-day.

49,956. Were you paid anything after that election?—Yes, I received 1*l.* for my expenses.

49,957. Who paid you?—Mr. Woodhouse.

49,958. Which Mr. Woodhouse? What is his Christian name?—I do not know.

49,959. Where does he live?—In Nutley-lane. I had three journeys over here.

49,960. One was to have a glass of grog with Woodhouse at the "Grapes"?—Yes.

49,961. You did not mind that journey?—No.

49,962. When was it, in the evening?—Yes.

49,963. After you had done your bailiff work?—Yes.

49,964. Was it your own horse and cart?—No; the master's.

49,965. Did you have leave from the master to drive over?—Yes.

49,966. Dormer asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

49,967. Did he offer you anything?—He told me if I voted for Mr. Gower I should not stop at 1*l.*, nor yet at 2*l.* That is pretty nearly all the conversation he and I had.

49,968. Had you asked him about your expenses before?—No, that is the only time I saw him.

49,969. Had you told him that you had made up your mind how you should vote?—No; he asked me if he should put my name down on the list, and I said, "No."

49,970. On the committee list?—No.

49,971. On the list of promises?—Yes.

49,972. Can you tell me when it was that Dormer called upon you; how long before Woodhouse called?—I do not know, it might be a fortnight before; I cannot say to a few days.

49,973. Was that all the money you received?—Yes.

49,974. Had you voted in 1863?—No.

49,975. Had you voted before?—No.

49,976. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How did you come over to vote on the day of election, did you walk?—In my master's light cart.

49,977. You paid nothing for it?—No.

49,978. He gave you permission to come?—Yes.

49,979. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were paid weekly wages?—Yes.

49,980. You had your usual weekly wages from your master?—Yes.

49,981. Therefore there was no loss of time on your part?—No.

49,982. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you receive any beer or refreshment?—No, I did not.

49,983. You did not wait to get refreshment?—No; I think I was the first that voted for Mr. Monson.

49,984. Then you drove off immediately?—I got off in the cart at once, as we were busy hay-carting.

49,985. You say you received money after the election; was it on the day after you had voted, or some days after?—Some days after.

49,986. Did you receive it in Reigate?—Yes.

49,987. Did you come over for it?—Yes.

49,988. How did you know you were going to receive money, except from what Woodhouse had told you?—I came to see what they were going to have; there was nothing said what I was to have, and no one promised me what I was to have.

49,989. But having voted you came to see what you would get, and you got 1*l.*?—Yes.

G. Goodchild.

GEORGE GOODCHILD sworn and examined.

49,990. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What business do you carry on?—I am chief clerk to Mr. Carruthers, the builder.

49,991. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

49,992. For Mr. Monson?—No, for Mr. Gower.

49,993. What rent do you pay?—I occupy a house conjointly with my father; it is rated at 20*l.*

49,994. You and your father occupy the same house?—Yes; the lease is made out in our joint names.

49,995. The house is on lease?—Yes.

49,996. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is worth more than 20*l.*?—Yes.

49,997. You do the repairs?—Yes. At another assessment we shall probably be put up.

49,998. Let to a yearly tenant without a lease it would probably be worth 30*l.*?—Perhaps it would; it is very old.

49,999. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did many of Mr. Carruthers' men vote for Mr. Gower?—There were several.

50,000. And several received money?—Yes, I am sorry to say they did.

50,001. And some voted for Mr. Monson?—Yes.

50,002. You voted for Mr. Gower?—Certainly.

50,003. Did you canvass the men in the yard?—I did not canvass any one; I should not like to do it, I think it is a very wrong thing to do.

50,004. Perhaps you spoke to them, if you did not canvass them?—No; the utmost that passed between me and the men was in joke, if anything was said as I passed through the shops. I certainly never did the least thing to influence the men.

50,005. Do you recollect what the joke was? "How much will you have?" or anything of that kind?—No; I never said anything about money.

50,006. What was the joke?—The only joke in reference to money was at the last election but one, Mr. Wilkinson's election. One of the men said they had had so much money given by Mr. Gower's party, and I think I said, "I suppose if Mr. Wilkinson came and offered a little more, you would go over to him."

50,007. Did you vote at that election in 1863 for Mr. Gower?—No, I was not qualified then.

50,008. Did you at all exert yourself for Mr. Gower?—Yes; I attended the committees and so on, and I did all I could in the way of setting an example, but I did not canvass or persuade the men.

50,009. You attended the committee meetings?—Yes, pretty regularly.

50,010. And took an active part in aiding the election?—Yes, as far as I could, except canvassing.

50,011. Did you lose any of your time at all?—I think about a day, or a little more.

50,012. What were you paid for that?—Nothing.

50,013. Nothing?—No; I paid it out of my own pocket; that is, I had it stopped in my wages.

50,014. Stopped by Mr. Carruthers?—I stopped it myself; I paid myself.

50,015. You received no compensation for that?—Nothing whatever.

50,016. No monies of any kind?—No.

50,017. Did any monies pass through your hands?—No, I did not receive a sixpence.

50,018. Did any monies pass through your hands to give to the men?—Nothing in any shape; in fact, if I had known that so much money was passing I should not have voted at all. I have a very strong feeling about elections.

I. Short.

ISAAC SHORT sworn and examined.

50,019. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you?—Agent for Pickford & Co.

50,020. What do you pay for your house?—6*s.* a week.

50,021. At the last election who did you vote for?—Mr. Gower.

50,022. Who canvassed you for Mr. Gower?—No one particularly.

50,023. Who asked you to vote for him?—Mr. Green, the builder.

50,024. And you promised Mr. Green that you would?—No.

50,025. Did you make some arrangement with Mr. Green ?—No, I did not ; not particular.

50,026. Not any arrangement at all ?—When he asked me I told him I should not vote against him if I did not vote for him.

50,027. What did Mr. Green say to that ?—He said, " That will do."

50,028. And you did vote for him ?—Yes.

50,029. Did he put you on Mr. Gower's committee ?—No.

50,030. Did you do anything at all for Mr. Gower ?—No.

50,031. Before the election ?—No.

50,032. Before the election did you go to Mr. Green and see him again ?—No.

50,033. Did you receive anything from Mr. Green before the election ?—No.

50,034. Nothing at all ?—No.

50,035. No money, I mean ?—No.

50,036. Did you see him after the election ?—I have seen him many times.

50,037. About the election ?—No.

50,038. Did you receive anything from Mr. Green after the election ?—No.

50,039. Did you from anybody ?—Not a farthing.

50,040. You never have ?—No.

50,041. Did you lose your time at all ?—Mr. Green told me I should be paid for the polling day if I liked to go and vote for them.

50,042. That is the question I asked you before ?—I never received anything.

50,043. What did you say to Mr. Green ?—I said, " It depends upon how my work runs, whether I vote " or not."

50,044. And you did go and vote ?—Yes.

50,045. At Redhill ?—Yes.

50,046. Then you considered that Mr. Green owed you something ?—I expected that he would give me a trifle.

50,047. Did you vote for Mr. Gower because you thought Mr. Green would make up for your loss of time ?—No, nothing particular about that. He spoke to me on the polling morning about five minutes before eight.

50,048. If you expected that he would give you something for loss of time did you never ask him afterwards ?—I never asked him.

50,049. And he never offered it to you ?—No.

50,050. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What did he say you were to have ?—He did not say I was to have any money. He said I was to have something for coming.

50,051. For loss of time ?—No.

50,052. Did you not know what they were getting ?—No. I did not get anything myself.

50,053. Did you hear what they were getting ?—I heard that some had money.

50,054. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What did you expect ?—Just a trifle.

50,055. I only want you to tell us ?—Something like 5*s.* or 10*s.*; that is what I expected of him.

50,056. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The ordinary pay for a working day ?—Yes, that is all ; I did not expect more than that; he never spoke to me about it.

50,057. 5*s.* or 10*s.* ?—I would have taken anything in a fair way ; I would not have taken over a pound.

50,058. If you had been offered 5*s.* you would not have refused it ?—No.

50,059. You were willing to receive anything between 5*s.* and 1*l.* ?—I was willing to receive something. I did not receive a farthing, and I did not ask for it.

50,060. What you mean to say is, that you would not have taken 5*l.*, but you would not have received 1*l.* ?—No, I should have taken that if they had offered it to me.

50,061. Then your price was between 5*s.* and 1*l.* ?—I expected something of that kind.

JOHN WILLIAM TRUMAN sworn and examined.

J. W. Truman.

50,062. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) What business do you follow ?—I am a brick manufacturer and a tavern keeper.

50,063. Where do you carry on your business ?—At 13, Carnaby-street, Golden-square.

50,064. What business ?—The tavern.

50,065. Where do you carry on the brickmaking ?—Occasionally on lines of railway.

50,066. You take contracts ?—Yes ; I do not happen to have one now, but that is my profession.

50,067. Contracts in brickmaking ?—Yes.

50,068. Wherever you find the land which will form the bricks, there you go ?—Wherever an opportunity occurs, so that I can make something worth my while.

50,069. Do you recollect the election of 1858 for this borough ?—I have some recollection.

50,070. I hope more than " some " ?—It is eight years ago.

50,071. I hope your recollection will improve as we go on. You had been introduced to Mr. Doulton at that time, I believe ?—Some time before.

50,072. Was that the first occasion in which you had taken any part in the money matters of an election ?—No.

50,073. Where had you gained your experience in the money matters of election ?—In the Lambeth election of 1857.

50,074. Who were the candidates then ? — Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. William Williams, and Mr. Roupell.

50,075. And you carried the election by a tremendous majority ?—No doubt of it.

50,076. And after that I suppose you were recommended by Mr. Roupell to Mr. Doulton ?—I recommended myself.

50,077. You applied ?—I did.

50,078. And you referred to your services in Mr. Roupell's behalf as evidence of your efficiency ?—Certainly.

50,079. Had you had any experience in the financial department of elections before 1857 ?—I do not think I had, not materially.

50,080. Then, knowing that there was a contested election in 1858, you came down to appear as the financial man on behalf of Mr. Doulton ?—Not in the first instance.

50,081. You came down first to feel your way, I suppose ?—Yes, no doubt about that; but I did not receive my appointment on starting.

50,082. Having felt your way and received your appointment, you came here as the financial man ?—They considered that I should be useful in that position.

50,083. Don't let us beat about the bush. You came down as the financial man to conduct the financial department of the election ?—No, I was not appointed in the first instance. I did not come down with that view.

50,084. When were you appointed ?—Afterwards.

50,085. When ?—About a week after I came down.

50,086. How long before the polling day were you appointed the financial man ?—I suppose about four or five weeks.

50,087. For five weeks you stepped, as it were, into the financial chair for the purpose of conducting the election. Who were with you then ?—It was arranged that I should be the agent for election expenses, and that Mr. Richard Barton should act as legal adviser to Mr. Doulton, and that I should sign cheques, or that Mr. Barton should sign cheques. I hardly recollect the order, but at all events one signed the cheques, and the other countersigned them.

50,088. Then we will take it as five weeks before the polling day ?—It might be.

50,089. You were the expenses agent under the Act of Parliament ?—The acknowledged expenses agent.

50,090. So that when the expenses went in you signed them ?—I believe I did.

50,091. We understand that Mr. Doulton was a candidate; was Mr. Wilkinson a candidate?—Yes, he was.

50,092. And Mr. Walters?—Yes.

50,093. And who else? Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Yes.

50,094. And I believe Mr. Doulton, for whom you appeared, was the only man out of these who went to the poll as against Sir Henry Rawlinson?—Mr. Monson did; Mr. Monson, Mr. Doulton, and Sir Henry Rawlinson.

50,095. Being the financial agent, have you any account, made at the time, of the monies that were expended at the election?—I have none.

50,096. Have you ever had any?—I had at the time, but I handed them over to Mr. Doulton.

50,097. Can you give me, as far as your memory will serve you, the amount of the expenses that were submitted to the election auditor, as he was then called?—You will admit it was some years ago, so that I must give it from the best of my recollection. I never expected to be called upon to give an account of this after the lapse of so long a time. To the best of my recollection I think up to the day of nomination it was between 500*l.* and 600*l.*

50,098. What I asked was, how much was submitted to the auditor for his audit, the entire expenses?—I think, as far as I can recollect, under 1,000*l.*; it was 900*l.* odd; it is impossible to say exactly, I have no account.

50,099. How much money, do you recollect, was paid afterwards by Mr. Doulton through you?—I really cannot recollect the sum.

50,100. A considerable sum?—No. I should think from first to last ——; it would have been a considerable sum if we had paid all demands.

50,101. I am speaking of what you did pay?—I think from 1,300*l.* to 1,400*l.*; about 1,350*l.* perhaps. That included personal expenses, hotel expenses of Mr. Doulton, myself, Mr. Barton, and the other agent.

50,102. The amount of money that you yourself received as your fee is not included?—My fee was a mere nominal fee; it is all included.

50,103. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then if it was a mere nominal fee you may as well say what it was?—Well, I always said I never had a pipe of tobacco out of it, and I believe it is a fact. I may have had five or ten guineas as a sort of compliment. I did not come down with that view. I knew Mr. Doulton very well, and felt an interest in him; as long as my personal expenses were paid ——. I might have had a 10*l.* note, I do not recollect that I had.

50,104. (*Mr. Commisioner O'Brien.*) Then we may say that your own personal expenses, and no more, would be included in that amount?—I might have had a little complimentary amount.

50,105. You mean you had no specified fee?—I almost forget whether Mr. Doulton made me a present of a few pounds; at all events, that was no consideration to me.

50,106. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It probably did not go into the account, as you were not a voter?—I should think it did, any personal amount to me.

50,107. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I mean those monies paid for election expenses; you would hardly consider that a present to you would be included in that. Did you work for Mr. Roupell upon the same terms?—I did.

50,108. You were an entire stranger to the borough?—Quite.

50,109. When you came down in the first instance, before you assumed the financial management, will you tell me what meetings you attended; what meetings were called to feel the pulse of the electors?—I really cannot recollect.

50,110. Some meetings were called?—Of course. There were several meetings in this place.

50,111. And some private meetings, to which the heads of parties, men like Mr. Job Apted and others, were invited?—Would you classify them? Do you mean meetings at the houses of private friends?

50,112. Half committee meetings, composed of some of the leading men in the borough; do you recollect any meetings of that kind?—I hardly understand you. If you will simplify it to me I shall be happy to answer your question.

50,113. Do you recollect a meeting with Mr. Nichols and others, when you said you had had great experience in election matters, that you knew how to carry an election, and that they knew nothing about it?—I do not recollect saying those words. No doubt I told Nichols that I was as good a man as he.

50,114. And that he knew nothing about it?—Well, I thought I was a better man than he.

50,115. And that you would carry the election?—Well, I hope you won't take that, that you will not include that in the document here, because I do not recollect saying those words.

50,116. You do not deny it?—If you like to put it down you can. I do not acknowledge it. I do not recollect those words. There is no doubt I told Nichols that I was quite as good a man at an election as he.

50,117. As good a man in knowing how to expend money?—No, I did not say that.

50,118. Then what did you mean?—In conducting an election.

50,119. What did you mean by conducting an election otherwise than by a careful and judicious employment of money?—By organizing a staff and carrying on the election in a proper manner.

50,120. Employing men?—Employing canvassers.

50,121. Did you employ all the men who were employed at that election?—No, I did not employ any.

50,122. Then that was not what you meant?—It does not matter what I told him.

50,123. You had better attend to the questions. That is not what you meant. You could not mean that you were better than Nichols in organizing and employing men if you did not devote your attention to that. I ask you again, did you not mean by that that you knew better how to expend money judiciously and with proper effect?—No, I did not mean so.

50,124. Then what did you mean?—That by carrying on the election in a proper manner we should secure a return if possible.

50,125. You did not employ the men?—I did not.

50,126. What did you do?—I merely submitted them to Mr. Doulton.

50,127. Submitted what?—Whoever was employed.

50,128. You sent out and collected a number of suitable men to be employed, and submitted them to Mr. Doulton; is that what you did?—I beg your pardon; they applied to me.

50,129. They came to you, and you selected them?—Those that I thought the best suited.

50,130. Of course when they applied to you you looked at the register. You had, I suppose, the register before you as one of the first things?—Yes, no doubt.

50,131. And the moment they applied to you you, as a skilful man, looked at the register?—I never looked at it at all in that case.

50,132. You had the register by you?—I never took that as a rule. We had a register in the room. I never carried it with me.

50,133. You were not walking about; you had an office. Had you a register of voters in your office?—I had no office.

50,134. You had a room?—We had several rooms.

50,135. Where?—We had a committee room at the "White Hart."

50,136. Where were your head-quarters?—I do not know of any at all. We went about from one room to another.

50,137. Where did you stay chiefly?—At Mr. Boult's private room.

50,138. You did not see any persons there?—No.

50,139. Where were you in the habit of seeing persons when they applied for employment?—Sometimes at the "White Hart," and sometimes at Barefoot's at Redhill.

50,140. What was Barefoot's?—A tavern; I forget the name; the "Royal Oak."

50,141. The "White Hart" and the "Royal "Oak;" you were there when persons came and asked for employment. Did you know that most of the men who were employed were voters?—I never inquired.

50,142. Did you know that most of the men that were being employed were voters?—I did not know it. I found out afterwards that some of them were.

50,143. I say most of them, and I say it advisedly?—I cannot say that.

50,144. How many men had you employed?—It is impossible for me to tell.

50,145. Just recollect?—I cannot tell you, I cannot charge my memory; it is eight years ago.

50,146. About how many?—It is impossible for me to say.

50,147. You have not been an election agent since, have you?—Yes, every time.

50,148. Where?—For Alderman Lawrence at the Lambeth election, for Mr. Roupell at the 1859 election, and for Mr. Doulton in the 1863 election.

50,149. Filling the same position?—Not as financial agent; simply as working agent.

50,150. Were you not aware then (I ask you advisedly) that men were employed who were electors?—I know that some were.

50,151. A considerable number?—I cannot say that.

50,152. Were you not aware that more than one elector was employed to carry boards about on their backs?—I really do not recollect whether they were boardsmen or whether they were canvassers or messengers that were electors.

50,153. Are you not aware that men were employed as electors carrying boards?—I am not aware.

50,154. You were not aware?—I do not recollect that they were. They might have been some of them electors, but it is impossible for me to say.

50,155. Did you pay wages every week?—I did.

50,156. On a Friday?—That I cannot recollect; it may have been on a Friday.

50,157. Can you tell me what was the weekly expenditure?—It is impossible.

50,158. About?—It is impossible; I cannot say.

50,159. About?—No, nor about. I will give you the total as near as I can recollect, the total cost of the election; but to give the weekly statement, you might as well ask me to jump over the moon.

50,160. Have you no recollection of what you paid weekly to the men?—No.

50,161. I understand that Mr. Doulton engaged no man except you submitted his name, or sent him to him?—I will not be positive about that. He employed some that I submitted to him, but I fancy he employed some without my sanction or knowledge.

50,162. Whom did he employ?—I cannot tell. Most of them are dead. As to knowing whether they were electors, it is impossible for me to tell you. It is eight years since, and I cannot tax my memory.

50,163. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I dare say you have had time to think of these things?—My time is occupied in getting on in this world, and as to an election eight years ago, it would not come into my mind. I have got to get on in the world, and therefore it won't do to be looking back to what took place eight years ago.

50,164. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) We want you to throw some light on the election, not about your getting on in the world?—I will answer any questions, anything straightforward, but you must not expect me to answer things that I cannot recollect.

50,165. If you would not make a speech we should get on much better?—I do not want to make speeches.

50,166. To your knowledge did Mr. Doulton employ any men except those whose names you submitted to him?—I cannot tell. I have no doubt. I was not down here till some little time, perhaps a week, as I stated. There were some little inquiries and some little arrangements made. I was not the first person down here, and I think if I recollect right——

50,167. Who were the others?—Mr. Doulton, Mr. Featherstone, and Mr. Boult, previous to my coming here.

50,168. Who were your principal sub-agents?—Mr. Featherstone was one.

50,169. Who else?—Mr. Boult.

50,170. Who else?—Well, Mr. James Apted. I really cannot think any more.

50,171. Mr. Barber?—Mr. Barker.

50,172. Who else?—Well, I cannot recollect; but if you do as you did just now I might.

50,173. That is to say, if I know you will know too?—Yes.

50,174. If I can tell you you can tell me?—What I know I know, but I do not know anything else.

50,175. Can you tell us any other names?—I know of no other name, unless you can assist my memory. If you can remind me of them——

50,176. What were their fees, do you recollect? Did you arrange with them?—I read in the newspapers what Barker stated about his fee.

50,177. I am not asking you about Barker. Did you arrange with Featherstone about his fee?—I do not know; I think Mr. Doulton arranged.

50,178. What fee did he receive?—I do not recollect him having any fee.

50,179. He was like yourself then?—I think he had his expenses.

50,180. He was a volunteer?—I think so.

50,181. Now, as to Mr. Boult?—I do not think he had any fee.

50,182. He was a volunteer?—I think he was.

50,183. Mr. James Apted?—I think he received something.

50,184. How much?—I cannot recollect; I have no accounts. I know it was not a very extravagant affair, because I reckoned James Apted was about as good a man as we had to deal with. He was very earnest in the cause, and I don't think he had an extravagant sum.

50,185. What do you mean by saying he was as good a man as you had to deal with; do you mean that he worked cheap?—He had nothing extravagant.

50,186. Did you find many others?—No, I cannot recollect them. Some of them are dead.

50,187. Can you recollect any?—There was Barker.

50,188. Never mind Barker; can you give me the name of any other man?—I cannot recollect them now, but I know there were some.

50,189. Besides Barker, can you give me the names of any sub-agents and the amounts you paid them?—No, I cannot.

50,190. Your mind is a complete blank on the subject?—I do not recollect one word about the amount of the fees paid; I cannot recollect one word. Of course, you know, it is eight years ago, and that is a good time for me to recollect. I was a smart chap eight years ago. Now I am getting old, you know, and my memory is not quite so good.

50,191. You are bound to disclose what you know, and you say your memory is very bad?—I am not only bound to disclose it because you tell me so, but because I know I have a right to do so.

50,192. Now, of all the monies that have passed through your hands, you cannot give me the name of any one man who has acted as sub-agent and received money from you?—I can, but you would not allow me to do so just now.

50,193. Who?—Barker.

50,194. We know all about Barker; but apart from Barker, of whom we have had evidence, do you know of any other man?—I do not.

50,195. Not as canvasser?—No.

50,196. Nor as sub-agent?—No.

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50,197. Nor as boardsman ?—No.

50,198. Nor as bill sticker ?—No.

50,199. Nor in any other capacity ?—No, I cannot recollect.

50,200. If you cannot recollect the name of any man, do you know the amount you paid, the specific amount ?—I say no.

50,201. You say no ?—I do say no.

50,202. Now tell me, when men came to be paid were you there ? Did the money pass through your hands to the different men ?—It did.

50,203. When any man came to be paid; for example, take the case of a man who had been carrying a board about, he would represent what he had been doing ?—Yes, how many days.

50,204. Do you recollect any one that you paid weekly wages to ?—I know what they had per day.

50,205. How much ?—When they were lads they had not quite so much as men, but if they were men they had half-a-crown a day.

50,206. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is that for the boards ?—Yes, that is to the best of my recollection.

53,207. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am afraid your memory is not good as to that. Half-a-crown a day is not a large sum ?—They might have had 3*s.* 6*d.*

50,208. I ask you, can you pledge your oath that any voter was employed at 2*s.* 6*d.* a day ?—I beg your pardon.

50,209. Can you pledge your oath that any voter was employed at 2*s.* 6*d.* a day ?—I do not know that any voters were employed. I do not say they were voters who carried boards.

50,210. Can you pledge your oath that any voter in any capacity was paid 2*s.* 6*d.* a day. It won't do, you know ?—I do not quite understand you.

50,211. I asked what was the money the men were paid daily. You say 3*s.* 6*d.* ?—I did not say they were voters.

50,212. What were the voters paid ?—There was no difference; they were all paid alike, if they were voters.

50,213. If they were all paid alike, tell me entirely what they were paid; tell me how much ?—Some of them had half-a-crown, and I know at most they never had more than 3*s.* 6*d.* a day, but I do not think it was more than half-a-crown. At all events, it was not more than 3*s.* 6*d.* a day.

50,214. We have had numbers who have been examined here who stated that they were paid 5*s.* and 7*s.* a day. Do you mean to say that your tariff was not above 3*s.* 6*d.* a day ?—Yes, to the best of my recollection.

50,215. You are only speaking to the best of your recollection ?—I believe I am right, but I should not like to be bound by it.

50,216. You arranged with them, you know ?—They did not like my arrangements, because I was very close with them.

50,217. Did you arrange with them ?—No doubt I did.

50,218. You say they were paid from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* a day; is that so ?—I believe it was so, to the best of my recollection.

50,219. We had some men receiving 1*l.* 15*s.* a week for seven weeks from your hands; they said so. However, they may be wrong ?—We are not bound to believe what we hear, sir.

50,220. Now, can you tell me the number of men you employed at 3*s.* 6*d.* a day ?—That is impossible; I cannot recollect it.

50,221. Did you pay all the money yourself; was it paid through your own hands ?—I paid it, but there were others with me at the table.

50,222. Who were they ?—Mr. Barker. I do not say he was always there.

50,223. Who else ? — If I recollect right, Mr. Murphy occasionally was with me.

50,224. And saw the money pass ?—I should not like to swear that he saw the money pass.

50,225. Did either of those gentlemen, Mr. Murphy or Mr. Barker, ever pay any money themselves ?—Not to my knowledge.

50,226. All the money passed through your hands ?—Yes, I think it did.

50,227. Did those who were employed bring you in weekly bills ?—Well, if they did not bring in weekly bills they had to sign a document.

50,228. I suppose you had the names of all the men down, and the week, and when you paid them they put their signature to the 1*l.* 15*s.* at the bottom ?—Not exactly.

50,229. What then ?—If they had a little account (some of them would bring a little account), I simply made out a bit of receipt, and they signed it. I never paid any money to any one without taking a receipt for it.

50,230. And that receipt you copied into a book, I suppose ?—I have no doubt if I did not do that I kept a statement on paper, and it was handed to the election auditor.

50,231. You copied it into a book, and that book you sent, I suppose, to Mr. Doulton ?—Mr. Doulton had it; that is to say, the auditor had it, and I expect the auditor returned it to him. At all events, the anditor had it.

50,232. Had not you submitted it to Mr. Doulton before you sent it to the auditor ?—Mr. Doulton had everything.

50,233. But no money passed through his hands ?—No, no money passed through his hands.

50,234. Now, what is the largest amount of weekly wages that you paid ?—I am sure I cannot say. I should be very happy to do it if I could, but I cannot.

50,235. I have mentioned to you that several men stated that at that time you were paying them 1*l.* 15*s.* You had better be cautious, you know. Thorpe says that he had been employed for seven weeks at Doulton's election, that he had received about 14*l.*, and he was a teetotaler then. Several men mentioned that they had received 5*s.*, others 7*s.*, and some more ?—How many weeks, may I ask ?

50,236. Thorpe said seven weeks ? — And how much money did he say he got ?

50,237. He says he received 14*l.* ?—That would be 2*l.* per week, would it not ?

50,238. Yes.—But then he was not a board carrier.

50,239. I am not confining my questions to board carriers. Pray don't parry the question. Do you mean that, of all the men you employed to aid Mr. Doulton in the election, none of them received more than 3*s.* 6*d.* a day ?—I do not say that. I am speaking of board carriers. Put your questions as you like, I will answer them properly.

50,240. Putting aside board carriers (I did not ask you a question about board carriers for the last 20 minutes) I ask, what was the largest sum you paid to men employed in the election ?—I told you very respectfully that I could not recollect.

50,241. You told me that you did not pay them more than 3*s.* 6*d.* a day ?—I am speaking of board carriers.

50,242. What was the amount you paid to others ?—I do not recollect. I was speaking of board carriers at 3*s.* 6*d.* The question you put to me was what I paid to board carriers.

50,243. I will waive that ?—I am bound to bow to you.

50,244. I will waive that. I ask you, apart from board carriers you engaged other men, what did you engage them for ? How much a day ?—What class of men are you alluding to now ?

50,245. Name any class; canvassers ? — Well, I cannot recollect exactly the rate they received, the wages.

50,246. You need not say exactly, but tell us about how much ?—Some of them 7*s.* 6*d.* a day. It all depended upon——

50,247. What other class had you ?—We had messengers.

50,248. What were the messengers paid ?—I forget. I know some of them had 5*s.* a day.

50,249. In what other capacity were men employed? —We had door keepers.

50,250. What did the door keepers get?—Well, I don't know. That is rather a menial appointment, and I cannot recollect. They had not a great deal.

50,251. Had you any voters as door keepers?—It is impossible to recollect.

50,252. Was there a single canvasser employed that was not a voter?—That I cannot answer. I should be very sorry to say there were not some that were voters, but I cannot name them.

50,253. I ask you to name any one single canvasser employed that was not a voter?—Well, James Apted.

50,254. Was not James Apted a voter?—He was a voter.

50,255. I ask you to give me the name of any man employed as a canvasser who was not a voter.

(*James Apted.*) No, I was not a voter at that time.

(*The Witness.*) Then I cannot recollect. I thought James Apted was a voter. There is an answer to the question.

50,256. You cannot recollect any?—No, I cannot.

50,257. Who introduced the men to you to employ? Who brought them to you?—Well, one introduced the other. Perhaps Mr. Featherstone might have said, "There's a man who is a very respectable man, and "a very useful man;" Mr. Boult might have introduced one or two, and Apted.

50,258. What I am asking you is, who did introduce them, not who might?—I cannot tell. I believe those did; they would all, any one would.

50,259. Featherstone, Boult, and Apted? Any one else?—Well, I dare say they did; I dare say there were some others.

50,260. Who recommended Mr. Barker?—I think Mr. Doulton made his arrangements with him himself.

50,261. Did Mr. Barker introduce anybody to you? —There is no doubt of it.

50,262. Who?—I cannot recollect.

50,263. Your memory seems very bad?—I think perhaps after a lapse of eight years your memory would not serve you quite so well, if I am not out of order in saying so. It won't do, these young fellows here are putting down every word I say, and if I make a mistake I shall be all over London to-morrow morning. No, I shall tell you the truth, sir.

50,264. Can you give us the name of any one employed who was not a voter?—I thought that Apted was a voter, but you see I was wrong; and I might now tell you of other men who were employed, and say they were not voters, and they might be voters.

50,265. You do not recollect at all?—It is impossible. If I had had the papers, why then I should have been candid enough to show them, and you would have seen as well as me, but I have no papers, and can only tell you just what I recollect, and nothing more.

50,266. That is an unfortunate predicament to be in. There seems to be a great destruction of papers? —Documents are useful. I only wish I had kept some documents; not in this case, but others.

50,267. Will you tell me, with regard to the 400*l.* or 500*l.* expenses, how they were made up. Did you pay any canvassers after the election?—Well, the accounts were all sent in up to the election; that is to say, there was an account sent in to the auditor up to the nomination, and then after the nomination they were all sent in to the auditor, and I think they amounted to 950*l.* There were several sent in.

50,268. Sent in to you?—Yes.

50,269. By whom?—By Mr. Barker.

50,270. I wish you would leave Mr. Barker out of the question for the present. Anybody else?—There were several, but I cannot tell. There was the landlord of the "Warwick." He wanted to have rather a pull, if I may use the expression, out of Mr. Doulton.

50,271. What bill did he send in?—It was for a committee room. It was after the election. I do not say it was for anything done after the election. It was for a committee room, and he wanted to charge five or six tons of coals for firing.

50,272. What was the amount sent in?—I cannot recollect now; it was more than he got.

50,273. About how much?—It might have been five or ten pounds. That was for expenses.

50,274. What was he paid?—I do not know what he was paid, but there was a lopping off.

50,275. You know there was 400*l.* or 500*l.* paid after the election?—That I deny.

50,276. I understood you to say so?—I said 1,350*l.* altogether.

50,277. Paid after the election?—No, that was altogether; Mr. Doulton's personal expenses and mine.

50,278. Mr. Doulton did not include his personal expenses, did he?—Yes, I paid his bills for him. I paid all his bills for him.

50,279. Apart from Mr. Doulton's personal expenses, which you know are not included in the election account?—Well, we will drop that; the election account was about 950*l.*

50,280. 950*l.*?—I believe that was the amount of the expenses as sent in to the auditor.

50,281. Do you mean that there were no other expenses than those sent in to the auditor?—There might have been a few, but I think they were personal expenses.

50,282. Apart from personal expenses?—Then I do not recollect. I must stick to that. I do not recollect.

50,283. Mr. Truman, you know I have no mode of testing your memory?—Just so; and I have no disposition to say anything that is wrong.

50,284. Do you mean to say, that the money having passed through your hands, no money on account of the election was paid except that submitted to the auditor?—I do not recollect that there was.

50,285. Just think of the question for a moment? —Well, sir, the question was so simple; it does not want much consideration. I say that I do not recollect it.

50,286. Will you pledge your oath that you do not know?—I do not recollect.

50,287. Will you pledge your oath to this, that you do not know there were other monies paid on account of that election than those submitted to the auditor? —Not election expenses.

50,288. I say on account of the election?—Election expenses.

50,289. Apart from any personal expenses of Mr. Doulton?—No, I do not.

50,290. And did not these monies pass through your hands, or some of them?—What monies?

50,291. The monies apart from those submitted to the auditor, after the account was submitted to the auditor?—There were some monies passed through my hands.

50,292. After the account was submitted to the auditor?—Yes, but not election expenses.

50,293. For what?—Private expenses.

50,294. What?—Hotel expenses.

50,295. I am putting Mr. Doulton's hotel expenses out of the question. Did not other monies pass through your hands after the accounts had been submitted to the auditor?—I do not recollect any.

50,296. After you returned to town?—I do not recollect it.

50,297. Did you pay any money after you returned to town?—I do not recollect that I did.

50,298. Did you come down here again?—Several times.

50,299. I mean after the election?—Several times.

50,300. Did you come down to pay or settle any accounts?—I came down when I paid the personal expenses. I believe I came down to pay the personal

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expenses; but I came down, separate from that altogether, to enjoy myself.

50,301. I ask you, did not you come down to settle accounts; to settle bills after the auditor had audited the expenses of the election?—Not for election expenses to my knowledge. I came down to settle some expenses. One has just occurred to my mind, and that was this: I lived at Mr. Bolt's, and took apartments. I had a bedroom there, and I came down to pay him a little account I owed him for my bedroom and other little things.

50,302. That would not require you to come down?—Well, I tell you, at the same time I came down for a day's shooting, so that I did not come down exactly to pay him, because I could have paid him at any time after that, but you asked me about what I did after the election.

50,303. Now, did you come down for the purpose of settling bills handed to you after the election?—Bills of that kind.

50,304. What kind?—I have stated personal expenses. I do not recollect any others.

50,305. Tell me any other expenses; personal expenses?—I think I paid Mr. Goldsmith at the "White Hart."

50,306. How much?—I cannot recollect. It might have been 20*l.*; it might have been a little more.

50,307. Might it have been 50*l.*?—I should not like to say it was. It might have been 50*l.*, and it might have been 30*l.*, but I do not recollect.

50,308. You have no recollection at all?—Not the least as to what the amount was. I know we paid something.

50,309. How long did you remain after the polling day?—I came down occasionally afterwards.

50,310. Did you remain here after the polling day to settle any accounts?—The polling day.

50,311. Yes?—I think I went up, not the same night, but the next day, because I had other business to attend to.

50,312. When did you come down again?—In a few days.

50,313. And you paid some expenses then?—Well, the expenses that I have just stated, no doubt.

50,314. You only paid Mr. Bolt and the account at the "White Hart"?—Well, there might have been something at the "Warwick Hotel," and Barefoot's. I paid an account there for expenses.

50,315. What was Barefoot's?—The "Royal Oak."

50,316. Had you paid all the canvassers up to that time?—I think they were paid the very night after the election; I think their accounts came in, and we paid them at that time, to the best of my belief.

50,317. The very night after the polling?—After the polling.

50,318. Who was there then; you and Mr. Doulton?—It is impossible for me to say; I know I was there.

50,319. And Mr. Murphy? Was Mr. Doulton himself there?—I could not tell you; I might believe he was there, but to tell you as a positive fact is impossible.

50,320. Where were you?—I think we paid at the "White Hart," in the front room.

50,321. It is not a matter of thinking, you know?—That was our committee room.

50,322. I mean, you must recollect that?—I believe we paid in the front room, where our committee room was.

50,323. You received the bills and paid them there?—Yes.

50,324. Did you pay the canvassers and the sub-agents?—Yes, whoever had just demands to make; but you may rely upon it that many of them made demands which they did not get quite satisfied?—I used my red ink pen rather freely.

50,325. Putting Mr. Barker out of the question, who made a demand?—I really cannot recollect.

50,326. What is the use of telling me that you paid money to men when you cannot tell me the name of any person?—I cannot now tell you the name of any. I have been trying to think, but I cannot.

50,327. What did they make demands for, do you recollect?—Oh, trifling expenses; treating, a little refreshment.

50,328. I suppose there was a little refreshment going on on your behalf?—We did not allow it.

50,329. We understand that you did not allow it?—I posted large notices, if you will allow me to say so, of very large type in the committee room, forbidding anything of the kind, and not only that, we placed an abstract of the Bribery Act which showed the penalties we were liable to, so that when they did apply for anything of the kind, I just put my finger up to the notice, and if that was not satisfactory I used to give them the book to read.

50,330. What book?—The abstract of the Act. In every committee room we had a notice.

50,331. This is a matter of notoriety. Do you mean to say there was not treating on a rather extensive scale on behalf of Mr. Doulton at that election?—I deny it totally.

50,332. You deny it?—Yes, as far as I am concerned.

50,333. Can you tell me what you paid at beer-houses then, and we shall know what value to put upon your evidence?—We never paid anything of the kind; that is where I used my red ink pen so freely; if they attempted to bring it in I put my pen across it.

50,334. Do you mean to say that you never paid any tavern bills?—What, for refreshment to electors?

50,335. Yes?—Not the least; not a farthing.

50,336. I ask you a simple question; do you mean that you never paid a tavern bill, or an hotel bill, or a public-house bill for refreshment given to voters?—For beer given to voters; certainly not.

50,337. I said for refreshment given to persons upon the election?—Certainly not.

50,338. You mean to adhere to that?—I mean to say that I never gave them anything in the shape of ——

50,339. Did you pay, or, to your knowledge, was anything paid for refreshment given to voters or to persons acting on behalf of Mr. Doulton?—Not to my solemn recollection.

50,340. Did you see the public houses open on behalf of Mr. Doulton?—We had committee rooms at them.

50,341. How many public houses had you?—I cannot say; one or two, three or four, perhaps.

50,342. How many at Redhill?—I do not think we had more than one or two.

50,343. Whoever paid, you paid?—I paid them.

50,344. How many altogether had you at Redhill?—I do not remember more than two; that was one at the "Royal Oak" and I think the "Warwick Arms."

50,345. Are you at all certain that there were no more than two at Redhill?—I only recollect those two.

50,346. How many here at Reigate?—Well we had the "White Hart;" but we would have had more, but they forestalled us for Sir Henry Rawlinson.

50,347. How many had you?—We only had the "White Hart" here. I think not; I think Bonny's and I think Blakiston's were occupied by the other parties, and I do not think we had more than one.

50,348. Seriously speaking, do you mean to tell us there were only three public houses engaged on behalf of Mr. Doulton at that election?—I do not say that; but you asked with regard to Reigate or Redhill.

50,349. Anywhere else?—I think there was one near the common.

50,350. It is your recollection that there were four?—There was a man of the name of Peacock, perhaps some of the inhabitants could inform you what he is; he kept a house in same back street; that is all I recollect.

50,351. That is five?—We might have had one or two more, but I cannot recollect; I tell you all I know.

50,352. I would rather you recollect?—Well, I should like to recollect, because if I could recollect these things perhaps I could get away quicker, but I cannot. I should be happy to give you any information.

50,353. You have seen the account stating that the public houses were extensively opened on behalf of Mr. Doulton?—I have seen it, but I did not not believe it.

50,354. You did not believe it?—Not to the extent it was stated.

53,355. What you state is in a very mild manner indeed; how much did you expend for refreshments?—None at all; not in the way you put it.

50,356. In refreshments of any kind?—None at all; we always set our faces against it.

50,357. Do you mean to say that except Mr. Doulton's expenses, and your expenses, and Mr. Murphy's expenses, there were no expenses paid at all?—Not at all in that shape.

50,358. In what shape, then?—Why canvassers, as I have told you.

50,359. I mean you paid for no refreshment at all?—Not the least.

50,360. Not a sixpence?—Not a sixpence.

50,361. Now let me understand you, because, Mr. Truman, you really must pardon me, but it does surprise me. Do you mean there, in that box, to say that not a sixpence was expended on behalf of Mr. Doulton for refreshments at the election of 1858, except for himself, for you, for the solicitor, and for Mr. Murphy?—Yes, that is my firm belief to the best of my recollection, and I believe that you may take it for granted that it is truth which I tell you, that there was not a penny; and, at all events, if there was anything paid it was not at my instigation, and if I had known of such a thing I should have condemned it.

50,362. At whose instigation could it be?—Some one might have been patriotic enough to have treated some of those who were about.

50,363. On behalf of Mr. Doulton?—On behalf of themselves.

50,364. They might have been patriotic on behalf of Mr. Doulton?—I do not know that that was the fact though.

50,365. If there was any?—If there was any, it was not by the knowledge of Mr. Doulton or his agents.

50,366. It was not to the knowledge of Mr. Doulton or any of his agents that any public house was open at all?—For treating; that is the question?

50,367. Yes?—No.

50,368. You paid Barker 10*l.*?—Excuse me, I do not say that was the sum; it might have 7*l.* or 8*l.* I only fancy it was that.

50,369. Can you tell me what you paid at any of these public houses?—No, I cannot.

50,370. In any one instance?—Not in any one instance can I tell you.

50,371. You cannot tell me the amount that you paid to any of the public houses in any one instance?—I cannot.

50,372. And you cannot tell me the amount you paid to any canvasser in any one instance, except Barker?—I cannot. I won't be positive that Barker is telling the truth as to what he had.

50,373. I say except Barker; putting him aside and just going as near as you can, can you tell me the amount you paid any more of them?—It won't do for me to say anything more than I have because I cannot recollect it. You know what I said just now; directly I open my mouth those young fellows down there take it all down; I must tell you the truth.

50,374. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Don't be afraid of those young gentlemen?—Oh, they know me; they have known me for years, most of them, and if they can give me a lift they will.

50,375. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then you have no reason to be afraid of them?—It all depends upon which way it is.

50,376. Can you give me the name of any one?—I cannot at all.

50,377. Have not you tried to recollect anything since the summons was given?—I have been trying all the time I have been in the box.

50,378. Before you got into the box?—Trying to recollect?

50,379. Yes?—I do not know that I tried to recollect; I certainly thought things over.

50,380. You mentioned Mr. Boult's name; what pid you pay Mr. Boult?—I really do not know what his account was. I had the use of his drawing room, but I cannot tell how much it was.

50,381. You did not see voters there?—Well, they called to see me sometimes in the morning to get instructions.

50,382. The canvassers did?—I do not say all of them.

50,383. Some of them did?—Yes.

50,384. Then you used his house?—Oh, no, I did use his house; it was simply my own private affair; it was out of the way, and I liked it.

50,385. How do you mean "out of the way?"—Out of the village. When I was in the village I was sought for.

50,386. But canvassers called upon you there?—Not to any great degree; occasionally.

50,387. You said they called to receive instructions?—Yes.

50,388. Who called there?—I know Mr. Featherstone has called there, for one.

50,389. Any one else?—Well, I do not recollect any one else. There was more than Featherstone, but I cannot recollect the name.

50,390. Had you agreed with Mr. Boult before you engaged the apartments?—That I forget. I know I was told that he would make me comfortable.

50,391. Was he a supporter of Mr. Doulton?—Yes, I believe he was, but then you must understand that I knew him many years ago, before ever 1858; in 1838.

50,392. Cannot you tell me what you paid him?—I cannot; it was a private thing of my own. I do not know that I ever had a receipt for it.

50,393. You charged Mr. Doulton, did not you, with the bill?—Well, it was not a very extravagant one. I do not know that I did. I might have charged him with it, but it is impossible for me to recollect it.

59,394. I cannot understand you. Do you mean to say that it was a matter of conjecture; that you came down here not being paid for your time and engaged a bed room and the partial use of a drawing room in Mr. Boult's house, and it is a matter of conjecture whether Mr. Doulton paid you for that at all?—Well, if he paid me it was after the election but had nothing to do with the expenses.

50,395. That is a legitimate election expense?—Well, you can put it in which way you like; my opinion is that it is not.

50,396. Did you or did you not charge Mr. Doulton with it?—I cannot say. I think very likely Mr. Doulton gave me a complimentary fee, perhaps of 10*l.*, but that I cannot recollect. I am apt to think he did, and he might in that have included all those items.

50,397. He might what?—He might have given me a complimentary fee of 10*l.* perhaps, and that would include these expenses.

50,398. These "mights" do not satisfy one at all. You paid Mr. Boult more than 10*l.* for the five or six weeks you were here?—I do not recollect paying him so much.

50,399. What did you pay him?—It is imposible to say.

50,400. But if you do not know that, how do you know that you did not pay him 10*l.*?—I cannot say; I do not think I paid him 10*l.*, but I paid him something. As to telling you what I paid him, I could not. I took his room as a private place to sleep and have rest, not for election purposes, sir.

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50,401. You made no agreement?—I made no agreement. He gave me a little bill, and I paid it. I thought it was reasonable, and I paid it; but as to its being 10*l.* I cannot say.

50,402. You came down and had a day's shooting, as many others would like to have?—I am not the only one to have a day's shooting.

50,403. I do not say that. You do not recollect what you paid?—No, I do not. I know it was not a very extravagant affair.

50,404. And you do not know what Mr. Doulton paid you?—I think he might, perhaps, have given me, as I tell you, a little fee of 10*l.*, but he did not pay me what some men would have expected to have.

50,405. How many weeks were you here?—I suppose about five weeks.

50,406. Were you up at all in London during the time?—Oh, yes, every day.

50,407. Every day?—Every other day, perhaps.

50,408. Did you have your expenses paid up and down, or did you pay them yourself?—I paid them out of my own pocket, but I think the 10*l.* cleared me. I think I said to Mr. Doulton, "I don't want "anything for the election, but ——

50,409. There are 35 days in five or six weeks, and every other day would be 17 journeys to London up and down; that would be 7*s.* or 8*s.* or 9*s.* a journey?—That would not make 10*l.*

50,410. No?—But I did not go it in that way.

50,411. How did you go it?—I used to keep my own trap then, and I had horses and a groom, and my offer to assist Mr. Doulton was nothing. I cannot boast it now, but then I used to drive; that is well known; and I used to give a friend a ride. And then when I went by railway we grudged it so that I always used to go third-class, so that you see it did not cost me 9*s.*

50,412. It cost you nothing?—Comparatively.

50,413. Cannot you tell what Mr. Doulton paid you, because I want that as a test?—I cannot tell you. It was simply a complimentary fee. I know it was not more than 10*l.*

50,414. 10*l.*?—It might have been 10*l.*; I do not believe it was a farthing more. I do not recollect it.

50,415. Your memory does not seem good?—Well, I am sorry I cannot please you.

50,416. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Just tell me this; I won't detain you; I want to give you the names of these persons; you may recollect them, or you may not. Robert Gage said you paid him 1*l.* 15*s.* Do you recollect whether that is true or not; so much a week amounting to 1*l.* 15*s.* for the time he worked?—What was his occupation, may I ask? Perhaps it is only giving you trouble, because I really do not recollect the name.

50,417. I do not expect you will. It is only to give you an opportunity of denying it, because it is very likely that you did not pay him. He does not say that you paid him anything but for work done?—I never paid anybody but for work done.

50,418. It is only right I should give you the names of those who say they received money. George Harman says he received 3*l.*; William Spence, 3*l.* I do not deny that that this is so much a week for services done?—Just so.

50,419. William Spence, 3*l.*; Edward Thorp, 14*l.* I dare say you will agree to that; Edward Thorp, 14*l.*?—I saw this man in the town to-day and thought I knew his face, but as to recollecting what I paid him I cannot.

50,420. He says you paid him?—Yes, but eight years makes a difference in a man.

50,421. I am not going to dwell upon it at all, but it is only right that I should mention these names. What Thorp said was this, "I "received nothing at any election till Doulton's "election, and at Doulton's election I was employed "about seven weeks. I received 14*l.* In those days "I was a teetotaler." That is all he said, but what his employment was at the election he did not tell us?—I do not recollect that; I do not believe he had it.

50,422. Do you remember a man named Thomas Titchener who said you paid him 5*l.* 10*s.*?—I recollect there was a man of that name, but I do not recollect what I paid him.

50,423. William Wood. That I have queried by whom paid, but he seems to have pointed to you. Frederick Bonny, 10*l.* I have queried whether you paid him, or somebody else. He seems to have been paid by you?—There are several Bonny's. I do not know which it is, unless it is a tailor as Redhill.

50,424. He says he received 10*l.* by cheque; he does not say from whom?—There is no doubt that Banny was employed then, but it was the tailor at Warwick-town. He must have been employed at canvassing.

50,425. "Tailor and draper, freehold"?—He might have received 2*l.* a week, but then, if I recollect, he is rather a superior man.

50,426. He received 10*l.* in a cheque. That might be true?—It might be true, but I do not recollect.

50,427. A man named John Younger says he received 15*l.*?—I can recollect the name of Younger, and if I remember right, he is an elderly man, but I have never seen him from that day to this.

50,428. I do not know that it is anything material, but in case anything should arise?—But he is a respectable man, a man independent; a man of some standing, is not he?

50,429. Yes, he is a retired tradesman.—"I was on "Mr. Doulton's committee and I canvassed for him. "No money passed through my hands. I received "14*l.* or 15*l.* Mr. Truman paid me." That might be true?—It might be, because he was a respectable man.

50,430. Now I come on to a man named Hitchcock, who received 1*l.* 4*s.*, and Barker 24*l.* 3*s.*?—I dare say Mr. Barker received that, perhaps 23*l.*

50,431. Titchener another sum, Groom 5*l.*, and a man named Wood. I only want to go through them all. I have no questions to ask you myself beyond those?—

50,432. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I am going to ask one question upon one point. Were you present at the time the ballot took place?—I was in the place.

50,433. Did you take any part in it?—Not the least; it was an understanding that we were not allowed, none of the agents. It was done by the electors themselves.

50,434. The agents were not allowed to interfere?—They were not allowed to go into the room.

50,435. Some of the agents did interfere, we are told?—Not Mr. Doulton's agents. I recollected that I wanted to speak to some one in the room at Redhill. I think it was a schoolroom where it took place.

50,436. Yes, yes; that was while the votes were being deposited?—Oh, well, all I know is this, that I wanted to go into the schoolroom to see some one, and they would not allow me.

50,437. The schoolroom, if I recollect right, was one of the places where tickets were to be deposited?—I think it was so.

50,438. Then was it at the time that the tickets were being deposited that you wanted to go into the schoolroom and the agents were not allowed to interfere?—I really do not know. If I ever went to the schoolroom or any other room I never went to it to interfere with the ballot.

50,439. I do not say you did. I only want to draw your attention to the fact that the schoolroom was the place where the tickets were deposited, not where the tickets were delivered out, but where they were deposited for voting. That was the schoolroom at Redhill?—Just so.

50,440. And it is there that you went?—I think I recollect inquiring for some one. I did not want to go in.

50,441. I am not speaking of what took place on that day, but what took place when the tickets were

being delivered, were being sent out?—Oh, yes; I can give you some information.

50,442. They were put into an envelope, and then they were directed to each of the voters, and then there were instructions given inside, printed instructions, what the voters were to do with those tickets. Now I am drawing your attention to the time when those envelopes were delivered out, not when the tickets were delivered?—I quite understand.

50,443. Were you present when those tickets were delivered out?—No, I was not; but there was something took place after that, and if you will allow me I will explain.

50,444. Let us hear?—The tickets were delivered out; I think they were sent in the Redhill district from Laker's, the hotel, and the others, I think, were sent from the "White Hart," Reigate; they had a private room and I had nothing at all to do with them. We were not allowed, as I said; but about 11 o'clock in the evening, after the postman had delivered them, a man, if I recollect right, whose name was Holden, came to Reigate and found me at the "White Hart" committee room, and he said, "Mr. Truman, are you "aware what Walters' agents are doing," because Walters of course was concerned in the ballot. And I said, "No." "Well," he says, "A man from Lon- "don, a perfect stranger, is going about with a person "of the name of Wood, that is one of the electors, "buying up those tickets as the postman left them at "the doors." "Oh, indeed," says I. We felt indignant about it, because that was one of the Wilkinson's supporters, and I being one of Mr. Doulton's supporters, he thought that two together would be better than one.

50,445. Excuse me for a moment, who was the agent for Mr. Wilkinson?—Mr. Holden was one of his supporters, and I being one of Mr. Doulton's supporters, he thought that two going together would be better than one, and I said, "If you can just put "me on the scent I'll see what I can do for the "fellows." "Well," says he, "if you come along "with me, I know exactly the routine they are "taking." "Very well," said I, and I went. We inquired as we went along at different places and we found that a stout man had been there buying up the tickets. He bought Wilkinson's, and in many places he bought Wilkinson's and Doulton's tickets, and gave them 7*s.* 6*d.* for those two tickets, telling them at the same time that Walters' was the ticket they should put in the box the next day. I went on, because I got scent of the road they were taking, and went from house to house as they went along, and I found the same thing, that they gave them 7*s.* 6*d.* for Wilkinson's tickets, the ballot tickets which they were to put in the box, which they pleased of the three, and advised them to put Walters' in the box. At last I got up to a public house on the common. I followed them so close that I found this big fellow and Wood, I think you have had him before you, in the public house. I took four policemen with me, and I sent in a stranger to this public house and told him to say that I wanted Mr. Wood and the gentleman that was with him. Out came this stout man and Mr. Wood, so I said to the stout man, "I want to speak to you." "What do you want with me?" he said. Directly he got outside I put my back against the door and said, "I want a few words with you, you've been buying "up the tickets and telling people to put Walters' in "the box, I shall collar you and take you to the police "station." "Will you," says he. "Yes," I said. "Allow me," says he, "to go in and finish smoking "my pipe and my glass of brandy and water." I said, "No, not unless you are a better man than I." He said, "Won't I." I doubled up my sleeves. "Let me "pay for my brandy and water, then," he said. "No," I said, "come along with me." So the policeman was silly enough to take him, and walked him from the common off to the police station and kept him there for an hour. I wanted to find Mr. Doulton, but I could not get hold of him, and I was not quite silly enough to charge him myself, and so we let him go.

50,446. What did you do with Mr. Walters' tickets remaining in the houses?—I never took one.

50,447. What was done with them?—All that expense was entirely thrown away. We would not allow any of those tickets to go into the box. We had a meeting in the morning. The friends of each candidate met and decided that not one of those tickets should be put into the box. As the voters came in to ballot they had a piece of paper given them in a quiet corner of the room, and there they wrote the name and put their own writing on.

50,448. They had fresh voting papers?—Their own papers and no one went near them and they went up and wrote their own names.

50,449. Did you, on the part of Mr. Doulton, advance any money for the purpose of buying any of those tickets?—Oh, dear, no.

50,450. That is the reason I introduced the subject. It was said there was money paid?—Oh, no; not on our part.

50,451. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you pay any money except on cheques?—We paid cash to the best of my recollection. We drew a cheque for expenses weekly as much as we should want, and of course got it cashed and paid in cash.

50,452. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You mentioned, in the course of your statement just now, that the tickets at Redhill were sent from Laker's?—I think so.

50,453. Did Mr. Doulton occupy the rooms at Laker's?—No.

50,454. Not any?—No.

50,455. Where did he occupy rooms?—At the "White Hart."

50,456. You say that nothing was paid, excepting for personal expenses, at the hotels?—The committee rooms were paid for. They were held at these places.

50,457. I will just draw your attention to one answer you gave. You came down, after the election and after the account was sent in to the auditor, to pay some accounts at the "White Hart," and the "Warwick Hotel," and the "Royal Oak"?—Yes; personal expenses, to the best of my recollection.

50,458. That was after the election accounts had gone in to the auditor?—Oh, no. Well, it might be. We did not pay any election expenses after we had sent in the final statement to the auditor. Of course we were bound to send in the statement between the nomination and the polling day to the auditor after the election.

50,459. You were bound to send in a statement on the nomination day of everything which had been paid prior to the nomination day?—Then of course there were expenses——

50,460. And then, a month after the election, you were bound to have in, or ought to have had in, all the accounts which had been incurred after the election, or upon the election. Very well; then I understood you to say that after those accounts came in, not included in those accounts, you paid some personal expenses at the "White Hart," the "Warwick Hotel," and the "Royal Oak"?—Yes; that is what I believe.

50,461. And they were small accounts?—I forget; I cannot tell exactly the amounts, but I should think the "White Hart"——

50,462. If they were small accounts or not of much consequence, why did not you get them in during the course of the month; there was a month after the election?—I do not know why we did not do it. I do not know that it was not done, because, although I gave you that answer, I could not positively declare that it was so exactly. I have given it to the best of my recollection; it might have been a week or it might have been a fortnight after, I cannot positively say.

50,463. You say that you paid nothing except for personal expenses at the hotels, and I cannot at all

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understand why you could not have got those accounts in in the course of a month after the election. You say that you paid them after the election accounts. You came down to Mr. Boult's?—Will you allow me to explain?

50,464. Yes.—What I mean is this: that we paid nothing for election expenses except what we sent in to the auditor. Now that is what I mean. There might have been a few days afterwards some expenses which did not come in that very night of the polling; but at all events those expenses were included in what I believe to be the 950*l.* produced to the auditor, so that when I came down afterwards it was simply personal expenses that made it a little over the 950*l.*

50,465. What I want to know is, what you mean by "personal expenses incurred at the hotels?"—I think Mr. Doulton stopped at the "Warwick Hotel" a little while because the "White Hart" was full, and occasionally he wanted to get off by an early train; I think I can recollect this; and he said, "Well, I had "better stop at the 'Warwick' a few days; there are "more trains from Redhill than Reigate, because of "the Brighton company." I stopped at the "Royal Oak" myself a little while, but then I preferred going——

50,466. Where is the "Royal Oak"?—Just by the station. At that time it was the only public house that was there, and I stopped there a little while.

50,467. That is your explanation; that those are the personal expenses which you paid?—Just so.

50,468. Was there any strong feeling at that time between Mr. Doulton and Mr. Wilkinson arising out of the Lambeth election?—Well, they say there was, but I do not know that I knew anything about it.

50,469. Mr. Roupell came down?—He came down.

50,470. Mr. Roupell had opposed Mr. Wilkinson?—Well, the electors did. I suppose you may say it was Mr. Roupell, but the electors did it, and no mistake, by a majority.

50,471. But Mr. Roupell and Mr. Doulton were friends, were they not?—Yes, great friends.

50,472. Was Mr. Doulton a supporter of Mr. Roupell?—Yes, at that time he was. He simply came down at the opening.

50,473. You made use of an expression in the first instance, that you came down "to feel the way"?—No; I beg pardon. I said I came down a week after he came.

50,474. You said, "to feel the way"?—Well, I came down to feel my way, I dare say, as well.

50,475. Had Mr. Roupell come down before or after that?—He came down one evening and attended a meeting, and went away again.

50,476. Was that before or after you came down?—I think it was about the time.

50,477. Were you present when it was determined in London that Mr. Doulton should come down?—No, I do not recollect that I was.

50,478. You were not present at any interview?—I met Mr. Doulton somewhere or other, and he said, "We are going to have our first public meeting at "Reigate-town, and I should like to have your "assistance." "Well," I said, "you may have me; "it will be a little change for me;" and they said, "Will you come down?"

50,479. Had you known whether Mr. Doulton had any personal connexion at Reigate?—I had no idea of it.

50,480. You had not heard before of any private personal connexion of Mr. Doulton's?—No, I had not heard anything of it.

50,481. Had Mr. Wilkinson started before as a candidate for Reigate?—I do not know who first appeared.

50,482. Of course Mr. Doulton started before you came down, but you found Mr. Wilkinson in the field?—Yes.

50,483. Do you not believe that Mr. Wilkinson was the first in the field, before Mr. Doulton?—I cannot say; he might have been the first.

50,484. Did you not know it as a fact after you came down?—No, I did not. I do not recollect who was first; I do not think there was much difference between the two. It appears that Mr. Doulton knew Mr. Hackblock, and knew that he was dead.

50,485. Everybody would know that, the whole of England?—He knew his brother, who was living; but I do not recollect who was first.

50,486. I only wanted to see whether you were connecting in your mind any circumstance with Mr. Doulton with reference to the election just before?—There might have been some little feeling, but I am not aware of it.

50,487. There was, was there not?—Not that I am aware of, I only knew them as opponents; as to any private matter I did not know.

50,488. Mr. Wilkinson had petitioned against the return of Mr. Roupell?—Quite right.

50,489. That did not give a very friendly feeling between the parties?—Well, it does not in general, but I only acted as an agent.

50,490. Who was it that spoke to you first as to your coming down as an agent?—I think it was Mr. Doulton.

50,491. Had Mr. Roupell anything to do with your coming down?—No, Mr. Doulton spoke to me first. I was a free agent, quite independent of Mr. Roupell. I dare say I mentioned the matter to Mr. Roupell, and I think I said, "Well, if you can give us any "assistance, all well," and he would do it; and I said I would go down, for I know Reigate is a very nice place.

50,492. I ask you this question because our attention has been drawn to it?—I do not know anything about it. I did not suppose that Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Doulton were ever cousins, but I did not know that they were not, but I should think not from what I saw here; but it had no effect on my mind. I did not come here to oppose Mr. Wilkinson out of any vindictive feeling.

50,493. Of course you did not?—No, and I am not aware that Mr. Doulton did.

50,494. Whenever two gentlemen oppose each other of the same side of politics, there generally is something besides politics?—Well, I knew nothing about that.

The witness withdrew.

T. C. Barton.

THOMAS C. BARTON sworn and examined.

50,495. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Were you in the election of February, 1858, engaged as Mr. Doulton's legal adviser?—Yes, as his solicitor; I came as his legal adviser.

59,496. Were you his solicitor before that?—I was for many years.

59,497. Are you a solicitor now?—I have practised for about 27 years.

59,498. You are practising now?—Yes, I practise in London.

50,499. Had you been connected at all, or had you had any knowledge of Reigate before 1858?—I came down to Reigate with Mr. Bedford in 1841.

50,500. For an election?—Yes.

50,501. And therefore you knew some little about it?—Yes, I knew some little about it, but it was not on that account I came. Mr. Doulton being a Lambeth man, and I being concerned with some previous elections, I came with him.

50,502. You and Mr. Truman were in the habit of signing all the cheques previous to monies being paid away on Mr. Doulton's account?—There was a sum of money placed at the bank by Mr. Doulton; I think it was 1,000*l.*

50,503. Against which you were to draw?—I was to check it.

50,504. Did you ever draw any cheques without Mr. Truman joining you?—Not to my knowledge; I do not remember it.

50,505. I do not care about one or two exceptions; was the course of business for you and Mr. Doulton to draw joint cheques?—To the best of my belief I never drew a cheque without Mr. Truman's counter cheque, and Mr. Doulton was in the town every day and knew what was going on.

50,506. You joined Mr. Truman in signing the cheques?—I did.

50,507. Did you know anything about what the cheques were paid for, or were you only cognizant of the amounts drawn?—I was only cognizant of the amount drawn, but I subsequently knew from the accounts sent in.

50,508. That was after the expenses were incurred?—They were chequed by the receipts after.

50,509. If they were to pay A.B. 10*l.*, signed Truman, and he sent in that for you to put your name and you signed it, would you know what the 10*l.* was for?—I should not.

50,510. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Not at the time of payment?—Not at the time of payment.

50,511. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Or rather at the time the cheque was drawn?—I should take it that it was required for the purposes of the election.

50,512. Did you satisfy yourself before you signed the cheque, whether it was a proper payment to make or not?—I did not.

50,513. So far you merely were ministerial?—Just so.

50,514. Did you afterwards go through the accounts sent in to the election auditor?—I did before the nomination and after.

50,515. Do you know how much the amount was that was sent in to the election auditor?—I have a statement of accounts here; I have brought this from the election auditor.

The witness produced a newspaper.

50,516. That is the official account?—Yes. This is an abstract of the accounts, of the expenses in advertisements, printing, and so on.

The document was handed to Mr. Commissioner Smith.

50,517. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is an abstract of the expenses incurred by Frederick Doulton, Esq., at the election of a member for the sitting in Parliament, at the borough election in 1858. The total is 937*l.* 18*s.*?—Yes, in two sums; 509*l.* 13*s.* before the nomination, and 428*l.* 5*s.* after the nomination.

Mr. Commissioner Smith remarked that the document the witness had produced was very important, because it gave the election expenses of the different candidates. Sir Henry Rawlinson's expenses were 939*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*; the total expenses of the Honourable William John Monson were 574*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*, and Mr. Doulton's came to 937*l.* odd; that was including in each case the fee and per-centage to the auditor.

50,518. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Are you aware what monies were paid by Mr. Doulton at Reigate after the election?—I am not aware of any payments; I know applications were made.

50,519. You are not aware what payments were made?—I am not aware of any payments; I know claims were sent in.

50,520. But it is so, that you had nothing to do with any other payments than those which you sent in to the election auditor?—That is all.

50,521. Were you down here most of the time previous to the election?—I came down almost daily.

50,522. Were you aware of any voters being put on to be employed and being paid money?—I was aware of that fact.

50,523. Were you at the time?—Yes, I was aware there were some of them.

50,524. How did you ascertain that they were?—I gave instructions that where they were taken on they were to do their amount of work.

50,525. How did you become aware that voters were put on for employment?—The application was generally made by a voter.

50,526. In many instances were you aware that voters were put on for employment?—I think I have a list of some names; I think there are about 30, as far as I remember.

The witness produced a list of names.

50,527. Very good; how did you get that list?—I found it amongst the papers.

50,528. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is this a paper written at the time?—At the time, I believe, by Mr. C.; it is not my writing.

50,529. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is there anything on the face of that paper which I have not looked at yet, which states that those persons were voters or not?—No, but I think one or two of them were voters.

50,530. I understood you to say you knew at the time they were employed they were voters, and that you knew it because they stated they were voters?—I cannot say they stated so; they applied for employment mostly, and having applied for employment we may have found it out after, and therefore it may have influenced the employment.

50,531. I quite understand it, I only want the fact; you were aware at the time they were voters?—I had been engaged as the principal agent in the Lambeth election, I had the control of that election; that had been the subject of inquiry before the Committee of the House of Commons, and therefore the meeting of that committee was upon the subject of paid canvassers.

50,532. Can you recollect whether the scale of payments varied, if the man happened to be a voter, whether the scale of payments varied with regard to whether the man was a voter or not?—I am not prepared to say if the scale varied, or what it was.

50,533. Whether, if a man was put on to canvass, he would receive more as a voter than if he was not a voter?—I cannot say how that might influence it; it was left to discretion.

50,534. At that time were you aware that paid canvassers were being employed who were voters; did you at that time know that there was to a considerable extent a good many voters employed, paid voters?—I was always aware if they were employed to any great extent, any considerable employment, it would never succeed; but in the case of a large borough, where perhaps a hundred voters were employed, and there was a large constituency of, perhaps, 20,000, that it would have no effect at all, but that in a small constituency of course it would influence the election.

50,535. During the time of this election you had means of noticing what mode was adopted in carrying the election on on your side; were there many public houses open?—There were many public houses taken for what is called committee rooms.

50,536. Was there a good deal of treating going on?—There was a good deal of excitement, as there generally is at elections.

50,537. Was there a good deal of treating at public houses?—I did not notice particularly.

50,538. I mean by treating refreshments being given?—I am not cognizant of any refreshments being given.

50,539. Were you not cognizant of any refreshments being given in Mr. Doulton's behalf?—I never authorized any or knew of any. He got extracts from the Act and stuck them up in the committee rooms.

50,540. I know you will answer me candidly; tell me whether in effect that was adhered to; was there not on Mr. Doulton's part, as well as on the other candidates' part, a good deal of treating?—Not that I am aware of.

50,541. Do you remember any occasion on which it was stated that Mr. Doulton was attempting to engage all the public houses?—I never heard that.

50,542. You did not?—Certainly not.

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T. C. Barton.

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50,543. You have not heard it ?—I think I saw the statement in the paper.

50,544. Did you see anything which warrants that statement ?—I saw nothing which warrants that statement; of course there were houses taken, but not more than was necessary.

50,545. I do not mean houses for committee rooms, you know what I mean by refreshments. Did you see anything in the election that in your mind would warrant that statement respecting Mr. Doulton, that he intended to engage all the public houses ?—I did not.

50,546. May I say that you did not know of any treating properly so called ?—I did not.

50,547. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Have you any other document in reference to the election of 1858, which would throw any light on the subject of the election ?—No.

50,548. I ask you, because I see you have a bundle before you ?—They are mostly squibs and addresses and things of that sort.

50,549. I only want to know whether you have got any matter of substance ?—No.

50,550. At what rate were the canvassers paid ?—Some at from 7*s.* to half a guinea a week. I think that would be the standard.

50,551. There were a number of board men employed, did you know of that ?—I knew of that.

50,552. What were they paid ?—About 5*s.* a day.

50,553. Did you know of their being voters ?—I think in a few instances they were.

50,554. Or the sons of voters ?—My impression is so.

50,555. Before a man had a board given to him was it inquired who he was ?—He was generally recommended by some voter, or sent by some person who had some weight with the committee.

50,556. Did you ever hear any person recommend a board man ?—It was the custom to do so, to send a note up from some respectable voter to say so and so wanted employment, and perhaps he would be taken on.

50,557. You used the technical phrase "taken on"? —Yes.

50,558. It was pretty well understood that those persons taken on to carry those boards, who were to be paid, were voters ?—Perhaps it was to favour a voter.

50,559. And perhaps to favour the person who was carrying the board ?—Oh, quite so.

50,560. He being a voter ?—That would be so; it would have its weight no doubt.

50,561. It would have a greater weight than the board ?—Perhaps so.

50,562. The board would not have much influence in getting votes ?—It is generally adopted in metropolitan boroughs, in Lambeth.

50,563. Perhaps that was the first time Reigate had seen the boards introduced from London ?—I do not know.

50,564. Were you in the election at Lambeth ?—Yes.

50,565. A great many board men were engaged there ?—Yes, as they always are at Lambeth.

50,566. Probably that is the way they got introduced down here. You have very little doubt that the persons who were employed in carrying the boards were voters ?—I cannot say that.

50,567. Or closely connected with voters, as being their sons ?—In some cases; but I could not say generally.

50,568. How many board men were employed ?—I do not know; I suppose the nomination day and polling day would be the great days.

50,569. There were a good many employed ?—Yes.

50,570. On the nomination day a great many more; any persons who came and asked for a board to carry for 5*s.* would be employed ?—To a limited extent that would be so.

50,571. Not to an unlimited extent ?—No.

50,572. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I understand you to say that you were aware that some voters were employed as paid canvassers. I want to know whether you were aware of that at the time of their employment, or are you referring to what you knew subsequently ? I understand you to say, that you knew at that time that some of the paid canvassers were voters ? —I knew the fact to be so.

50,573. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I have been looking at this list, at this paper which you handed up, and it shows that Mr. Truman's memory is very defective indeed, because I see that there are 14 or 15 public houses for which there are accounts.—For committee rooms.

50,574. Look for yourself (*the paper was handed to the witness.*) I do not mean treating, but committee rooms in public houses ?—Yes, in public houses and beer shops.

50,575. Fourteen or fifteen ?—Yes.

50,576. And I think you will find a very considerable amount of the expenditure expended on that, both after and before ?—That is so.

50,577. A very large amount indeed of the expenditure is for the public houses ?—Yes.

50,578. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Does it tell you what it is ?—Yes, for each house.

50,579. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now I see Mr. Barker, whose name has been mentioned so often, unfortunately is down for 15 guineas; he told us he received 23*l.*, and Mr. Truman did not contradict him. Can you give me any account of that ?—I cannot recollect about it.

50,580. You told us very candidly, and Mr. Doulton did the same, that you were aware, as everybody was aware, that electors were employed ?—It was impossible at any election to do otherwise.

50,581. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You will let me have that paper, I dare say ?—Yes, but I have promised to return it to the election auditor.

50,582. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understood you to say you were not at all aware of the object for which the money was drawn ?—If 20*l.* was wanted, a cheque for 20*l.* would be drawn.

50,583. But you did not know the object ?—No; I have got a list of the persons who voted for Mr. Doulton. I do not know whether it will be any assistance.

The witness withdrew.

J. W. Truman.

J. W. Truman recalled and examined.

50,584. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Can you give me any explanation of this 15 guineas and the 23*l.* ? —May I look at that ? (*The newspaper was handed to the witness.*) Is it under the head of canvassers ?

50,585. Yes, I think so ?—Yes; I see 15*l.* I could not say whether it was 15*l.*, or 20*l.*, or 25*l.*

50,586. He said it was 23*l.* ?—I do not say positively.

50,587. But he did so ?—Then I do not remember only 23*l.*

50,588. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What he did say was this, Mr. Truman: "Previous to that "Featherstone applied to me for Mr. Doulton at 12*s.* "a day; they gave me a guinea a day during the "election, 23 days, and I was paid by Mr. Truman "23 guineas more after the election." He went on to say this, remember these are his words, not mine, "That was the first bribed election we ever had." He does not say you bribed, but that is what he says, "Plenty of refreshments where there was a meeting, "and three or four meetings of an evening."—If you will allow me, I will first state this: Mr. Barker sent in a bill; I should think, if I recollect rightly, it must have been about 35*l.*, but I may be a little bit mistaken, because I cannot recollect exactly the figures; I know this, that I docked his account in his estimation most fearfully, and from that circumstance he used to write Mr. Doulton insulting letters, and I

advised Mr. Doulton not to pay him that amount, and he said when he saw me some little time after the election was gone by, he said, "Mr. Truman, are "you going to get that money for me?" I think I only paid him the 15 guineas, and it was the other he wanted, and more than that. He said, "I will follow "Mr. Doulton as long as ever he lives and I live; I "will write every week." I said Mr. Doulton knew about it as well as I did, and I am quite certain he would not, and Mr. Doulton never did pay him, not to this day.

50,589. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You said there was not a farthing paid for refreshments. Andrews had a committee room, 15 guineas; this was before the nomination and expenses after the election; the "Grapes" and Andrews 8 guineas?—That was for the use of committee rooms; you said refreshments.

50,590. Did you, soon after the election, pay Andrews 8 guineas for committee rooms?—That was the balance due to him for the hire of committee rooms; we had a great difficulty in getting committee rooms here. We had to pay too much; we were bound to pay it, or else we should not have had a committee-room to put our heads in.

50,591. That was 23 guineas. I am only calling your attention to the sum?—That was simply for committee rooms.

50,592. You will find larger sums?—I think it will be better to clear up one at a time, if you will allow me to say so.

50,593. That was for the hire of committee rooms?—For the hire of committee rooms.

50,594. I will call your attention to another. It seems to me to be rather a large sum for committee rooms. There is "Holdsworth, 12*l.* 10*s.*" Is that the "Bell," or the "Red Cross"? There is Holdsworth again, 12*l.* 10*s.*; was that all committee rooms?—Committee rooms; these are things I cannot recollect.

50,595. I find at the "White Hart," where you had your chief head-quarters, "Goldsmith, 1*l.* 15*s.*; "'White Hart,' Goldsmith, 13*l.* 10*s.*;" those were the cheapest you had?—There is no doubt Mr. Goldsmith, if my memory serves me (as you are aware, you cannot get all the accounts in), there might have been a little left on his account that he charged after, he not sending it up at the time, and that makes the discrepancy perhaps.

50,596. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The learned serjeant is looking at the total, taking the account before and the account after the election?—Quite so.

50,597. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I find over 150*l.* was paid for committee rooms?—That is, I think, a very small amount indeed for a contested election; still, that is a matter of opinion.

50,598. That is about the amount, here it is 150*l.* as near as possible?—Yes.

50,599. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) How do you account for the expenses of Mr. Doulton being about 363*l.* over Mr. Monson's?—I said they were about 1,300*l.*

50,600. Mr. Monson's were 574*l.*?—I think you will find it 950*l.*

50,601. 937*l.* Mr. Doulton, 930*l.* Sir Henry Rawlinson, and Mr. Monson 574*l.*?—Well, you see Mr. Monson was known here, and he had got a host of friends. Lord Monson's estate is here, and everybody knew him and sympathised with him, and some of them did not think of charging him anything for his services. He was a lucky man in that respect, we had to fight our way on rough ground.

50,602. Do you mean to say Sir Henry Rawlinson and Mr. Doulton had to buy the ground?—I think Sir Henry Rawlinson was known, unfortunately, more than Mr. Doulton, although he was not a local candidate; from what I can recollect I think you will find that that is the truth, that he was known, and in fact that he had been working his way some months before this, so that you might almost call him a local candidate. I do not know the relative expenses, I think you mentioned 500*l.* for Mr. Monson; of course Mr. Monson ought to have gone in for nothing.

50,603. I merely drew your attention to the expenses of the three candidates simply to see what your explanation might be?—Mr. Monson, of course, as you are aware, was a local candidate; his estate is here, and that ought to help him a little. Then Sir Henry Rawlinson I know had been down some time before the election. I do not know whether he anticipated anything of the kind at all; he was over here some time before, and was better known than Mr. Doulton; I forget what Sir Henry Rawlinson's expenses were.

50,604. 939*l.*?—I should have thought Sir Henry Rawlinson's expenses, from the influence he had prior to Mr. Doulton's coming here, would have been less. Allow me to say that I am just informed that Sir Henry Rawlinson contested this borough prior to 1858.

The witness withdrew.

G. Simpson.

George Simpson sworn and examined.

50,605. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Where do you reside?—At Wray-park.

50,606. On the election of 1865 I believe you voted for Mr. Monson?—No, I did not.

50,607. Did you take an active part in it?—I did not.

50,608. Did you take any part at all?—No part.

50,609. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not vote at all?—I did not.

50,610. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Had you a vote?—Yes.

50,611. You did not exercise it?—I did not exercise it.

50,612. Did you take any part at all in the election?—I took no part in the election.

50,613. I mean previous to the election?—I took no part whatever in the election, I can explain why to you presently.

50,614. Just tell me this; did you know Mr. James Nichols?—I did not know him.

50,615. Did you take any part with him?—I have never spoken to him in my life beyond two or three years ago.

50,616. I mean touching the election?—No, not touching the election.

50,617. I will ask you this question, which would be more pointed; were you aware of a letter being written previous to the election to a man named John Peters?—I am not aware of it.

50,618. Were you aware he received a letter previous to the election?—From me?

50,619. From you or from any one, purporting to be from you?—No, I am not aware of any letter.

50,620. He says he received a letter on the nomination day, that is just before the polling day?—He received no letter on the nomination day from me.

50,621. Did he receive a letter the day before?—No, no letter in any shape or way alluding to the election.

50,622. No, not alluding to the election, I do not mean that?—No, no letter whatever.

50,623. Did he receive, as far as you know, any letter about the time of the election desiring him to do some work for you?—Peters has worked for me, but I am not aware of having written to him; to the best of my belief I never wrote to him, only he was at work for me almost every day. I have been looking over my files this morning, and I have found bills of work being done at that time, which I have in my pocket.

50,624. We have seen those, and they seem to be right, but what I am anxious to know is whether having work to do about that time you desired him to commence upon it just about the time of the election?—I believe he was at work continuously for weeks previous to the time of the election.

50,625. Are you aware of a letter being sent on

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your behalf desiring him to go to London on the election day ?—No.

50,626. Or of anything of the sort ?—No.

50,627. The letter was desiring him to get materials for the work on your premises ?—I never sent him any letter of the kind, and I am not aware of any letter. I think possibly there is an explanation of it.

50,628. Do you know the matter I am alluding to ?—I simply read it in *The Times*. The explanation I would give is this : Mr. Hart and Mr. Monson called on me somewhere about the 10th or 12th of May, asking me for my vote and interest. I said, "So far as "my vote is concerned I shall be very happy to give "it, but so far as the influence is concerned I will not "influence any one about me." A few days after that a man who has worked for me to a large extent (Heath, of the firm of Heath and Batchelor, who was at my back gate hanging up my bell) said, "Who are "you going to vote for;" I said, "For Mr. Monson. "Mr. Hart and Mr. Richardson called upon me, but "my people may vote as they like." I thought he was fishing, perhaps, by the remark. About the middle of June, the 16th or 17th, Mr. Hart and Mr. Richardson called again, and I was then asked if I would use any influence I had in their behalf; I said, "I have "promised Mr. Monson my vote, but with regard to "the people about me, as I told Mr. Hart in the first "instance, I did not intend to speak to any of them "on the subject; go and ask them yourself," but I said, "If there is any bribery or corruption going on "you shall not have my vote." Well, a fortnight perhaps before the election it was a matter of conversation in the place, as to who people were voting for, and Peters told me he was going to vote for Mr. Gower. I said, "Indeed ! I think Peters you "ought to have considered before you voted, because "I do not think Mr. Gower was justified in coming "forward; it is a matter for you to exercise your "judgment." Shortly after this there was a regular system of payment on the part of Mr. Gower. I said, "Well, Peters, what are you going to receive;" Peters' reply was that he was going to have some money on easy terms from some building society he was connected with, some parties were going to advance him money without making the least charge. I said, "Well, Peters, if you wish to borrow money you had "better borrow it in some other way, and not at an "election time." I believe he went to town to get those bricks because he should be out of the way; that is my impression about that. I never asked him to vote the opposite direction, or ever asked any man to vote in the opposite direction ; I deny it.

50,629. He did not vote ?—No ; I should have liked to have spoken touching a man named Gillett, who was a workman in my employ.

50,630. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think that was all explained, Mr. Prout made it perfectly right ?—Yes, Mr. Prout was in the garden and heard every word.

The witness withdrew.

The Inquiry was adjourned till a quarter to 11, at Mr. Topliss's, Redhill, and afterwards to meet at 12 o'clock at the town hall.

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY.

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY.

Tuesday, 30th October 1866.

H. Topliss.

30 Oct. 1866.

HENRY TOPLISS sworn and examined.

50,631. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I believe you were a voter on the list at the last election ?—Yes.

50,632. What rent did you pay for your house ?—50*l.*

50,633. Did you vote at the last election ?—No, sir.

50,634. Did you receive any money at the last election on either side ?—Yes, sir.

50,635. What did you receive ?—I received the first from Mr. Smith, 25*l.*

50,636. Was it before or after the election that you had received it, do you recollect ?—Before.

50,637. How long before ?—It was about the early part of May.

50,638. What were you to do for that 25*l.* ?—Nothing was said at all ; it was for the use of my rooms.

50,639. Was it said it was for the use of your rooms ?—Yes, it was always said so.

50,640. And I suppose they had the use of the rooms ?—Yes.

50,641. Were any refreshments supplied ?—I only had one meeting for Mr. Gower.

50,642. Was there a committee here ?—It was up stairs. I cannot say much about it, because my arm was broken and in a sling at that time. I had had a fracture of the skull in March.

50,643. That was not the accident for which you are in bed now ?—No.

50,644. Another ?—Yes, so that I was not able to go about. I therefore cannot say exactly what the number of people in the room was. There might have been 40 or 50 in the large room. At the hall meeting I should think there were 250.

50,645. But you said at the one meeting you have been speaking of there might have been 40 or 50 ?—There might have been 100. I do not know, because I did not go up, for I did not wait upon them.

50,646. I was asking you now in reference to the committee meetings ?—They never had any meeting whatever but that one.

50,647. Then the room was only used on one occasion ?—Yes.

50,648. And there were no committees ?—No ; only now and then a person would come in for a little while, and run into the parlour and close the door. Of course they had a right to the use of the house.

50,649. Did you canvass at all for Mr. Gower ?—No ; I was at home.

50,650. When you had 25*l.* for the use of your rooms was anything said about your voting ?—No, nothing whatever ; and never was.

50,651. Did you ever promise your vote for Mr. Gower ?—I never promised my vote to any one.

50,652. Did you receive anything from the other side ?—Yes, I did.

50,653. What ?—40*l.*

50,654. Who paid you 40*l.* ?—Mr. James Nichols.

50,655. When did he pay you that ?—I cannot say exactly, but they have got a paper that I signed.

50,656. Did you sign a sort of receipt ?—I will tell you how it was done. Mr. Nichols called me out one day and took me into the corner of the "Wheatsheaf," and he said, "I have made some money for you ; I want "your place," and I think he must have known what took place ; but I cannot remember directly now, my head is so bad, but he called me into the parlour, and he saw Mr. Newman come in, and he said hastily, "Sign it." I could hardly read it from the short time I saw it, but I saw an account of it in the paper.

50,657. You saw an account in the paper of what Mr. Nichols said of it ?—Yes ; but I do not know whether it was right in the paper.

50,658. Are you quite certain you received the money from Mr. Nichols ?—Yes.

50,659. Was it paid in a cheque or notes, or what ?—It was paid in note.

50,660. And was it all paid at one time ?—Yes.

50,661. And how long before the election ?—I cannot say.

50,662. Was it a month or six weeks, or anything of that sort ?—It was after Mr. Smith's.

50,663. You did not read the paper you signed ?—Only just a portion of it, because, I said, Mr. Newman was coming in, and Mr. Nichols was anxious for it to be signed.

50,664. Did it look like a receipt, or some paper in the nature of a receipt, for you say you saw a part of it ?—It was a small paper.

50,665. Do you know whether 40*l.* was mentioned in it ?—I cannot say, to tell you the truth, as to that.

50,666. You did not see sufficient of the paper to remember what the character of the paper was, what was written on it ?—No.

50,667. Was the 40*l.* paid at the time you signed it ?—Yes.

50,668. You got the 40*l.* when you signed this paper ?—Yes ; it was done there and then.

50,669. Was anything said about your voting at the time you got the 40*l.* ?—No.

50,670. You were not asked by Mr. Nichols to vote ?—No ; because I would not have promised anything, and I never did promise any one thing, though the report was about that I did, but it is quite wrong.

50,671. At that time you did not wish to interfere, probably, with the election ?—I did not interfere. I could not get out because of my arm. I never went to the nomination or anything.

50,672. If I understand you rightly, what was said by Mr. Nichols when he paid the 40*l.* was, in fact, an agreement for the use of your house for the election ?—That is all I took it for. I have had this house at various times let to Sir Henry Rawlinson, Mr. Wilkinson, and Mr. Doulton ; they all three had rooms at one time in my house.

50,673. Then your house was large enough to accommodate all of them ?—Oh, yes; I had a large room there.

50,674. Did Mr. Nichols' party have any meeting at your house ?—Oh, yes.

50,675. Very large ones ?—The first was a very large one indeed.

50,676. You did not vote at all ?—I did not ; but in the morning I saw Mr. Shepherd, who said " It is of " no use your voting, because it is all up. They will " win it with above a hundred. I will bet you two " bottles of wine to one that they will win by a " hundred majority." He said, " It is no use your " voting," and so I did not vote.

50,677. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you intend to vote for Mr. Monson ?—Yes, I was going to vote ; but Mr. Shepherd said it was no use, that the other party would win it by a hundred. He said, " I " will bet you two bottles of wine to one," and we had the wine in. Shepherd said it was all of no use in my going to vote.

50,678. You did not vote ?—No.

50,679. For whom were you going to vote ?—I was going to vote for Mr. Monson.

50,680. Were any refreshments supplied at your house ?—Yes.

50,681. To what extent did you send in a bill ?—There were orders that the refreshments supplied should not exceed 5*l.* ; it was limited.

50,682. You were going to say something about refreshments being limited to 5*l.* Who spoke of the refreshments being limited to 5*l.* ?—Mr. Nichols.

50,683. Was that on the night, at the meeting, that he said they were not to exceed 5*l.* ?—Yes.

50,684. Did they have refreshments ?—Yes.

50,685. And did they exceed 5*l.* ?—No, it was something under that ; by some few shillings I think. I did not have an account in my house, but Mrs. Topliss put it down on paper in the bar. We do not put things down generally, for they are generally paid for at the time, but on this occasion we were not paid.

50,686. That was independent of the 40*l.* ?—Yes ; but I never received any money.

50,687. Did you ever receive the money for the refreshments ?—No.

50,688. Did Mrs. Topliss ?—No.

50,689. Were you never paid it ?—No ; on the next occasion the account was less, it was something under 30*s.* I think. I almost think it made it 6*l.* altogether, I know it was not more than 30*s.* I did not take anything upstairs ; but some of the committee came down and ordered it at the bar and took it up.

50,690. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Then that was never paid for ?—No.

50,691. Then I may take it the amount of the refreshments supplied at those two meetings was about 6*l.*—Yes, or a little over or a little under ; I will not say which. Afterwards I sent a bill in, but Mr. Nichols said " You cannot receive any money now, so " it is no use ; you will not be paid."

50,692. Who did you send the bill to ?—I sent the bill to Mr. Nichols, and he said," Without you send in " your bill within a month after the election you wil " never get anything."

50,693. You sent it in when the month had expired ?—Yes.

50,694. Did you supply the refreshments for the Gower meeting ?—Yes.

50,695. Was it paid ?—Yes.

50,696. Who paid that ?—That was paid, but I was not to put it down as refreshment. I supplied refreshments partly at the booth at Earlswood.

50,697. What was the amount of the bill ?—The bill was 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

50,698. That was at the booth at Earlswood ?—Yes, but there were other things supplied ; but it was said I had better not put it down for refreshments, for it was not allowed, and so it was put down as cab hire : you will find that put down.

50,699. Who recommended you to do that, do you recollect ?—It only came to me second-hand.

50,700. Do you recollect who brought you the order ?—I cannot say who it was ; I do not recollect, but that is what it was.

50,701. Was your house hired in 1863 ?—Yes.

50,702. Did you pay away any money to a person of the name of Richard Bennett ?—No ; I never paid a halfpenny to anybody at any election. When a bill was to be paid Mr. James used to come and give me the money ; and when they had had the amount of money he did not let them have any more. That was when there was a meeting.

50,703. That was in 1863 ?—Yes.

50,704. That was when Mr. James was here ?—Yes.

50,705. Mr. Smith has returned you as having received 5*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* for conveyances and drivers. Did you receive that amount from Mr. Smith, 5*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* ?—I cannot say the amount of money.

50,706. But was that about it ?—It might be something about that. Is there any other amount at all ?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) No ; there is only that 5*l.* odd.

50,707. That would include the 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* for refreshments at Earlswood ?—No, the refreshments were at the booth. I had a party to drive me up there to Earlswood, and I had some men looking at the booth that nobody should cut it, because it was said that some persons would cut the booth. This was in the morning, when there were some refreshments at Earlswood. You must understand me, the refreshments were at Earlswood given to the men ; it was beer given to the men who had protected the booth.

50,708. Well, that would be included in this 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* ?—No, it was not. The other was refreshments, and it was put down as cab hire.

50,709. Was that put down as cab hire ?—It was, 1*l.* 3*s.* There were three items altogether.

The Court then adjourned to the house of William Whitmore, Chapel-street, Mead-vale, when the following evidence was taken.

THIRTY-IFTH DAY.

W. Whitmore.

30 Oct. 1866.

WILLIAM WHITMORE sworn and examined.

50,710. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your name is Whitmore. I believe you are a voter of this borough of Reigate?—Yes.

50,711. And you pay 10*l.* a year for the house?—Yes.

50,712. How long have you been a voter?—I cannot say exactly.

50,713. Did you vote at the elections of 1859, 1863, and 1865?—Yes.

50,714. Did you vote for Mr. Gower at the last election?—Yes.

50,715. Mazden, do you know him?—Yes.

50,716. Did he canvass you for Mr. Monson?—No, for Mr. Gower.

50,717. He gave you some money?—Yes.

50,718. How much did he give you?—*5l.*

50,719. Can you tell me how long that was before the election?—I dare say it was three or four weeks.

50,720. And when he gave you the *5l.* did he pay it you in one sum?—No,

50,721. How did he pay it to you?—In three different sums.

50,722. On three different occasions?—Yes.

50,723. Was it *2l.* and *2l.*, and *1l.*?—No; it was *1l.* one time, and *2l.* each of the other times.

50,724. How soon before the polling day was it paid?—Ne'er a one, till after all of it.

50,725. All of it?—Yes.

50,726. And did you vote for Mr. Gower?—Yes.

50,727. All of it was paid after the polling day?—Yes, but I cannot say how long after.

50,728. When he asked you to vote did he promise you the *5l.*?—Yes.

50,729. And you then told him you would vote?—Yes.

50,730. What were you to do?—Anything that was required of me to do I was to do for the money.

50,731. Did they employ you?—No, there was nothing at all.

50,732. Were you not canvassed on behalf of Mr. Monson?—Yes.

50,733. By Joseph Hewett?—Yes.

50,734. You received some money from him, did you not?—Yes, I received one *15s.* It is said I received two, but I did not.

50,735. You also received some trifle from Thomas Jordon?—I received *5s.* at two or three different times; *2s.* at one time, and I remember *1s.* for attending a meeting.

50,736. On behalf of Mr. Monson?—Yes; I think I had *28s.* altogether, as far as I can tell.

50,737. What were you to do for that?—I was to attend meetings and to drink beer.

50,738. And you had as much beer as you required?—Yes; there was always plenty of beer.

50,739. Who paid for it?—I do not know.

50,740. Had you promised at all to vote for Mr. Monson?—No; I had not promised.

50,741. They asked you to vote for him?—Yes, and the reason why I did not I will tell you. I said I could not promise at all.

50,742. But that was after you received the promise of the *5l.* from Mazden?—No, before that.

50,543. Had you received this money on behalf of Monson before Mr. Hewett talked to you?—He had talked to me, but he had come to no arrangement.

50,744. Before the arrangement was come to had you received the money?—Yes, all of it; I had received some of it before Mr. Gower came out. I had attended meetings, but nothing was settled, and I said I would not go to any more.

50,745. Did you understand from any one how much you were to receive altogether, if you voted for Mr. Monson?—*5l.*

50,746. Well, that is all I will ask you about the last election. For whom did you vote in 1863?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

50,747. Were you employed at all on that occasion?—Yes.

50,748. In what capacity?—As a messenger.

50,749. Was any member of your family employed also?—My son.

50,750. He was not a voter, I believe?—Yes, he was.

50,751. He was a voter also?—Yes.

50,752. How much did you receive on that occasion?—Five weeks' pay at *5s.* a day, but I got a day extra, which was *5s.*, making *7l. 15s.*

50,753. What is your son's name?—John.

50,754. How much did he receive?—The same, all but the *5s.*, *7l. 10s.*

50,755. Where does he live now?—In Camberwell.

50,756. He is not a voter now?—No.

50,757. Did he vote at the last election?—No.

50,758. Did he vote in 1863?—Yes, but he had just left.

50,759. You know he received *7l. 10s.*?—Yes.

50,760. And voted for Mr. Wilkinson?—Yes, he had just left here. He lived in Mead-vale here.

50,761. Where he had been voting for?—Yes.

50,762. You are an intelligent man, I have understood, at different elections. I want to know whether in your opinion the election of 1865 was a more expensive matter than the one of 1863?—I should think not so expensive.

50,763. Was the treating greater in 1865 than in 1863?—I should think there was greater treating in 1863 than in 1865.

50,764. You suppose that there was more treating in 1863 than in 1865?—I should think so.

50,765. Did you vote in 1859?—Yes, I did.

50,766. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Wilkinson.

50,767. That is what they call the people's election?—Yes.

50,768. Then there was no money?—No.

50,769. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Your son had left just before the election of 1863?—Yes.

50,770. But he had a vote?—Yes.

50,771. Did he receive *7l. 10s.*?—Yes.

50,772. What did he do for that?—He was down here five weeks as a messenger; they sent for him to come down. They employed him for his vote. He was with me.

50,773. They employed him for the election?—Yes.

50,774. And he got *5s.* a day?—Yes.

50,775. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did you do anything?—Yes, now and then, in delivering circulars.

50,776. How long do you think you were employed altogether during the five weeks?—Perhaps a fortnight, or a day or two more or less.

50,777. What are you by trade?—I am a labourer.

50,778. How long was your son employed out of the five weeks?—All, of course.

50,779. Yes, he was engaged the five weeks, but how much time out of that was he actually employed?—Oh, he went out about the same time as I did.

50,780. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did you do?—I delivered circulars; we had to attend every day from 10 till 4, whether we worked or not, and if we were wanted we had to go wherever they wanted us.

50,781. How many messengers were put on?—A great many altogether.

50,782. Do you think that there was work enough to employ all the messengers that were put on?—No, there was not; it was to secure their votes.

50,783. Was it not more like a colourable employment, and with nothing more to do?—Yes.

50,784. It was about that?—Yes.

50,785. And to secure their votes?—Yes.

The Commission was here adjourned to the town hall.

CHARLES WILKINSON sworn and examined.

50,786. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What are you? A plumber and painter.

50,787. Do you live in Reigate?—No, in Redhill.

50,788. What rent do you pay for your house?—I have my house on lease at about 17*l.* a year.

50,789. What, a lease on lives?—No, I have my house on lease for 21 years.

50,790. Who did you vote for at the last election?—I voted for Mr. Richardson.

50,791. That, I suppose, was an after thought; voting for Mr. Richardson?—I should have voted for Mr. Monson if there had been any chance.

50,792. But you know he was not known of till late in the day. Who were you going to vote for? Which side did you work for?—I worked for Mr. Monson.

50,793. You were on the committee, I think?—I do not know whether my name was on. If it was on it was not from my own personal wish.

50,794. Money, I think, passed through your hands. You received money to pay away to some of the people?—From the first beginning of the election that I have voted for in Reigate, which has been now some years, up to the present time I neither received a penny nor paid a penny.

50,795. I thought you had paid money to one or two people?—Never.

50,796. I will mention their names to you; one man says he was paid by you, and I assume he was paid by you on behalf of either Mr. Hart or Mr. Nichols, or somebody. Are you sure you did not hand over money to anybody?—Not to my knowledge.

50,797. Are you not aware of somebody having told us that he received money from you; because, perhaps, you can assist me?—I am not aware.

50,798. In 1865 you say you neither received money from anybody, nor did you pay money for anybody?—I never did in any election.

50,799. Did you receive any money for yourself?—No.

50,800. Were you offered any?—No, not in 1865.

50,801. I am speaking only of 1865?—No, I never was.

50,802. Were you told anything of this sort; that if you gave your assistance you would be repaid for your loss of time?—No, sir. I have always worked in elections since I have been here, and my horse and cart. I never was told such a thing since I have been here.

50,803. First of all, aye or no, were you promised? It is giving you an opportunity of saying so, if you were not. Were you offered anything for your loss of time, if you would assist Mr. Monson?—Nothing of the sort to my knowledge, I never did.

50,804. You mean you never were?—I never were.

50,805. Now, in 1863 did not you pay some money away?—No.

50,806. You understand me, you know, to put those questions in the fullest sense when I say in 1865 you never received or paid money. Did you not receive or pay money's worth?—Nothing at all of the kind.

50,807. Now, in 1863 you did pay some money, did not you?—Who was member then?

53,808. The election was between Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Gower?—No, sir.

50,809. In 1863 did not you pay a man named Francis Mayall, a mason, a sum of money, 5*l.*?—No.

50,810. Can you explain what he meant by telling us that he received 5*l.* from Wilkinson the plumber?—No, sir.

50,811. Do you know Francis Mayall?—No, sir, I have never paid him anything in my life. I went and fetched him from a place called Walton.

50,812. When? In the election of 1863?—Yes, to come and vote.

53,813. So far I have identified you with Mayall. Where is Walton?—On the hill, about five miles from here.

50,814. Were you sent to fetch him?—I went of my own accord.

50,815. What made you go?—I knew the man very well. He had borrowed some money of me, and I thought probably he would vote the same side as I did, and I went and fetched him at my own personal expense.

50,816. In your own conveyance?—No, I did not.

50,817. What conveyance did you take?—I had a cab from Reigate.

50,818. Who paid for the cab?—I do not know who paid for it; I asked if they would allow me one, and they did.

50,819. Who allowed you one?—It was an agent. I said I thought I could go and fetch some one who would vote, and they said I could get a conveyance from the "Warwick Arms." I went up in the evening, after work time.

50,820. Then you know nothing about the cab being paid for?—No, I do not. I was not to pay for it, and I did not; but all other expenses, we had something to drink, and so on, that I paid out of my own personal pocket.

50,821. Were you repaid that money?—No, I never asked for it.

50,822. Who did you vote for in 1863?—Mr. Monson, I believe.

50,823. In 1863 Mr. Monson was not standing; assume it is a mistake; we shall very soon correct it?—I cannot remember who stood at the time.

50,824. Are you speaking of an election in which the candidates were Mr. Gower and Mr. Wilkinson, or of an earlier election?—I really do not know what election it was; I believe it was about 1863, but I do not recollect. Whenever Mr. Wilkinson put up I was always on his side; I never altered at all.

50,825. Then I may take it you voted for Mr. Wilkinson; and I suppose I may take it that you fetched Mayall to vote for Mr. Wilkinson?—If it was in 1863, I did.

50,826. Then you took an active part, as you went down to the agent and told him you thought you knew of a man that you could get?—Oh, yes, I have always worked very hard in elections; I have always done the best I could for the candidate I have taken an interest in.

50,827. Well, now, Mayall himself at that time was at work at Walton?—He was.

50,828. And you took him away from his work?—I went up in the evening, saw him, and asked him to come and vote. I took him to poll the next morning.

50,829. Did not he object to come without being paid for his loss of time?—I beg pardon; I have made a mistake. This was Mepham, not Mayall; I never had anything to do with Mayall. I thought you meant Mepham; it is a mistake.

50,830. Do you know a man named Francis Mayall?—Yes.

50,831. Did you see him in the election of 1863?—Yes.

50,832. Did he go up and vote with you?—Yes.

50,833. Did you fetch him to come to vote?—Oh, no.

50,834. Did you go with him to the poll?—He walked with me across; he lives close to Redhill polling place.

50,835. Did you take him away from his work?—No.

50,836. But he was at work, I suppose?—His yard is close to it; within two minutes' walk.

50,837. Had you been to his yard to canvass him?—Yes.

50,838. Did he tell you that he should not come unless he was paid for loss of time?—No.

50,839. Was anything of that sort said by him?—No.

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY.

C. Wilkinson.

30 Oct. 1866.

50,840. Nothing at all?—Nothing.

50,841. Was anything said by you that if he would come and vote all right, he should not be forgotten, but should be paid for his loss of time?—No.

50,842. Was anything of that sort said?—Nothing at all of the sort.

50,843. Now did not you afterwards, in fact, give him some money?—No.

50,844. I do not mean out of your own pocket; but did not you receive a certain sum of money for him?—Never.

50,845. Are you sure?—Yes.

50,846. I wish you would try and recollect?—I cannot; it is no good to try.

50,847. He says distinctly that you gave him a 5*l.* note?—No, sir, I never did.

50,848. He said, "I voted for Monson, and I re- "ceived 5*l.* from Wilkinson the plumber." That was in 1863?—It is not me.

50,849. Is there another Mr. Wilkinson a plumber?—Yes; I have a brother.

50,850. That may account for it. Is your brother named John Wilkinson?—Yes.

50,851. That may be an explanation of the whole thing. The other man's name that you fetched from Walton was Mepham?—Yes.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) He has been called before us.

(*Mr. De Rutzen.*) Yes, on the 11th September.

50,852. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recollect going to Mepham, and asking him to come and vote with you?—Yes.

50,853. You told him yourself, I think, that you would pay him for his expenses and loss of time?—No.

50,854. Are you sure of that?—I am positive. I asked him if he would oblige me, to come and vote.

50,855. Did not you add you would pay him for his expenses and for his loss of time?—No, sir; he never asked me.

50,856. I never said anything about what he said. What I want to know is, whether you undertook to him to pay him for his expenses and his loss of time?—No.

50,857. He says you did distinctly?—He may say it; I never did.

50,858. I will tell you what he said: "Wilkinson "came to me to ask me to come with him, and he "said he would pay my expenses and loss of time; "but I got nothing from him. I thought I ought to "have 10*s.*, that is 5*s.* a day"?—I never promised him anything of the sort.

50,859. You hear what I have read out, what he did say?—I told you before I was mistaken in the name.

50,860. I am at Mepham now?—I am speaking of Mepham in the first place, and I told you the reason why I did. He came to me for a little assistance, and I thought I would go and ask him to vote for the candidate I vote for. He never once broke the subject to me that he expected money.

50,861. I have never said that he did?—I never promised him anything.

50,862. I was asking whether you told him that you would pay the loss of time and his expenses?—No.

50,863. Have you voted in any election before 1863?—Oh, yes.

50,864. Did you on any occasion receive money after voting?—Never; not to my knowledge.

50,865. Oh, no?—Well, I never did then; I speak truth as far as I can.

50,866. I do not doubt it, only I think it is a thing you would not be likely to forget. You say you have not been in the habit of doing so; therefore I think, if there was any one occasion on which you did, I think it would abide in your mind. Have you or not ever received money after your vote at any election here?—I never received but one thing in my life.

50,867. What was that?—A dinner.

50,868. What election was that?—Lord Monson's.

50,869. Did you ever receive any money?—No.

50,870. Now you answer positively?—I do, as far as my memory goes. You may think I am fencing, but I am speaking the truth.

50,871. Then you mean, although you used the term "to the best of my knowledge," you are confident you never did?—I am.

50,872. I will take it so now you say so; then I have nothing more to ask.

50,873. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You say he owed you some money?—I do not know that he owed me any money at the time.

50,874. You said he did?—I had done such things for him in my time.

50,875. Did he owe you money at that time?—I do not think he did.

50,876. Why did you bring that in, that he owed you money?—I think he had. I did not say that he owed.

50,877. But, if he had had money from you, what is the use of bringing that in if you did not mean to say that had something to do with your going to him?—Oh, no, it was no use bringing it in, only I said he was under perhaps a little obligation to me sometimes.

50,878. And you went to fetch him on that account, because you thought he was under an obligation?—Him and me were friends together, and I thought perhaps he would go the same way as I did.

50,879. Did you mention to any one that you would go to him because he was under an obligation to you?—No, nor yet to him.

50,880. He came to you from his work?—He left his work and came home that night with me.

50,881. And there remained till he voted?—He voted at 8 o'clock in the morning, and then went to work, I believe.

50,882. Did you send him back?—No.

50,883. Who sent him back?—He had some work here, I think.

H. Sparrowhawk.

HENRY SPARROWHAWK sworn and examined.

50,884. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you a voter at the last election?—Yes.

50,885. And you have been a voter for some years, have you not?—Yes.

50,886. What rent do you pay for your house?—23*l.* a year.

50,887. What are you?—A boot and shoe maker.

50,888. For whom did you vote in 1865?—Mr. Gower.

50,889. I do not know whether you were on his committee?—No, I was not.

50,890. Did you receive any money at the election of 1865?—No.

50,891. Either for yourself or to give away?—No.

50,892. Did you take an active part in the election?—No.

50,893. Not at all?—Not at all.

50,894. Merely voted?—Merely voted.

50,895. Did you vote in 1863?—I had not a vote then.

50,896. When was your first election, 1858?—My first was Mr. Doulton's.

50,897. Were you engaged as canvasser for Mr. Doulton?—I was on, so much a day.

50,898. What did you have a day?—10*s.* 6*d.*

50,899. Who put you on?—I think it was Mr. Murphy.

50,900. How long did you work for Mr. Doulton?—I cannot exactly say.

50,901. How many weeks?—I do not think it was three weeks.

50,902. Perhaps you can tell me what you got?—About 7*l.* or 8*l.*

50,903. How were you paid?—At the end of the week.

50,904. At the end of each week ?—Yes.

50,905. Who paid you ?—I think Mr. Murphy.

50,906. Where were you paid ?—I was paid at the "Royal Oak," I think it was.

50,907. Was Truman present when the money was paid ?—I won't be certain.

50,908. Were there many others being paid with you ?—Yes. I did not see any one paid with me; there was only one in the room at a time.

50,909. Those who waited outside to be paid; did you see many of them ?—No, I did not.

50,910. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did Murphy pay you on each occasion ?—I think Mr. Truman paid me the last.

50,911. Murphy the other two ?—Yes, I think so.

50,912. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When you were put on as canvasser had you promised your vote ?—Yes.

50,913. Had you promised your vote before you were put on as canvasser ?—No.

50,914. Who was it asked you for your vote, do you recollect ?—Mr. Murphy.

50,915. Was it at the same time that he asked you for your vote that he asked you to go on as canvasser ?—He asked me to come on.

50,916. Was it then you were promised the payment of money ?—Yes.

50,917. All at one interview ?—Yes.

50,918. What did you do for your 10*s.* 6*d.* a day ?—I went wherever they chose to send me; we used to meet in the morning.

50,919. Did you meet every morning ?—Yes, every morning.

50,920. What were you then ?—A boot and shoe maker.

50,921. Keeping a shop of your own ?—Yes.

50,922. Who attended to your business ? — My mother.

50,923. Whilst you were out ?—Yes.

50,924. How much of the day did you occupy in this canvassing ?—I cannot exactly say now.

50,925. Was it every day ?—Yes, as long as the election lasted.

50,926. As long as you were paid did your occupation of canvassing last ?—Yes, up to the polling day.

50,927. Now, did you only have that money in your hands, or did you have more money ?—No, sir.

50,928. Only the 10*s.* 6*d.* ?—Only the 10*s.* 6*d.*

50,929. Did you make any promises to voters to pay them money when you canvassed ?—No.

50,930. Did you find any difficulty in getting votes ?—No.

50,931. Did you get any votes ?—No, I did not.

50,932. Did you find, not having the power to offer money, that that was a hindrance to your getting votes ?—No, sir.

50,933. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You had no canvassing book, had you ?—No, I had not.

50,934. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then you merely canvassed as you walked about the town, and might chance to meet a person. Was that the way in which you canvassed ? Did you go regularly out and call from house to house and canvass ?—No, sir, I did not.

50,935. Then how did you canvass ? Did you go far from your own house to canvass ?—I went out.

50,936. You might go out of the front door and go back again, but did you go out any distance from your own house to canvass? You do not recollect that you did ?—No, sir.

50,937. And probably did not. Did you go out from your own house at all to canvass ?—I went about, but I could not get any votes.

50,938. I will take it you did not go about much ?—I had no voice. I had only just come into the place.

50,939. Do you mean you had no influence ?—I did not know the people.

50,940. And they did not know you ?—No.

50,941. And so you could not get any votes ?—No.

50,942. Do not you believe that you were put on as canvasser merely as a colourable employment ? Do you understand what that means ?—Yes.

50,943. Was not it so ? You were put on simply for the purpose of voting, and not to do any real work ?—Yes.

50,944. You believe it was ?—Yes.

50,945. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) They wanted your vote, and you wanted 10*s.* 6*d.* a day. Did you go to them, or did they find you out ?—I believe Mr. Murphy came to me.

50,946. Your name was on the register ?—Yes.

50,947. And I suppose he asked you if you would like to be employed and to be paid for it, and "Would "you like to have 10*s.* 6*d.* a day" ?—Yes.

50,948. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you know any of the other men who were employed in the same way as canvassers on behalf of Mr. Doulton ?—No.

50,949. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) There is a brother of yours, is not there, who was employed in the same way in the town ?—I do not know him.

50,950. Yes, you do. Your brother is living at Redhill ?—Yes.

50,951. And he was employed as canvasser ? — Yes.

50,952. Is he a shoemaker ?—Yes.

50,953. And he voted for Mr. Doulton ?—He did.

50,954. What was he then ?—A shoemaker.

50,955. You brother went about canvassing as you did ?—My brother was on, sir.

50,956. Of course he was about as good a man as you; he knew just as much about Reigate or Redhill as you did. Do not you know from him that he was employed as you were ?—He was, sir, but I do not know what he had.

50,957. You know that he was employed, I am not asking you the amount, and to be paid something as you were ?—Yes.

50,958. Is that the one that was minding the shop whilst you were out ?—Yes.

50,959. As you went out canvassing he was in the shop, and as he went out canvassing you were in the shop ?—Yes.

50,960. And this lasted more than three weeks, did not it ?—I do not know. I was not on more than that.

50,961. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you attending at the public houses in the evening at that election ?—I do not know; I cannot say that I was.

50,962. Did you know whether the houses were open for refreshment ?—I never saw them.

50,963. You were not out ?—Not in Mr. Doulton's election. I never saw any refreshments.

50,964. Perhaps that shows that you stopped at home a good deal and were not very much out ?—I did not see any of Mr. Doulton's refreshments. Whatever we had we paid for.

GRANVILLE WILLIAM LEVESON GOWER, Esq. sworn and examined.

G. W. L. Gower, Esq.

50,965. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You were a candidate, were you not, in 1865 against Mr. Monson ?—I was.

50,966. I believe you appointed Mr. Smith as your election agent ?—Yes, I did.

50,967. You had several sub-agents who worked for you, and I see you have written their names down, the names of a good many persons down on paper, which I have before me. Were those persons' names written down as your agents before the election ?—Did you say I had written them down ?

50,968. I understood so; I thought that was your handwriting ?—No, it is Mr. Smith's.

50,969. You were in the field as a candidate about how long before the 12th of July, which, I think, was the date of the election ? I have forgotten at this

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moment how long it was?—It was about the beginning of May. I will just look when I made my first speech.

50,970. I will take it the beginning of May; and Mr. Smith was appointed your agent at starting, I presume?—Yes. I never canvassed before the 20th of May; that is the first day I went round canvassing.

50,971. You went round with Mr. Smith, and also with some of his sub-agents?—The sub-agents were not with me on that occasion.

50,972. What were your instructions at starting to Mr. Smith, if you gave him any at all, as to the mode in which your election was to be conducted?—I gave Mr. Smith instructions upon that point, that I would have no bribery, and no engagement of public houses, and no treating; and I told him I did not care if I lost the election, unless I could win it fairly.

50,973. As the election went had you reason to think (I wish you to consider this question) that Mr. Smith was carrying out your instructions?—Yes, I believed so at the time.

50,974. I mean at the time?—Yes, during the election.

50,975. Previous to the polling day; I am ending it at that. You had reason to believe he was carrying out your instructions?—Yes, I had; in fact, he told me so, because he said he had advanced no money to the canvassers.

50,976. I do not mean anything said by Mr. Smith, but did no facts at all transpire which led you to doubt whether he was doing so?—No, there were none.

50,977. I dare say you recollect very well attending a meeting in the town hall both here and at Redhill about a fortnight or three weeks before the election, in which you made a speech about paying voters?—Yes; I can tell the Commissioners exactly what happened.

50,978. I wish you would give me the date?—On the 20th of June, Tuesday. Mr. Smith and my principal sub-agents, all of them, I think, came to my house in London. They stated to me that money was being offered to my voters, and that they could not be sure of retaining those who had promised me. My answer to them was this: I said, "If you will under-"take to conduct this election entirely on purity prin-"ciples, I on my part will undertake, in case we are "beaten, to lodge a petition; bnt it must be on the "understanding that your hands are perfectly clean." And I said, "If there is any impression that I will "pay any of these voters, I will come down to Reigate "the next day and remove that impression at once."

50,979. You said that to them?—I said that to them. It was in the nature of a distinct agreement. Some of them say now that they do not remember it; but it was a distinct understanding between us, that if they would conduct the election fairly, I on my part would engage to petition in case we were beaten, if our own hands were perfectly clean. The next day, the 21st, I had an engagement in London, which I gave up in order to come down here. I called a meeting of the principal gentlemen who were my supporters at the "White Hart." I then stated to them, in exactly the same words, what I had said to these men up in London. From that room at the "White Hart" we came here, where the general committee was sitting. I made the same statement, as far as I can remember, word for word. The statement was not well received, and when I had finished my statement, as I said in evidence before the House of Commons, some of the principal canvassers, I do not remember who they were, said, "Are we to understand that we "who work for you are to have nothing for our ser-"vices?" And I said, "I am not going to have a "number of idle men going about doing nothing, and "expecting to be paid; but those who have been "engaged in real work will be paid for it." That was what took place in this hall. I know the impression of that meeting when I left was not at all what has been said by some of the witnesses, that everybody expected to be paid, but quite the reverse, because the statement was not well received. I may say, with regard to that, I think it was Job Apted in his evidence.

50,980. I will come to that in a short time. I understand you now to say that the substance of that part of your speech to which you are most referring was, that those persons who had really worked for you would be paid?—Yes, and it was addressed to those gentlemen who made the remark. I do not know who they were. They were my principal canvassers; whether Apted or Buckland or Joyes I do not know. It was addressed to them.

50,981. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And intended as a distinct intimation, that those who did not work would not be paid?—I said so in so many words, "I "won't have a number of idle men running about and "expecting to be paid."

50,982. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I dare say you recollect pretty nearly the turn which you gave that very sentence when you made that part of your speech, that those persons who really worked, meaning a distinction from those who only pretended to work, would be paid. It agrees with what we have heard from other places?—I think the statement I gave before the House of Commons was as near as possible the words I have used. I may mention, until the committee of the House of Commons, I never heard a word about it. No one ever said to me, "We "expect to be paid." The first I ever heard of it was in the statement of Johnson before the committee of the House of Commons.

50,983. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is Question 1644, at the top of page 31.—"When I addressed "this public meeting at the town hall I said I would "not have all these messengers and canvassers that "they required. The meeting was not satisfied with "that statement. Some of them came to me after-"wards and said, 'We have been working for you all "'this time; are we to understand we are to have "'nothing for it.' I answered that 'those who "'work for me will be paid for their work.'" The only thing I wish to qualify is the word "after-"wards."

50,984. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) If you used the word "afterwards," it would mean in the town hall?—I am not sure that I did use the word "after-"wards," but it was at the time.

50,985. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Did it occur to you at the time, that that part of your speech was so worded that it might be a little bit equivocal?—No, it never occurred to me at the time, and I never heard a word about it till the Committee of the House of Commons.

50,986. Has it occurred to you since to think that that part of your speech might be variously interpreted, and so rather equivocal?—No, I think not in the sense in which it was spoken. If I had to conduct an election again, I certainly would never make any statement about payment whatever.

50,987. The more important question a great deal is, of course, did it occur to you at the time that you were using an equivocal phrase?—Not at all. It was spoken quite in the contrary sense to what they seem to have taken it. It was followed just immediately with saying that I would not have a number of idle people about.

50,988. I wish to know what was passing in your own mind in the first place, and in the second place to tell you what impression it made on others, when you say that you did not use that phrase intending that people should think you would pay them money if they worked?—Certainly not. The words "well "paid," I utterly deny ever having used. That was an addition of Johnson's; I never used the words.

50,989. He was the only one, as far as I recollect, who added "well paid."—There was a witness named Mitchell, who states that Apted said any one who

served on Mr. Gower's committee would be paid well.

50,990. Now you see the effect of it was, as far as we learn from the witnesses who heard it, from a man named Johnson, Huxtable, Chilcott, Bagallay, —I leave out Mr. North; those men I have mentioned, and Apted also; that makes six, say, and more particularly the five, though Apted mentions it, —that they did not expect to be paid till they heard your speech in the hall, and then they had great hopes?—I notice most of the witnesses have been paid at former elections, who say that they expected to be paid.

50,991. A word about that by-and-bye?—If I may say so, it was certainly a week, if not ten days, after that that a meeting at Redhill took place, in which we were accused of starving the election.

50,992. I will come to that. Now that you hear that as many as five, at any rate ordinary persons, leaving out Mr. Apted, who might be more critical perhaps, as many as five persons, interpreted that into a promise to pay them money; does not it now occur to you that your speech in that particular was somewhat equivocal?—No doubt they interpreted it so; I believe it was suggested to them before they went into the Committee of the House of Commons.

50,993. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) It is what they said here?—It was all subsequent to the House of Commons Inquiry. I told the Commissioners I would not make such a statement again, seeing how it has been misunderstood.

50,994. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Bearing that in mind, did not you know that in the election of 1863 a very large sum of money had been paid away to voters who had done only colourable work for you?—Yes.

50,995. You knew that at the time?—Yes.

50,996. Would not that itself lead you to think you were using a very equivocal expression, and one likely to mislead the voters at the election of 1865?—No; I can only say it never occurred to my mind to use it with any equivocal meaning whatever.

50,997. You see I take it; you had known the sort of work in which voters had been employed in 1863, and you had known at any rate the extent to which they had been paid?—Yes, but I had spoken so strongly at the beginning of this election that I considered myself safe. Not only did I speak to Mr. Smith, but there was not one of my principal agents but what I spoke to privately on the subject. They will all concur in saying that.

50,998. I thought it was three or four days after?—It was the next week after I am sure.

50,999. It has been stated to us it was about three days afterwards?—I am sure it was longer than that.

51,000. After that speech at the town hall a deputation came to you at Redhill?—No, that is a mistake altogether; the application that was made for money was in an envelope to Mr. Smith.

51,001. I am aware of that, but a deputation came to you, did it not, at the committee room at Redhill?—No.

51,002. A deputation headed by Mr. Apted?—No deputation ever came. That is a mistake that has gone through the evidence of two or three witnesses. The only deputation that ever waited on me was this one in London.

51,003. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) After the speech made by you at the town hall on the 21st of June, two or three days afterwards, did you receive a letter irom your sub-agents, which has been called a "round-robin," which you handed over to your committee?—No, Mr. Smith received it; it was directed to him.

51,004. I thought you had received it?—No.

51,005. Did he hand it over to you?—He handed it to me in a room at the "White Hart." I was going over to a committee meeting at Redhill. I went from this place round by Mr. North's house, my chairman, called for him, and then went on Redhill, where our committee meeting was to take place in the market hall, taking Mr. North with me. At the market hall we had a private room and also a room in which the committee were to meet, and in our private room I showed that document to Mr. Webb, Mr. North, and one or two more.

51,006. Mr. Smith was there?—Yes; they were all present.

51,007. I think you told them that the business of the committee meeting rather was to consider that letter, that round-robin?—No, I told them privately that we had to consider it, not the general committee.

51,008. You did take it into consideration, and then I think you and the other gentlemen you have mentioned went out into the committee room and met the persons who had sent you the round-robin?—Yes, but never said a word to them on the subject of that round-robin.

51,009. Oh, no, no?—I can tell the Commissioners, as far as I remember, exactly what took place between us privately.

51,010. I think you ought to have an opportunity of stating it?—This memorial was given to me by Smith, and I showed it to these gentlemen who were there. I said, "It is impossible that we can advance "them any money of this kind," and then we discussed generally the subject of the election. Mr. Smith informed us no money whatever had been advanced for the purposes of the election. The election had been going on some four weeks, but we must then begin to have our committee meetings, and it was mentioned in my presence that the sum of 100*l.* should be advanced to them.

51,011. It was mentioned in your presence?—I knew that sum of money was to be advanced, but I did not consider it excessive, because I was told no money had hitherto been advanced, and that sum of money was to be divided among some eight or ten men.

51,012. Did you understand who those eight or ten men were?—Yes; they were Apted, Buckland, Joyes, Mazden, and so on. Their names are on the paper.

51,013. Green, and the sub-agents with whom we are familiar?—Yes.

51,014. After that did you go into the committee room and have an interview with these gentlemen; Mr. Apted, and so on?—Yes, we then had our committee meeting.

51,015. At which they attended?—At which they were all present.

51,016. Do you recollect on that occasion it being mentioned by one of them that the election, by word of mouth to you and the committee, that the election had been starved?—Yes; Apted said so. He said I was not canvassing enough, and that we were starving the election.

51,017. At that time you said you refused to advance money to any extent?—I did not discuss with them the subject of this memorial at all. I merely said, "If I am not canvassing sufficiently I will come "and canvass sufficiently;" and I reiterated my statement about improper payments, but I did not discuss the subject of the document.

51,018. Did any one of them tell you when you declined to advance money, did they say, "Well, if "you like we will work without money, but it must "be on the understanding that in case you lose the "election, and are not likely to win, you will have a "petition to the House"?—I do not remember that; that was my offer to them.

51,019. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Your offer in London?—It was in the nature of an agreement.

51,020. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Do you recol-

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lect the deputation, we will call it so, I believe the spokesman at the time was Apted, but do you remember their saying, "Well, if you won't advance us "money," or words to that effect, "we will work "without it; but it must be on the distinct understand- "ing, on your promise, that you will present a petition "if you lose, and we will go upon that"?—I do not remember that. Several of them asked me, would I lodge a petition if we were beaten. I said, "Yes, if "your hands are clean I will, not unless."

51,021. When that proposition was made to you, did not you decline to leave it to a petition at all and have anything to do with a petition?—No; I do not remember anything of that sort.

51,022. Are you sure that you did not, that you declined to pledge yourself to have recourse to a petition?—No; I did pledge myself to a petition if they would do that.

51,023. I have now got to another occasion, the occasion at Redhill; you had declined to advance them as much money as they wanted. The sum they wanted was as much as 500*l.*; you declined in effect, either by your own lips or through the committe. Did not they then say to you, "Well, we will work for "nothing and take the chance," adding, "though it is "a bad one," or something of that sort; "but you must "pledge yourself to have a petition and stand upon it "afterwards"?—No, I do not remember anything of that sort being said.

51,024. I do not understand you to say that such a thing did not take place?—I am pretty nearly sure it was not said in that way. They may have said to me, "Will you lodge a petition?" and I should have said the same as I said before, "I will lodge a "petition if you will conduct the election perfectly "fairly on your part."

51,025. What I want to know is, can you with your own recollection take upon yourself to say that this did not pass, that Mr. Apted, I will put it in his mouth, did not say, "Well then, if that is the case, "finding you will not advance money, we will, if you "like, go to work," that was the phrase, "for nothing; "but it must be on your pledging yourself that if we "fail you will have a petition"?—I do not remember it being said. I think if it had been said I should have remembered it. At that meeting I do not remember we had any discussion about it.

51,026. I am quoting him; he says that took place?—Yes, I know he does, but I think it did not.

51,027. You think it did not take place?—I think not.

51,028. At any rate you will not go further than say that you do not recollect it, but you think you would if it had taken place?—This is the statement of Apted on the subject: "A deputation went to Mr. "Gower"——

51,029. What are you reading from?—That is Apted's evidence from *The Times*.

51,030. I don't want that; I have repeated to you pretty faithfully what he stated before us; I am pretty nearly certain I am right about what Mr. Apted said?—I do not remember it, and I do not think it took place in my presence, because I think I should have remembered it if it had; but I will not swear that it did not.

51,031. How do you account for this, that, having stated what you did state at your house in London, you did not state the same thing to Mr. Apted's deputation at Redhill, about standing on a petition?—There was no deputation there.

51,032. Then I will not call it a deputation; I will say when Mr. Apted and the sub-agents came to Redhill, when Mr. Apted said you were "starving "the election," and you decided to advance money, why did you not pledge yourself to petition, as you had already done at your own house, when you said, "Well, I'll have no improper spending of money at "all, I will rather have recourse to a petition after- "wards"?—If the subject of the petition was mentioned, I am quite sure I should have said that. The statement that I made here I repeated subsequently at almost every committee meeting I attended, as well at Redhill as elsewhere.

51,033. That is about spending money?—No, about the petition; I mentioned that.

51,034. We have heard very little about that except on two occasions?—Every agent will tell you it was *bonâ fide* between us: if, on their part, they conducted the election fairly I, on my part, engaged to petition if we were beaten.

51,035. What Apted told us was this, "Well, we'll "work for nothing," which is rather a short phrase, and a very intelligible one?—I am prepared to say here that Apted never did make such a statement.

51,036. Pray understand me as not wishing to press you on towards denying it; I only want to test your recollection about it. You say the deputation, you do not like the word "deputation," you say they went away?—It was an ordinary committee meeting. There were others present besids the sub-agents; it was not confined to them. After I made a speech I went away.

51,037. They seemed to think themselves that you all retired from the committee room, Mr. Smith seemed to think so, so did Mr. North, that you all retired from the committee room about the same time?—I think so.

51,038. And went into what you call the private room?—No, I went away; the meeting in that private room took place before the committee.

51,039. Did you not go back into the private room?—No.

51,040. Just after you had left the committee room did you see Mr. Smith talking with some of the sub-agents in the passage, do you recollect?—No.

51,041. But you say you did know that that arrangement was made in that private room, that 100*l.* should be given to the sub-agents?—Yes, a sum not exceeding 100*l.* It was because I had been told that no payments had up to that time been made not for current expenses.

51,042. What was the 100*l.* for? What did you intend it for?—For the legitimate expenses. They had had no money at all I was told; they had been going up by railway to see voters, and so on, and matters of that kind. I understood it to be for legitimate expenses. I should not have sanctioned a larger sum, nor should I have sanctioned that, if I had known their current expenses were being paid.

51,043. Did you know at that time that a great many persons were being employed as canvassers, a great many smaller persons?—No.

51,044. Did you afterwards learn that a great many canvassers were being employed here and at Redhill?—Not until the accounts were sent in to me.

51,045. I mean before the accounts came in?—No; not before the election.

51,046. I mean before the election, much smaller persons than sub-agents?—No, I did not.

51,047. Ten times as numerous; persons who were what has been called "put on:" were you not aware of that?—No, I had no reason to know it; because these men, when I canvassed them this time, the greater part of them, promised me at once. They did not say they would wait, but they most of them promised me their votes at once.

51,048. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You did not meet them out canvassing, did you?—No.

51,049. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Whether paid or not, did you not know that a great many persons were employed for you?—No, I did not.

51,050. Did you know of whom your committee consisted?—I met them there.

51,051. I mean those on the list?—Yes.

51,052. Do you not know that a great many of those persons were very small persons?—Yes.

51,053. Did you know that any of them were working for you at one thing or the other, out canvassing, or something else?—No, I did not.

51,054. Did you know that any of them were being paid?—No.

51,055. Did you know that any of them were "put on" with the promise that they were to be paid if they did work?—No, I did not.

51,056. Now, did it not occur to you that those persons, the smaller persons, whose names you saw on the committee, would be the very persons who might come within the definition which you had laid down in the town hall here, as persons who ought to be paid for work done?—No; because I should not consider it work attending a committee.

51,057. What I am endeavouring to test is your knowledge of whether those persons who were on your committee, and who were voters, were receiving money or not?—I have no knowledge of it. I see some of them state they thought that by coming upon that committee, that meant, they were going to be paid. I had no idea of that at the time.

51,058. Before the election, did you not know that the men who were employed for you were voters? I am speaking now of the small men?—I did not know that any of them were employed for me.

51,059. Very well. You were frequently here and at Redhill during the candidateship?—Yes; from about the 21st of June; that was the day of the meeting I stated.

51,060. And you frequently attended committee meetings?—Yes.

51,061. Did you not see a great number of small tradespeople attending the committees that you were present at?—Yes, the committees were very well attended.

51,062. And you knew that these people, of course, were voters?—Yes, they were; they were all voters.

51,063. Did you not know that they were receiving money?—No, I did not.

51,064. Did you not know from anything you were told of them that they were persons who expected money, and had been promised money, for work to be done?—No.

51,065. Your election was conducted by Mr. Smith in 1863, was it not?—Yes.

51,066. Was it conducted much in the same way?—Well, there was a great difference. On that occasion I attended public house meetings, and we engaged committee rooms at public houses; and in 1865 I never entered a public house, nor made a speech in one. When I say I never entered a public house I mean, not to attend a meeting.

51,067. Did not you know that in 1863 a great number of small tradesmen who served on your committee were paid for work they did for you?—I knew it after the election.

51,068. Then, bearing that in mind, can you say that you did not know that the voters in 1865 who were on your committee were not to be paid?—Yes, I can, because of that strong statement which I made to them; and, as I said before, at this election they promised me their votes at once; not like the election of 1863, when I came a stranger and they did not know me. Almost all of them this time promised me early. And also I considered the petition having been lodged in 1863 was a great safeguard, that they would not incur the risk again.

51,069. Then I take it now you say in effect that your speech, made in the sense in which you made it, disarms any imputation of knowledge that voters in 1865 were receiving money?—Yes.

51,070. What do you mean by the petition of 1863, that you considered that would be a safeguard?—Well, I considered that having been petitioned against in 1863 they would not run the risk of incurring another petition in 1865.

51,071. But the petition of 1863 was got over?—Yes, but it was the first petition that had been lodged against the seat here; I always said to them "I will not run the risk of another petition."

51,072. Then, in short, as I said before (I do not use the term at all unpleasantly), you consider the speeches you made about payments in 1865 altogether drew a clear difference between that election and the election of 1863?—Yes.

51,073. You meant to say in effect, "Whatever votes "were paid for in 1863 (whether they were or not), they "shall not be paid for on this occasion"?—Yes, I said it should be on an entirely different footing, we would have no public house meetings; and I may say that those canvassers who waited upon me in London went away apparently satisfied with the arrangement.

51,074. Yes, but it was on that occasion in London you added, "and I would rather stand on the petition"?—And so I did here constantly state the same thing.

51,075. It has been stated to us, as I have told you, that when the sub-agents came to you at Redhill, they told you they would work for nothing if you would pledge yourself to a petition, and that you rather then declined that course?—I am sure it was not so. I never varied from that statement that I made on the 20th of June till the end of the election.

51,076. Going back for a moment to the "round-robin" which you received, and which you took down to the Redhill committee room, have you got that "round-robin," or a copy of it?—No, I gave it to Mr. Smith. I believe it was addressed to him; it was never addressed to me.

51,077. And you have not got it?—No.

51,078. Did you not learn from your sub-agents when they came to you at Redhill, that the other side were bribing to a considerable extent, and they wanted money?—They told me so.

51,079. I believe they told you that the 500*l.* they wanted was because of that; was it not? or told you that which made you understand it so?—I do not think they ever spoke to me on the subject of that 500*l.*, as far as I remember; I am quite sure I never had any conversation with Apted or any of them upon it.

51,080. But you had that conversation with Apted after you had discussed the "round-robin" in the private room and adjourned into the committee room to meet them?—Not on the subject of that "round-robin." It was merely a general statement, the same statement they made in London, that votes were being taken away from our side, and they were not sure of the election.

51,081. But did they not tell you they wanted money to counteract the effect of that?—No, I think not.

51,082. I mean in substance?—No.

51,083. Did they not tell you this; the expression I used before was this; that a great deal of money was being spent on the other side for gaining votes, and that it was absolutely necessary you should give them money for the same purpose?—No; their original statement was, "You must put on more canvassers "and messengers." That I declined to do.

51,084. Did you understand anything particular by "canvasser"; what did you mean by "canvasser"?—I knew what they meant.

51,085. What did they mean?—Merely paying money to voters. That I declined altogether.

51,086. Still you were aware that on that very occasion you did advance, at least your agent did advance them 100*l.*?—Yes.

51,087. That being so, can you suggest a reason why one should not think that that 100*l.* went to "put on" more canvassers of such a description as you meant?—No; because I was told they had no money for the current expenses of the election.

51,088. Therefore you thought the 100*l.* was not so much for putting on canvassers?—Not at all that; I thought it was to be given to these agents.

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51,089. Now, bearing that in mind, did you not know at that time that Mr. Smith had made an arrangement to pay a certain sum of money to those very sub-agents?—No, I do not think I did.

51,090. The arrangement was for a largish sum of money to be paid to them; did you not know at that time that those very men whom you say had not received any money, that Mr. Smith, your agent, had arranged with them to pay them so much a head for working for you?—No, I did not know the sums of money.

51,091. If you did not know the sum of money, did you not know that he had arranged to pay them?—I knew they were to be paid.

51,092. Then they could not have wanted the 100*l.*?—It would have been about 10*l.*; there were nine or ten of them, and they had been canvassing ever since the 21st of May.

51,093. And was it to meet their disbursements?—I did not know at that time their current expenses were being paid; what I mean by their current expenses, when they had to go to Godstone, or perhaps to Sydenham, and places of that sort, that their journeys were being paid.

51,094. Did you learn before the election how much these sub-agents were to be paid per head?—No, I did not. I do not remember ever being shown a list.

51,095. I will come to the money part in a short time; let me ask you another question. In 1863 you had canvassed yourself personally, I believe?—Yes.

51,096. Had you ever yourself, I dare say you will understand the phrase, "put on" people in 1863, that is, told them to go and get work for you, and they would be paid for it?—No, I do not think I ever did.

51,097. In 1863 a man named Corderoy was one of your sub-agents?—Yes.

51,098. Do you remember on one occasion canvassing a voter named Apps with him?—Yes.

51,099. A man who was working at the plough?—Yes, I do remember that.

51,100. Do you remember Apps being rather coy about promising his vote?—Yes.

51,101. Declining, in short, to promise it at the time?—Yes.

51,102. Do you remember any suggestion being made by you in Apps' presence to Corderoy, in consequence of which Corderoy made him a promise of money, in your presence too?—No; I have taken a note of that, and I am quite sure nothing of the sort passed between us. I believe Corderoy would say the same. There was nobody else present but myself, and Corderoy, and Apps, and he was ploughing in the field. There was nobody else present.

51,103. It is not suggested that there was; but what I want to know is: is it true, or is it not true, that after you had been talking to Apps, and found him hesitating, you made a significant sign, or gave a significant look to Corderoy, and that he, rightly interpreting it, suggested to Apps that his plough "wanted greasing"?—No, I am quite sure it was not true. I see here he states that Corderoy remained behind. I am quite sure that he went away with me immediately.

51,104. But what he said was this: "Mr. Gower "and Corderoy looked at each other after this," (when he would not promise his vote) "that they "looked at each other,"—his phrase was more than that; "they gave a look at each other, and Corderoy "gave a look at Mr. Gower, and then," as if you assented, "he said, 'By the way, don't your plough "'want greasing?'"—I am quite sure it is false.

51,105. You know a man hesitating about his vote, and anxious to get money for his vote, would be ready to interpret any sign that passed between you and Corderoy, and it would not be difficult to speak in signs on such an occasion. Do you deny that you gave Corderoy any encouragement, which Apps may have so interpreted?—Yes, I deny it positively.

51,106. I do not understand that you have denied Corderoy saying to the man, "Would not a little "grease do your plough good?"—Not in my hearing. There is another statement which he made which I wish to deny most positively.

51,107. By all means; what is it?—That he told Mr. Gower and Corderoy in 1863 that if they would give him 3*l.* first he would vote for Mr. Gower, and they told him he should vote first, and he would be paid afterwards. I deny that most positively.

51,108. Do you deny that any sum of money was mentioned in your presence?—That any sum of money was mentioned in my presence.

51,109. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Or any conversation of that kind or character?—Yes.

51,110. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You see it is rather a difficult bit of evidence to be set before you, because, as I have already said, you were supposed to have spoken in signs. It is very difficult to contradict that. As far as it can be done, do I understand you to contradict that you did anything which could be interpreted into offering money, or authorizing Corderoy to offer him a bribe?—Yes, most certainly.

51,111. Assuming it would be a bribe, which I have no doubt about?—Yes.

51,112. Now, then, I will come to another matter. In 1865 I suppose you knew what was the amount of the expenses sent in by Mr. Smith to the returning officer?—Not until after he had returned them. He wrote to me on the 21st of September. I have got the letter here.

51,113. I think the amount sent in by him was 1,356*l.* odd?—He wrote to me on the 21st of September, saying, "I have returned the expenses as "1,356*l.* odd."

51,114. You did not know it until he told you?—No, not until he sent me word of it, and I saw it advertised in the paper.

51,115. That would be afterwards; but you did not know it before?—Not before.

51,116. Did Mr. Smith have any conference with you as to the amount to be returned before it was returned?—No.

51,117. Did you take any part with him in making up the expenses to be sent in to the returning officer?—No, none whatever.

51,118. Did you leave it entirely to him?—I left it entirely to him.

51,119. At that time are you able to tell me whether 1,356*l.* had been paid by you, or was some of it still due?—I had only paid 700*l.*: one payment on the 5th of July of 200*l.*; one of the 12th of August of 500*l.*

51,120. Then, after the 1,356*l.* was returned to the auditor, did Mr. Smith at once tell you, either verbally or by letter, that that did not near cover the election expenses, but that he was bound to return a sum to the returning officer?—No, he did not.

51,121. I do not mean only by letter, but did he make you aware?—Not until afterwards; not until some time afterwards.

51,122. Be particular about this, if you please; do you mean that at the time the 1,356*l.* was returned to the election auditor you were not aware that that did not cover all the expenses?—No, I believed there would be some more.

51,123. There was considerably more, 650*l.* about?—Yes.

51,124. I will give it you exactly; 644*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

51,125. Can you tell me how much that election of 1865 cost altogether? What did you pay for it?—The actual sum I have paid is 1,900*l.*: a cheque on the 5th of July, before the election, for 200*l.* (I have got the vouchers for them here); one on the 12th of August for 500*l.*; one on the 20th of September for 700*l.*; and one on the 23rd of October, 500*l.*

51,126. That is in 1865?—Yes.

51,127. Then it did not reach quite 2,000*l.*?—No.

51,128. I thought the election cost you nearly 2,000*l.*?—There is the "White Hart" bill; I do not

know whether you count that as part. It is my own private bill.

51,129. No, no; I do not count that. I recollect that very well?—I was going just to say this. Mr. Smith said, when he returned the expenses, "I have "sent in the election accounts to the returning officer "as 1,356*l.* odd; I have actually paid on your account "1,400*l.*, and shall be glad of another cheque. Except "our principal canvassers your accounts are generally "settled." Therefore I knew there was more money to come.

51,130. Don't you know that he had returned in the election expenses the names of the principal canvassers, with the fees paid to them opposite their names?—When I met him in October he told me so.

51,131. No; I mean at the time when the election expenses were sent in, and when you saw 1,356*l.* was the sum returned, did you not know that in that very sum of 1,356*l.* were included your sub-agents' names and the payments to them?—Oh, yes; in the returns.

51,132. What did you understand him to mean when he said, "I have paid most of your expenses, "except the sub-agents;" because they had already been paid?—I spoke to him on that subject when we met in October. I did not meet him on the subject of these accounts until October.

51,133. It was then that you got the explanation from him about them?—Yes.

51,134. It appeared to you, did it not, to require an explanation, because there seemed an inconsistency in returning A, B, and C, election agents, at so much apiece, and then afterwards asking for money to pay them?—Oh, yes; I spoke to him on the subject.

51,135. I do not want to get the explanation of it from you. I know what the explanation is. I want to know how far you were acquainted with it?—I never saw the accounts before they were sent in.

51,136. Oh, you didn't?—No, I never saw them until I saw them advertised in the paper.

51,137. Then you would see, "Sub-agents, so much"?—Yes, oh yes.

51,138. A large sum?—Yes.

51,139. Of course I conclude you thought they had been paid?—Just so.

51,140. Then it was rather surprising afterwards to be told you had not paid your sub-agents?—Yes; I spoke to Mr. Smith on the point when we met in October.

51,141. Had the same thing occurred in 1863?—The returned expenses did not tally with the actual expenses.

51,142. The returned expenses then amounted to 1,900*l.*?—Yes.

51,143. And the election cost you about 2,500*l.*?—Yes, not quite.

51,144. 2,500*l.* nearly?—Nearly.

51,145. Had you found that the same thing happened in 1863, that, although the sub-agents had been returned as paid to the returning officer, they had not been paid, and that you had to pay for them afterwards?—No, I do not remember.

51,146. I think I may fairly assume, may I not—you will tell me if I am wrong—that as in 1863 you had found the actual expenses overtopped the returned expenses by 600*l.*, so in 1865 you might expect to have a great deal more to pay than the sum mentioned in the returned accounts?—Yes; I knew there was more money to be paid.

51,147. Did you know pretty nearly the amount you would have to pay, 650*l.*?—Not until afterwards.

51,148. Not before you paid it?—No.

51,149. I take your word for it, Mr. Gower, without asking you to produce your book, if you will give it me that the actual expenses of the election of 1865, from beginning to end, was something like 2,000*l.*?—Yes, it was. You see these sums of money were paid before I was asked for the money; that is to say, the election auditor was paid 1,356*l.*, while at that time I had only paid 700*l.*

51,150. That I understand; and subsequently you had to make up the 1,356*l.*, and afterwards came subsequent payments, which made it up to something like 2,000*l.*?—Yes.

51,151. Then I take it you give me your word that the election did cost you not more than 2,000*l.*?—No.

51,152. And that the election of 1863 did not cost you more than 2,500*l.*?—2,450*l.*

51,153. Very well; I will take it at that. Now, in 1863 you found, after the election, that a great many demands were made upon you that you had not calculated upon, didn't you?—Yes.

51,154. Did you satisfy them?—I believe they were all satisfied.

51,155. Do you recollect any particular instance which surprised you, any demands made which you did not expect to receive, in 1863?—There were some very large bills from the public house keepers.

51,156. They rather surprised you, I think?—Yes; and I wrote letters on the subject to Mr. Smith. There was one at an hotel at Redhill, the "Wheatsheaf."

51,157. A very large one?—Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) 200*l.* in all?

51,158. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) More than that, was it not?—No, I do not think it was.

51,159. 244*l.* The name was Newman or Newnham?—That was why in the election of 1865 I was determined to have nothing to do with public houses.

51,160. Now, among other claims in 1863 which surprised you, was there not a large hotel bill here?—Yes, at the "White Hart." There was a large private bill; but then I was there.

51,161. No, no; I don't mean your private bill?—I do not remember the bill being very large.

51,162. I have heard of your private bill; I do not want to say anything about that. That was a strictly private bill?—Entirely so.

51,163. I don't want to go into that. But during the election your committee room was at the "White Hart"?—Yes.

51,164. Had you a very large bill from there?—Yes; there was a very large bill. All the public house bills were excessive on that occasion.

51,165. They were paid?—Yes; I believe they were all paid.

51,166. Did they strike you as excessive in 1865?—I never had an account of them in 1865. In fact, I never saw the election accounts until they were given in by my parliamentary agents with the petition. That is the only election account I have got now.

51,167. You know the cost of the two elections, I wish you to give it me, and I have no doubt you could give it me from your own banker's book?—The cheques were all drawn on Drummond's bank, and the vouchers for them are all here.

51,168. I only want to know how much money you have paid away through your banker for these elections?—That is the way I made them out. I made them out from my banker's book, with the dates, and when they were cashed. They are not taken from any returns. They are taken out of my banker's book, with the days on which the cheques were drawn.

51,169. I am satisfied if you will give it to me?—I will hand in a statement from my banker's book, if the Commissioners wish for it.

51,170. I want to ask you another question as to the circulars; were you not aware in 1865, sitting on the committee as you did, that a great number of circulars were sent out by an immense number of persons employed to take them out?—I know there were a great number of circulars.

51,171. Did it not occur to you at that time that that was merely colourable employment?—No, it did not; they were my addresses.

51,172. Did you know those persons who took them out were being paid for doing what they did?—I knew those who took them round were paid for what they did.

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51,173. You knew that many of them were voters who used to work ?—I knew there were voters, but I was never brought in contact with them.

51,174. Did you know what money any of them were being paid ?—No.

51,175. Have you any idea of the number of persons actually employed in carrying about circulars for you in 1865 ?—No, I have not. I did not see a great number of people, it was generally the same man ; I know there was always one man here in this committee room ready to take circulars and letters.

51,176. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) After the election how much money did you give to Mr. Smith to pay. You were applied to for a sum of money ; was it about 500*l.* or 600*l* ?—In 1865 ?

51,177. Yes, in 1865 ?—Before the election I paid him 200*l.* on the 5th of July, and after the election, on the 12th of August, I gave him a cheque for 500*l.* ; between that and the next election audits were sent. I was in Mr. Smith's debt 600*l.*, and my next payment was 700*l.*, on the 20th of September ; that made in all 1,400*l.*, the auditor's return being 1,356*l.*

51,178. It is in reference to the 700*l.* I wish to draw your attention at the present moment ; I do not think we have had a full explanation of that. Mr. Smith told us he sent to you by letter, or told you verbally that large accounts had been sent in after the accounts had been sent in for the mayor ?—That was after the 700*l.* was paid, between that and the next payment.

51,179. What was the last payment ; I am about that ?—500*l.*, on the 23rd of October.

51,180. That is the payment. Was it by letter, or was it verbally, that Mr. Smith asked you for the 500*l.* ?—It was verbally, about the beginning or middle of October.

51,181. Did Mr. Smith then explain to you the claims which had been sent in for the 500*l.* ?—Yes ; but he told me then, as he tells me in the letter, that they were mostly payments to the principal canvassers.

51,182. That was the first letter you received when the accounts were sent in ?—Yes ; he says here, "I "have actually paid 1,400*l.*, and except the principal "canvassers all the accounts are paid."

51,183. I am referring to the time when he applied for the 500*l.*, in October ?—He repeated that statement, that the demands made upon him then were demands made upon him by the principal canvassers.

51,184. Did you go into detail of what those demands were ?—He showed me a few of them.

51,185. Were they not in reference to demands which had been made upon the sub-agents, and Apted, and those men ?—No ; payments to the sub-agents themselves.

51,186. What was the amount which was to be paid to the sub-agents altogether ; you see they were returned ?—They were returned in the accounts, but they had not been settled out of the election auditor's accounts.

51,187. The sub-agents were returned in the election expenses to the mayor at 305*l.*?—Yes.

51,188. You had been aware of the fact from the advertisements, and from Mr. Smith ?—Yes.

51,189. Then the 305*l.* they were returned as being paid ?—Yes, but they were not paid.

51,190. They were paid some of that ?—No, I was told not.

51,191. That is the letter you have referred to, in which he said he had paid all the expenses ?—Yes ; except the principal agents.

51,192. Well, according to the returns, there would be 305*l.* paid, or to be paid, to the sub-agents ?—Yes.

51,193. Then there was a claim for 500*l.* you say, which was nearly 200*l.* more ?—I do not think that payment was made upon any account to the sub-agents, it was merely put in a lump sum.

51,194. Take it as a lump sum,—305*l.* being the total. Assuming, as you say, this claim was for sub-agents, you would have known that the sub-agents were only to receive 305*l.* ?—No ; because I did not think that 305*l.* represented any real sum. I did not think it was entered as any real claim sent in to Mr. Smith.

51,195. No other money was to be paid except the 305*l.* ?—No more. You do not understand me. I do not think 305*l.* represented any actual calculation of what they were to be paid.

51,196. It was what Mr. Smith said they should be paid ?—The demands were more ; 250*l.* one, and 50*l.* another, and so on. I do not think it was calculated on that basis ; it was merely a round sum put in. Mr. Smith can explain that ; I do not know about it.

51,197. Mr. Smith has explained that, but it is open to suggest that 305*l.* returned to the mayor as having been paid to the sub-agents, was a mere fictitious sum ?—It was not paid to the agents, because Mr. Smith told me so himself.

51,198. Mr. Smith has told us that he has put certain sums of money, some of them had not been paid, to make up the sum of 305*l.* He has estimated each of them, what monies were to be paid ?—I believe when I asked Mr. Smith in October—he can contradict me if I am not right—I believe at that time the principal canvassers had not received anything at all.

51,199. When the 500*l.* was asked for ?—When the 500*l.* was asked for.

51,200. It would require some explanation, because it was published to the world 305*l.* was all that was going to be paid, or had been paid, or was due, to the sub-agents ?—It did require some explanation. I asked Mr. Smith at the time, but I do not think any part of that 305*l.* had gone in payment of the salary of the sub-agents ; that is my impression.

51,201. You thoroughly understand, at the time the accounts were sent in ?—Yes.

51,202. At the time it was sent in it was a fictitious account ?—Yes.

51,203. You, at the time that you saw this in the newspaper, probably would believe 305*l.* was the only amount that would be paid or payable to the sub-agents ?—Yes.

51,204. You did not look upon it when you saw it in the newspaper as being a fictitious item ?—Certainly not.

51,205. Still, my question is equally pointed. When you were asked for 500*l.* for the sub-agents did you ask for an explanation from Mr. Smith of why you were to pay 500*l.* when 305*l.* was returned ?—Yes.

51,206. What was the explanation ?—I spoke to him on the subject, and asked how he was justified in that.

51,207. What was the explanation ?—Oh, Mr. Smith's explanation was the gentlemen were to be paid, and the only course was this, either to let Mr. Smith be out of pocket, or to pay it myself ; I had no option.

51,208. But the money had not been paid ?—Yes, I think you will find it had.

51,209. Then there was a letter from Mr. Smith to you, asking for 500*l.*, or an interview with Mr. Smith, when you were made acquainted that a larger sum had been sent in by the sub-agents ?—I have got no letter.

51,210. Was it not told you at the time by Mr. Smith that a large portion of the 500*l.* was required to pay men who had been put on as canvassers ?—No ; I do not think he put it in that way. I think he said the principal agents and canvassers had to be paid. I made a remark at the time. I said, "How are you "going to justify this expenditure before any com- "mittee of the House of Commons or other tribunal ;" and he said, "It is for work done."

51,211. Did he explain to you what the work was, or did you ask him to do so ?—No ; I did not go into accounts with him. I know the demand he made on me was 2,500*l.*

51,212. You see, Mr. Gower, there is no doubt about this ; you are as well aware of it as we are, from what has taken place before us, that a large number of persons had been employed by the sub-

agents, and those persons were merely employed for colourable employment, and that they were paid for that?—Yes.

51,183. Then we have it also as a fact proved that accounts were sent to the sub-agents, and they transmitted the claim to Mr. Smith, and then Mr. Smith applied for the 500*l.* I want to know whether in substance that matter brought before us was at that interview explained to you by Mr. Smith as to what the claims were for?—There were no details at all.

51,214. No details?—I do not mean "no details"; but he made that demand. I considered they were expensive, and I cut them all down. He applied to me for 2,500*l.*; that was another 500*l.* that was at the same time.

51,215. When you paid the 500*l.*?—Yes, and I said nothing could induce me to give more than the 500*l.*

51,216. What did you believe the money was for; what was it to be expended on? What was your impression as to that?—That the principal agents were to be paid out of it, and other canvassers were to be paid out of it. I did not go into the details. I said at the time, "How can you justify this expendi-"ture?" He said it was for work done, and therefore I did not go into it any further. I believe some of the 500*l.* had been spent before I gave it him, in advance.

51,217. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Advanced by Mr. Smith?—Yes; the Commissioners will see that I had only paid 700*l.* by the 12th of September, and Mr. Smith had paid 1,306*l.*

51,218. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Was Mr. Rose's not sent to you?—I do not think it was; Mr. Smith says it was.

51,219. It was in reference to this. Out of the 500*l.* 40*l.* was paid to Mr. Rose and Ede's man, and that 40*l.* was out of the 500*l.* for the purpose of paying Rose's men, who were put on by Mr. Rose was merely colourable employment?—I think Mr. Smith will tell you the same as I say, that the demand was for the principal canvassers, and they paid those men themselves. I mean, they were not claims sent in by each separate man.

51,220. What Mr. Smith said was this; the question was, "When these applications were made to "you for large amounts after the return had been "sent in to the returning officer, you applied to Mr. "Gower for 500*l.* Did you explain to Mr. Gower "what that demand was for." The answer, is "I told "him I had demands for sub-agents for men who "were not paid, and out of the 500*l.* I paid this 40*l.*" I want to know whether Mr. Smith went further than that, or whether you inquired further who those men were who were going to be paid?—No, I did not. Mr. Smith will inform you.

51,221. Mr. Smith was aware at that time, according to his own evidence, what the money was to be applied for, why he wanted the money, and who the men were who were to be paid?—Yes; I said to him, "How are you going to justify this expenditure? it is "excessive. If you go to the House of Commons, and "say 2,000*l.* was paid for the election at Reigate, "they will say it is excessive;" and his answer was, he said "It is for work done." All these payments were for work done; and he also told me there had been no public house treating, which I find now is not the case.

51,222. You had had the experience of 1863?—Yes.

51,223. Was there not a large expenditure at that time for persons being employed for colourable employment, and persons paid for work done?—I dare say there was, but I think the principal payments were for treating at public houses. I dare say there were more employed than ought to have been.

51,224. Then there was the petition, which, of course, taught you with respect to these elections. Did not it suggest to you when this demand was made for 500*l.* to further inquire as to how that was to be paid?—No, but it would have been better. I tell you I was asked for 1,000*l.*, and I said, "No, nothing "will induce me to give 1,000*l.*;" and I said during the election, "If the gentlemen on my committee "would make themselves into a finance committee "to regulate these expenses, it would put a stop to all "this." Unfortunately, it never was done. I asked Mr. North, another gentleman, to form themselves into a finance committee to regulate these affairs. Of course, if these demands had been made upon me before, or at the time of the election, I never should have paid them.

51,225. You say that these circulars that were sent about were your addresses. Did you write many addresses?—No; my original address, and the list of the committee.

51,226. Was the address being perpetually sent round?—It was sent round more than once certainly; at least, I believe so.

51,227. Did you see whether, when you were in committee, other circulars were being sent besides your own address?—No; there was my original addres, then an address I put out after I had completed my canvassing, stating that I was satisfied with it, and I had every prospect of success.

51,228. That would not take many messengers?—It had to be delivered to all the voters, 900 odd.

51,229. It is not so very large a place but what a postman could deliver them in one delivery?—Yes.

51,230. We know that many persons were employed as messengers; did you see more than one person acting as messenger?—I should say more than that.

51,231. Or only one at each place?—What I said was, when I came into this room I nearly always saw the same one standing in the room ready to take out messages, and the same at Redhill.

51,232. Were you at all aware that more messengers were being engaged than was proper to carry out messages?—No, I was not aware that there was an undue number of messengers.

51,233. Was it whispered to you, or did you hear it by report, in any mode, shape, or way, that persons expected to receive money on committee?—No; I see it stated now, but I never heard it during the election.

51,234. It never was rumoured during the election?—No.

51,235. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have answered everything that occurs to my mind, there are only one or two things I wish to ask you. In 1863 you see the seat was in jeopardy. I will not say more about it than your seat was in jeopardy?—It was petitioned against.

51,236. It was in jeopardy in consequence of the petition?—Yes.

51,237. Mr. Smith was your agent then?—Yes.

51,238. And about the same class of sub-agents were your sub-agents then?—Yes, with one or two exceptions.

51,239. And you found at the end of 1863 that you were called upon for a much larger sum and an amount that you could not justify?—Yes.

51,240. What struck me was this, you have partly answered it already, but why did you not then insist upon knowing from Mr. Smith the terms upon which these sub-agents were engaged?—Well, it was the better thing to do of course, but I did not do it.

51,241. You see they endangered your seat before in 1863; I take it for granted that it was so, I do not go beyond that that they endangered it?—Not by the payments made to them, but by payments made by them to other people.

51,242. By their conduct?—Yes, I remarked upon it to Mr. Smith.

51,243. You partly answered this question; you said you wanted a finance committee to be appointed, but you did not get it appointed?—The gentlemen never refused, but it never came to anything.

51,244. They never set to work, because that would have been the only safeguard in cases of this kind. You did know that the money you advanced to Mr. Smith could not cover the current expenses?—

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G. W. L. Gower, Esq.

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I had no idea that when I paid Mr. Smith the 200*l.* for the election that he had advanced so much as he had done during the progress of the election.

51,245. Did you know at any time—for example we will take Mr. Buckland, I do not mean any disrespect to him or to any other agent, but we will take him as an example, he is put down as an agent for 50*l.*?—I think at that time he was put down for 25*l.*

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien asked Mr. Smith (who was in Court) whether it was not so, that Mr. Buckland was down for 50*l.*

Mr. Smith stated that was correct.

51,246. And with some of the men Mr. Smith had really arranged; he had contracted with them for a certain amount?—Yes, but I was not told so.

51,247. I ask you candidly whether you consider giving 50*l.* to a man like that a bribe?—Yes, I do.

51,248. I thought so; I take it for granted that if you had known that you would not have sanctioned it?—I sanctioned it so far that I gave Mr. Smith the money for it after, but I would not have entered into that private agreement before the election to have done that.

51,249. Supposing Mr. Smith had entered into an agreement, and mentioned to you that he could get Mr. Buckland for 50*l.*, would you have authorized him to engage him on those terms?—No, I should not.

51,250. Did you find among that class of your supporters in the borough from something that had occurred that you were thrown a good deal on the services of the sub-agents?—I do not understand what you mean.

51,251. Something occurred between '63 and '65 with regard to your representation; did you find that in consequence of that you were thrown a great deal on the services of the sub-agents?—No, I do not think if the Commissioners will look through the list of the names of the gentlemen who voted for me but what I was supported by quite as many gentlemen as before, and I was not confined at all to the lower class of voters.

51,252. You did not feel it?—No, I did not feel it.

51,253. The answer you gave me was with regard to Mr. Buckland; would that apply to most of the agents who were put down at 50*l.*?—Yes, all the sub-agents.

51,254. You would not have sanctioned the payment of 50*l.* for any man for canvassing for you?—No.

51,255. You tell me you had a demand for 500*l.* more than you had paid in '65; the demand was for 1000*l.*, 500*l.* more than you paid?—Yes.

51,256. Were you told by Mr. Smith that promises had been made by the sub-agents on your behalf to many of the voters, which promises were not fulfilled in consequence of your not advancing the other 500*l.*?—I have got a letter in which he says, "I will bring "you account for 2,000*l.*"

51,257. How was that consistent with the demand for 500*l.* more?—I refused that demand; it was after that refusal he said, "I will bring you accounts for "2,000*l.*"

51,258. According to that it would have left some claims?—I dare say if I had given 1,000*l.* people would have asked for more.

51,259. That is not what I mean; your agent stood between you and those people, and your agent says, "I want 1,000*l.*," which is saying these demands are fair?—I did not consider them so, and I refused it.

51,260. He must have considered them fair?—"Expedient" I think is the term.

51,261. That may be so; it would be to your interest to pay them?—Yes.

51,262. Looking to the future, it was to your interest to pay them?—Yes.

51,263. Then do I understand you that up to the close of the poll you were not aware either of the terms on which your sub-agents were engaged or of the excessive employ?—No, I was not until the accounts were sent in to me. I remarked upon it to Mr. Smith when I made the last payment, I asked him how he could justify it; it appeared to me to be excessive.

51,264. Had you any personal friends down here with you?—No.

51,265. I mean your own personal friends, who could have acquainted you with what was going on; they might have been able to have noticed more than you did?—No, and none of the gentlemen in the place ever brought to my ears what was going on, and I was not aware of it, and I believe that those gentlemen were not aware that treating was going on.

51,266. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Or excessive employment?—Or excessive employment; they met me almost every night, and nothing was hinted upon the subject, and I believe before the inquiry took place before the committee nothing of the kind was supposed.

51,267. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I will just ask you this; are you aware that there was any political difference between the two candidates in '65; yourself and Mr. Monson?—No, I do not think there was.

51,268. You were much about the same in politics, so far as you know?—Yes; the only difference I know of was with respect to the Oxford test, for which I voted, and Mr. Monson against. You are speaking of '65? because in '63 there was the ballot.

51,269. No, '65. I am speaking rather more of public matters; so far as the public would be able to judge between you, were you much of the same opinions?—Yes.

51,270. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I should think the general constituency here would not care much about the Oxford test?—Oh, yes, they did, a great many of the church people were very strong about it.

The Chief Commissioner informed the witness that they had finished his examination, but if he had any explanations to offer, either then or the following day, they should be most happy to hear them.

The witness stated that he should like to refer to the evidence of one or two people.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien considered it would be most convenient to take it at once.

(*The Witness.*) There is a man named William Turner, who said that he told Mr. Gower at the last election, that if he went on his committee he should expect to be paid, and that I said, "Yes, certainly; I "did not want any man to work for me for nothing." That conversation I deny entirely, I do not know the man, I do not know whether I should know him if I saw him; but I deny any conversation taking place between us. There is another case, Alfred Leath; that was contradicted in the House of Commons. If the man were here I am perfectly positive that he would say until he mentioned the distress in his family I gave him nothing.

51,271. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I think you stated that before the committee?—Yes; but here he denies what he said there, he again repudiated the idea of having come to me for charity. I do not say that he came to me for charity at first, but when he found he could not get anything he mentioned the distress that was in his family, and it was in consequence of that I gave him a sovereign, but not until then.

51,272. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He made a claim?—Yes, he made a claim for 3*l.* for the election. I said, "I have nothing to do with the election ac-"counts; those pass through Mr. Smith:" he said that I ought to have to do with them; he was insolent to me. I never gave him anything until he stated the distress in his family.

51,273. He went to your house, I think?—I met him in the road.

51,274. On the way to your house?—Yes. There is one statement which Mr. Webb made, or was reported to have made; he said he was present when the sub-agents came to me and Mr. Smith in the committee room. "Mr. Gower asked what they required; "they replied (so far as he can recollect) '500*l.* down, "'and 1,500*l.* more to carry on the election.' Mr. Gower "said it was preposterous." I am quite sure there was nothing of that kind, I am quite sure that those men never came to me with that demand, it was

entirely made by letter, as I have given the account; I never had any conversation with them on that point.

51,275. Was that the substance of the letter, the round-robin ?—That is what I believe it contained.

51,276. We have not got that sum of 1,500*l.* before ?—I do not know that that was in, but that was the substance of what it contained; so far as I myself was concerned, they went away from the committee room not knowing whether they were to have it or not.

51,277. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Is there anything else that you would wish to say ?—There was a good deal said about the tent meeting at Earlswood. I do not know whether the Commissioners think anything of that, it was entirely done to avoid meeting at a public house; I wrote to ask for a school-room at Redhill, and I could not have it.

51,278. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Does anything further strike you now with reference to this Inquiry ?—No.

The Chief Commissioner informed the witness that if anything further occurred to his mind the Commissioners would be very happy to have the benefit of the witness's explanation.

The witness withdrew.

THOMAS BUCKLAND recalled and further examined.

T. Buckland.

51,279. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You have been sworn ?—Yes.

51,280. I have one or two questions to ask you, and I think it but reasonable and right to tell you they are with a view of giving you an opportunity of showing, as far as you can, why you, placed in the station you are, a man in your station and occupation should receive money as a "briber." If you can give any explanation, and wish to do so, we give you this opportunity for so doing. You heard Mr. Gower say what he did. You are secretary to a building society; have you any other occupation ?—I act as land agent.

51,281. What is your salary as secretary to the building society ?—It varies, it is sometimes 50*l.* a year.

51,282. But it varies, you say ?—Yes, according to circumstances.

51,283. You are a voter ?—Yes.

51,284. And you voted for Mr. Gower ?—I did.

51,285. And you received or agreed to receive 50*l.* for your services as a canvasser ?—I received that, including some expenses.

51,286. Did you not receive it for your services as a canvasser ?—Not entirely; I had some expenses to pay being out all day canvassing.

51,287. How much ?—7*l.* I paid out of it, and that would reduce it something, and there are various sums always expended in such matters one cannot account for; it really did not amount to 50*l.*

51,288. You gave the amount of 50*l.* to Mr. Smith ?—No.

51,289. Did you not return it as expenses you had incurred in your canvass ?—No, I did not, and that you will find.

51,290. I do not understand you, what do you mean ?—If I had the account I could give out the names, I believe.

51,291. How much money did you receive altogether from Mr. Smith ?—Altogether, including what was paid to Apted, Joyes, and so on, 240*l.*

51,292. No, for yourself ?—I am very sorry I have not my accounts here.

51,293. You are put down as having received 50*l.* as canvasser ?—Yes, but I paid 7*l.* as nearly as possible for my various expenses.

51,294. Did you perform your work as secretary to the building society while you were engaged in this election work ?—No, I had to employ my son.

51,295. How old is he ?—21.

51,296. Did you employ anybody else ?—I do not know that I did, but I neglected my business in part.

51,297. Well, you received 40*l.*, I do not care whether it is 40*l.* or 50*l.*; you did not employ any person but your son ?—I neglected my business.

51,298. I hope you did not neglect the society ?—Other parts of my business suffered; I lost a sale of land very often.

51,299. Had you been engaged before as an election agent ?—Yes.

51,300. What did you receive before ?—Thirty guineas.

51,301. For whom ?—For Mr. Gower.

51,302. Had you been engaged for any one except Mr. Gower ?—No, sir.

51,303. You had not ?—No.

51,304. You always voted for the person who had had your services ?—I never voted till 1863.

51,305. You were not engaged till 1863 and 1865, that is so ?—Yes.

51,306. And you voted for Mr. Gower on both occasions ?—Yes, but I really was not asked.

51,307. How much money passed through your hands ?—The last occasion do you mean ?

51,308. Yes, the last occasion ?—I forget the exact amount.

51,309. About ?—I really could not give you the amount.

51,310. You did not vote in 1863, you are under a misapprehension there ?—Oh dear! yes, I remember, I was under a mistake, I did not, I was under a mistake.

51,311. Then you got thirty guineas for your services ?—I did; I was giving evidence against myself, I was not a voter then.

51,312. Had any money passed through your hands in 1863 ?—A little.

51,313. Tell me what you did expect, paying away money and making illegal promises. Besides that what did you do ?—We had to make a return of the number of persons who promised, we were expected to make out the list every day. We commenced our work early in May, going round amongst the different members of our party to know whether they were inclined to support Mr. Gower if he would come out again. That was our first work. As soon as it was ascertained that Mr. Gower would come forward I met Mr. Apted every morning in order to go through the whole of the list with him.

51,314. You could not have been engaged until you knew that Mr. Gower was coming out ?—We did go to work; in fact, we spent our time.

51,315. You must put that out of the question, we do not take any notice of that. What work did you do after the engagement ?—I considered we were engaged to do that very thing, to see whether there was any prospect of Mr. Gower being supported if he came out; that was the work we spent our time over. As soon as this was understood we made out our list of men likely to support Mr. Gower, and we continued to correct that until the end of the election.

51,316. But you had a dozen ?—We went through the whole district, the Mead-vale, Redhill, Reigate.

51,317. But you are one of eight or ten ?—There were not so many principals.

51,318. There were eight of you, and if you like I will give you their names ?—No, I will not trouble you; I know we went through the lists.

51,319. The idea of eight of you men going round the borough of Reigate, the borough district continuously ?—We worked night and day.

51,320. I must look at your work just as I would that of a gardener with his 30*s.* for his work, just in the same way ?—We worked night and day at it.

51,321. At what ?—Why, in seeing the votes we had, seeing how we were going on, whether our lists were correct and whether the men were keeping to their promises; our whole time was taken up from an early hour in the morning until 11 or 12; and after the election we were engaged a considerable time in paying the men and arranging various matters.

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T. Buckland.

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51,322. I do not make any observation on that as to the paying of the men; that was a system of labour we will say no more about?—It went on till October; it spread over a very considerable time, a very long space of time. We had to get up the correct list, and it fell upon us to do it very much. I do not know whether you have seen this voluminous list (*holding up a long printed list of names.*)

51,323. Is that printed?—Yes.

51,324. You are not a printer?—Yes, I am.

51,325. Did you print that?—No, I did not; but we were engaged in correcting this list, in fact we were really at work three months, 13 weeks.

51,326. You are intelligent enough to know that if you were to engage every man in a borough like this and give him 40*l.* they would find work for themselves to do. However these are the explanations you give. Have you any other explanations to give?—All I can say is, I was engaged in canvassing and making out the lists.

51,327. Give me the name of any one man you influenced to vote without a promise?—Gentlemen do not like to have their names mentioned, but there were persons I did influence; but I do not wish to give their names, it would not be proper.

The witness then withdrew.

F. Joyes.

FREDERICK JOYES recalled and examined.

51,328. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You received 50*l.* for your services?—No, 20*l.*

51,329. You are put down at 50*l.*?—I was put down at 50*l.*, and I only received 20*l.*

51,330. Was it not agreed you were to have 50*l.*?—Yes.

51,331. Well, that is the same thing. Did you employ any one to perform your own duties in your own shop?—My brother; I was going rounds, I have rounds in my business.

51,332. Who is your brother?—It was my brother William, who has been examined here.

51,333. What did you pay him?—I paid him 5*s.* a day.

51,334. What did you pay him for the time you were engaged in this election matter?—That is the whole of the time?

51,335. Yes, what did you pay him?—I cannot say exactly; I could tell how many times he went for me; it was perhaps a dozen or fourteen times.

51,336. Can you tell me what was the work you did for which you were to receive 50*l.*?—I did the same work as the others, the same as Apted, Buckland, and so on. We went through the lists, and every morning there were a dozen or fourteen men around you wanting to know what they were to do, and we had to set them to work and so on.

51,337. Have you been so employed upon other occasions?—I have been; the election before, 1863. At that election I went with Mr. Wilkinson.

51,338. Had you been employed in 1863?—Yes.

51,339. What did you receive for that?—I received 35*l.*

51,340. And who did you vote for?—I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

51,341. You voted for the man for whom your services were engaged?—Yes, I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

51,342. Had you been engaged before that?—Yes, I had been engaged for Mr. Wilkinson.

51,343. When?—In 1858 or '59, I forget which; but it was of course for Mr. Wilkinson.

51,344. Had you been engaged three times as a canvasser?—Yes.

51,345. What did you receive; there was the 35*l.* and the agreement for 50*l.*, 20*l.* only received?—I forget the other.

51,346. And I suppose you did about the same thing, the same kind of work, at all?—Yes.

51,347. The amount of work was about the same for all?—Just the same.

The witness withdrew.

D. Durrant.

DAVID DURRANT examined.

(*Mr. David Durrant.*) Will you allow me?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) If there is anything you wish to say.

(*Mr. Durrant.*) Yes.

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Well, we don't call you, but if you choose to volunteer.

51,348. You did not receive 50*l.*, I believe?—No.

51,349. How much did you receive?—25*l.*

51,350. What did you do for the 25*l.*? As you have volunteered to stand up I ask you that question?—The same as other men did; I lost my time.

51,351. Well, every man has said that; the gardeners and labourers have said that, and therefore it is particularly right we should examine any person in your station and class of life?—Well, I did not receive sufficient. I am sure I did not receive enough for loss of time.

51,352. What did you do? You see I wish to give you an opportunity of telling us what you did, and so accounting for your loss of time?—I lost my time by going about in the business of the election.

51,353. What did you do?—I went canvassing, the same as others did.

51,354. You are a brewer?—Yes.

51,355. I suppose you employed a man to carry on your business?—There were extra men put on.

51,356. What are their names? Give us the names of the extras you put on?—Richard Skilton, my brother-in-law.

51,357. Any one else?—No.

51,358. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Is he in your employment now?—No.

51,359. Was he before?—Yes.

The witness then withdrew.

J. Apted.

JOB APTED examined.

51,360. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Is Mr. Job Apted here?

(*Mr. Apted.*) Yes.

51,361. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I am glad to see you here; you have been sworn?—Yes.

51,362. I understand you have an explanation you wish to give?—Yes.

51,363. You are very anxious, I understand, to give an explanation; but first let me ask you, in how many elections have you been engaged as agent?—In every election for the last 28 years, but not paid.

51,364. We will take it from the time you were paid?—I have had three testimonials from candidates when I was not paid.

51,365. Your mind is so very acute, you must see that is not an answer?—I wish to say my services were appreciated so that I received a testimonial from each of those candidates I served when they did not pay me.

51,366. In how many elections were you a paid agent?—In two of Mr. Gower's.

51,367. In 1863?—'63 and '65.

51,368. And never before?—No, sir.

51,369. What did you receive in 1863?—30 guineas.

51,370. Was that the result of an arrangement with Mr. Smith?—They came and asked me if I would undertake it, and I said at the time, "What will be "the sum?" for I had determined not to give up my

time again without being paid for it; in fact, I could not afford it, and I said so.

51,371. And 50*l.* or guineas was the arrangement?—Yes, and I would not do it under, and I do not thank them for that.

51,372. Did you ask 50*l.*, or did they offer it?—I sent in my bill for 50*l.* It was considered I was to charge that which was reasonable and just according to the time expended and labour bestowed.

51,373. Were those the terms agreed upon?—Yes, and the talent that was employed.

51,374. Yes, very properly so; do not imagine that I do not appreciate the talent, but you merely sent in your account, "To Mr. Job Apted 50*l.*" You do not give any particulars of your labour?—For my services during the election.

51,375. That was all?—Yes.

51,376. Will you be kind enough to tell me, because I wish to know, we understand you were carrying on business at that time?—I was.

51,377. Did you employ any additional men during the time you were so engaged?—I employed a foreman to do the manufacturing part of my business, and my son did the rest, and my daughters assisted me. I can safely say this, that during the whole of the time throughout the election I never had five hours' sleep any one single night. I have been up to 12 at night going through the lists, and I have been up again at 2 in the morning.

51,378. Did you employ an additional man during the time you were so engaged?—I did.

51,379. Your foreman, you said?—And my son.

51,380. Your foreman is in your constant employ?—*A* foreman, I said, and for the time.

51,381. What was his name?—Weller.

51,382. How long did he remain with you?—He did all the cutting out part.

51,383. How long?—He is at work for me now; he gets piece-work now. I employed him to do my part of the work, that was cutting.

51,384. In elevating him to the position of a foreman, what was the difference of his salary?—He earned about 5*s.* a day.

51,385. What was the difference of salary?—I pay him no salary, I put him upon piece-work; that is not piece-work.

51,386. And you paid him 5*s.* a day?—Yes, and of course I lost my own judgment in my business, which is worth a good deal to a master.

51,387. Tell me what you did besides the loss of rest; tell me anything you did?—One thing I did was to keep the candidate acquainted with the truth; that is, I let him know precisely the number of votes he was likely to get. I consider an agent is not worth a fig if he attempts to deceive the candidate.

51,388. Well, I am asking you what you did?—Well, I did that, and in fact, assisted by Mr. Buckland, for he and I worked together; we worked up the list of a thousand names. We were obliged to ascertain how many out of that number were likely to support Mr. Gower, and what influence or motives could be brought to bear upon them to make them desert our cause.

51,389. I can understand all this if there were only one or two; but here were a number of persons engaged in the same work for the different districts, for Mead-vale, Redhill, and others?—I can speak for myself and Mr. Buckland, that he and I worked as if the fate of the election depended upon us.

51,390. To keep the candidate acquainted with everything that was going on?—We did to the utmost, letting him know to the utmost shilling what the election was likely to cost; I made him acquainted with it.

51,391. We have heard Mr. Gower's statement; what else do you wish to say, if anything, for you have the fullest opportunity?—I can only say we are looked upon as a kind of whippers in of the Liberal party in this neighbourhood; we acted in that sort of capacity in this neighbourhood, and we go about and represent that the people should join our party; we succeeded in getting a great many votes.

51,392. Of course it is very right for a candidate to have you on his side if he comes down here, but I should also recommend him not to pay you 50*l.*?—I do not think he would get me then.

51,393. If you say that I will not ask you anything more; that shows the motive?—He might get my vote, but I should not be ready to work.

51,394. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You are in the same business that you were at the time of the election, are you not?—No; I have undertaken the duty of sanitary inspector.

51,395. Do you not also retain your business?—No; I have given up the wholesale part of it now.

51,396. How long ago have you given that up?—I gave it up last February.

51,397. At the time you gave it up you were carrying on the business just the same as at the time of the election in '65; you carried it on just the same until February, when you gave it up?—Yes.

51,398. Will you tell me what your establishment consisted of in February, just before you gave up the business?—There was myself ——

51,399. I do not mean your domestic servants in the house?—I am a currier by trade also.

51,400. You are a married man, and have a family who give you assistance in your business?—Yes.

51,401. Did any of your children assist you then?—Two of my daughters and one son.

51,402. And an apprentice?—No; my eldest son is out in a situation, and is not able to assist me at all, excepting writing for me.

51,403. I want to know what your establishment consisted of before you gave up your business in February; there was yourself, your wife, two daughters, and one son. Had you any journeymen?—Six men.

51,404. What did your establishment consist of in July, when the election took place, yourself, your wife, two daughters, a son, and six men?—I forget how many men, we are continually varying the number of men.

51,405. Well, it may have been sixteen?—It may have been.

51,406. Then you agreed to work at the election for so much?—I did.

51,407. What part did you take in your trade?—I cut out and sold.

51,408. You sell in the shop?—Yes.

51,409. Your wife also sells, does she?—She does.

51,410. Do your daughters sell?—They take the ladies' shoe department.

51,411. I do not want to go beyond the surface of this; just tell me, when the election came on, you still went on selling in your shop, so did your wife and two daughters, did you make any difference in money, if all the shoes you had not time to cut out yourself your man cut out, you got your man to do it?—I kept the man the whole of the time.

51,412. He was with you before; he was your man?—He is a journeyman and works for himself, and gets so much a pair for making; during that time he did not make, but he did my work instead.

51,413. How much can he earn per day, when he works?—It depends upon how much he likes to do.

51,414. I said, how much can he earn?—About 4*s.* or 5*s.*

51,415. So he gave up the jobbing, and came to cut out for you?—Yes.

51,416. And you paid him 5*s.* a day?—Yes.

51,417. That did not make any difference, did it?—I should think it did. If you were to manage your own business, and then get another man to manage it it would make a difference.

51,418. In so far as he was concerned; forgive me, I do not say he could cut out so well as you?—Not any difference to him that I know of, perhaps not so much manual labour.

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY.

J. H. Apted.

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51,419. I do not say he can cut out so skilfully as you, I dare say he could not; but your establishment, so far as I understand you, was not altered?—Yes; by the addition of him, he took my part.

51,420. Well, altered in that way, but in point of expense it was not altered?—It made no difference to him substantially. I do not know whether I might be allowed to explain a matter; I will not say a word against Mr. Doulton, but I should like to explain a certain circumstance.

51,421. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) No; do not let us have anything about Mr. Doulton, you were recalled upon another matter altogether?—I should not say a word against him.

51,422. No; you were only asked in order that we might see whether we should consider you as a briber, and also as a bribee.—Without praising myself, I do not think there is another man in the neighbourhood who knows the men in the neighbourhood better than I do.

51,423. For that reason, Mr. Apted, it occurs to my friends, as it occurs to me, that you would be a very valuable man to have on either side; but whether you have any right to receive money for it is another matter.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned till 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THIRTY-SIXTH DAY.

Wednesday, 31st October 1866.

THIRTY-SIXTH DAY.

Hon. E. J. Monson.

31 Oct. 1866.

The Honourable Edmund John Monson sworn and examined.

51,424. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You were one of the candidates at the last election?—Yes.

51,425. Was that your first election?—It was the first time I had ever been a candidate at any election.

51,426. You had been residing a good deal abroad?—I had been in the diplomatic service for nearly ten years or about ten years; during all that time I was abroad, except occasionally visiting England.

51,427. During that time you had not been connected with this borough, except by occasionally visiting it?—Well, I may have been at times. I may state that during that time I was present in the borough during two previous elections of my eldest brother; during that time I may possibly have been here a week or ten days.

51,428. Which elections?—They were both in the same year, the one early in 1858 and the other in October 1858.

51,429. They were in February and October 1858?—Yes.

51,430. And since 1858 you had not been here?—No, nearly all that time I was in America.

51,431. Did you take any part in those elections?—No; I came so very late on both occasions, more to see the election after it took place than to take any part in the canvassing. I do not think I took any part in the canvassing at all.

51,432. It was more during the time of nomination and polling that you were here in those elections?—Precisely so.

51,433. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it when Lord Monson was a candidate?—Yes.

51,434. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) May I take it that previous to your appearance here as candidate in 1865 you were not connected with the place, or took any part in the other elections?—No, I did not.

51,435. When was it, Mr. Monson, that you first had an idea of starting for this place; in 1865; as candidate?—I suppose about the first time that I thought of it was very shortly after the election of 1863.

51,436. Where were you residing then?—I had just come home from America, and I was then in Italy. After the petition was compromised in 1863 I received an intimation that it was intended to bring forward an entirely new candidate who, it might be hoped, would unite the whole constituency, so as not to have a division in the party; and it was intimated to me for me to stand.

51,437. From whom did you receive that intimation?—I received that intimation, I should think, in the first place from my brother.

51,438. Lord Monson?—Yes. I was in Italy in the spring of 1863, and I think that would be the first time.

51,439. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Mr. Monson, am I right in taking this, that upon the compromise of the petition in 1863 that was the first intimation you received that a new candidate might be required?—Yes.

51,440. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) That was from your brother?—In the first place I think that was from my brother.

51,441. Now, after you had received that intimation from your brother did you have any communication with any of the inhabitants and persons of influence in the borough?—The first thing I did when I came to England was to know about the prospect of there being a vacancy; I mean, at first I kept back. I spoke to Mr. Humphreys, who had the management of the compromise of the petition. I went and called upon him, and he said it was generally understood that neither of the candidates would come forward, and there would be an opening for me.

51,442. Was Mr. Wilkinson then alive?—He was alive at that time.

51,443. Had you known Mr. Humphreys?—I had not known him before.

51,444. It was entirely in consequence of his connexion with the petition that took you to him?—He was a friend of my brother's, and my brother desired me to go and see him.

51,445. Had Mr. Humphreys been engaged, do you know, on either side in the petition of 1863?—I do not think he was engaged; I believe he acted as a sort of *amicus curiæ:* he acted on both sides.

51,446. As a sort of mediator?—As a sort of mediator. He knew both parties well, as I understood.

51,447. You made your inquiries of Mr. Humphreys, and did you after that communicate or were you communicated with by any of the voters?—I think not. Eight or nine months must have elapsed before I received any communication. The first communication I received from any person was from Mr. Phillips of Reigate Lodge, about nine months after, as near as I can tell.

51,448. About what time was that?—Some time early in 1864, I should think about May 1864. I should think it was about then, because it was in anticipation of the Government being beaten upon the Danish question.

51,449. Then they found upon that that there was no dissolution?—No dissolution.

51,450. What was the nature of the communication from Mr. Phillips; was it to ask you to come forward?—It was to ask me whether I would be a candidate to come forward in the event of there being a vacancy.

51,451. Now, what was the next stage of the

history of your election of 1865 ?—I was then at that time abroad, and nothing more took place except a sort of exchange of letters with Mr. Phillips until the autumn, when I was obliged to return to Oxford. I was a fellow of the college there, and obliged to go on that account.

51,452. That was the autumn of 1864 ?—The autumn of 1864. At that time, before going down to Oxford, I was in Lincolnshire, and I received a visit from Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page.

51,453. We will come to that presently. I must ask you, before you received that communication from Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page had you given to Mr. Phillips or any other gentleman your assent with regard to your coming forward ?—I think I had in general terms given an assent.

51,454. Was that to Mr. Phillips ? — To Mr. Phillips.

51,455. Now, until after you had given that general assent to Mr. Phillips, and until you saw Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page in the autumn of 1864, did you have any other communication with any other voter in the borough ?—I think certainly not.

51,456. We will now come to that interview in the autumn of 1864 with Mr. Nichols. Had you communicated to Mr. Nichols that you wished to see him, or how was it that your interview with Mr. Nichols came about ?—I believe it was in this way, but I cannot exactly say, as I was out of England at that time; I believe it was in this way: a letter appeared in the local paper here, stating that I might probably come forward, and Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page, or Mr. Nichols alone, put himself in communication with my brother to inquire about the truth of it. Lord Monson informed Mr. Nichols that I should be down in Lincolnshire, at his own place, about the month of December; of course he could not interfere in anything of the kind, he being a peer in Parliament, but if Mr. Nichols wanted to see him he had better come to him. Then I had had no understanding with Mr. Gower, and I thought it would be indelicate for me to come here before I understood from Mr. Gower that he was out of the field. I may say I did not wish to come down here canvassing so soon, because there was no immediate possibility of a vacancy, and Mr. Gower was a gentleman whom I did not know, and with him I had not communicated at all.

51,457. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) The seat was full, in fact ?—Yes.

51,458. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There was some, at least floating, rumour that he would not come forward again ?—I considered it an absolute certainty that he would not come forward again.

51,459. Did Mr. Nichols come down to you in Lincolnshire ?—He came to me in Lincolnshire with Mr. Page.

51,460. That you say was about the autumn of 1864 ?—That was in the autumn; I should think in September 1864.

51,461. Will you be good enough to tell us what took place between you and Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page in reference to your coming forward for the election of 1865; give it us slowly in your own way ?—So far as I recollect we discussed in the first place, as was natural, the probability of a vacancy and the possible candidates, because I wished to see my way very clearly; and they produced for my instruction, what I had not seen before, a letter which Mr. Gower had written. They said, "There is no doubt he can-"not come forward, and there is very great doubt "whether Mr. Wilkinson will." I said, "Under "those circumstances, if you think I am a likely "candidate to be supported by all parties in the "borough, there ought to be no difficulty in getting "up a requisition to me." They said to me, "There "would be no difficulty." And I said, "It would "strengthen my position very much, and I would "much rather come forward on a requisition than "propose myself." And I understood so soon as they returned here they would see how far it was possible to get a requisition up. Then I think at the same time Mr. Nichols stated there were several efficient canvassers who he should wish to be able to secure, and he desired me to authorize him to engage them in anticipation of any election. I am sorry to say that I cannot recollect who they were, with the exception of two names which he said were the two best men in the borough, that was Job Apted and Mr. Buckland; and I authorized him to make an arrangement with those six men.

51,462. He summoned six men ?—I think there were six, or about six at any rate. I think Mazden was another, but I do not recollect that any amount was mentioned; as to what they should be paid for their services, I do not think any amount was mentioned. That I believe was all the arrangement that I entered into with Mr. Nichols at that time.

51,463. Do you remember whether at that time any arrangement was made with Mr. Nichols about the expense of getting up the requisition ?—No. I think I may state positively that not a word was said about the expense of getting up the requisition; in fact, I should hardly think a requisition required much expense to get it up. I thought the cost of the requisition would be the trifling cost of the stationery on which it was written.

51,464. Was at any time the cost of getting up the requisition mentioned by Mr. Nichols to you ?—Yes, subsequently to the requisition itself.

51,465. Was that after the requisition had been got up and presented to you ?—Yes; then he only mentioned it incidentally, not more than incidentally.

51,466. Was any sum mentioned by him at the time of getting up the requisition ?—No, no positive sum.

51,467. Did he at any time require of you any fee for himself in reference to getting up the requisition ?—I do not recollect that he ever did.

51,468. I am asking of Mr. Nichols ?—Yes.

51,469. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He never made a demand to you ?—No, not quâ the requisition.

51,470. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then I may ask you this: did you at any time agree with him, or did he at any time require of you, the payment of a fee for the getting up of the requisition ?—I certainly cannot recollect that he did.

51,471. Did he at the time when the requisition was presented, or at any near time at all, suggest that the fee for the requisition should be 200 guineas, to your knowledge ?—He received a sum of 200*l.* from me, but I did not understand it was for the purpose of the requisition. That was in September of 1864, the 29th of September 1864. I gave him a cheque for 200*l.*, but I did not understand it was for the purposes of the requisition; it was to carry into effect the arrangement that had been made with me about the engagement of sub-agents. That was the sum he asked me for; it was more than I expected to pay at that time, but I did not ask about it.

51,472. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was the purpose named for which he required the 200*l.* ?—I understood in general terms he wanted it to carry out the purposes we mentioned in Lincolnshire.

51,473. That was to engage canvassers ?—Yes.

51,474. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) To engage efficient canvassers for the purposes of the election then to come on ?—Yes.

51,475. I wish to understand as distinctly as I can that no sum was mentioned by you quâ the expense of the requisition ?—No.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Monson only says he thinks so, he does not say decisively.

(*The Witness.*) I think not.

51,476. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) If you paid so large a sum as 210*l.* quâ the requisition you probably would have remembered it ?—I certainly must say that I understood that the money I had then paid on the 29th of September was in some way connected with the requisition.

51,477. So far as you understand, and as you recollect, was it for the purpose of securing canvassers ?—That was the impression on my mind.

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51,478. I put this the more pointedly to you, Mr. Monson, because we have been told by Mr. Nichols that he was paid 200 guineas for the getting up of the requisition, and considered that he was very smally paid even then for his time?—I can only state that I made no arrangement for the payment of any expenses for the requisition, nor did I understand that any fee would be expected of me for it.

51,479. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I suppose it would have deterred you from coming forward if you had thought you would have to pay for the requisition which you yourself suggested?—(*No answer.*)

51,480. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Were you yourself aware that Mr. Page was to be paid for getting up the requisition?—No; I understood Mr. Page would be paid for his services whenever my election came on, but I did not understand he was to be paid for the requisition.

51,481. I have mentioned Mr. Page with regard to the election; does that draw your attention to the fact of Mr. Page being paid as one of the six who were to act as canvassers?—No; because Mr. Page and Mr. Nichols were to act as sub-agents; he was not one of the six canvassers.

51,482. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) What makes you say, Mr. Monson, that they were to act as sub-agents?—To tell you the truth, I imagined their duties would be very much the same as those of the canvassers generally, but it was a more dignified term to call them sub-agents than to call them canvassers.

51,483. Who was the agent they were to act under?—Mr. Hart was my agent.

51,484. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You had not then communicated with Mr. Hart?—I had seen Mr. Hart in London, I think at the end of the year. I do not know that I made it a distinct communication with them, but of course they knew that Mr. Hart always acted as Lord Monson's agent, and they understood that he would be my agent.

51,485. You had known Mr. Hart personally?—Yes, for some time.

51,486. Having acted for your family on previous occasions, you engaged him on this occasion?—Yes.

51,487. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page were not told that by you?—I do not think they were ever told, but they knew it.

51,488. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did they know it from anything they said to you?—I think from what was said they knew they were to act as sub-agents; they knew it, as a matter of course.

51,489. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) That is a matter of inference. Was anything said by you that "Mr. Hart will act as my agent, and you must act "under him," or was anything said by them?—I think there was, but I cannot call it to my mind as a positive matter.

51,490. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) When did you have your earliest communication with Mr. Hart, so as to intimate to them he was to be the agent; was it in London?—I fancy it was in London. I think I wrote to him to come up, or he sent to see me.

51,491. Was that before or after the requisition?—Before the requisition.

51,492. That would be before the first 200*l.* was paid to Mr. Nichols?—Yes, I think it was early in September that I saw Mr. Hart.

51,493. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You are positive that you saw Mr. Hart before the 200*l.* was advanced?—Yes, I am positive I did.

51,494. Before the requisition was presented, and before the first 200*l.* was paid Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

51,495. Now, having that drawn to your recollection, can you say with more certainty one way or the other that you never once mentioned Mr. Hart's name, that he should be your agent, to Mr. Nichols or Mr. Page at the time the 200*l.* was paid, or at any time before the 200*l.* was paid?—I really cannot say I ever did mention it, but I assumed, as a matter of course, they knew.

51,496. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Was it 200*l.* or 210*l.*?—The cheque was drawn for 210*l.*, though 200*l.* was all that Mr. Nichols received.

51,497. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What became of the other 10*l.*?—I wanted some cash myself, and I kept the 10*l.*, and I cashed the cheque myself.

51,498. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) The cheque was drawn for 210*l.*; you cashed it yourself, and kept 10*l.* Was that 200*l.* given by notes?—Yes, I have the number of the notes. There were four 50*l.* notes.

51,499. That is quite sufficient, but I think you say you have actually the numbers as well?—Yes, I have the numbers.

51,500. Where was the money paid to Mr. Nichols; was it in London, or was it paid at the bank?—I do not recollect, but I think it was paid to him here.

51,501. Here in Reigate?—I am not quite certain that I did not give it him at Laker's hotel, Redhill. I cannot be sure about that.

51,502. What was the next payment that you made to Mr. Nichols?—I think a considerable time elapsed before the next payment.

51,503. Was it on May the 29th?—Yes.

51,504. When you paid the 200*l.* to Mr. Nichols, or after, did you hear from Mr. Nichols whether or not he had engaged those canvassers, or any of them?—I understood he had engaged some. I do not think he gave me any names.

51,505. Now, between the time of giving him the 200*l.*, which was in December, and the next payment on May 29th, when he received 150*l.*, had you seen Mr. Nichols, or had you any communication with him in reference to the election?—Yes, I must have seen Mr. Nichols, I should think, a good many times. I was down here, on and off, during the early months of the year. I wished people to become acquainted with me. I was always going backwards and forwards.

51,506. Then between this time in December and May had you ascertained from him whether he had engaged those canvassers or paid them anything?—I took it for granted that they had been engaged. I do not know whether I ever asked him who he had engaged, or at what fee he had engaged them, but I understood there were certain men he had engaged.

51,507. That was December and May; we are going by stages. Did he then at any time between December and May mention to you anything about the expenses of getting up the requisition?—No, I think not.

51,508. Or had he any authority from you to pay himself 200*l.* in respect of the requisition?—No, certainly not.

51,509. Now we will take May 29th, 150*l.*?—Yes.

51,510. Was that a payment made to Mr. Nichols?—That was a payment made to Mr. Nichols.

51,511. Was that payment made by cheque?—I think it was I drew a cheque for 150*l.*, and that I gave the cheque to him.

51,512. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) In the meantime had Mr. Hart been appointed as regular agent?—Yes.

51,513. Can you give me the date of the appointment?—I never made a formal appointment of Mr. Hart.

51,514. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Until the election probably?—Until I issued my address, which, I think, was the 18th of April, or thereabouts.

51,515. On the 18th of April you issued your address?—Previous to that I met Mr. Hart at Mr. Phillips' house in the presence of Mr. Phillips, Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Walters.

51,516. The formal appointment in writing in conformity with the Corrupt Practices Act, I presume, was not made, appointing Mr. Hart as an election agent, until the eve of the election?—Not until the morning of the nomination, I think.

51,517. It is usual not to do it till then?—Yes.

51,518. But, so far as between man and man, you had engaged Mr. Hart as your agent?—I engaged him as my principal agent.

51,519. In April, when you issued your address? —Yes.

51,520. When you issued your address, till the first appointment of Mr. Hart, it was understood between you and him that he was appointed. Was Mr. Nichols then made aware that Mr. Hart would be the first agent?—I do not think I ever said anything to Mr. Nichols about Mr. Hart's appointment.

51,521. Or do you recollect at any meeting, at which Mr. Nichols was present, its being mentioned that Mr. Hart was your agent, or that Mr. Hart was acting as your agent at that particular meeting?—No.

51,522. Did you ever meet Mr. Nichols with Mr. Hart?—I know that Mr. Nichols has met me in Mr. Hart's offices, but I am quite sure I never said anything to either of them as to the relation of the one to the other.

51,523. Mr. Nichols, you say, had met you at Mr. Hart's office?—Yes, naturally, when I was down here during the election Mr. Nichols would know I was there and run in. I do not suppose I made any appointment to meet him there, but Mr. Nichols knowing I was at Mr. Hart's would come in.

51,524. And at those times when Mr. Nichols came in, and saw you at Mr. Hart's, was the subject spoken of the election, the topic of conversation?—I may say invariably.

51,525. I may take it almost as a summing up, that Mr. Hart having always acted for your family at all elections, and you being present at Mr. Hart's offices, and Mr. Nichols coming there and talking about the election on several occasions, he might very naturally infer that Mr. Hart was acting for you?—Yes.

51,526. And that you may say probably as early as April?—Yes, as early as April.

51,527. When your address was issued?—Yes.

51,528. The next payment I mentioned was May 29th, 150*l.*?—Yes.

51,529. How, having paid Mr. Nichols the 200*l.*, did he explain to you why he wanted 150*l.* in May? —The ground of his asking for money at that time and on every subsequent occasion was always the same, that in consequence of the very close struggle it was going to be it would be necessary to employ a very large number of canvassers, and that he would require money to pay them weekly; or very nearly weekly.

51,530. Did he give you any account then of how he had expended the 200*l.*?—No.

51,531. Did you ask him?—No, I had full confidence in him. I took it for granted he was doing everything that was correct as to the expenditure.

51,532. You did not ask him, as you state you had every confidence in him?—I had entire confidence in him.

51,533. You say you had entire confidence in Mr. Nichols, and you then gave him the 150*l.*?—Yes.

51,534. Was that the first time that you became aware that a large number of canvassers, or a much larger number of canvassers, would be required than was first intimated to you by Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

51,535. Did he tell you what class of canvassers would have to be put on?—No, there was no mention of any particular class.

51,536. Was anybody present at these conversations with Mr. Nichols?—No, I am quite sure there was not.

51,537. You say you think the cheque was paid here?—Yes, I think so.

51,538. Where was it paid?—I think it must have been at the "White Hart," at my rooms.

51,539. Who was the cheque payable to? I think it was to self?—Yes, to self.

51,540. And upon whose bank?—Hoare's.

51,541. Of Fleet-street?—Yes.

51,542. On the 19th of June, I think, there was another payment of 50*l.* payable to self?—Well, I must take your word for it, because the counterfoil is not here; it appears to be taken out. You have my bank book, so I cannot refer to it. (*The bank book was handed to witness.*) Yes, it is the 19th of June.

51,543. There is a cheque there payable to self for 50*l.*?—Yes.

51,544. Was that cheque paid to Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

51,545. Do you recollect where it was paid?—No, I am afraid I cannot remember where; I cannot recollect about these individual cheques where they were paid. I think in most cases I gave the cheque to him, except in the earlier cases, when I cashed the cheque myself and gave him the notes. I cannot be quite sure about the others, but in that case I have the number of the notes.

51,546. Inasmuch as you have made that observation, I will put this question to you: did you in any of the payments which you made to Mr. Nichols deduct any sum for your own personal expenses, except in the one paid to him on December 29th 1864? —On no other occasion.

51,547. Then the whole of the cheque for 50*l.* on the 19th of June, payable to self, was paid to Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

51,548. Do you recollect whether he was paid by cheque or you got it cashed and paid him the money? —I think by cheque, but I do not feel sure.

51,549. Now at that time did he make any representation to you in reference to the expenditure of the 150*l.*?—Beyond the fact that he had spent it I do not think he made any other statement.

51,550. Except that he had spent it?—Yes.

51,551. Now was the next time, the 22nd of June, cheque for 200*l.*, payable to self?—Yes, that, though drawn by self, was paid to Mr. Nichols.

51,552. That was a large sum coming close upon the 50*l.* cheque; did you make any inquiry of him in reference then to the expenditure of money and how that money was going?—The explanation of Mr. Nichols of these large demands made on me by himself was this, that the other party were spending a great deal of money; he pointed to Mr. Gower's committee list containing 160 names, and said, "I have no doubt "that each of these men are going to be paid 5*l.*, and "unless you allow me to expend more than I originally "anticipated, you have no chance of winning."

51,553. That is a very important answer; was that before you gave the cheque for 200*l.*?—Yes, I think it was.

51,554. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Of course the committee would be all voters?—Yes.

51,555. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then upon that representation did you give the 200*l.*?—I gave the 200*l.* upon that representation.

51,556. Had you published a list of your committee at that time?—Yes, I had published two lists to Mr. Gower's one; but in deference to the advice of my friends and agents, though I could have made a very much larger list, I did not put the names of the small men, as they call them, upon it.

51,557. Although each man had one vote? I understand what you mean, you kept your list, so to speak, more select?—Yes, more select.

51,558. Instead of putting on all the persons who had votes who were simply labourers in the field?— I must say I thought my friends were right; it was absurd to put men of that kind on the committee who could be of no use as committee men.

51,559. Or have any influence? — Or have any influence.

51,560. Did you understand Mr. Nichols to mean that he required a large sum of money, 200*l.*, to increase his committee?—To increase the number of canvassers.

51,561. He simply used the term "canvassers"?—Yes.

51,562. Not committee?—No, never committee.

51,563. Then I understand you that you got no further account from him as to the expenditure of those prior monies at the time the 200*l.* was paid? —Yes, that is so.

51,564. I have ended now that class of cheques which were payable to self?—Yes.

51,565. Why were those cheques payable to self? —I think simply for the purpose of Mr. Nichols getting them.

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51,566. Was it suggested to you by Mr. Nichols that it was safer for you to draw them on self?—No, I should not have done it on that account.

51,567. Now the next cheque I see is July the 4th, payable to Mr. Nichols; that is for 300*l.* ?—Yes.

51,568. That is a still larger sum. Was any representation made to you by Mr. Nichols of why he wanted the further sum of 300*l.* ?—I think that in the interval between the two payments Mr. Nichols came to town and saw me at my club, in the presence of Lord Monson, because I represented to my brother that the expense was exceedingly high, and very much greater than I had anticipated, and as he was acquainted with the borough I wished to have his advice, though of course he in his position did not like to give it. I said, "I should very much like you to "see Mr. Nichols in my presence, that we may have a "clear understanding of how things are going on." Mr. Nichols saw my brother in the presence of myself. He said it was getting a very serious contest, that the other side were spending a great deal of money, and he did not anticipate that unless I was prepared to spend a similar amount I should have any chance of succeeding; he said that in my presence. I then conversed with my brother and consulted as to what it was best to do.

51,569. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In Mr. Nichols, presence?—Yes, at the window; he was out of hearing. We were both of us strongly determined not to authorize any illegal expenditure, but my brother said under the circumstances he would advise me to come to this clear understanding with Mr. Nichols, that so far as money could legally be spent it should be spent, and that I did tell Mr. Nichols. I said, "So long as you can assure me that the money "is legally spent you shall have what is requisite, "but mind, there is to be no illegal payment."

51,570. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What did Mr. Nichols say to that?—He assented to it; I understood him to assent to that most decidedly.

51,571. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You have told us in substance, but did he represent more than that it was going to be a very severe contest?—I do not recollect the precise words; I know that is the effect of what he said.

51,572. Did he specify anything more than that "it is getting a very severe contest, and unless you "are prepared to pay more money you will not succeed." You do not recollect his expressions more precisely than that?—No.

51,573. Do you recollect what he said the money was for?—No.

51,574. I am introducing this so as it may not be passed over; he no doubt told you, "It is getting a "very severe contest; the other side is spending very "largely, and if you do not you will not succeed." Did he say "spending" for what? If you do not recollect say so?—I do not think he did.

51,575. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He did not say how the money was being expended?—No; I took it for granted it was expenditure for canvassing.

51,576. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Pardon me for a suggestion; give us, if you please, what you did yourself, and do not give us any consultations with your brother?—I thought I was bound to tell all.

Mr. Commissioner O'Brien remarked that the witness was the responsible party.

51,577. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I will simply take it as a fact, that after your conversation with your brother you did communicate to Mr. Nichols and explained to him you would have nothing paid except for legal expenses?—Except for legal expenses.

51,578. Did he at that time tell you whether or not money was being paid for votes on the part of Mr. Gower, or did he explain in what way the other party were securing votes?—No, I think not.

51,579. So that it would require money to counteract it?—No.

51,580. He had intimated to you before he received the 200*l.* that they were paying money for men to go on the committee?—Paying men.

51,581. To go on the committee?—Yes.

51,582. That was on the 4th of July?—Yes.

51,583. Then there is a very large cheque?—Yes, for 500*l.*

51,584. That was a payment to Mr. Humphreys?—Yes.

51,585. Was that cheque given to Mr. Nichols?—Yes.

51,586. How came that cheque to be drawn in favour of Mr. Humphreys?—In this way; I was so extremely anxious that there should be nothing done which was illegal, that I begged Mr. Nichols to go every week to Mr. Humphreys, who was a very experienced parliamentary agent, and report to him what he was doing. I had very great faith in Mr. Humphreys, and I begged him to keep Mr. Nichols straight. I thought Mr. Nichols might err from ignorance, not knowing anything about it. When Mr. Nichols told me he wanted so large a sum as 500*l.* it struck me that if nothing had been done before, yet to pay so large a sum as 500*l.* so close to the election must be, in all probability, transgressing.

51,587. The election was coming off on the 14th?—On the 12th, two days after; so instead of giving him a cheque payable to himself for 500*l.* I said, "I "shall be very anxious for you to go and consult Mr. "Humphreys as to what you have done and what you "are going to do." I gave a cheque drawn in Mr. Humphreys' name for this reason; I thought if Mr. Humphreys saw it was such an extravagant expenditure as to be illegal, he would not sanction its being spent.

51,588. Was it paid to Mr. Humphreys' order?—I have been trying to recollect ever since whether it was paid to his order or not, and I cannot, I have not got the cheque; the book does not show it.

51,589. Nor the counterfoil?—Nor the counterfoil.

51,590. You say that you had intimated before that he was to report to Mr. Humphreys the way in which he was spending the money?—Yes, he did, so far as I know; he used to go up every week.

51,591. He did so?—I believe he did, because I used to see Mr. Humphreys every Monday. I always went on Monday afternoon to Mr. Humphreys, and he generally saw Mr. Nichols then himself.

51,592. Did you ascertain from Mr. Humphreys that Mr. Nichols had seen him?—Yes, I did.

51,593. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) And had reported to him?—And had reported to him.

51,594. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) I understand you to say that you wished Mr. Nichols to report to Mr. Humphreys from time to time, or that you desired Mr. Nichols to report to Mr. Humphreys from time to time?—I imagine that I originally said to him, "I wish you would go up every week to Mr. "Humphreys;" and I imagine I said the same thing to Mr. Humphreys, "I wish you would see Mr. "Nichols from week to week, and see that everything "is going on all right." I never gave him a positive order to do it, but I expressed a wish that he should.

51,595. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Then did you learn that Mr. Nichols did eventually get the 500*l.* cheque paid?—Yes.

51,596. Now that was two days before the election. On the 17th July, five days after, there is a cheque paid in the name of Nichols, 200*l.* Did you give that cheque to Mr. Nichols?—I gave him the cheque; I think I gave it him here in Reigate.

51,597. In Reigate?—Yes, I think so.

51,598. Did he give you any account then of how he had expended the 500*l.* ?—No, he said his reason for asking for 200*l.* was this. He said, "Well, "although you have lost the election, I suppose you "wish to keep your promises to the voters whom I "have employed in your name, the promises which "I have made in your name to the voters I have "employed;" and I said, "Well, there has been such "a great deal said about broken promises down here,

" I won't have it said that any promises incurred for " me are to be broken, and therefore I will keep my " word with everybody."

51,599. And upon that you gave him the 200*l.* ?—And upon that I gave him the 200*l.*

51,600. And that was the only representation that Mr. Nichols made to you in reference to his requirements for money ?—Yes ; in fact, I understood that he employed weekly, and that they were to be paid so much per week, and that he wanted this money to pay for the last week.

51,601. Did you understand what those persons were paid for ?—For canvassing. I was always told it was for canvassing.

51,602. You were always told it was for canvassing ?—Yes.

51,603. Now that was on the 17th. Then on the 22nd there is a payment ?—On the 22nd there is a payment of 120*l.* I see. That was made in consequence of a letter I received from him, saying, " I " have not still enough to pay all that is due, and " 120*l.* are still due ; I shall be obliged if you will " give me a cheque," which I did.

51,604. You have not got that letter, I suppose ?—I am afraid I have not ; I know that he did write.

51,605. You recollect sufficiently to give the substance of it ?—Yes.

51,606. Was that the whole amount of money which passed into the hands of Mr. Nichols from you ?—That is all, I think ; that is the last payment I made to him.

51,607. Now, can you give me the sum total. Is it 1,730*l.* ?—I believe it is.

51,608. Now, from first to last, did he ever give you any other account of how that money had been expended, except so far as you have told us ?—No, never.

51,609. Did you ever ask Mr. Nichols to give you a written statement, or a written account of this expenditure ?—I never did. The fact was that after the election was over I was so very sick of the whole thing, and of the amount of money that had been spent ; I did not know where it was gone ; the money was spent, and I could not get it back by asking how it had gone ; so I did not wish to know.

51,610. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) How did you know it had been expended, or how could you know it had been expended, without being furnished with an account ?—I took it for granted that Mr. Nichols had spent the money ; I believed him.

51,611. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He told you that he had spent it ?—Yes.

51,612. You have already answered it as a general question earlier, but now that we have got to the end of the list I may ask you again ; did he ever tell you after the last cheque, or at any time, that he had appropriated 200 guineas to himself on account of the requisition ?—No, never.

51,613. Then may I take it as a fact, that he never had your authority to appropriate 200 guineas to himself on account of that ?—No, I never gave him any authority to do that.

51,614. He has delivered to us a long account, to which he has spoken himself, in evidence, but before that account was placed before us here in his evidence did you ever hear any particulars in reference to the expenditure ?—The only single item I ever recollect his mentioning to me was a payment of 50*l.* to Mr. Steer.

51,615. Thomas Steer ?—Steer was engaged as a canvasser, I understood, and I understood that he was to have 50*l.* for it ; but I really do not know whether I am correct in that item. I understood that he had received it. That is the only one I recollect that he ever mentioned to me.

51,616. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) You say Mr. Nichols mentioned it to you ?—Mr. Nichols mentioned it to me, and I think I may positively say it is the only sum he ever did mention to me.

51,617. You say he mentioned the payment of 50*l.* to Mr. Steer as canvasser ?—Of course I understood it to be for his services as canvasser.

51,618. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Now there is one very large item here, " 130*l.* " Was that ever mentioned to you ?—No.

51,619. Then, with the exception of Mr. Steer, you have never had any sum mentioned to you as paid or appropriated to any one individual ?—No.

51,620. Of course his account of this we have to deal with. Now, did you ever tell Mr. Hart who was your expense agent ?

(*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Or legal agent.

51,621. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Did you ever tell Mr. Hart, your legal agent, that you were paying these large sums of money ?—Never once.

51,622. Did not it cross your mind that Mr. Hart, being on the spot, would be the proper person to know that these monies were being paid, rather than Mr. Humphreys ?—Well, the fact was this. I wish it to be distinctly understood that I looked upon Mr. Hart as one of my agents, and my principal agent I may say, because he signed the election accounts, but Mr. Nichols I looked upon as an agent also.

51,623. Equally as an agent ?—Equally as an agent, because he had acted in that capacity for my brother in conjunction with Mr. Smith. When my brother contested this place against Mr. Wilkinson he employed three agents, Mr. Hart, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Nichols. I always looked upon him as almost equal in dignity, except that Mr. Hart signed the accounts.

51,624. You were aware that, under the Act of Parliament, all the monies expended in reference to the election should properly pass through the alembic of Mr. Hart to the election auditor. Are you aware of that ?—I wish to state that when these payments were made to Mr. Nichols, they were not made with the intention of being secret payments never to appear, because I imagined that they would appear in the election accounts.

51,625. It was only through Mr. Hart that the account could come before the public ?—Yes.

51,626. Mr. Nichols was never appointed in writing, under the Corrupt Practices Act, as your agent ?—No.

51,627. Mr. Hart then, in law, was your only legal agent ?—I do not know, because in parliamentary law agency is such a very vague term ; you may make so many people your agents, or have agency proved against you in so many ways before a parliamentary committee.

51,628. Yes, yes, we understand that perfectly, but I am speaking with regard to legal expenses and the payment of legal expenses ; the Act of Parliament is exceedingly strict that all payments should be made by the legal agent ?—Yes.

51,629. Then he is to make out an account; he is to make all payments within a month, all accounts are to be sent in within a month after the election ; and then within two months he must make his return of what monies have been expended, and he is sworn to do so, and what monies have been expended are to be returned to the election auditor, or in this instance (1865) to the mayor ?—Yes.

51,630. Now, being aware of that fact, I want to know why these monies, these expenditures, were not told to Mr. Hart, who was the legal expense agent ?—For this reason : that Mr. Hart had nothing to do with the engagement or the employment of canvassers. He was never asked anything about it, I know. Mr. Hart was very busily employed at the same time with the county election, and I thought, as Mr. Nichols was a younger and more active man, it would be unfair to saddle Mr. Hart with a great deal that Mr. Nichols could do, and I left it entirely to Mr. Nichols, to engage canvassers entirely, and the money was paid to him to pay those canvassers with, and I did not think it necessary to tell Mr. Hart.

51,631. But you know, under the Act of Parliament, every payment which is made, or, at least, all the monies which are paid before the day of nomination, should have been returned in one separate account to the mayor as the auditor of the accounts, and the payment of canvassers, or whatever the payment is with reference to the election, is just as much

a payment, whether made by Mr. Nichols or Mr. Hart?—I wish to explain that; I did not make the payments to Mr. Nichols with any intention of their remaining secret. I went out of England directly after the election was over, and left the final settlement of accounts in the hands of Mr. Hart and Mr. Nichols and Mr. Page. I had nothing to do with the way the accounts were drawn up, and did not know what items were going to appear upon them. I never gave any directions of the kind. I thought that Mr. Nichols and Mr. Hart together would prepare the whole account and submit it to the election officer, or, rather, the returning officer.

51,632. How soon after the election did you go abroad?—I think I was abroad when I made that last payment to Mr. Nichols on the 22nd of July.

51,633. Can you draw your recollection to that distinctly, so as to say whether you were or not abroad at that time?—Yes, I am quite sure of it. I think I left England on the very day that I made the payment of 200*l.* to Mr. Nichols.

51,634. On the 17th?—Yes, I think so.

51,635. That would be five days after the polling?—Yes.

51,636. Had you ever directed Mr. Nichols to communicate to Mr. Hart the expenses which he had incurred on your account?—No.

51,637. Did you leave it to chance or fate whether he did or not?—I did.

51,638. Were you aware that Mr. Nichols was to be paid by Mr. Hart for his services?—Yes.

51,639. Was it arranged between you and Mr. Hart what that fee to Mr. Nichols should be, that he was to be paid 100 guineas?—I think Mr. Hart may have mentioned that sum to me; I won't be positive about that.

51,640. Mr. Hart having mentioned that to you, and you having assented that Mr. Nichols should be paid a fee, did you believe that was the only payment to be made to Mr. Nichols in respect of fee?—Yes.

51,641. Or did you think he was to receive anything out of those monies that you had paid to him privately?—I never understood that he was.

51,642. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) You understood that he was to receive the fee of 100 guineas, and that was to be in satisfaction of all his services?—Yes.

51,643. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) As I understand you you say that was the only fee which was paid to him by your immediate authority?—Yes.

51,644. Now we will go to another class, if you please. 1865, February 23rd, you will see a cheque paid to Mr. Page, 50*l.*?—Yes.

51,645. Did you pay that to Mr. Page yourself?—I sent that to Mr. Page myself in a letter.

51,646. Was that in consequence of some communication which was made to you?—It was a private loan.

51,647. That was a private loan, quite irrespective of the election?—Quite irrespective; entirely so.

51,648. It was only a private affair?—It was purely a private affair.

51,649. Then I will say no more about that. May I say the same in reference to an item I see here in this abstract, on the 6th September?—No, that is a different case.

51,650. What is the history of that?—That cheque, 63*l.* 3*s.*, was sent to Mr. Page in consequence of a letter I received from him, stating that he was very much out of pocket by the election, that he had expended that sum of money on my behalf, and would be much obliged if I would let him have it at once. I understood that he wanted the money at once, and I sent it to him directly I received the letter, I think. As far as I recollect, the letter stated that he had incurred some expense about the requisition; he had been out of pocket about that, and also out of pocket by the election to that extent.

51,651. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) He had made some small payments?—I think he had. I cannot recollect quite what they were.

51,652. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) He sent you no account?—He sent me no account, but said that was the amount he was out of pocket by it.

51,653. And you sent him the cheque?—I sent him the cheque directly.

51,654. He did not give you any particulars whether that was to include any fee to him for work?—No, I understood it was money clearly out of pocket.

51,655. Well, then Mr. Hart: April 25th, 50*l.*; June 1st, 50*l.*; September 5th, 84*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*; 23rd September, 660*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*; and October 25th, 597*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* to Mr. Hart. Now, I will deduct that 50*l.*, which was a mere personal matter, to Mr. Page, and that would make the total 3,228*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes, that is what I make it.

51,656. Well, now, how much will that be to Mr. Hart?—I do not know.

51,657. Is it 1,436*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* to Mr. Hart, and 1,730*l.* to Mr. Nichols?

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) The expenses were returned by Mr. Hart at 1,230*l.* odd. He considered that there was a certain sum which had reference to previous matters in connexion with the requisition. The election expenses were returned at 1,230*l.*

51,658. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Did that include his own fee and Nichols' fee of 100 guineas? Yes.

51,659. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Now that it is brought to my recollection, did Mr. Nichols at any time before the election came off tell you that it would be necessary to pay some back debts incurred by Mr. Gower, or any former candidate, before he could secure certain votes?—Yes, he did.

51,660. Will you give me your account of the interview; what Mr. Nichols said, and what you said?—I think that what Mr. Nichols said was that there were two or three cases of canvassers he wished to employ, to whom he had been unable to keep his engagement in 1863, Mr. Gower not having supplied him with sufficient money to do so, and that he could not engage them unless I would consent that they should be paid what I thought owing to them for that time.

51,661. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Exactly.—And I think he said, or I said, or we both of us said, that it seemed extremely hard that I should be obliged to pay them what Mr. Gower ought to have paid before; but under the circumstances there was no help for it.

51,662. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And you assented to it, or authorized Mr. Nichols so to do?—Yes, I understood he was going to pay them.

51,663. Did not that strike you as very much like buying the votes?—Well, no, I do not think it did. I cannot say that it did. I thought it might be perfectly reasonable in a man to say to Mr. Nichols, "I undertook to canvass for you last time, and you did "not keep faith with me; therefore I won't do it this "time."

51,664. Quite so; but then the question is the consideration, the payment of money?—If it was payment for the votes, I should rather have said that it was payment for the votes they gave in 1863 than in 1865.

51,665. Was it not rather to secure their votes for 1865?—It was to secure their services. Of course you understand that a man who is going to canvass for you is going to give his vote.

51,666. It would be the payment of a debt owing by another party, and at all events, whatever may be the view in reference to paying that class of canvassers, it would not be payment *quâ* services rendered?—I did not see it in the light of a bribe by any means, but as a necessary payment to secure men to work.

51,667. And vote?—And vote—naturally; that followed as a matter of course.

51,668. It could not be for the payment of services rendered?—Not rendered to me, no.

51,669. You think that might have occurred in three instances?—Two or three instances, I think it was.

51,670. Were any of the names mentioned?—He did not mention the names.

51,671. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Now, Mr.

Monson, you had, you say, the advice of Mr. Humphreys ?—Yes, I had.

51,672. And you consulted him upon the proceedings of Mr. Nichols from week to week ?—Yes.

51,673. Up to the time when you advanced him 500*l.* ?—Yes.

51,674. Did Mr. Humphreys know that Mr. Hart was your legal agent in Reigate ?—Yes, I think he did.

51,675. Did you ever acquaint Mr. Hart with the fact that you had taken the opinion of Mr. Humphreys with regard to the proceedings of Mr. Nichols ; —No ; with regard to the proceedings of Mr. Nichols, certainly not.

51,676. I understood you to say you told Mr. Nichols that he was not to transgress the legal limits ?—Yes.

51,677. And did you consider that to a man in the position of Mr. Nichols a sufficient safeguard—that he was not to trangress the legal limits—and you had a legal agent here in Reigate whom you kept in ignorance of what was going on ?—I thought Mr. Nichols had sufficient experience as a parliamentary agent to know generally what he ought to do and what he ought not. I had confidence in him to that extent.

51,678. I ask you, were not you warned by some of your most important supporters in Reigate against trusting yourself in the hands of Mr. Nichols ?—I know I have heard Mr. Nichols spoken against in general terms.

51,679. No, my question is more pointed than that. Were you not warned against placing yourself in the hands of Mr. Nichols by some of your principal supporters in Reigate during the course of the election ? —I recollect certainly that I was told that Mr. Nichols was put too prominently forward, but I do not recollect that I was cautioned against trusting him, certainly not ; and I should not have paid much attention to it if I had.

51,680. Very well ; you did not pay any attention. Now I will give you the history of one of these men, and you will see what it is. I will read his evidence for you. Mr. Ridge said he received 50*l.* from Mr. Nichols, 30*l.* for back debts ; 10*l.* for Sir Henry Rawlinson, 10*l.* for Lord Monson, and 10*l.* for Mr. Gower ; and he said also that he had Mr. Nichols' authority for keeping back 10*l.*, which he was entrusted to pay to two men, and that he kept that 10*l.* back. Now, did you sanction such an act as that ?—As keeping back the money ?

51,681. Did you sanction Mr. Nichols to pay him 10*l.* for Lord Monson, 10*l.* for Sir Henry Rawlinson, and 10*l.* for Mr. Gower ?—Certainly ; at the time that I authorized Mr. Nichols to make those payments I had no notion that they were payments to that extent. I won't take upon myself to say now that in the heat and excitement of the contest I would not have allowed him to do it, because I had already told him I was willing to sanction all legal expenditure of money.

51,682. But a gentleman of your intelligence ought to know that that is the most odious form of bribery ; and I will tell you why it is, because it is bribing, and at the same time casting a slur upon your opponents. For example, why should you pay Mr. Gower's debts ? Look at the thing !—In justice to myself I wish to say this, that I regard with a very different eye now the payments that were then made to what I did at the time. You must make allowance for the heat of the contest. I was very bitter, and felt very strongly.

51,683. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Let me ask you one question. I believe I am quite correct ; but Mr. Allen seems to have got an impression, which I think is erroneous, as to what you said. It is in reference to a cheque for 200*l.* Did I understand you to say that that 200*l.* was represented to you by Mr. Nichols to be required for the purpose of engaging canvassers ?—For the purpose of engaging canvassers, yes.

51,684. In December 1864 ?—The first payment made to him.

51,685. You mentioned that he had stated to you about six names ?—About six names, I think, they were.

51,686. Did he—I am sorry to put the question again—did he then, or at any other time, state to you that he required that 200*l.*, or any money, to pay for the expense of the requisition ?—Never, to my knowledge.

51,687. I will put it in this way. Did Mr. Nichols tell you what the 200*l.* was required for ?—Only in a general way ; that it would be required to carry out the understanding previously made for the engagement of canvassers.

51,688. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) When you were asked before to state in express terms what occurred when Mr. Nichols came to you and said, "I "want 200*l.* to carry out the terms of our arrange- "ment," what you said was, "I understood that it "was to carry out the terms of our arrangement" ?—Yes ; I would rather adhere to my original expression, because I cannot say that he said it in distinct terms. There is no doubt on my own mind as to what the cheque was for, but I cannot say he said it.

51,689. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Had you discussed any other subject in reference to the election, except the engagement of canvassers, at that interview ?—No.

51,690. And at that interview had anything been said by Mr. Nichols in reference to the expense of getting up a requisition ?—Not a word that I recollect.

51,691. Can you draw your recollection closer to the fact, and say that nothing was said in reference to the expense of getting up the requisition ?—I cannot recollect that there was ; I should be sorry to say positively that there was not, but I do not recollect a word of it.

51,692. Mr. Nichols said this, "I suppose that 210*l.* "I had to get up the requisition was to cover all ex- "penses." Now, was any sum of money (210*l.*) paid to Mr. Nichols at his request *quâ* the expenses of the requisition ?—I never made such a payment for the requisition. I never, to my knowledge, made any payment on account of the requisition to Mr. Nichols ; never.

51,693. I think I understand you to say that he never made any demand of you for payment of expenses *quâ* the requisition ?—Never.

51,694. And that this 210*l.*, which appears to be the only 210*l.* which he accounts for here in his own account—"self 210*l.*," the only cheque of 210*l.*—you have told us was one that you got cashed yourself, and gave him 200*l.*, and took 10*l.* yourself ?—Yes, I think so (*handing cheque book*).

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) Mr. Nichols seems to have forgotten that he received only 200*l.* He has put it down 210*l.*, whereas he only received 200*l.*

51,695. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) And he told us, as distinctly as words could tell us, that that 210*l.* was to cover the expenses of the requisition ?—I certainly did not understand it so ; that is all I can say.

51,696. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I wish to call your attention to an expression made use of : "Mr. "Nichols said there were 150 voters upon Mr. "Gower's committee who were going to receive 5*l.* "each. Upon that I gave him the 200*l.*" Is that correct ?—Yes.

59,697. Now tell me, how could your giving Mr. Nichols 200*l.* affect the 150 voters who were to receive 5*l.* each ?—I did not understand that it would.

51,698. What would it do except bid against them on the other side. I wish to give you an opportunity of explaining that which, I tell you candidly, presses strongly upon me ?—I can quite understand that. I see that myself now, perfectly ; but I confess I did not see it at the time, nor did I think that, after my repeated injunctions that nothing illegal should be done, anything illegal would be done.

51,699. To my mind it would be this : "They are

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"bribing on the other side; we must do the same"?—I quite see that. I see how you put it.

51,700. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) There is one question I want to ask you, Mr. Monson. Did you tell Mr. Nichols the reason why you wished him to go to Mr. Humphreys and get that money, 500*l.*, through Mr. Humphreys?—No.

51,701. You did not?—No; in fact I could hardly say to him, after I had told him not to do anything but what was legal, "I am afraid you are going to do "some illegal act."

51,702. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) I understand you to say that you had believed, previous to this Inquiry, that Mr. Nichols had expended all the money he received on your behalf?—Yes, I did.

51,703. There was a man who gave evidence of having seen you at a public house, and your singing a song at a meeting there. I do not call upon you for an explanation of that, because I did not believe it at the time?—I really did not know whether it was necessary for me to deny it; but it was a mistake upon the man's part, entirely a mistake in identity, and there was not a particle of truth in it, so far as I am concerned.

The witness withdrew.

Mr. Charles Joseph Smith recalled.

C. J. Smith.

51,704. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) I want to ask you, Mr. Smith, a question in reference to the payment of 25*l.* to Mr. Topliss. I may tell you that we saw Topliss yesterday at his private house, and perhaps you may not be aware of what was said. He said this, that the 25*l.* which he received was paid by you to him for the hire of his room at his house. Now I see that in your account returned to the election auditor he is placed under the head of canvasser, and that he never did anything. He was paid 40*l.* on behalf of Mr. Monson for the use of his room for two meetings, and 25*l.* for the use of his room when there was one meeting there. Now I simply draw your attention to the evidence, and to the fact that he was returned as a canvasser for 25*l.*, and I want to know what is the explanation you have to give in reference to that?—I employed him as a canvasser solely, and paid him the sum of 25*l.* That was the sum I engaged him at, and I made a memorandum in my book that I was to pay him 25*l.* I did it because he was recommended to me as a man having considerable influence and feeling strongly in the matter of the licence granted to the South-eastern Hotel, and upon that I engaged him as a canvasser, and he was to have more money, if necessary, for his work. Instead of that, I found he had money from the other side. I have never had a meeting or hired a room in his house. When I complained that he let the room to the other party, he said he hoped I should not stand in the way of his making a little money, and he would take care to work for Mr. Gower. I engaged the man as a canvasser. He never did anything, but took money from the other side.

51,705. He got 40*l.* for the use of his room?—I never attended a meeting there.

51,706. I thought it quite right to mention it?—I did not hear Topliss' evidence. I paid him the money as a canvasser, and I was to pay him more if I considered he worked well.

51,707. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) But he was ill at the time, he stated, so that he could not canvass much?—Oh, he seemed very well; he was at the bar. One day he went with Mr. Gower and myself up round the streets there. He seemed pretty well then, very well when I gave him the money. It is the only case where I consider that I have been done of all my canvassers.

The witness withdrew.

Henry Steed sworn and examined.

H. Steed.

51,708. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) You are the present landlord of the "White Hart"?—I am.

51,709. You were so during the election of 1865?—1865.

51,710. But not at the previous election?—No.

51,711. Did the two candidates at the last election have committee meetings at your house?—They did.

51,712. Had you a vote?—I had a vote, but I did not use it.

51,713. Both parties had committee rooms at your hotel?—They had.

51,714. Now we will ask you in reference to one first; we will take Mr. Monson's. Did Mr. Monson's committee meet frequently at your house?—Yes, in the committee room.

51,715. Were any refreshments supplied to the committee in the committee room?—Not any.

51,716. Were any refreshments supplied on account of the election in any other room except the committee?—Yes.

51,717. Was that a private room?—It was a private room.

51,718. Did you receive any orders in reference to the supply of refreshments there?—Mr. Nichols gave me the orders.

51,719. Mr. Nichols did?—Yes.

51,720. Was it from Mr. Nichols that you chiefly received the orders?—Principally.

51,721. Were those refreshments supplied on several days?—Yes, during the work of the canvassing.

51,722. To whom were these refreshments generally supplied in this private room? Did you know the persons to be voters?—Well, I really could not say; they had voters assisting in the canvassing.

51,723. Can you tell me what, about, the amount of the refreshments was that were supplied? Have you got your books?—No, I have not. The account for the use of the room which Mr. Nichols occupied and the refreshments I had to draw on the nomination and polling days was 42*l.*

51,724. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Was that for the two days?—For the whole of the canvassing as well. Between 5*l.* and 6*l.* was the amount supplied at the bar. There were other refreshments supplied in the room. 42*l.* was for the whole of the time, for the use of the room, and lights, and everything.

51,725. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) What was the class of refreshments supplied at the bar? Wine—sherry?—Sherry, soda and brandy, and so on.

51,726. The whole amount of refreshment was about 42*l.*?—Including the hire of the room as well, half a guinea a day; that amounted to seven or eight guineas.

51,727. Was that the room in which the refreshment was supplied?—Yes.

51,728. As I understand you, two rooms were engaged, one the committee room and one a private room?—One a private room for Mr. Nichols' use.

51,729. In that room which was engaged by Mr. Nichols, the private room, the refreshment was supplied, and in all 42*l.*?—Yes.

51,730. Were you paid that sum?—Yes.

51,731. Now, in reference to Mr. Gower. Did his party have a committee room?—Yes.

51,732. And did they have any private room?—Only the committee room; Mr. Smith's room they called it.

51,733. There were refreshments supplied there?—I think, perhaps, one or two bottles of sherry; nothing more.

51,734. Not more than a bottle or two of sherry?—No, I think not.

51,735. Their account was small?—Their account was small; but then there were other refreshments on the nomination and polling days which amounted to 4*l.* or 5*l.*

51,736. Where were those refreshments supplied; in the committee room?—No, at the bar.

51,737. When the Monson party and the Gower party were both at the bar?—Yes.

57,738. How did you know to whom the refreshments were to be put down?—There was generally one of the heads of the parties there to say so and so.

57,739. The head of one party would say, "Put "that down to Mr. Gower," and the other would say, "Put this down to Mr. Monson"?—Yes.

51,740. Do you know at all whether any refreshments were supplied at the tap?—I do not.

51,741. What was the total amount of Mr. Gower's bill for refreshment?—There was the use of the room, &c., and some dinners given to polling clerks. It amounted to 39*l.* I think.

51,742. What was Mr. Gower's account for the refreshment on the polling and nomination days at the bar?—About 4*l.*

51,743. You were not there in 1863?—No, Mr. Goldsmith was there then.

The witness withdrew.

CHARLES GOLDSMITH sworn and examined.

C. Goldsmith.

51,744. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Were you formerly proprietor of the "White Hart"?—Yes.

51,745. Were you in 1863?—Yes, I was.

51,746. During the contest in 1863?—Yes.

51,747. Had you a vote at that time?—I had.

51,748. And you voted for whom?—For Mr. Gower.

51,749. Had he a committee room at your house?—He had.

51,750. And were refreshments supplied at the "White Hart"?—Refreshments to a very small extent may have gone into the committee room; a glass of sherry and a biscuit, and so on, but I think nothing more than that.

51,751. Have you any means of telling us now the amount of refreshments you supplied during that contest?—Do you mean altogether?

51,752. Yes?—Well, I think the amount would be about 80*l.* That would include the committee room, which was held for several days.

51,753. About 80*l.*?—I think so, as far as I can charge my memory.

51,754. You have not any books?—I have no books. I have left there for three years, and destroyed all the books.

51,755. But you would think it was about 80*l.*?—I think so.

51,756. How much would be due the use of the room?—Something like five and forty or fifty: I cannot charge my memory as to the number of days or weeks.

51,757. Was not the bill much larger; I am speaking, you know, up to the polling day, up to the close of the poll; do you understand me?—I quite understand that. I think that is about the amount up to the close of the poll.

51,758. Had Mr. Wilkinson a room at the "White Hart" on that occasion?—No, Mr. Wilkinson had not; he was at the "Swan," as far as I can recollect.

The witness withdrew.

WILLIAM SHAW sworn and examined.

W. Shaw.

51,759. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) In Mr. Doulton's election, in 1858, you were engaged for him, were you not?—I was.

51,760. I think you voted for him?—I did.

51,761. And in 1865, this last election, who did you vote for?—For Mr. Gower.

51,762. Had you voted between those two times?—I voted for Mr. Gower twice, I think.

51,763. That is three votes you recollect giving?—Mr. Wilkinson I voted for once, I think; I am not quite certain.

51,764. What are you?—A wheelwright and smith.

51,765. What rent do you pay?—24*l.*

51,766. Were you on Mr. Gower's committee?—No, I was not.

51,767. Who asked you to vote for Mr. Gower?—Mr. Gower himself.

51,768. Did you do any work for him; canvass?—No, I never took any part.

51,769. Did you receive anything from Mr. Gower's side before the election?—No.

51,770. Nothing whatever?—Nothing whatever.

51,771. Did you afterwards?—No.

51,772. In 1865 was there nothing whatever given to you in consideration of your vote or services or loss of time?—Nothing whatever.

51,773. You are quite candid about that?—I am quite candid about it.

51,774. Then I will take your word for it. Now in 1863 you voted for Mr. Gower too. Were you on his committee then?—No.

51,775. Did you receive anything before that election?—No.

51,776. Nor after?—I believe there was something paid for the use of the room; I do not know what the amount was. I cannot say; Mr. Smith has got the receipt.

51,777. For the use of a room? Did the committee sit at your house?—Yes.

51,778. How often?—I cannot say now.

51,779. More than once?—Two or three times it might be, it might be three or four times, I cannot say.

51,780. You cannot tell me about how much? I do not want you to tie yourself down to it at all?—How much they paid for the room?

51,781. Yes.—I cannot. I gave a receipt for it.

51,782. I believe the receipt is there, but I cannot remember myself what is the amount, and I want you to assist me if you can?—I cannot.

51,783. In 1859 did you vote, when Monson and Wilkinson started?—I think I did. I am not quite certain. If I did I voted for Mr. Wilkinson.

51,784. Were you employed on that occasion to do anything for Mr. Wilkinson?—No, I never took any part whatever.

51,785. Did you receive anything for it?—No.

51,786. Do you recollect whether you voted between that (going backward) and Doulton's election?—No, I do not recollect.

51,787. You do not recollect one way or the other?—No.

51,788. Then we will go back to Doulton's election, which was in 1858. At that election you were employed to work for him?—Yes, I was.

51,789. What work was it?—I do not know; I suppose I was employed as a canvasser.

51,790. Who employed you?—I cannot say.

51,791. Do not you remember?—I do not.

51,792. You were employed as a canvasser; what did you do, if you did anything at all?—It is so long ago I cannot recollect.

51,793. Do you remember whether you did anything?—Yes, I remember I was about; I remember I neglected my business.

51,794. A man may neglect his business, you know, in so many ways, without doing anything; it may be merely a sin of omission; but did you, I am sure you will forgive me for asking you, did you carry a board about?—I am sure I did not.

51,795. I will take your word for it. Then what did you do? You remember what you did not do?—I suppose I did canvassing, in one sense.

51,796. You see I want you, if you can, to recollect

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anything of it; you called yourself a canvasser. I should like to know whether you remember doing anything. You cannot remember? May I say that your statement is, "I cannot remember that I did any-"thing"?—I cannot say.

51,797. Will you authorize me to say that that is a fair answer?—I dare say I might; I do not say that I did or not. I might have done such a thing; it is so long ago that I forget. It is eight years ago.

51,798. What were you paid at that time?—I cannot tell what I was paid.

51,799. Do you recollect how much a week it was? You were paid by the week, were not you?—I do not know.

51,800. I think you were paid weekly; every Friday evening?—I do not recollect.

51,801. Do you recollect what you received altogether?—I do not.

51,802. Do you recollect whether you got 10*s.* a day?—I cannot say.

51,803. Do you think you were paid weekly?—I might be, but I think it was paid after; I think so. I am not certain.

51,804. I should like you to tell me, if you please, who asked you to come and be a canvasser or do any other work, call it what you will?—I cannot tell.

51,805. Did you go to them, or did they come to you? Do you recollect that?—That I cannot tell. It might be that Mr. Doulton came.

51,806. Ah, but I cannot fix Mr. Doulton in that way, unless you tell me more positively. Can you recollect whether you went to them, or one of Mr. Doulton's party came to you? Do you remember going and saying, "Now, then, I have got a vote"?—I cannot recollect doing so. I do not suppose I did do so.

51,807. What then?—Most likely they came to me. I never did take part in an election, only at that.

51,808. Do you remember them saying anything about your vote?—About my vote?

51,809. About your vote at that election?—No, I do not.

51,810. It is eight years ago, and you remember that you had a vote, and gave it for Mr. Doulton?—Yes; I voted for Mr. Doulton once, that is all I know.

51,811. That was the time. Very well, then, I will take it, "I was paid, but I cannot say how much"?—Yes.

The witness withdrew.

H. Green.

HENRY GREEN recalled and examined.

51,812. (*Mr. Commissioner O'Brien.*) Would you like to give any explanation, Mr. Green? You received 50*l.* for yourself, as you say, as canvasser, and you voted for Mr. Gower?—I sent out a great many circulars, which were directed by myself. I was constantly occupied from 8 o'clock in the morning till very late at night, and my own business was very much neglected.

51,813. Had you been employed for him before as a canvasser?—Yes.

51,814. What were you paid on that occasion?—40*l.*

51,815. And you voted for him?—Yes.

51,816. Were you ever employed as a canvasser before that?—Never before.

51,817. Those were the only two occasions?—Yes.

51,818. Associated with you, you say, there were some others. When did you commence?—We commenced as early as May.

51,819. Had you the Redhill district?—Entirely that district.

51,820. Do not say entirely, because gentlemen have been examined here who say they went over the entire ground?—That is quite impossible; they may say so, but it is quite wrong. You may be sure yourself that these men at Reigate could not do the whole district.

51,821. Do you employ any men in your business?—Yes, I have got my son and another young man; in fact, I have a little business of my own to attend to.

51,822. What I want to know is, did you employ any men while you were canvassing, or did you employ any additional hands or labour to do your own work for you while you were canvassing?—No, I did not.

51,823. And you received 50*l.*?—I did, but I think I earned it very well.

51,824. I wish to bring it under your notice, because you are a gentleman of intelligence (but I do not do it for the purpose of offending you at all in any way), that, though you attended to the Redhill district, you did not employ anybody else to manage your own business in consequence of that. Who else was with you in that district?—Mr. Rees.

51,825. How much did he get?—I let him have 10*l.*, and I think he had a cheque for 30*l.* afterwards.

51,826. (*The Chief Commissioner.*) Then you had no business that you gave up?—Well, I was doing some work for a gentleman of the name of Faithfull, and it was neglected.

51,827. Your time was not so constantly occupied, I suppose, but that the house kept on rising, kept on being built?—Oh, yes.

51,828. I want you to show that your time was taken up about the election to the cost of other things?—My time was taken up solely by the election.

51,829. I do not say it was not; but was it at the cost of other things?—I think myself many pounds out of pocket; I am quite sure there were many things paid out of it. I was there the whole of my time, in the committee room from 9 o'clock till late at night.

J. Fuller.

JOHN FULLER sworn and examined.

51,830. (*Mr. Commissioner Smith.*) Do you have charge of the tap at the "White Hart"?—Yes.

51,831. Did you have charge of the tap at the "White Hart" at the 1865 election?—Yes.

51,832. And the 1863 election?—Yes.

51,833. And before?—Yes.

51,834. In the 1865 election did you supply refreshments to the voters?—Yes.

51,835. By whose direction?—Only their own responsibility.

51,836. Did you take the money across the bar?—As I served the liquor I received the money.

51,837. From themselves?—Yes.

51,838. Was that the same in 1863?—Yes.

(*The Chief Commissioner.*) I have to state that this Inquiry is now, for the present at any rate, closed, and the Commissioners do not at present contemplate calling any more witnesses. In point of form, though the Commission will be adjourned from now till next Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock in this place, there will then not be a real meeting, but it will be probably formally adjourned to a still later date. Therefore practically this Commission closes now. To those persons who have assisted us we beg leave to express our thanks.

Adjourned till Tuesday, November 6th, at 11 o'clock.

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